

Tampa Bay

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weddings

M A G A Z I N E





Island Cottage Chic

Cotton Tree, Grand Cayman

By Evan Tokarz

A cerulean crystal lies in the Caribbean Sea. The crystal is Cotton Tree Hotels. Cotton Tree resides on the west end of the Cayman Islands, home of sparkling blue waters, amiable natives and your next small wedding gathering. Built perfectly for close friends and family, this boutique luxury hotel offers the best of the Cayman Islands and the amenities to host a small destination wedding.

Choose between a selection of four cottages, each holding between 4 and 6 people. The cottages range in a variety of pastels and include the charming names of Thatch, Sea Grape, Almond and Cocoplum. Each room measures 1,600 square feet and has all the comforts necessary to bring home to paradise. Flowers and fruits line the cottages, including lime, banana, avocado, cotton, guava and mango trees available for the picking.

All of the Caribbean-chic cottages include classic contemporary furnishings, French doors and either a rainforest shower or Jacuzzi. Each kitchen offers granite countertops, high-end cutlery, and a French press coffee maker. For the eco-conscious, organic eggs, bread, cereals and juices are provided at no charge. In addition, the wired guests can relish the 42" plasma TVs, iPod dock and free Wi-Fi.

Of course, what's a good wedding without relaxation? The spa, freshwater pool and massage station will relax flight frustrations. Those looking for a bit of shopping before the "I do" can head to some of the various jewelry shops and arts and crafts shops in the area. For those who want to add a bit of fun to the equation, visit Tortuga Rum Company for libations and spirits.

Mise En Place catering offers a unique catering experience



at Cotton Tree. Chef Collins hosts dinner in the privacy of your cottage and can adhere to dietary and health needs. Other dining destinations include specialists in native Caymanian foods, Western Indian dishes and Italian. Tattersall Imports hosts a variety of European and New World Wines and the sommelier can help choose the perfect wine for the wedding reception.

Owner Heather Lockington runs Cotton Tree. Every inch of the hotel meets her satisfaction. She grew up in the Cayman area and wished for a place to reflect her heritage. Her favorite places to visit are the nearby Barker's National Park and Mastic Trail, a hiking destination. The more adventurous can also head to the National Gallery and Fort George. At these destinations, bird-watching and horseback riding are just part of the ambiance. The even more adventurous can take a trip to Stingray City, a Cayman must-do. Guests can swim and touch over 100 stingrays.

Feel pampered as the concierge service offers grocery shopping, spa appointments, dinner reservations, personal chef services and more. Guests can unwind with an excellent spa treatments in the secluded spa pavilion located just a few steps away from the serene water. The spa offers a full range of beauty treatments and services, including yoga and Pilates. In addition, for art enrichment, a local artist can be brought in to teach a class using a variety of oils, pastels and charcoal. With all these services, it's not stretch to say Cotton Tree has what you need for your next small wedding gathering.

For more information, visit www.caymancottontree.com.