

# SAIL AWAY

With regatta season in full swing, now is the time for a Bermuda escape



Charming pastel homes dot historic Bermuda hillsides.

Black Tomato

By **DANA SCHUSTER**

**N**OW that warm weather has finally hit, it's time to get away from NYC. And while the Hamptons and Nantucket are always a go, why not fly internationally — in under two hours — and visit Bermuda? A British overseas territory, the 20½-square-mile island is booming this year no doubt in part to the chichi America's Cup yachting competition, which the pink sand-destination shelled out \$77 million to host.

## HOTEL

The 132-year-old Hamilton Princess & Beach Club (from \$609; [TheHamiltonPrincess.com](http://TheHamiltonPrincess.com)) has long been known as the “pink palace,” but thanks to a \$100 million renovation completed last summer, it's back to its glory days — and some. The hotel's new owners, a British family, The Greens, lent artwork from their impressive collections of Warhols, Koons, Banskys and a gigantic Kaws Mickey Mouse statue that sits in the yard overlooking the hotel's new multi-million dollar marina filled with super yachts.



Larry Ellison

Guided art tours are offered every Saturday morning by special appointment. The Greens' generosity extends to VIPs, to whom they lend their custom yacht for whale-watching excursions and visits to the Vixen shipwreck in the Bermuda Great Sound. The hotel, which is a cheerful pink and smack-dab in the center of Hamilton town, added on an 8,200-square foot Exhale spa where sessions kick off with a coconut water and hot neck pad. Shuttles take guests every half hour to the beach club, a quick 20 minute ride away, where you can lounge in over-water hammocks.

## FOOD

Bermuda may not be known for its food, but the island is pulling out all the stops for the onslaught of tourists set to descend starting next week for the America's Cup, which starts May 26 and runs through June 27. Bulli.Social ([BulliSocial.com](http://BulliSocial.com)) opened a few months ago and is already jumping thanks to its casual fare like a \$22 “Surfer dude” shrimp burger with smoked trigger fish crème fraiche along with 10 (!) different hot dog options. And Marée at The Loren ([TheLorenHotel.com](http://TheLorenHotel.com)), a new luxury boutique hotel, is one of the island's most sought-after fine dining experiences. Rooted in a sustainable mindset, customers feast on wahoo caught that morning right outside the hotel, while dishes like the lobster gnocchi appetizer and fish chowder, wouldn't be out of place in midtown Manhattan. The Hamilton Princess, meanwhile, boasts the only celebrity-helmed restaurant on the island, two-year-old Marcus, by chef Marcus Samuelsson. The real action seems to be at the hotel's brand 1609 restaurant with a huge outdoor space



Marcus Samuelsson

Hamish Hooper



The feisty high seas make America's Cup an intense sport to behold.

the world's most jaw-dropping boats battle it out on the high seas.

## ZIKA

With the Caribbean still on the CDC's watch-list for Zika, Bermuda is finally temperate enough for expectant families to visit without worry of the mosquito-born illness.

## ISLAND SOPHISTICATION

Bermuda was settled in the 1600s by English sailors that failed to make it to the Jamestown colony — and it is still rooted in understated British sophistication. Bigwigs like Mayor Bloomberg and celebs like Michael Douglas own homes in Bermuda for privacy's sake. The Royal Bermuda Yacht Club ([RBYC.bm](http://RBYC.bm)), which opened in 1844, and the Coral Beach Club ([CoralBeachClub.com](http://CoralBeachClub.com)) remain social centers on island.

The Loren



Chase Pritchard (above), trained by Great Performances, is chef de cuisine for The Loren.

USA successfully defends its 2013 title. Not your grandfather's sailboat, today's competitors are designed in concert with Airbus to literally fly over the water. Adding to the fun will be the Superyacht Regatta taking place between June 13 and 15, where some of