

THE SHORE CLUB • THE NEW ATLANTIS

BY KIM-MARIE EVANS

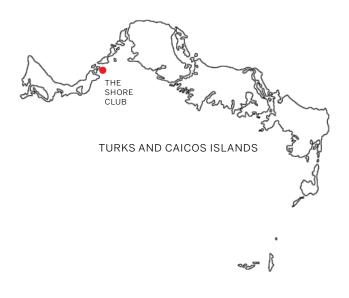
This Caribbean hot spot may still be getting some finishing touches, but we recommend you book a room now





t seems unlikely that a middle-aged Canadian man would be the visionary behind the sexiest new hotel in the Caribbean. But Stan Hartling just showed up to the Turks and Caicos party with the island's new It girl—**THE SHORE CLUB**. The man behind The Palms on the famous Grace Bay Beach has turned a previously desolate stretch of beach into the new home of a world-class hotel.

Prior to the Shore Club's grand opening in January, the only people you would find wandering the secluded Long Bay Beach were intrepid snorkelers and kite boarders. Now the area serves as a luxe hideaway for those in search of seclusion with every amenity.





THE ATMOSPHERE

With its whitewashed walls, arched passageways and all-suite accommodations, many are calling **THE SHORE CLUB** the perfect hotel. The smallest room on the property is a junior suite, and the one-, two- and three-bedroom condos all boast ocean views and grand balconies. A variety of restaurants offer fare that ranges from beach snacks to formal dining at Sui Ren for Peruvian and Asian fusion.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Each of the three pools has a distinct vibe. There's the beachside adults-only pool, the resort pool with casual dining and the elegant Colonnade pool centered around a "floating" fire pit. There are plush sun beds and cabanas everywhere and not a "This space is available for reservation" sign in sight. The swim-up bar offers handcrafted cocktails, tropical pool snacks and chatty bartenders who can tell an entertaining tale while balancing a bottle of rosé on their heads.

A wood walkway leads to the two-and-a-half-mile-long private beach. There, guests can grab a complimentary kayak or paddleboard and drift into the shallow waters, which remain that way until about a mile offshore. (There's a shipwreck in the distance that a tall person could actually walk to.)

THE EXTRAS

This may sound like an adultsonly paradise, but families are very much welcome. The treehouse themed kids' club is free and is the perfect place for the kids to spend an afternoon while mom and dad get massages. Though the Dune Spa is still being built, services are provided in beachfront cottages where the doors are left ajar to allow the sounds of the ocean to lull you into peaceful bliss. Breakfast and afternoon tea are included, as are bicycles for exploring the island. Rates start at \$700 per night. theshoreclubtc.com



he typical advice to those contemplating a trip to the 141-acre Atlantis Bahamas Resort has been to book a stay at The Cove, the upscale hotel within a hotel at the sprawling water wonderland. But this month, the resort unveils the brandnew Coral at Atlantis, offering families an ultimate—and economical—option.

Here, a personal concierge is available to help you navigate the endless list of activities. Guest rooms offer a variety of games and tiny robes for the littlest visitors and in-room refrigerators can be prestocked—no more "hangry" meltdowns at check-in. Guests also have exclusive access to the cabana-lined pool featuring a swim-up bar serving kid-friendly cocktails.

A variety of immersive adventures give dolphin lovers the chance to spend time with the resort's majestic creatures, many of whom were rescued during Hurricane Katrina. There is sunrise snorkeling, paddleboarding and glass bottom kayaking, all designed to let the dolphins do what they love—swim and play. (There are no tricks or posed photos.) Children too young to snorkel or kayak can "Rise and Shine with Dolphins" at 7 a.m. They'll play beach games and splash in knee-deep water while the dolphins get ready for their day (experiences range from \$25 for Rise and Shine to \$85 for snorkeling).

The renovations are part of a larger overhaul of the entire Atlantis Bahamas Resort. The Beach Tower will soon offer all-inclusive stays and in July the Marina Village will be unveiled as a culinary destination, providing local chefs a platform to bring their cuisines to the resort. Rooms start at \$329 per night. atlantisbahamas.com

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