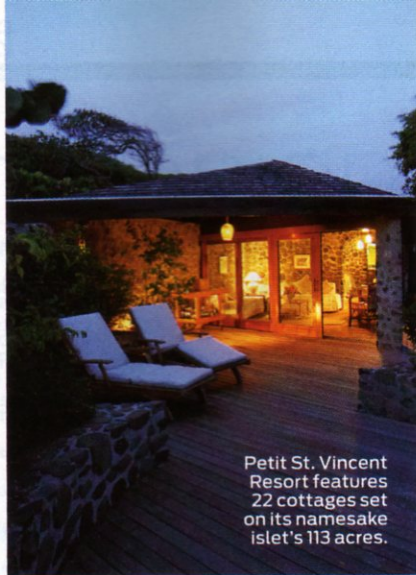


**Petit St. Vincent** Known simply as PSV, this private island resort five miles from Union Island is encircled by two miles of velvety white sand studded by thatch-roof palapas. Just 22 stone cottages are tucked into the hilly landscape, each with its own sun deck and living room, and guests summon staff or request privacy by hoisting a red or yellow pennant from a bamboo flagpole. Patrons pass their days swimming, snorkeling or hiking to the summit of the island's volcanic cone, and at night there's little to distract from the panoply of stars that illuminates the sky.

» **WHERE TO STAY & EAT** » Rates are steep, but **Petit St. Vincent** is worth every penny. Not all rooms are beachfront, but those off the sand are a quick walk off the shore and offer the most privacy. From \$675 in low season (\$860 high), including meals; closed September and October. 800-654-9326; psvresort.com

» **HOT STUFF** » Just west of PSV, the sandbars Punaise and Mopian offer brilliant sand, dazzling snorkeling and umbrellas for shade.



Petit St. Vincent Resort features 22 cottages set on its namesake islet's 113 acres.

**Carriacou** Languid Carriacou (pronounced CARE-ee-uh-coo), governed by Grenada to the south, is the largest and most populous of the Grenadines. Most of its 9,000 residents make their livelihood from boat building and fishing, and because the 13-square-mile island offers little lodging and has few dining options, tourism is largely limited to day-trippers. However, Carriacou is a find for anyone in search of great beaches,

and the main settlement, Hillsborough, has a decent strand that stretches for a mile on either side of the ferry dock.

Carriacou's great beauty is undeveloped Anse la Roche, at its northwest tip; get there by boat or trek 20 minutes from the main road. Just past the village of Windward, Petit Carenage Bay is much easier to reach and boasts a long, often-deserted arc of glistening silica studded with shells. Paradise Beach, just past the airport, offers a much more social scene, with a reggae soundtrack pulsing from a couple of beach bars. Two offshore islands can be reached by water taxi: White Island, off Tyrell Bay, has a beach along its north shore. West of Hillsborough, Sandy Island is a sandbar with a small grove of palm, almond and sea grape trees offering shade between snorkel excursions.

» **WHERE TO STAY** » Just a 100-yard stroll from Hillsborough's ferry dock, **Ade's Dream** offers 16 air-conditioned rooms, each one with a full kitchen and balcony. From \$54 year-round. 473-443-7317; adesdream.com

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