

## **DISCOVER DOMINICA AUTHORITY**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dominica Ranks No. 1 for the Second Year in a Row on *Travel + Leisure's* World's Best Awards 2023 List of Top Islands in the Caribbean, Bermuda and the Bahamas

**Roseau, Dominica** – **July 11, 2023** – <u>Travel + Leisure</u> readers have once again voted <u>Dominica</u> (pronounced Dom-in-EEK-a) as the <u>No. 1 island Caribbean destination</u> in its 2023 World's Best Awards, which were announced today. Dominica receives this recognition for the second year in a row, reinforcing the destination's exceptional allure as a unique vacation experience and captivating tourism product.

"We are honored that Dominica has one again been named the top destination in the region by such a well-respected travel brand and its readers," said Hon. Denise Charles, Dominica's Minister of Tourism. "This is a true testament to the one-of-a-kind experiences and natural beauty Dominica has to offer, as well as the warm hospitality of our hotels, tour operators, and people. We hope that this accolade will continue to put Dominica on the radar screens of travelers who are seeking an authentic Caribbean experience that is centered about nature."

Over the past year, Dominica has seen an impressive growth in tourism numbers as a result of recent interest in off the beaten path destinations that focus on nature, sustainability and wellness, as well as the launch of the first direct flight from the U.S. on American Airlines and additional access points throughout the Caribbean. Since gaining attention in last year's World's Best Awards, Dominica has solidified its position on the global map as a must-visit destination. With its lush landscapes, commitment to sustainability and eco-tourism, and a wide array of distinctive activities such as whale watching, canyoning, hiking and diving, Dominica is a haven for nature enthusiasts. The island provides a diverse range of accommodation options tailored to meet various preferences, from eco-friendly establishments to sustainable luxury. Secret Bay, recognized as the No. 1 resort in the Caribbean by Travel + Leisure's World's Best Awards 2023, is a prime example of the exceptional offerings available in Dominica.

"Dominica is grateful to have stakeholders, like Secret Bay, who align with our mission to provide one-of-a-kind experiences for our guests while keeping our sustainable promise," said Hon. Charles. "It is amazing to not only receive recognition as the best island in the Caribbean, but to be home to Secret Bay, *Travel + Leisure's* top resort in the Caribbean. We look forward to welcoming more visitors to our shores and continuing to offer once in a lifetime experiences."

Secret Bay, Dominica's all-villa, six-star, Relais & Châteaux rainforest resort, features a limited collection of freestanding, secluded and sustainably crafted villas, along with wellness facilities, recreational amenities, locally sourced and sustainable culinary offerings, a wealth of transformational experiences and unmatched personalized service.

To celebrate the *Travel + Leisure* recognition, Dominica and Secret Bay are running an Instagram giveaway to offer followers a chance to win an exclusive trip to Dominica including airfare and 3-night stay at Secret Bay. Follow <a href="mailto:openion-nica">openion-nica</a> and <a href="mailto:openion-nica">osecret Bay</a> for details on how to enter.

Each year, *Travel + Leisure* recognizes the top hotels, islands, cities, cruise lines, airlines, spas and more around the globe, based on the results of the *Travel + Leisure* World's Best Awards 2023 readers' survey. Readers rated islands based on the following characteristics: natural attractions/beaches, activities/sights, restaurants/food, people/friendliness and value.

The *Travel + Leisure* World's Best Awards is known as an essential, trusted source for inspiration and guidance as travelers make plans to set out on trips around the globe. The *Travel + Leisure* World's Best Awards 2023 list can be found on <a href="https://www.travelandleisure.com/worlds-best">https://www.travelandleisure.com/worlds-best</a> and will be featured in the August issue of *Travel + Leisure*.

For more information on Dominica, visit <u>www.discoverdominica.com</u>, explore the destination's <u>YouTube Page</u>, and follow Dominica on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.

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## **ABOUT DOMINICA**

Dominica (pronounced Dom-in-EEK-a) recently ranked by <u>Forbes</u> as a top travel destination for 2023, lies in the Eastern Caribbean between Guadeloupe to the north and Martinique to the south. Air travelers can connect to Dominica direct from Miami on American Airlines, and make regional connections on Air Antilles, Air Sunshine, Coastal Air Transport, InterCaribbean Airways, LIAT, Caribbean Airlines, Silver Airways - (Code share: American Airlines, Delta, JetBlue), from the surrounding hubs of Antigua, Barbados, Guadeloupe, Puerto Rico, St. Maarten, St Lucia, the British Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. If traveling by sea, travelers may connect to Dominica on the L'Express des lles ferry service from Guadeloupe, Martinique, and St. Lucia, and Val'Ferry from Guadeloupe and Martinique.

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