

BRIDAL GUIDE

Best Eco-Resorts in the Caribbean

Escape to the Caribbean's most enchanting eco-friendly destinations, where romance is in the air and pure beauty is all around.

By: Shea Peters



Photo courtesy of Aruba Tourism Authority

For couples who want to combine a romantic honeymoon with an eco-sensitive stay, the Caribbean is the perfect destination. Add a carbon offset to the price of your plane ticket and head to one of these dream tropical islands, where nature's beauty is abundant and protected, and eco-initiatives are important to both locals and tourists alike. The Caribbean way of life and culture is in tune with the preservation of the natural flora and fauna that surround you, and will make your lovers' getaway a truly memorable one, whether you spend your time in the lush jungle or diving deep on a protected reef.

Aruba

A perennially popular honeymoon destination, Aruba is on track to be the first 100 percent sustainable country in the world by 2020, with the goal of transitioning off fossil fuels through the use of wind farms, solar cells, and other renewable energy sources. This will better preserve the island's natural beauty, beaches and dramatic landscapes, some of which you can experience in Arikok National Park on Aruba's eastern coast. The spectacular Natural Pool on the shoreline is an oversized tidal pool where swimmers and snorkelers paddle in relative calm near the crashing waves, and get up close to the fish and sea creatures brought in by the surf.



Photo courtesy of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Where to Stay: The 104-room **Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort** (<http://www.bucuti.com/>) on Aruba's pristine Eagle Beach is serious about reducing its environmental impact, whether the guests who stroll across its gracious green lawns or lounge on the white-sand beach are eco warriors or not. They deploy solar panels, use biodegradable detergents and have installed low-flow faucets in pursuit of being an environmentally sensitive resort conscious of the footprint its guests may leave. Bucuti also funds conservation efforts protecting native flora and fauna like the giant sea turtles, and supports a local donkey sanctuary. *Room rates start at \$333 a night.*