

# FATMAGAZINE

Featuring  
the 101 best  
hotels in  
the world

In association with  
Africa Travel

2009  
Travel  
Guide





## Isle de France

St Barth's, Caribbean

On an island not short of great beaches this place can hang its hat on the fact that it's sitting pretty on the best of them. St Barth's encapsulates all that's good about the Caribbean: great food, great service, but with a wonderfully wild, empty landscape. And P Diddy putting on his snorkel and fins next to you. Isle de France is cosy, fresh, delightful. For a slicker kick, there are three new sea-view villas, with their own bigger-than-plunge pools. But mostly it's about faded rose interiors and pretty French-grey four-posters. It's a place you fall for, quietly, brightly, indefinitely. **Website** [isle-de-france.com](http://isle-de-france.com). **UK reservations** Azure Collection (tel: 01244 322770). **Rates** Double, from £550.

## Shanti Ananda

St Felix, Mauritius

The blessed thing about this hotel (which likes to think of itself as a spa with hotel attached) is how well it does indulgence. Its raison d'être is not deprivation, but rather just eating wonderfully, according to what the ayurvedic doctor decides for you. The sister to the famous Ananda in the Himalayas, this one is both eco-chic and sleek, set on the wild and beautiful south shore of the island. The peace is absolute. There is a bar but it's a quiet one. The Italian restaurant is astonishingly good and the rooms contemporary, with every modern wi-fi whoosh you could want. The service is spectacular without being showy. Even families can unwind here, taking long walks on the beach to search for hermit crabs. A hit in Mauritius, which can so often get the vibe wrong. **Tel** 00 230 603 7200. **Website** [shantiananda.com](http://shantiananda.com). **Rates** Double, from £475, including breakfast. ▶

