

# THE BOULEVARD

Long Island's Premier Celebrity, Lifestyle and Variety Publication | Fall 2010

Celebs, Pets &  
The North Shore Animal League  
Carol Leifer  
Gary Dell'Abate  
Kathryn Erbe  
Carly Simon  
Rick DiPietro



BETH  
**STERN**  
unleashed

Plus Design, Fashion, Travel, Health, and more





# Cotton Tree

Heather Lockington Bringing the Comforts of Home to the Caribbean

/ By **Tina Guiomar** / Photography  
By **Tina Guiomar**  
and courtesy of the **Cotton Tree Hotel** /

## TRAVEL GRAND CAYMAN

A smooth flight to Georgetown, Grand Cayman. On close proximity to the grand island, myriad turquoise, dark cerulean and alabaster shades naturally infuse. The image, a work of art, begins a journey to escape the ordinary on a trip to Cotton Tree Boutique Hotel, where relaxation and warmth await.

The Cotton Tree Hotel was a quest for owner Heather



Lockington to create the perfect hideaway luxury hotel, where guests can feel at home. A globe traveler, Heather took the best elements of her luxury hotel experiences and combined it with her Cayman heritage to create the Cotton Tree. Nestled in West Bay, Cotton Tree maintains VIP privacy by offering guests one of four two-bedroom beachfront cottages along the well-tended landscape and pristine beaches.

Each cottage is named for the trees that surround the property: Seagrape, Almond, Thatch and CocoPlum. The design

style is "Caribbean chic" with modern dark Brazilian wood furniture and a vivid Caribbean color palette, French doors that open to a gorgeous view of the ocean, vintage photos of old Cayman culture and artwork by local Caymanian artists. Each cottage has two bedrooms, a kitchen, a living room, dining area, washer and dryer and a Jacuzzi bathroom in the master suite.

The professional kitchen is equipped with state-of-the-art Kitchen Aid appliances and a pre-stocked refrigerator with breakfast items, juices, water and a pantry stocked with snacks, cereal and local condiments. A wide assortment of beer, wine, champagne and spirits are available. Cotton Tree also keeps you technologically connected with a flat-screen plasma TV in the bedrooms and living room, a Wii console to keep the kids (and the kids at heart) entertained, an iPod docking station, Apple TV for movies, free WiFi, a laser printer and even a laptop available for use. The bedrooms are painted a light blue, reflective of the ocean, and the spa bathroom is stocked with full-sized Elemis toiletries. There is a freshwater swimming pool on premises, as well as a state-of-the-art fitness center, a yoga pavilion and a beachside spa hut for the Cotton Tree's signature natural mango body scrub or any spa treatment to your liking.

You can bask all day in the sun by the swimming pool or ask for suggestions on activities if you are interested in venturing outside. The Stingray Encounter is a unique experience you'll never forget. A three-and-a-half hour ride on a catamaran takes you to Stingray Sandbar where you can snorkel or stand with friendly Southern Stingrays. The story goes that the local fisherman would end their fishing day by dumping the remnants on this sandbar and with the smell of fresh fish in the air, it's no



wonder the stingrays made their way there. They are the most interesting creatures; the female stingray is twice the size of the male and they are unable to see their food so they have a heightened sense of taste and smell. They are friendly like a dog but slimy like a wet Portobello mushroom (as was described to me). An onsite unique opportunity that Cotton Tree offers is an art experience with Nancy Barnard of Articulate. In the warm



morning sun, capturing your experience in a watercolor painting is a relaxing, educational and fun experience.

The concierge services are a great advantage where anything that one could need is just a phone call away – grocery shopping, babysitting, dinner reservations, onsite art and cooking classes, personal chefs (with 24-hour notice), car rental, spa appointments and assistance with island excursions and tours.

Heighten and enlighten your culinary conquests with an evening of fine wine and gourmet cuisine. Chef Sean of Mes En Place and sommelier Harvey Setterfield of Tatterall Imports work hand-in-hand to create an evening of excellent Caribbean cuisine and wine tasting. On introduction, Harvey brought us a fine champagne and explained the history and proper handling. To accompany the champagne, hors d'oeuvres of shrimp ceviche, roasted tomato canapé and seared ahi tuna crostini were served. Our first course of a light curry carrot and ginger soup that carried a hint of cumin complemented the Oregon Pinot Gris and the main entrée was a choice of surf 'n' turf or a mushroom risotto accompanied by a Spanish Rosé. The menu and the wines can be altered to anyone's liking but the quality and craftsmanship of all choices definitely surpass expectations. Mes En Place is available for catering and Tattersall's Harvey

is available for any questions a guest may have about pairing wines, wine tastings and even assistance to add to your own collection.

Guests can also take advantage of the amazing restaurants that are a short drive away from Cotton Tree. After exploration, I would recommend Morgan's Harbor for its fresh off-the-boat seafood and the best ceviche (marinated in citrus and island spices), the tuna and the conch ceviche were very good. The Calypso Grill offers its famous sticky toffee pudding (very light and warm and served with a surprising combination of berries and a cool coconut ice cream) and a great grilled blackened mahi mahi sandwich with fresh tartar sauce. The Osetra Bay has great South Beach-style atmosphere and superb food and the best Italian food can be found at Pappagallo, with its freshly made pastas, such as black and yellow linguine with shrimp, scallops, garlic and tomatoes in a light white wine sauce.

Cotton Tree Hotel is the perfect hideaway hotel for those looking for tranquility, luxury, quality and warm Caribbean sun. The staff is extremely helpful and friendly. Cotton Tree is just like being at home ... but better. For more information or reservations visit [www.caymancottontree.com](http://www.caymancottontree.com). 