





# Leeward Islands



The Leeward Islands – Antigua, Saba, Sint Eustatius, St Kitts & Nevis, Antigua & Barbuda – are a natural mosaic that for centuries has tugged mightily at the hearts of explorers, buccaneers, traders and boaters. On this string of islands stretching south in an arc east of Puerto Rico, dreamy beaches flanked by crooked palms and lapped by cerulean waters are only the beginning. Sure, give your soul a vacation on the beach for a few days, but then tear yourself away and explore. Beat your path through dense rainforest to reach volcanic peaks for painterly panoramas or plunge below the waterline for mesmerizing close-ups of coral and tropical fish. Commune with colonial ghosts at ruined military forts or former sugar plantations, then connect back with the present over rum punches, roadside barbecues and jamming beach parties. Just don't expect casinos, condo complexes or big malls – this is the Caribbean unplugged.