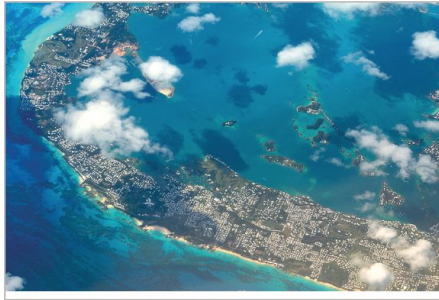


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Bermuda Break

This island in the Sargasso Sea has it all: natural beauty, beaches and coral reefs, plus great restaurants and culture



Sometimes, when you're planning a vacation, how soon you can get to it is as important as how good it will be when you arrive. Much like that pile of affidavits staring at you from the corner of your desk, your vacation should require only a few quick actions to set you free of the winter funk burden you're currently in. When you find a destination that is equal parts easy-to-get-to and fun-when-you-arrive, you know you've got a winner. Bermuda delivers on all fronts.

Here's what you need to know to make the most of a quick getaway ... after you tackle those affidavits.

The spot: Bermuda is the "B" island that isn't in the Caribbean. Flights from Toronto will get you there in under three hours. And with subtropical weather in the summer months, and temperatures in the high-teens in the winter months it'll always be warmer than what you're used to here at home. Add stunning sunsets and a plethora of great activities and you've got guaranteed good times. www.gotoBermuda.com

The stay: Book into the Newstead Belmont Hills Golf Resort & Spa and you can wake up to views of a pink sunset right from the hammock in the backyard of your suite. Better still, keep the relaxation going at the on-site spa & salon where a 60-minute Lomilomi massage will make those papers on your desk seem like a distant memory. www.newsteadbelmonthills.com

The savour: This is an island that takes its food very seriously. You won't have to go far to be spoiled. At Beau Rivage, you'll dine on the flavours of France thanks to Meilleur Ouvrier de France (MOF) bestowed on chef Jean-Claude Garzia. Or head out to Blu which overlooks the 18-hole golf course. It was named one of the "100 Best Restaurants in the World" by Condé Nast Traveler magazine. With a menu that offers everything from tortelloni to Iranian Beluga caviar, it's no wonder. www.blu.bm/

The sun: It's everywhere, even in the cooler months, but you can maximize exposure on a cliffside chair at Coco Reef or (in the summer) book a spot on a Rising Son sail-and-snorkel tour of the Great Sound on a catamaran for half a day. Now, all that's left to do is sip your Rum Swizzle and smile. www.beaurivagebda.com/