

Robb Report

January 18, 2018
UVM: 460,608


TRAVEL / DESTINATIONS

6 Perfect Paradises to Visit in 2018


From Europe's newest lake escape to the Caribbean's most idyllic isles, these are the heavenly getaways to book in 2018.

«PREV 2 OF 6 NEXT»

#2 St. Barts



St. Barts
Photo: Courtesy Comité du Tourisme de Saint Barthélemy



St. Barts aerial view

St. Barts was shaping up to have a landmark 2017. New hotels were opening up left and right, giving long-established favorites like [Eden Rock](#) and [Isle de France](#) some friendly competition. The St. Barth Gourmet Festival was preparing for another impressive year, with an all-star chef lineup that would be presided over by Paris's Eric Frechon. And next-generation restaurants like Guy Martin's [Aux Amis](#) and Saint-Tropez offshoot [Shellona](#) were breathing new life into the island's culinary scene. Then Irma happened. The Category 5 hurricane made landfall on the French Caribbean isle last September, wreaking havoc on its most beloved haunts and hideaways.

But St. Barts is banking on a victorious comeback in 2018. With most shops and restaurants already open for business and many of the top villa rentals currently taking reservations, the island's glitzy nautical events—including March's [Bucket Regatta](#) and April's [Les Voiles de Saint Barth](#)—will go on as planned. Colomier newcomer [Villa Marie Saint-Barth](#) and [Hotel Christopher St. Barth](#) will reopen their doors in time for both events. More progress will come this summer, when Grand Cul-de-Sac's [Le Guanahani](#) will unveil an upgraded look. The biggest openings, however, will come at the end of the year, when [Hotel Le Toiny](#) relaunches with eight new villas (each with its own private pool) and the hilltop [Hôtel Barrière Le Carl Gustaf](#) makes its highly anticipated debut with an outpost of France's Le Fouquet's restaurant and a Biologique Recherche spa. In true St. Barts style, every opening is sure to be a fashionable fête.