

INSIDER TIPS FROM THE TOP CONCIERGES

# TRAVEL + LEISURE

JUNE 2008

SPECIAL

# hotels ISSUE

30  
EXCLUSIVE  
HOTEL  
DEALS!

MEXICO  
PARIS  
CALIFORNIA  
VIETNAM  
PORTUGAL  
ST. BART'S

2008

itlist

WE PICK THE BEST NEW  
HOTELS FOR YOU



The Princess Plaza at Arizona's Fairmont Scottsdale Princess, below left. Right: The pool at the Ritz-Carlton Golf & Spa Resort, Rose Hall, in Jamaica.

**What's Included** Three nights in a River Lodge; one 50-minute spa treatment per person; a round of golf at the resort's golf course; a kayak excursion down the Deschutes River. **Cost** \$366 per night, double, through July 31. **Savings** 35 percent. 🌞 🌞

■ **TEXAS** Family Summer package from the Southwestern-style Barton Creek Resort & Spa (866/572-7369; bartoncreek.com), in Texas Hill Country. **What's Included** Three nights in a resort guest room; a one-hour family golf lesson; daily breakfast. **Cost** \$366 per night, for a family of four, through July 31. **Savings** 20 percent. 🌞

■ **WASHINGTON** In Vino Veritas package from the Vintage Park (800/853-3914; hotelvintagepark.com), in downtown Seattle. **What's Included** Three nights in a Luxury room; a chauffeured day trip to several wineries in nearby Woodinville; a picnic lunch; chocolate-covered strawberries upon your return. **Cost** \$286 per night, double, through July 31. **Savings** 20 percent. 🌞 🍷

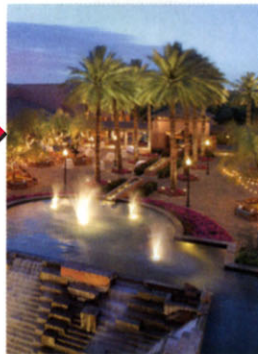
■ **WASHINGTON, D.C.** A Capitol Night package from the Hotel George (202/347-4200; hotelgeorge.com), a 10-minute walk from the National Gallery of Art. **What's Included** Three nights in a Deluxe

King room; a tour of Washington's monuments in a chauffeured Lincoln Town Car, with a bottle of champagne. **Cost** \$246 per night, double, through July 31, Thursdays through Sundays. **Savings** 26 percent. 🌞

## CARIBBEAN

■ **ARUBA** Leap Into Summer package at the Westin Aruba Resort (877/822-2222; westin.com), on Palm Beach. **What's Included** Three nights in an island-view room; two 60-minute treatments at the hotel's spa; choice of kite-surfing, Jet Skiing, or scuba diving. **Cost** \$249 per night, double, through August 31. **Savings** 29 percent. 🌞 🌴

■ **JAMAICA** Tropical Escape package from the Ritz-Carlton Golf & Spa Resort, »



## ISLAND ESCAPE

■ **St. Maarten Adventure** package from the Sonesta Maho Beach Resort & Casino (800/223-0757; sonesta.com), set on 10 beachfront acres on the Dutch side of the island. **What's Included** Four nights in an Ocean View Premier room; an afternoon sail on an America's Cup yacht; a day hike to scenic Pic Paradis, the island's highest point; unlimited use of bicycles. **Cost** \$240 per night, double, through December 18. **Savings** 39 percent. 🌞



The beach at St. Maarten's Sonesta Maho Beach Resort & Casino.

## WHERE TO FIND MORE DEALS ONLINE

**InsideTrip.com** **BEST FOR** Booking better fares—at no extra cost. This site factors 12 different metrics into airfare searches—including a flight's on-time performance, connection details, and airport gate locations. **T+L TEST** At press time, a nonstop flight from New York's La Guardia Airport to Memphis on American Airlines cost \$34 less than flying the same itinerary on Northwest. Caveat: the cheaper flight carried a higher risk of delays.

**SmallShipCruises.com** **BEST FOR** Off-the-beaten-path cruise packages. Smaller operators (with ships serving up to 500 passengers) tend to be more flexible with cost than larger ones, and many offer deals through this site. **T+L TEST** We spotted a fare for a French Country Waterways barge trip reduced by 30 percent.

**Travel.HalogenGuides.com** **BEST FOR** Discounts on hotel stays. Users can search a database of more than 300 upscale properties worldwide—including Westin, Kimpton, and Shangri-La—by name, theme, or location. **T+L TEST** Recent finds include two nights for the price of one at Tanjong Jara, on Malaysia's eastern coast, and a 25 percent savings at the Argonaut Hotel, at San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf.