

the knot

SUMMER 2011

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FOR
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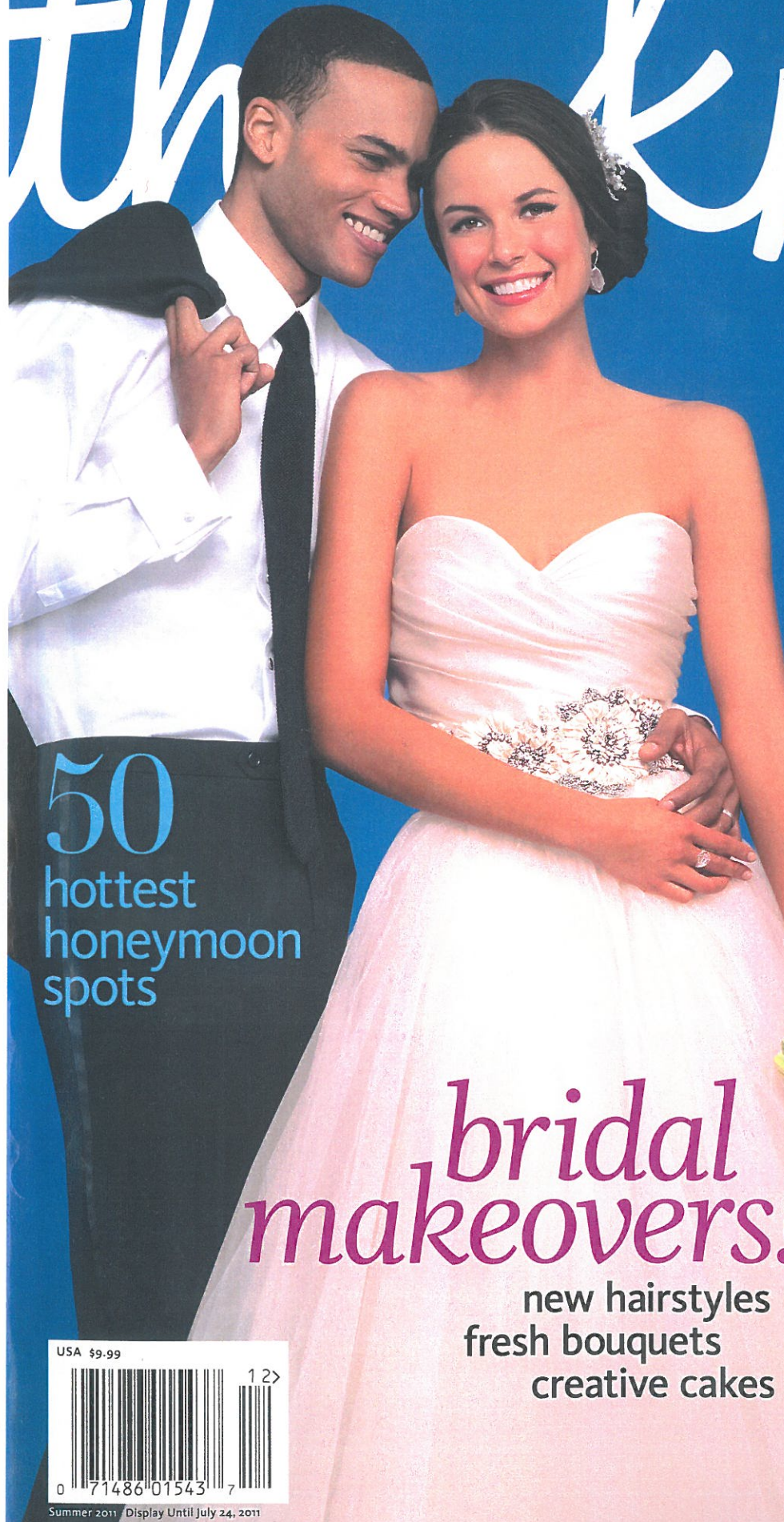
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regal getaways

Beyond-extravagant honeymoon destinations will make you feel like you're living a real-life fairy tale. BY NANCY RONES

jodhpur, india

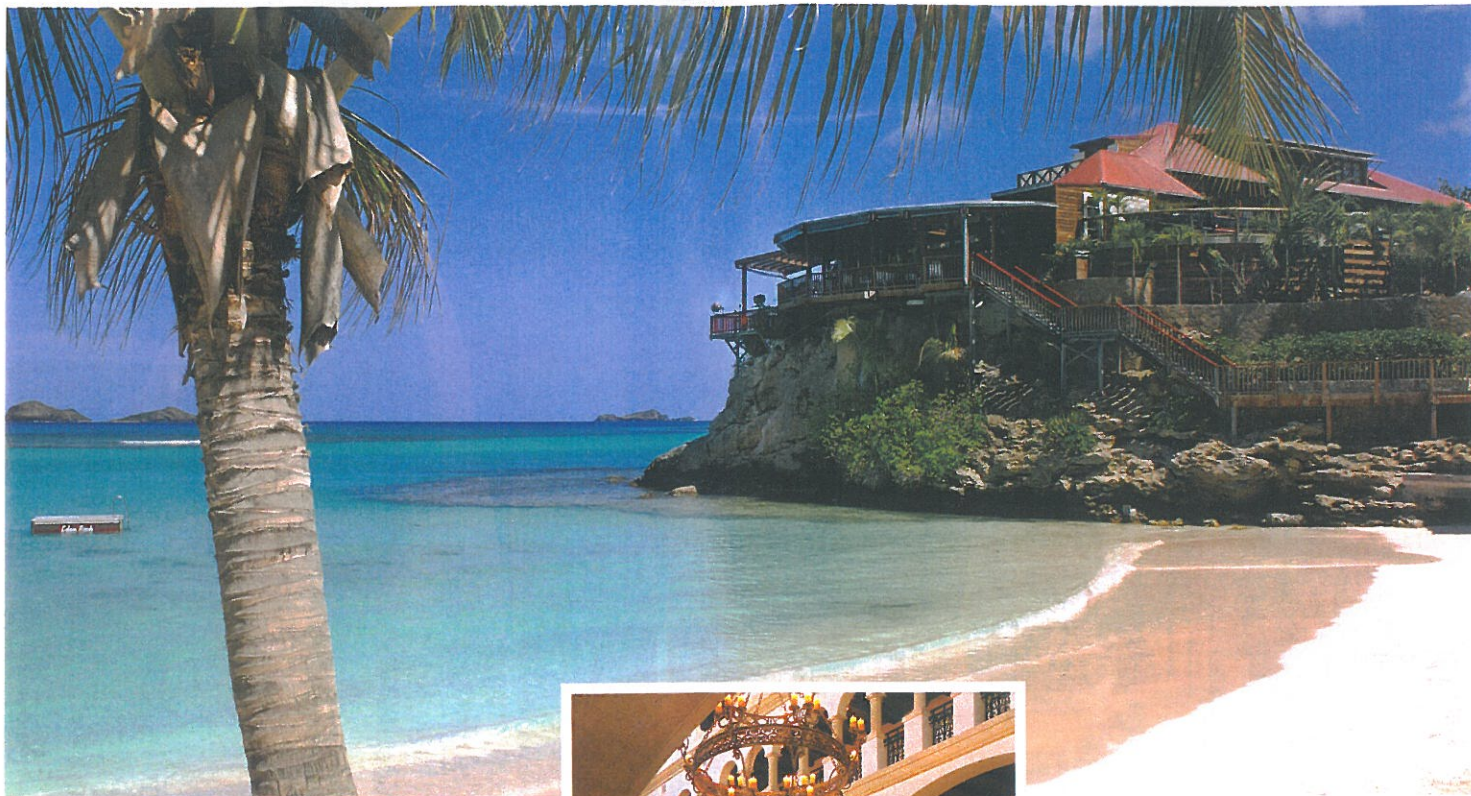
WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT Surrounded by majestic palaces, dazzling jewelry, exquisite gardens with resident peacocks and relics of princely history, you'll wonder when your horse-drawn (or elephant-drawn) carriage is going to appear in this medieval Rajasthani city.

WHERE TO STAY If it's good enough for The King, or Maharaja, to live in...then you can expect a lavish stay at Umaid Bhawan Palace. One part of this immense sandstone palace,

fashioned in Art Deco design, serves as the primary residence of Jodhpur's royal family. A second section is an opulent hotel, and another is an antiques museum, which you can peruse while sipping champagne. **TajHotels.com**

ROYAL BONUS Since every respected royal should do some handshaking with locals, go on a "Village Safari" excursion. You'll visit villagers and craftspeople in the countryside and spy wildlife (gazelles, antelope) along the way.



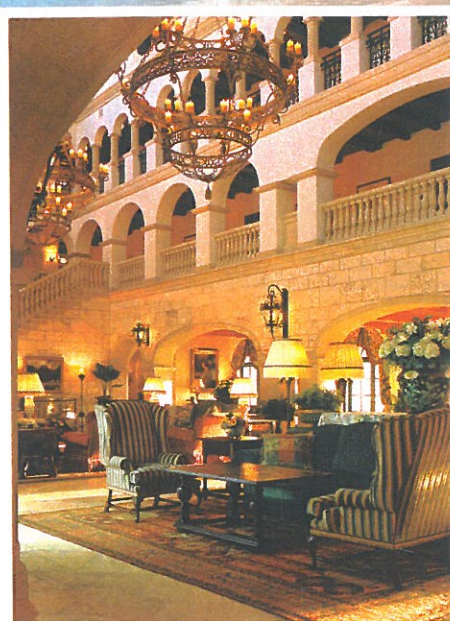


st. barts, french west indies ^

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT They may think they're incognito behind their designer shades, but we know the famous flock to this teeny, French-speaking Caribbean island.

WHERE TO STAY Built on a magnificent rock ledge that overhangs the blue waters of St. Jean Beach, the exclusive Eden Rock hotel is as chic as it gets. The fashionable villas are individually styled. A favorite: the beachfront Waterlily suite with an infinity pool and private gardens. EdenRockHotel.com

ROYAL BONUS Roll into the tony harbor town of Gustavia, where moguls dock their jumbo yachts. Shop along the Rodeo Drive of St. Barts, rue de la République, and slide your plastic at Louis Vuitton and Bulgari. Then, slip into your slinky Missoni swimsuit (top optional) and people-watch at nearby Shell Beach. Or make like Diddy and cruise the Caribbean waters as an A-lister. All you have to do is charter a staffed, 47-foot catamaran and voyage to secluded Colombier Beach for snorkeling and feasting on a gourmet lunch—and each other.



< sea island, georgia

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

A sophisticated playground of pampering, serenity and unspoiled coastline (including five miles of white-sand beaches), this country-club-esque private island off the coast of Georgia is a magnet for royalty, dignitaries and celebs looking to escape.

WHERE TO STAY Lose yourselves at the grandiose Cloister at Sea Island, which combines modern amenities with old-world swankiness

(jackets and dinner attire for high-stakes bingo night in the ballroom). Request a top-floor suite overlooking the Black Banks River and don't miss dining at the hotel's super-elegant five-star restaurant, the Georgian Room. With a cozy subterranean wine cellar, you can indulge your palate further with a private wine tasting led by the sommelier. Sealsland.com

ROYAL BONUS Between dips in the palm-framed pool, retreat to an air-conditioned cabana where you can veg out in front of a flat-screen TV or turn to mush with a massage. Then, spark a shared hobby with a private lesson from one of the country's most renowned golf instructors. Or work on your game at two championship courses; listen for the nightly bagpiper whose song signals the end of the golf day. Instead of stars, The Cloister's "Hollywood Walk of Fame" is made of oak trees that line the front drive, planted by visiting dignitaries. Plaques reveal the likes of President George H.W. Bush (who honeymooned with Barbara at the hotel in 1945), President George W. Bush, Queen Juliana of The Netherlands and former UK Prime Minister Tony Blair. >>