

PO BOX 246 ~ Beanfield, Vieux Fort, St. Lucia ~ Resort Phone: 758-459-6000 ~ www.cbayresort.com

Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa is the adventurer's gateway to exotic Saint Lucia's Pitons and natural wonders

Adventurers walk, hike and ride from the all-inclusive Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa to discover the famed wonders of Saint Lucia. From the majestic Pitons and rainforest to working plantations and teeming reefs, this exotic Caribbean destination offers unforgettable experiences for every age and interest, the perfect complement to the resort's "Two Worlds In One" adults-only meets family-friendly philosophy.

VIEUX FORT, Saint Lucia (Oct. 5, 2015) – From families to honeymooners Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa guests enjoy an exceptional all-inclusive experience, and the perfect location: Southern Saint Lucia. The resort is minutes from Hewanorra International Airport and is a convenient gateway to this Caribbean island's <u>most memorable attractions</u> from the majestic Pitons and rainforest to working plantations and underwater adventure.

Saint Lucia's Petit and Gros Pitons are a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a trip isn't complete without taking in this iconic site considered one of the scenic wonders of the West Indies. There is nothing like seeing these twin peaks from offshore, rising from the sea. Coconut Bay's "Piton Sail & Snorkel" (age 2 and up) tour a coastal catamaran sail to the Pitons stopping at a reef nestled between them and home to more than 150 different species of fish. Thrill seekers on the "Piton Zip Tour" (age 6 and up) can take to the air at Morne Coubaril Estate where they'll zip under the sheer Petit Piton and snap air-borne photos while taking in views of Soufriere and the Caribbean Sea. Back on land a tour of this working plantation includes live demonstrations of the cocoa dance used to polish dried beans and a mule-driven sugarcane mill.

Soufrière, Saint Lucia's oldest town and the island's former French colonial capital, is the gateway to the volcano of the same name and Sulphur Springs Park, the Caribbean's only drive-in volcano. A walk through this geothermal area – the most active in the Lesser Antilles brings visitors just steps from plumes of steam rising from vents and bubbling pools and hot springs, a true wonder. Coconut Bay's "Soufriere Exotica" (age 2 and up) takes guests on a breathtaking scenic west coast drive to Sulphur Springs Park where in addition to the drive-in volcano they'll swim in the plunge pool under the Piton Waterfall, soak in the warm mineral springs and play in the mud of a therapeutic bath. Then it's time to relax on a white-sand beach or snorkel at the base of the Pitons.

Soufrière Estate is home to Saint Lucia's Diamond Waterfall and Botanical Gardens. The Diamond Waterfall is a colorful natural wonder. Mineral-rich waters from the Sulphur Springs create an ever-changing kaleidoscope shining through the rushing waters. The equally colorful Botanical Gardens are a showcase of exotic blossoms, flowering bushes and vine-covered trees to be enjoyed year-round. The "All-Inclusive Catamaran Land & Sea Adventure" (age 2 and up) is the best of Soufrière, a full-day journey sailing to the Pitons and for snorkeling, restaurant lunch with scenic views, then on to Sulphur Springs Park and the Diamond Falls and Botanical Gardens.

Experiences in Saint Lucia's south east begin with Coconut Bay's "Des Cartier Rainforest Nature Walk" (age 2 and up). Trees soaring to heights of over 120 feet make up the trail's rainforest canopy including the Gommier and Chataignier and a variety of endemic wildlife make their home in lush greenery. The trail is considered one of the island's best birding sites and trekkers may see the Saint Lucia Peewee, Saint Lucia Oriole and the rare Saint Lucia Parrot, the country's national bird.

Coconut Bay offers two east coast tours for guests who like to be in the driver's seat. On the "ATV Tour" visitors explore the Fond Estate by ATV (drivers 18 years and up no license required, passengers 10 years and up). Visitors will ride through fruit groves, through the rainforest and along the Fond River on this 1,000 acre working plantation. They'll see how over 40 different varieties fruit trees, tropical plants and flowers in season are grown and cultivated including sour sop, sugar apple, sapodilla, mango, cherry and carambola. In addition, guests will learn about the history of plantation and historic sugar mill and taste fresh fruits and juices from the harvest.

Drivers take the wheel of open-air vehicles and go on- and off-road for Coconut Bay's "Island Buggy Tour" (drivers 23 and up with valid driver's license and able to use manual transmission/stick shift, passengers 6 and up). Sightseers explore Saint Lucia's southern communities and trek to the Moule a Chicque lighthouse. Sitting 740 feet above sea level it is reportedly the world's second highest lighthouse rewarding visitors with spectacular 360° views taking in the Pitons and nearby St. Vincent. Longer tours include ziplining in the rainforest or a visit to the drive-in volcano and mud baths.

Coconut Bay guests can also explore the resort's 85 oceanfront acres with on-property tours including horseback riding and Segway rides both taking in the mile-long beach, tropical gardens and stops to take in the panoramic ocean views. Competitors age 13 and up "Capture the Flag" The Zone, the resort's 25,000 square-foot paintball course the first of its kind in the Caribbean. Out on the water kitesurfers enjoy a unique view of Anse de Sables Beach, lessons for all skill levels are available from the qualified Surf Shack staff for high-flyers 16 and older during kitesurfing season, November –April.

Coconut Bay's all-inclusive value makes it easy to budget exploring Saint Lucia with on- and off-property tours starting at \$35.00 per person with private and group rates available. Adventurers save up to 50% on all-inclusive rates starting at \$157.00 per person, per night based on double occupancy including airport transfers from Hewanorra International Airport and all government taxes and gratuities. Kids under four stay for free, ages 4-12 are \$31.00 per night and ages 13-17 stay for just \$63.00 per night.

For rates and reservations, call Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa toll-free from North America at 877-352-8898 or visit <u>www.cbayresort.com</u>.

About Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa

Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa offers two worlds in a mile-long oceanfront setting along Saint Lucia's exotic south coast, minutes from Hewanorra International Airport and the island's most exciting attractions. The resort's 250 air-conditioned rooms are shared between Harmony, the adults-only oasis and family-friendly Splash wings. Amenities include four restaurants and the Beach Grill, six bars serving premium brand spirits, five pools including two for adults-only at Harmony, a full service salon and oceanfront spa, the island's largest waterpark, a kitesurfing (in season) and windsurfing center, paintball facility, supervised Kidz Klub, Jr. Suite Concierge service and full-service weddings including the exclusive Eternity Beach setting.

Coconut Bay's awards for outstanding facilities and customer service include the TripAdvisor® 2015 Hall of Fame award; TripAdvisor® Travelers' Choice® Award as one of the "Top 25 Hotels for Families in the Caribbean, TripAdvisor® Certificate of Excellence® for five consecutive years, 2015 Hotels.com Certificate of Recognition, Travel Agent Magazine "The Advisor's List" Caribbean: Best Hotels for Romance and Best Hotels for Families, "Best All-Inclusive Family Resort" – Travel & Leisure magazine, July 2013, one of Family Vacation Critic's "2014 and 2015 Best Caribbean All-Inclusive Resorts for Families" and a "2014 Family Critic Favorite." For more information visit <u>cbayresort.com</u>.

#