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Life / Travel

## Fare Deals: Romance at Caribbean retreats

50 Shades of Grey in Florida and New York, Family Day at Blue Mountain, plus Romance on the Ranch in Texas


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Guests at The Crane can save up to 45 per cent on romantic getaways. The upscale Barbados resort offers picture-perfect views of the Atlantic Ocean.

By: **Kathryn Follitt** Travel, Published on Fri Feb 13 2015

It's easy to get in the mood for a romantic warm-weather retreat, especially on Valentine's Day. Now, two Caribbean resorts have put together getaway deals offering both sun and savings. At The Crane in Barbados, guests can save between 35 per cent and 45 per cent for travel through May 31. Bookings must be made by Feb. 28 and discounts vary with the duration of the stay. See [thecrane.com](http://thecrane.com). Meanwhile the St. Kitts Marriott Resort has an "Ultimate Romance" package that includes accommodation with late check-out, breakfast, resort dining credit and spa treatments. Rates start at \$207 (U.S.) per night, double occupancy. The package is valid through Dec. 3 and some black-out dates may apply. See the Deals link at [stkittsmarriott.com](http://stkittsmarriott.com) (promo code Z82).

### DIY Fifty Shades of Grey

Taking its cue from the new 50 Shades of Grey movie hitting theatres this weekend, B Ocean Resort in Florida has a "Fifty Shades of B" package that includes a bottle of wine, a grey silk tie and a sensual love kit. Prices start at \$339 per night (all prices U.S.) and a two-night minimum applies. The package is available through Mar. 1 and is subject to availability. An optional helicopter ride over Ft. Lauderdale's beaches is an extra \$185 per person. See the Special Offers link at [boceanfortlauderdale.com](http://boceanfortlauderdale.com). In New York City, two Kimpton Hotels (Eventi and Ink 48) are offering their own "50 Shades of Grey" packages including suite accommodation, a \$200 credit for lingerie purchases, two tickets to New York's Museum of Sex and a couples' massage. Prices start at \$659 per night for travel through Mar. 1. See [eventihotel.com](http://eventihotel.com) or [ink48.com](http://ink48.com).

### Family Day at Blue Mountain

Amidst all the Valentine's Day hoopla, we can't forget about Family Day. Activities at Blue Mountain, near Collingwood, include guided snowshoe hikes, skating, tubing and wagon rides. Plus, of course, skiing and snowboarding. More than 20 restaurants are also located at Blue Mountain. For a full schedule see [bluemountainvillage.ca](http://bluemountainvillage.ca).

### Best Valentine's Day splurge

For the ultimate Valentine's Day gift, The Inn at Dos Brisas ranch resort in Texas Hill Country has a two-night "Romance on the Ranch" package that includes accommodation in a 1,795-square foot hacienda with its own plunge pool, horse-drawn carriage ride for two, couples' massage, two dinners with wine pairings, daily lunch and breakfast, from \$3,468 (U.S.) per person through Dec. 30. The resort is part of the upscale Relais & Chateaux group. See the Specials link at [dosbrisas.com](http://dosbrisas.com).

*Kathryn Follitt is a Toronto-based freelance writer. Prices quoted are subject to change and availability. Follow @KathrynFollitt*

### Picks of the Week

**Sunquest:** Turks & Caicos, air & hotel, \$1,844 (Mar. 28), Ports of Call Resort.

**Air Canada Vacations:** Miami, air & hotel, \$1,298 (Feb. 24), Hilton Miami Downtown.

**Nolitours:** Panama, air & hotel, \$1,239 (Mar. 9), Royal Decameron.

**Signature Vacations:** La Ceiba (Honduras), air & hotel, \$1,080 (Mar. 23), Palma Real Caribe Beach Resort.

**Transat Holidays:** Huatulco, air & hotel, \$1,140 (Mar. 6), Hotel Binniguenda Huatulco.

**CanJet Vacations:** Cancun, air & hotel, \$1,089 (Feb. 21), Aquamarina Beach Resort.

**Hola Sun Holidays:** Holguin, air & hotel, \$1,748 (Mar. 13), Playa Pesquero.

**BelAir Travel:** Alaska cruise, \$1,360 (May 22), Celebrity Solstice.

**Intrepid Travel:** 15-night Greenland's Far North, accommodation, meals, excursions, \$10,005 (Aug. 3).

**Trafalgar:** 14-day Best of France, accommodation, some meals, sightseeing, \$3,446 (Apr. 4 & 11).

**WestJet Vacations:** Negril, air & hotel, \$1,132 (Mar. 31), Samsara Cliff Hotel.

**Tour East:** Six-night Imperial Beijing, air, accommodation, some meals, sightseeing, \$1,449 (Mar. 25).

**All Picks of the Week prices include taxes and fees. Prices accurate as of Feb. 10, 2015.**

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