

SORANA



• VILLA •

Located in Les Anses-d'Arlet in the southwest region of the island of Martinique, Sorana Villa is a new breed of holiday destination. With expansive views over the Caribbean Sea and the marine nature park – a veritable haven of biodiversity listed as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve – the family-run estate is nestled in a tropical garden, a few meters away from the Grand Anse white sand beach.

Envisioned by the Martinique-born owner and his wife, with the insight of interior designer Elisa Bally in collaboration with architect Jean-Pierre de Wouves, the property features five spacious suites positioned around a vast central villa.

“For this project, I envisioned a family home that incorporates elements of Martinique's architecture, reinterpreted in a minimalist way.”

Elisa Bally, Interior Designer.



Hidden Gem in Martinique



In a continuous dialogue with the surrounding natural environment, **Sorana Villa's** Creole architecture draws on Caribbean influences, whilst the light, airy and refined interiors reinterpret Creole design codes, infusing them with English influences and a touch of 'tropicalism'.

In every space and at every moment of your stay, Sorana Villa cultivates elegance and discretion: the attention to detail orchestrated by Elisa Bally (architecture, colour palettes, artisanal crafts, artworks, kitchen) is complemented by discreet design codes and a bespoke service throughout. Refined but

reactive! In this natural tropical paradise, where temperatures oscillate between 26 and 30 degrees all year round, guests can swim with the turtles in the crystal-clear waters, enjoy the gardens and uninterrupted views of the Caribbean Sea in complete seclusion, walk barefoot through the estate or escape aboard the **Sorana Yacht** (by prior reservation) to explore the marine reserve and diving spots.

A truly welcoming destination, **Sorana Villa** is a family resort ideally suited for an exclusive, convivial and, above all, relaxing holiday: a unique address in a preserved natural environment.

Unique Architectural Style

Designed in dialogue with the preserved site and its exceptional panorama, the architecture of Sorana Villa draws on the heritage of the West Indies and traditional Caribbean culture, whilst bringing a modern touch.

Understated, minimalist and elegant, the sloping roofs (adapted to the rainy season) along with the classical arcades and shutters enhance the unique architectural style rich in materials, symbols and

references. "Sorana Villa is inspired by Caribbean architecture in the broadest sense, and more particularly that of Barbados, infused as it is with British influences." explains Elisa Bally.

Naturally, the white wood cladding covering the five individual suites and the main villa blends the architecture into the tropical gardens, which cascade down to the sea and the marine reserve.

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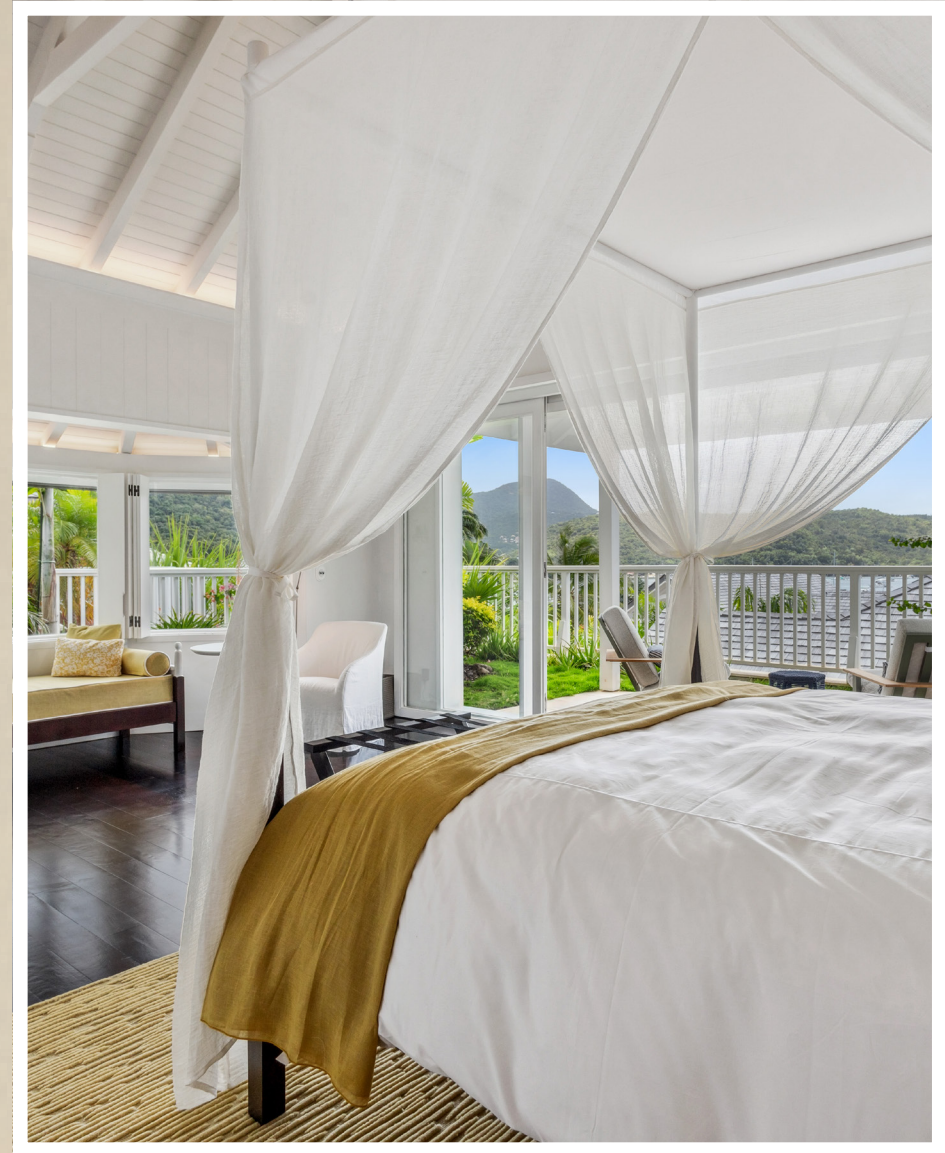
Convivial Villa

Not to be missed, the main villa, built over three levels, is the focal living hub. On the ground floor, a convivial kitchen with two central islands opens out onto the terrace featuring a dining area where a large bespoke table takes centre stage, which in turn opens onto an exterior living space where the green-tinted outdoor furniture forms a natural link with the surrounding vegetation. A second indoor lounge doubles up as a library and TV area: dark tones, Wenge wood flooring, hints of ochre

and light-coloured fabric embellished with fine grey lines make for a cosy ambience. On the first floor, dormitory-style accommodation for up to six children with bunk beds, playhouses and a bathroom with bathtub can be found, along with a separate bedroom for the nanny, making this an ideal playground for siblings and extended family. The lower level opens onto a games room with a pool table, a fitness room and a central bar where guests can meet at any time, before taking a dip in the pool.

Individual Suites

The five single-storey suites each extend over 60m² and are dotted with their own private terrace and garden. Facing the sea, the suites are flooded with natural light and are decorated in shades of vanilla yellow or smoky orange – reflecting the sun's path during the day – and open out onto a bow-window bay with small internal shutters facing the garden. From the privacy of the bedrooms, guests can enjoy a King-size four poster bed, sumptuous French bed linen, a private bathroom with a rainfall walk-in shower and a host of thoughtful details such as embroidered towels and a landscaped outdoor shower. Bespoke features such as hand-blown glass wall lamps and rattan pendant lighting add a touch of natural elegance.



A Discreetly Elegant Tropical Family Home

The creation of interior designer Elisa Bally, known in Saint Barth for her work on the Clarins spa at Le Guanahani, Sorana Villa elegantly embodies the design codes of Martinique, where the interior designer has perfectly mastered the spirit of place. In both the main villa and the individual suites, the interplay of the tropical natural light and the selected materials is as palpable as it is relaxing. *“In order to echo the surrounding nature, I chose a palette of diluted – almost liquid – tones that evolve from aquatic almond green to the blue-green of a*

seabed, from a warm sandy beige to the Delft blue of earthenware. I selected light-coloured Egyptian stone slabs to cover the ground floor of the main villa, as well as the terraces of the individual suites”, explains Elisa Bally.

In the suites, an elegant Wenge wood flooring contrasts with the immaculate surroundings: the exposed woodwork, the louvered windows, the minimalist four-poster bed and the white-painted grooved panels create a soothing geometric pattern of horizontal, vertical and diagonal lines.

“In order to echo the surrounding nature, I chose a palette of diluted – almost liquid.”

Elisa Bally, Interior Designer.



Spirit of Place

The whiteness of the interiors is an ideal setting for hosting the artworks selected by Elisa Bally: tropical still lifes by the painter Jo Reed, water-colours by Raphaëlle Hayot depicting daily life at Sorana Villa, contemporary and abstract photographs of the marine world as well as views of the island. The photographs create a dialogue with the marine ambience conveyed by the navy and dark green Bayadere fabrics of the outdoor banquettes, sun loungers and day beds.

The elegant Riva-inspired bar designed by Jean-Pierre de Wouves is a unique addition that forms a bond with the coastline and the sea: outside, every surface and opening has been designed to accentuate the variations in light and prolong the

ethereal effect of the trade winds on the skin. The interplay of transparency and lightness is complemented by a host of bespoke details, such as the Gorgon prints in chamotte clay created by a ceramist and set in bas-relief. Chrome and stainless steel finishes cast glimmers of sunlight dotted around the space.

The materials also play a calming effect: airy mosquito screens and drapes, delicate embroidered cottons, striped curtains, textured surfaces – guests sail through the interiors in total serenity. Outside, fabrics in nautical stripes hint at tropical exuberance. And when evening comes, the architectural lighting is reflected in the pool: the estate takes on a festive air, like a small harbour on the water's edge.



The Art of Good Service

With its focus on providing exceptional service, **Sorana Villa** operates as a family home that maintains an essential link with its environment. Every day, the island's culture and rich tropical nature are showcased in a host of thoughtful touches, along with an art de vivre respectful of the guests and the team of seasoned professionals who are always ready to assist.

Sorana Villa offers all the amenities of a five-star hotel, with that sixth sense that is unique to leading establishments.

For **Sorana Villa**, the art of hospitality means to anticipate without ever imposing... or the art of sensing desires before they are even expressed.





At Leisure

Each day is an opportunity for guests to enjoy a wide range of activities and share unforgettable moments in this natural haven that is both calming and uplifting. Spending the day by the pool is a great way to indulge in idleness: with its volcanic stone coping and colour reminiscent of the depths of the ocean, the mirror pool literally plunges into the sea. Relax on a day bed or a sun lounger, enticed by the Bayadere fabrics in shades of navy blue and leafy green. Here, guests can read a book picked up in the villa, order a Ti' Punch or

freshly squeezed fruit juice, or take advantage of the adjoining bar and games room to spend some quality time with family and friends at the pool table or lazing on the bar stools. At sunset, the walls rendered in Barbadian coral powder take on a fiery glow. During the warmer hours, a relaxing massage can be arranged in the private suites: out of sight, guests can unwind with soothing tropical massage oils and reconnect with their inner selves. Sporty guests can also spend their time kayaking, water-skiing or foiling.

Diving enthusiasts will not tire of donning their wetsuits to marvel at the beauty of the protected seabed.

Looking for culture? An excursion to one of the island's eleven distilleries is sure to provide a rich insight into Martinique's heritage. Since 1887, Habitation Clément has been producing the prestigious Rhum Clément in the finest traditional style of agricultural rum: direct distillation of pure Martinique sugar cane juice. The tour covers the old distillery, now converted into a museum, the

maturation cellars and some of the late 18th-century residential buildings, a true example of traditional West Indian architecture with furniture from the Compagnie des Indes. All this set in a 300-hectare estate, including a 17-hectare botanical garden open to the public. Go a step further with a visit to Distillerie JM, another exceptional 400-hectare estate, renowned for its vintage Martinique rums and exceptional aged rums.

A whole host of personalised experiences tailored to the preferences of each guest.



Sailing Away



Sorana Villa also has its own Princess yacht flying the French ensign: aboard the Sorana, any style of private cruise can be organised on request. Boarding the 25-metre yacht is the promise of sailing out to sea and enjoying the beauty of Martinique's waters accompanied by a hostess, skipper and cook.

From the bathing platform, guests can set forth on a paddle, kayak, wakeboard or kneeboard, returning in time to rinse off in fresh water, discover a lunch elegantly laid out on the outside deck, and then take advantage of the comfortable cushions in the outside lounge area to relax or the chaise longues

on the sundeck to perfect their tan. For those in search of peace and quiet, the indoor lounge – equipped with Wi-Fi – is an ideal place to attend to any ongoing work, with an espresso machine close at hand. Certain guests will even extend their cruise to spend a few days at sea, enjoying the luxury of the cabins.

With a cruising speed of 20 knots, and powerful anchor stabilisers, the Sorana yacht allows guests to explore inaccessible coves as well as the many treasures of the marine park, a precious refuge for biodiversity listed as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve.

Taste of the Sea and the Tropics

At Sorana Villa, the cuisine reflects the natural surroundings.

Freshly grilled lobster caught daily, tuna or marlin ceviche, an abundance of fresh fruit – mango, passion fruit, guava, fresh coconut, Ambarella plums – and refreshing Ti' Punches and sorbets: all in all, total rejuvenation!

This is also the perfect opportunity to sample Martinique specialities such as cod fritters, Creole black

pudding or lambis fricassee served with plantains.

The chef is on hand at all times to prepare fresh salads and tasty, colourful dishes to suit every taste.

Guests will also be tempted by the blanc-manger coco, a West Indian flan recipe made with coconut milk and vanilla, or the Robinson, a moist yet crunchy cake with jam filling that is the quintessential island dessert.





A Garden suspended above the Sea

Facing the Caribbean Sea, the garden at **Sorana Villa** is a tropical haven. In the shade of various types of palm trees (bamboo, silver thatch, royal, foxtail) and fragrant white and purple frangipani trees, guests discover a wealth of tropical shrubs and plants.

Strolling between the dry stone walls, guests can recognise aloe vera and sugar cane plants and then marvel at the scent of Sambac jasmine, the intense colour of hibiscus flowers, bougainvillea, tiare and

purple bromeliads, the delicacy of the hummingbird tree as well as the size of the chiselled tropical leaves of monstera and philodendron.

Walking barefoot through Haitian or Japanese grass, guests reach the small landscaped path lined with antique stone pavings that leads to the jetty, which extends out over the turquoise waters... evoking that heavenly feeling of the passage of time coming to a standstill.

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