

JOURNEYS

YOUR PASSPORT TO THE MOST FASCINATING CORNERS OF THE GLOBE



Bahamian Bliss

TUCKED AWAY FROM THE BEATEN PATH, TWO ISLAND RESORTS REDEFINE THE BAHAMAS EXPERIENCE WITH BAREFOOT LUXURY AND HAUTE DESIGN

Let Freedom Ring

A 40-acre boutique resort, The Cove Eleuthera offers guests a secluded paradisaical retreat with a luxurious yet friendly feel. Situated on the north end of quiet Eleuthera—one of the less-traversed Bahamian islands—The Cove is just 30 minutes south of North Eleuthera Airport, which is reachable via quick flights from both Miami and Fort Lauderdale airports.

Upon arrival, the resort's personable staff greets you for check-in. Expect to be called by name and whisked away to one of the property's 29 guest accommodations, which include one-, two-, and three-bedroom suites, cottages, and beachfront villas. All guest rooms are luxe and well-appointed,



FROM ABOVE: THE SAPPHIRE HOLE, AN UNDERWATER SINKHOLE ON ELEUTHERA; ONE OF TWO PRIVATE BEACHES AT THE COVE ELEUTHERA.

COURTESY OF THE COVE ELEUTHERA

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CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: AN OCEANFRONT VILLA; PREACHER'S CAVE; FRESHLY PREPARED SUSHI.



FROM TOP LEFT: A VERDANT LAWN AT THE COVE; OCEANFRONT ROOMS FEATURE CARIBBEAN VISTAS FROM WRAPAROUND DECKS.

COURTESY OF THE COVE/ELEUTHERA

however, you'll find no flash or fussiness. Clean lines, natural wood elements, and neutral tones ensure there's no distracting from the native beauty that abounds, including the near-hypnotic turquoise waters found on the resort's two private beaches. Even the on-site Freedom Restaurant & Sushi Bar and Gregory Town Grill exude a sense of refreshing minimalism that's fitting for this placid property.

Speaking of the culinary, The Cove offers guests an array of fresh fare. Island-inspired dishes and sushi creations can be found at the Freedom Restaurant & Sushi Bar. Eleuthera is known for its especially fertile soil, and the produce from the resort's organic garden (available for guests to tour) is put to good use. As for breakfast, it's difficult to rule out room service, especially when you can savor a morning acai bowl and cappuccino alfresco with Caribbean vistas from your room's wraparound deck.

Eleuthera's etymology derives from *eleutheros*, the Greek word meaning freedom. It's a fitting name for this calm, entrancing

haven where you're uninhibited to while away hours relaxing beachside or by The Cove's infinity pool, perhaps with a Freedom Style Mojito or Nojito in hand.

That said, if you're after exploration or adventure, there's plenty to be had, and the resort's staff stands ready to assist. Paddleboards, kayaks, snorkeling gear, and bicycles are available for use on property; the resort's boat is also available for day excursions. Off-site—but still on the island—enjoy myriad sights and experiences, from seahorse watching at Sweetings Pond, to a soak in pools naturally formed by the Atlantic at Queen's Bath, to a swim in the Sapphire Hole, an underwater sinkhole filled with azure water. There's also historic Preacher's Cave, where you can visit the site of an English shipwreck.

Sometimes, the most productive thing to do is relax—to slow down. Eleuthera and The Cove offer travelers a respite from life's hustle and bustle. It's the perfect paradise to refocus the mind and rekindle the spirit. (thecoveeleuthera.com)—Jane E. Enos