

» ONCE UPON A TIME (ye olde 1980s), there was a movie called *Blue Lagoon*. In it, two children are shipwrecked on their own island where they grow up living on fresh fish, coconut milk, and love. Those innocent, sun-scorched days didn't last, but the fantasy remains timeless.

Renting an actual island, though, can cost upwards of \$20,000 a night. What's an imaginative but practical bride to do? Book a week at a private island resort, such as Petit St. Vincent, a 113-acre isle that's home to a mere 22 cottages and long stretches of empty beaches.

To reach it, fly to Barbados, take a puddle-jumper to Union Island in the Grenadines, then hop on the resort's private launch across shimmering blue water. It's a trek, sure, but once you've landed on the dock, you'll feel like you're the only guests on the isle. That's partly because the cottages, built in the 1960s from natural stone, blend into the landscape. And it's also because once inside their bungalows, guests are tempted to cocoon themselves for days. The sleek midcentury design seems utterly contemporary—picture a creamy throw folded on a dark bamboo chair, and a teak bar cart on the deck. The wall-size windows open onto terraces that hover above the sea. If you need anything (piña coladas? a roast beef sandwich?), you simply write it down, raise the flag outside your door, and put the paper in your "mailbox." A golf cart delivers your order within minutes.

Some ambitious couples actually leave the comfort of their compound and head down the beach to laze in a private hammock—where lunch can be delivered to you, of course. Others arrange for the dockmaster to jet them out to a tiny sandbar where they can picnic under a lone palapa completely unseen. In fact, the only activity that might interrupt your shipwrecked lifestyle is dinner—decadent local lobster dipped in garlic butter, and oh-so-English sticky toffee pudding served under the stars in the communal pavilion. Want to stick to the fantasy of being truly alone at all times? Ask the staff to serve the two of you dinner on top of one of the island's three hills, on the edge of the sea, or right in your bedroom. All-inclusive cottages from \$675; [psvresort.com](http://psvresort.com).

**THE REAL-WORLD WAY** Nearby Young Island is only a four-minute boat ride from the bustling island of St. Vincent, which means you save on airfare (no pricey island-hopping flights) but you don't get the same isolated experience. (When the wind is right, you can hear West Indian music playing on the mainland.) And the decor is more shabby than chic. Still, feel-good touches abound: there are private outdoor dining palapas, home-baked coconut and banana breads, and a 44-foot sailboat that you can rent to explore neighboring islands—blissfully alone. Cottages from \$448 (low season), including breakfast and dinner; [youngisland.com](http://youngisland.com). —Leigh Newman