

letter from the *president*

Dear Friends:

Recently flying from San Juan to St. Martin I chatted with lovely young honeymooners. Their special getaway was a two-island affair booked on an Internet site. CuisinArt Resort & Spa on Anguilla had been the first stop, then St. Martin. I could not help but wonder why they were flying 100 miles from St. Martin to deplane in San Juan and fly back to Anguilla, a 20-minute boat ride away. Without raining on their parade, I felt the need and obligation to suggest that the Internet is not always the best way to book travel. With the help of a travel professional, this lost day would have been one more on the beach for the new Mr. and Mrs.

Just think of how different the experience could have been if this couple had contacted a travel professional who consulted Island Destinations to book their trip! Besides that extra day on the beach, they would have been welcomed at each property as honored guests, not just names e-mailed to the front desk the night before. That Web site didn't even offer them CuisinArt's fabulous new top-floor Beachfront Suites, well known to all at Island Destinations. They would have had reservations at hard-to-get tables in Anguilla's finest restaurants (where the owners are our long time friends), and could have benefitted from exclusive offers available only to Island Destinations - a complimentary lobster dinner and a wine tasting were our recent Ultimate Exclusives at CuisinArt. To be sure expectations are met at all times, there is always our travelers' hotline for immediate service. Now that's a honeymoon!

Then there's the special protection offered only by Island Destinations. All travelers booked with us automatically receive post-departure insurance, no questions asked, or they can opt for our new SPF 24/7, The Ultimate Pre- and Post-Departure Protection Plan. Unique in the industry, this combines our "cancel for any reason" pre-departure plan, with enhanced post-departure coverage designed by Travel Guard.

Elaborating the lessons of the couple's experiences, it has taken me to this point to introduce The Travelers Collection 2010, featuring exquisite hotels, resorts and villas that meet our strict criteria for excellence. As always, we look to complement our perennial favorites, and our awards recognize distinction in service, hospitality and experiences. New this year is Six Senses Hideaway Zighy Bay in Oman, recipient of the President's Award for the Most Exciting and Emerging Destination in Luxury Travel, and Ultimate Florida, featuring our choice of stunning properties in the Sunshine State. We are proud to be associated with Capella Hotels & Resorts, featured on our covers, and honored in 2010 for the Ultimate Innovation Style and Design.

We value your support and are committed to providing you with the best products, competitive pricing, exclusive offers and the finest service in the industry. Thank you for trusting us with your business.

Sincerely,



Maurice Bonham-Carter
President & CEO



CELEBRATING 26 YEARS

