

Business Traveler

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Return To Travel

Travelers and the industry ask -
Are we there yet?

The Crane Resort, Barbados

BACKGROUND This property is the oldest on the island dating to 1887 when it was known as the Crane Beach Hotel. Modernized, but with plenty of original architecture, the resort has a loyal following of repeat visitors.

WHERE IS IT? On the southeastern corner of the island, The Crane is located atop a beautiful cliff maximizing its ocean and island views. This also means that the ocean breeze is quite strong, which makes even the hottest days pleasant. Guests can walk down a pathway to access a sandy stretch of uncrowded beach. Another bonus of staying here is the proximity to the airport, just a ten-minute drive.

WHAT'S IT LIKE? Spread across several buildings, the resort seems more like a small village. Reception is in a central building with pathways that radiate from the arrival area passing through small plazas where shops, restaurants and bars await. The manicured gardens feature exotic plants and swaying palm trees. Swimming pools, ponds with fish, bridges and water fountains are spread throughout the property.

ROOMS All suites, with as many as three bedrooms in some, the accommodations



BEST FOR
Cliff-top views with vigorous ocean breezes, exotic dining and all-suite accommodations

DON'T MISS
Breakfast on the cliff's edge overlooking the beach from L'Azure's breathtaking terrace

PRICE
Internet rates for a junior suite start at \$264.

CONTACT
The Crane Resort, St. Philip, Barbados, BB18098, Tel 246-423-6220, thecrane.com

are roomy with attractive furnishings and four-poster beds. Many larger suites come with kitchen and laundry facilities. Bathrooms are spacious with glass shower stalls and soaking tubs; vanities are stocked with plenty of towels and Crabtree & Evelyn toiletries. Furnished terraces are a great way to enjoy the breeze if you choose not to use the brisk in-room air conditioning or ceiling fans. Some of the most popular rooms come with private pools. With 21 different room categories and several connecting options, there is plenty of choice for both couples and families.

FOOD AND DRINK The Crane's varied dining scene can keep guests and locals

alike satisfied for days. L'Azure is the breakfast spot with an incredible terrace on the edge of the cliff overlooking the beach. Later in the day, Caribbean fare includes fresh seafood dishes as well as familiar favorites. Zen is popular for its Japanese-Thai fusion menu that features plenty of choice including maki and nigiri sushi rolls (plus a tasty sushi pizza), fragrant Thai curries and wok-fried dishes. The Italian restaurant features al fresco seating while the pool bistro serves a menu of burgers, salads and fresh seafood. There are plenty of options for tipplers including Bar 1887 with live jazz music, a beach bar and grill, and gelato and coffee shop.

LEISURE FACILITIES Five swimming pools provide ample options to take a dip including one reserved for adults. A fitness center provides the latest equipment, and quality massage and beauty treatments at Serenity Spa are worth the wait for a prized reservation.

BUSINESS AND MEETINGS FACILITIES Free wireless Internet works all around the resort including by the pool, and conference or social functions find this resort to be well-equipped for their needs.

VERDICT A gem on the island of Barbados with all-suite accommodations and decadent dining choices. *Ramsey Qubein*

