

# SOME LIKE IT HOT

When the weather turns frightful, the fabulous head south

**T**AKE A BREAK from February, fleece and the flu and grab your bikini, sun-block and passport. From ultraprivate islands in the Atlantic to legendary beaches below the Equator, we've rounded up the top, celeb-worthy warm-weather escapes for winter where you'll find sun, sand and solitude. — *Mona Buehler*



Bridget Moynahan, *Blue Bloods*



## THE BAHAMAS

When stress and the snowy chill of the Big Apple get too much for *CSI: NY*'s Jo Danville (**Sela Ward**) or *Blue Bloods*' Erin Reagan Boyle (**Bridget Moynahan**), jetting to this famed Caribbean outpost on Harbour Island—or “BriLand” as it’s known by the locals—is the perfect antidote. The gorgeous pink sand beaches, stunning views and sumptuous seclusion at Pink Sands Resort will provide just the right amount of archipelago escapism a hardworking celebrity craves—as well as much-needed distance from those pesky paparazzi.

Tucked on 20 acres of lush tropical gardens and a three-mile stretch of secluded beach, this *Condé Nast Traveler*-approved posh hideaway will satisfy all creature comforts, and then some. The small-but-tasteful Pink Sands

## EDITOR'S PICK

### CUCA FRESCA CACHAÇA

This sunny, rum-like spirit is made from organic sugar cane. Versatile and refreshing, you can shake up anything from a traditional Brazilian caipirinha to a party punch. [cucafrescaspirit.com](http://cucafrescaspirit.com)



## 8 Exotic Warm-Weather Destinations to Try

*The new year ushers in resolutions and makeovers—and a unique vacation should be on everyone's to-do list. Here's what professional globe-trotter and CBS News Travel Editor Peter Greenberg says will be hot in 2011.*

### Argentina

The dollar is still king in Argentina, making this vacation spot a longtime favorite for Americans seeking a great value. Which is a good thing, because being in Buenos Aires is all about indulging in steaks, malbec wine and dancing the tango. When you head to the wild west region of Mendoza, you can go from wine tasting in the vineyards to a romantic horseback ride in the Andes.

### Montenegro

This is where in-the-know Europeans vacation, but it's still largely unknown to Americans. The union of Serbia and Montenegro ended in 2006, making Montenegro one of the newest countries in Europe. This gem of a country boasts a warm Mediterranean climate, more than 117 beaches, hip seaside resorts of Kotor and Budva, and even ski resorts a short distance away.

### Colombia

Colombia is fast becoming one of the top destinations in South America. For the travel cognoscenti, Bogotá and Medellín are worth visiting, but be sure to experience the coastal city of Cartagena. The walled part of the city and the ancient forts give the area a decidedly medieval feel, but the vibe in Cartagena is pulsating with live music, dancing and exceptional restaurants.

### Azores

In the 1950s, most Americans discovered the Azores only as a required refueling stop on transatlantic flights en route to Portugal. Then came the jet age and people simply flew over this incredible archipelago. Making a stop here means finding incredible mountains, uncrowded beaches and great seafood. Or become one with nature and book a swim with the dolphins.



Azores



Resort is sprinkled with 25 eclectic cottages complete with California king beds, central air, personal patios, iPod docking stations, Ex Voto Parisian amenities and Anichini luxury linens. Celebs such as **Jennifer Aniston, John Mayer** and **Heidi Klum** have holed up in the ultraluxe Bimini Cottage (pictured), a two-bedroom ocean-view bungalow with a

separate sitting room and private Jacuzzi overlooking the beach.

In addition to romantic accommodations, the intimate resort boasts two tennis courts, a freshwater pool, beach beds and oceanfront massages. For the culinarily curious, chef James Van Dyke whips up delectable four-course meals nightly at the picturesque al fresco Garden Terrace restaurant and offers hands-on cooking classes. Explore surrounding islands such as Eleuthera and Spanish Wells via daily ferries, sailing charters or water taxis. Once you've had your private island fill, spend a night on energetic Nassau for oceanfront fun and games. The Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort on Cable Beach features a water wonderland of freshwater pools, waterfalls, oversized whirlpools and a swim-up bar—and is just steps from the Crystal Palace Casino, and shopping on Bay Street and Straw Market. [pinksandsresort.com](http://pinksandsresort.com), [starwoodhotels.com](http://starwoodhotels.com)

 Fly on leading airlines anytime. There are no travel restrictions or black-out dates, and points never expire. [chase.com](http://chase.com)

### SAYULITA, MEXICO

If an Atlantic escape is a touch too far, say *olé* to sunshine and blue Pacific waves in the Mexican Riviera. **Cobie Smulders** (*How I Met Your Mother*) fell in love with the surfing and margaritas of charming beach town Sayulita on a recent hiatus, and we adore the stunning ocean views, subtropical climate and well-priced luxury villas at Sayulita's Villa Amor. Located just north of the more touristy Puerto Vallarta, the town remains untouched and picturesque with lush jungle, mountains, beaches, traditional buildings, cobblestone streets and authentic Mexican cuisine. [villaamor.com](http://villaamor.com)



### RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

The first luxury hotel in South America and still one of the best worldwide, The Copacabana Palace is just the place to take that special, well-heeled someone. Built in 1923 for the visiting king of Belgium, this impressive resort retains its original Old World elegance but with contemporary VIP updates and amenities. Rooftop tennis, outdoor pools, a renowned spa and two restaurants—including the celebrated Cipriani led by award-winning chef Francesco Carli—will keep you well occupied. **Fred Astaire** and **Ginger Rogers** danced here in *Flying Down to Rio*, and stars from **Marlene Dietrich** and **Princess Diana** to **Jude Law** and **Lenny Kravitz** have flocked here since. [copacabanapalace.com.br](http://copacabanapalace.com.br)



PINK SANDS: PETER WESLEY BROWN

**Fiji**  
Want great coral diving, rainforest hiking and water sports without crowds or tour buses? Look to Fiji, where its cluster of magical volcanic islands in the South Pacific is also home to some of the best white sand beaches in the world. No iPod needed here—just sit back and listen to some of the best a capella harmonies in the world, sung just about anywhere, anytime.

**Turkey**  
Every time friends say they're going to Greece, I try to redirect them to Turkey, where East meets West. This cosmopolitan capital of Istanbul is replete with ancient mosques, exciting nightlife and colorful bazaars. Sitting over a table of mezzes (small plates) while overlooking The Bosphorus is one of the unsung romantic experiences of the world.

**Western Australia**  
The often-overlooked western region of Australia is remote and rugged, but with two important elements: hospitality and color. The Margaret River region is especially romantic, about a half-day drive from the city of Perth. You'll find high-end wines, stunning shorelines, deep caverns and tucked-away galleries. And the color? Just take out your camera and shoot the water.



**Morocco**  
Morocco isn't really a seclusion destination, but chances are you will lose yourself in the culture and chaos. Marrakech has never lost its sultry appeal, with its rhythmic markets and sumptuous cuisine. For a respite from the breathless pace, choose among the Mediterranean or Atlantic seaside, hiking the Atlas Mountains, or exploring the desert by camel safari.



CBS News Travel Editor and best-selling author Peter Greenberg ([petergreenberg.com](http://petergreenberg.com)) appears on *The Early Show*, hosts a syndicated radio show and contributes to *Men's Health* and *forbestraveler.com*.