

20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

# Condé Nast Traveler

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> **Room with a View** Unfold the following page to experience the picturesque seclusion of St. Lucia's Jade Mountain resort.



## room with a view



### St. Lucia

#### Jade Mountain

The Sun Suite, Jade Mountain, Soufrière, St. Lucia; 758-459-4000; [jademountainstlucia.com](http://jademountainstlucia.com). There are 24 suites; doubles range from \$950 to \$1,400. The Sun Suite is \$1,400.

ST. LUCIA MAY HAVE A LOT OF ROCKS AND HARD PLACES, but what a place to be caught. For starters you've got some enviable decisions to make. That swimming pool is not only ginormous—an infinity pool in more ways than one—but it's yours and yours alone, so where's your bathing suit? Those peaks on the horizon are the famous Pitons; two of the most photographed mountains in the hemisphere, maybe the world, they are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. So where's your camera? And for that matter, your hiking boots? Gros Piton, the shorter of the two, is only a 3,000-foot climb; you could be back before cocktails. That natural body of water is the Caribbean, and 190 feet below

your room it meets not one but two beaches—just your luck, more decisions. And bring your snorkel for Coral Gardens at the base of Gros Piton. The fluttering wings you hear could be from Jade Mountain's resident hummingbirds or banana quits—or it could be one of the 139 other local bird species. Where are your binoculars? You'll want them after sunset, too, because this far removed from light pollution, the Milky Way is dazzling. Or maybe night is when your own personal infinity will finally seduce you—that pool, whose iridescent glass tiles can be lit in a spectrum of colors. The choices are enough to exhaust you. Did we mention the open-air beds? All soft landings should be so hard earned. □



Photograph by MacKallif Eversen