

# A Rare World.

THE TRAVEL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY



## British Columbia

CLAYOQUOT WILDERNESS RESORT  
SHANGRI-LA VANCOUVER FAIRMONT PACIFIC RIM  
ROSEWOOD HOTEL GEORGIA

*Clayoquot Wilderness Resort*

## SAINT BARTHÉLEMY

Le Sereno Villas Isle de France

Hôtel Le Toiny Eden Rock

# EDEN ROCK

*The first is also the best.*

**W**HEN AVIATOR Rémy de Haenen built Eden Rock on the island of Saint Barth around the year 1950, it was the first hotel to open on the island. In no time, the unique suites built into the natural rock formations near the beach at Saint Jean became recreational stumping grounds for the likes of de Haenen's famous friends including Greta Garbo, Howard Hughes, and other legendary figures of the past. Much has changed since then, most notably a massive expansion which was recently completed to add a host of new beachfront suites and villas to the property's inventory. However, one thing remains the same, and that is its

status as a must-visit destination for the names you know.

Arrival was a breeze, quite literally. Shown to the outdoor seating area for check-in, the cooling ocean trade winds did their share to lull us into a calming state as we signed on the dotted line before being shown to our suite. An introduction to the space is key here as each suite is entirely unique and has its own quirks and features which are best explained in person.

It would be nearly impossible to describe each of the accommodations here in detail, but it should suffice to say that there is no wrong choice as long as you choose Eden Rock. Of course, Garden Cottages set away from the sea aren't the most inspiring, but even they offer their charm in terms of privacy and shade. We would suggest you consider any of the Classic Rock Suites like De Haenen

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with its expansive patio that jets above the sea or the Premium Suites like Michaels with its sundeck and jet-powered plunge pool. Better yet, consider the Heavenly Beach Houses which are fully equipped residences right on the sand. And if you wish to go to the extreme, there is no better exemplification of the concept on Saint Barth than Villa Rockstar with its private everything done up to the blinged out max.

There are two restaurants on property. Sand Bar serves breakfast, lunch, and seaside cocktails. Service here is casually refined with a thorough menu of continental selections at lunch, and a buffet of oceanic proportions offered for breakfast. On The Rocks is the property's signature restaurant. Open only for dinner, the perfectly simple cuisine here is ideal for romantic dinners, families, and even a girl's night out.

Eden Rock has the largest gym of any property on Saint Barth, including a nice selection of traditional and cutting edge equipment to choose from. We didn't try it, but we'll admit we rolled our eyes when we saw the fat burning infrared machine—no doubt a testament to the place's Hollywood appeal. There is no swimming pool and no spa on property. Instead, treatments are offered in room on request and swimming urges can be easily satisfied in the calm waters of Saint Jean Bay. After all, the bay front location is the main attraction here—that and the fabulous service offered to bring towels and cocktails to chairs perfectly situated on the gorgeous sand.

While Saint Barth is a fabulous place to visit, Eden Rock is surely a destination in and of itself. Many properties might rely on their legendary status to keep their rooms full, but it seems that Eden Rock has only gotten better with age. Were he still alive, it is without doubt that Rémy de Haenen would be proud to bring his friends to the Eden Rock of today. We are surely glad that we could spend a few days here to confirm that this our most favored property on the island. ●●●

### **Eden Rock**

Saint Barthélemy

Hotel Manager: Sonia Tejero Escayola  
edenrockhotel.com



## DOs & DON'Ts

**DO** take your time in choosing which accommodation you will request. Each is unique in location, view, décor, and layout.

**DO** consider Villa Rockstar or the slightly more "modest" Villa Nina for extended family getaways on the extreme. There's not much else to say about these top suites except, "Wow."

**DO** bring the kids. The calm waters of Saint Jean Bay are perfect for even the newest swimmers.

**DON'T** worry that there isn't a pool. Many of the suites and villas have their own, but even if yours doesn't, it's highly doubtful that you'll miss it once you get here.

**DON'T** wait. Rightfully so, Eden Rock has a tribe of very loyal repeat guests, and peak time periods can be very difficult if not impossible to secure without a year or more of advance notice.

**DON'T** be surprised if you don't want to leave once you arrive. There are some fabulous beaches on Saint Barth, but there's only one with these calm waters and this fabulously attentive service!