FYI Travel: Hey mon, golfers should know that Jamaica has more than just beaches

by Tom_Roebuck

Villas of Distinction, experts in customized luxury villa vacations around the globe, is targeting the golf-travel market by introducing the villa vacation experience to those looking to tee off in the tropics with a selection of luxury accommodations and world-class golf courses in Jamaica.

TEE IT UP - At Half Moon resort in Jamaica, golf is the game. A view of the tee box on 15 features green hills in the distance. CNS Photo courtesy of Half Moon. A dream destination for golfers, Jamaica features four world-class golf courses within a short drive from each other: White Witch, Half Moon, Cinnamon Hill Ocean Course and Tryall Club.

Accommodations include:

Mahogany View - Overlooking Half Moon Golf Course, this four-bedroom, ocean-view villa provides guests with complete access to the Wyndham Rosehall Resort and Country Club with complimentary shuttle service to the property's beaches and access to the newly built water park, golf course, tennis courts and daily activities. Rates start at $600 per night. Web site

Mahogany Hill at Tryall - Located on 11 acres, this five-bedroom home overlooks the Tryall Golf Course and Caribbean Sea, offering spectacular views and maximum privacy. Rates start at $843 per night. Web site

Little Palm at Tryall - This quaint, two-bedroom villa is located on the North Shore of Jamaica and steps away from Tryall's private beach. Rates start at $471 per night. Web site

Great View - Just 10 minutes from Montego Bay International Airport, this five-bedroom villa is the perfect blend of comfort and beauty. Each bedroom suite has its own theme, including the Plantation Green Room, Orchid Room, Burmese Room, Frog Room and Palm Room. Web site

Half Moon Resort Villas - Often referred to as a "home away from home," these 32 individual villas, ranging from three to seven bedrooms, offer guests a private pool, private staff and two golf carts to explore the property. Rates start at $750 for a three-bedroom villa. Web site

Calypso and Seafore at Tryall - The perfect combination for large groups who wish to maintain a sense of privacy, these four-bedroom villas are separated by a floral hedge. Both have a private pool and terrace. Rates start at $707 per night at Calypso and $714 per night at Seafore. Seafore can also be rented out as a two-bedroom villa for as low as $357 per night. Click here to view Calypso, or here for Seafore at Tryall.

FYI: To contact Villas of Distinction, call 800-289-0900 or visit www.villasofdistinction.com.

TAKE THE FAMILY TO THE TETONS

Family bonding climbs to new heights in eastern Idaho with Teton Ridge Ranch's new Tell Your Family To Take a Hike getaway. Families are invited to explore the ranch's 4,000 acres of pristine natural landscape during exciting outdoor adventures each day. At night, they retreat to an elegantly appointed, yet kid-friendly private lodge that is tucked away amid Aspen pine trees and beautiful meadows.

With more than 18 miles of trails to choose from, groups can opt for a guided hike led by ranch staff or set off on their own with maps provided by the property. Picnic lunches and snacks are provided for families wishing to venture out for most of the day. The property can also direct hikers to a number of more difficult trails into the Grand Tetons.

After exploring the trails, families can angle-up for a lesson in fly-fishing on one of the ranch's stocked

fishing ponds. Fly-casting equipment is provided by the ranch.

Home base for this family getaway is the property's special retreat, the Aspen Lodge, a private log house with two bedrooms, three bathrooms and private porches to take in the mountain views. Guests of the Aspen Lodge join other ranch guests in the main lodge's dining room for all meals. The main lodge also features a great room, library, game room, fitness room, computer room and massage room.

The package includes three gourmet meals per day, plus snacks and a bottomless refrigerator stocked with juices, water, soda, beer and wine. Breakfast and lunch are served buffet-style from an open kitchen. In the evening, guests meet in the great room for appetizers and drinks by the fire before dinner in the dining room.

FYI: The Take a Hike family getaway, based on four people occupying the Aspen Lodge, is $1,260 June and October, and $1,380 July-September. Rates are per day and include all lodging, meals and activities. Additional persons per room are $125 per day. For reservations, call 800-926-3579 or visit www.tetonridge.com.

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