MANIAC feature



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PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANILO SCARPATI

There's getting away, and then at Kamalame Cay Private Island Resort in the Bahamas, there's really getting away. For those looking to disconnect on vacation, they should look no further than this remote retreat. Celebrities from all over the world escape to this charming 96-acre hideaway in the Bahamas' largest and least-developed island, just a 15-minute flight from Nassau.

According to resort manager David Hew, "Kamalame is the name of a tree, more commonly known as the Gumbo Limbo tree, typically found in South Florida, the West Indies, tropical Mexico, Guatemala, and northern South America. Because it can grow up to 60 feet and has a large canopy, the Kamalame tree provides shade from the hot sun and adds to the beauty of its surroundings."

Like its name, the resort also draws on nature for inspiration when it comes to its interior design. The central living room boasts doors that open on both sides—one side to the Atlantic Ocean and Great Barrier Reef and the other side toward the Blanket Sound and the Island of Andros. In order for resort residents to cherish every moment in paradise, outdoor showers and deep soaker baths allow for an incredible view, even when you're freshening up for the day ahead.

"Our design references are typically traditional British West Indies style and modern coastal living," said Hew. In addition to white sand beaches, those staying at the resort are treated to glistening white linens and sofas.

In 2016, Kamalame Cay is adding to its amenities with four new villas and eight beach bungalows. Plus, Full Moon Dinners are a new feature for nocturnal diners wishing to feast in the moonlight. "Held at night under a full moon, guests are treated to a four-course dinner at one long table, right under the stars," said Hew. "Some will be held in the new garden and others right on the beach."

If eating late isn't your thing, the progressive dinner series is an option for when you're looking to explore unique resort locales. "These are the most fun," said Hew. "Four villas each host a different course with the villa dressed for the occasion. It may be in the garden, on the beach, in the terrace of the great room—each course is a different experience."





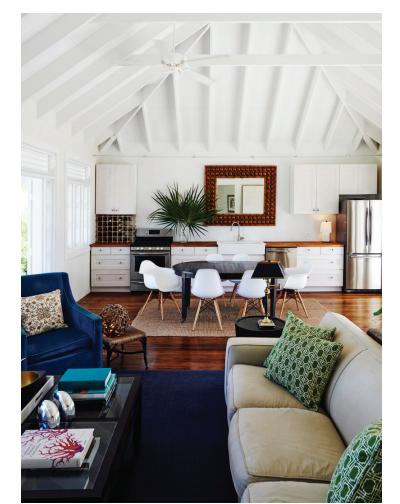
Many times, the journey between one villa and the other is along the beach, lit by tiki torches, with staff members transporting diners to their next dining location by golf cart.

Even though the resort is essentially constructed for unplugging and disconnecting, the beauty of the environment is what eventually eases residents into reflection and relaxation. "It tends to take most people a few days before they can completely unplug, at which stage they suddenly find the freedom of being able to focus on who and what's around them, often reconnecting with themselves and those that they love."

When you're right on the edge of the Andros Great Barrier Reef, with its marine life and coral formations, how can you not want to turn off the phone and bask in the backdrop?

"A simple early morning snorkel or quiet walk along the beach is all it takes to be inspired here."

To book a stay, visit kamalame.com.





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