

CHECK OUT OUR
CALENDAR
OF EVENTS

BAY GARDENS RESORTS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024



The Key to your Ultimate Caribbean Vacation Getaway

Centrally situated in the heart of Saint Lucia's entertainment capital, Rodney Bay Village, the [Bay Gardens Resorts](#) family of hotels and luxury private villas offers inviting, island-inspired accommodations. With five properties positioned on the Reduit Beachfront and within Rodney Bay Village and the Rodney Bay Marina, Bay Gardens Resorts is a favourite hotel destination in Saint Lucia for families, couples, and island explorers.

Featuring a total of 241 rooms, seven conference centers, four restaurants, and six bars, our resorts are the perfect choice for a Saint Lucian getaway for families, couples, honeymooners, wedding parties, business travelers, groups, and more. Guests can stay at the property that suits them best and can still enjoy luxurious amenities from each. [Click here](#) to read more about our beautiful properties.



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Bay Gardens Resorts at UK Showcase 2024



The Saint Lucia UK Showcase, held in London, served as a platform for travel professionals, tour operators, and travel enthusiasts to discover and connect with the best that Saint Lucia has to offer. The event featured a diverse range of businesses and services from the island. This annual event offered a unique opportunity for Bay Gardens Resorts to showcase their commitment to excellence in the hospitality industry and to promote the beauty of Saint Lucia to a UK audience.

As a resort chain known for its collection of charming boutique hotels and resorts, this forum allowed us the opportunity to highlight our dedication to providing exceptional experiences to travelers. The showcase was also a great time for Bay Garden's Resorts to exhibit our soon to be opened Bay Gardens Sapphire Sands, which will provide a new wave of luxury. Our very own Yatsuri Marshall, General Manager of the Bay Gardens Marina Haven and our UK Representative Victoria Cranmer, represented Bay Gardens Resorts at the UK Showcase, networking, and forging meaningful partnerships with travel professionals and tour operators interested in promoting the island's unique attractions.

Key elements included a media lunch, a meet and greet for MICE buyers, an appreciation dinner for senior UK travel personnel and a full day of combined training and entertainment for travel agents. After the insightful and engaging UK Showcase, travelers seeking a perfect blend of luxury, sustainability, and Caribbean charm are certain that Bay Gardens Resorts in Saint Lucia is undoubtedly at the top of their list.

Mr. Sanovnik Destang Appointed as President of the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA)

Sanovnik Destang, our Bay Gardens Resorts Executive Director and an esteemed leader in the Caribbean hospitality industry, was recently appointed as the President of the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) on September 18. The announcement followed the organization's annual general meeting, marking a pivotal moment for the regional tourism sector. Destang, who is known for his adept leadership of the Bay Gardens Resort Chain, the largest locally

owned resort chain in Saint Lucia, brings a wealth of experience to his new role. Having previously served as 1st Vice President of the CHTA, his appointment reflects his unwavering dedication to the growth of the Caribbean's tourism industry. His leadership also marks a significant milestone, as he becomes the third hotelier from Saint Lucia to hold this prestigious position.

With a passion for regional development and a commitment to driving innovation, Mr. Destang's presidency is set to steer the Caribbean tourism sector toward new heights. His vision aligns with fostering sustainable growth and ensuring that the Caribbean remains a world-class destination for travelers. Mr. Destang will lead the CHTA for the 2024-2026 biennium, during which the organization is expected to continue advancing its mission to promote tourism and hospitality excellence across the region. As the Caribbean continues to face global challenges, Mr. Destang's leadership will be instrumental in shaping the future of tourism in the region, with a focus on collaboration, innovation, and resilience.



Bay Gardens Resorts Celebrates World Tourism Day 2024



Bay Gardens Resorts is proud to announce the launch of the Bay Gardens Community Fund in celebration of World Tourism Day. This new initiative underscores the resort's commitment to giving back to the local community and supporting education and development opportunities for Saint Lucians.

As part of the fund's first activities, Bay Gardens Resorts hosted two meaningful events. The first was a cheque handover ceremony, where a cash

donation was made was to the Babonneau Secondary School's Afterschool Program. This donation will help support the continued development of students in the program, providing them with vital resources to enhance their educational experience. The cheque handover took place on the 26th of September, 2024 at the Ixora Conference Room, with representatives from both Bay Gardens Resorts and Babonneau Secondary School in attendance.

Additionally in the same day, Bay Gardens Resorts hosted its CPEA Scholarship Ceremony at the Bay Gardens Inn. This ceremony celebrated the academic excellence of students whose parents are part of the Bay Gardens team. The scholarship awards recognized these bright young scholars for their extraordinary performance in the CPEA exams, underscoring the resort's commitment to education and empowering the next generation.

Through the Bay Gardens Community Fund, Bay Gardens Resorts aims to support more local initiatives that foster education, youth development, and community well-being, reinforcing the vital link between tourism and community growth.

Saint Lucians Gearing Up to Celebrate Julien Alfreds Return

Excitement was building across Saint Lucia as the island prepared to welcome home its Olympic champion, Julien Alfred, who was born in the south Castries community of Ciceron. On September 24, Alfred made her first return to Saint Lucia since her historic achievements—securing gold in the 100 meters and silver in the 200 meters at the recent Olympic Games. The entire nation lined up by the roadsides where a grand motorcade took place. The motorcade started from Vieux Fort and made its way to the north of the island where Julien received an



amazing amount of love from her St. Lucian fans who came out to support her. The Bay Gardens Resorts team stood roadside to welcome Julien and also handed her refreshments accompanied by a bottle of champagne. Alfred's journey is an inspiring one. Her father tragically passed away when she was just 12 years old, but despite this loss, she persevered.

She attended the Leon Hess Comprehensive Secondary School in Saint Lucia from 2013 to 2015 before moving to Jamaica to attend St. Catherine High School from 2015 to 2018. She later pursued a bachelor's degree in Youth & Community Studies at the University of Texas in the United States, where she successfully combined her academic and athletic pursuits. Her early accomplishments were equally

impressive. In 2015, Alfred was crowned Central American and Caribbean U15 champion, and she was named Saint Lucia's Junior Sportswoman of the Year in both 2015 and 2017.

In a special announcement during a pre-cabinet briefing, Prime Minister Philip J. Pierre declared September 27 as "Julien Alfred Day", marking it as a national holiday in tribute to her outstanding accomplishments. The following key events were also organized:

- **Sept. 24:** A celebratory motorcade along the East Coast after Julien Alfred arrived on the island.
- **Sept. 25:** National Schools Rallies at the Soufriere Mini Stadium and La Resource Playing Field.
- **Sept. 26:** Julien Alfred visited the Ciceron Primary School for a mural unveiling in her honor, along with major announcements.
- **Sept. 27:** National Holiday with a free celebratory concert at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground.

The celebrations brought Saint Lucians together in a moment of national pride and unity. The planning was inspired by public input and international examples of similar events. All Saint Lucians came out and participated in the celebrations which honored Julien Alfred, whose success has placed the island on the global stage.

Creole Heritage Sale



October is Creole Heritage Month. To celebrate, we're offering up to 40% off accommodation rates PLUS a Creole Heritage Package when you book at the Bay Gardens Beach Resort & Spa, Bay Gardens Hotel, Bay Gardens Inn, and Bay Gardens Marina Haven. LIMITED TIME OFFER!!

The Offer Includes:

- Creole Inspired Welcome Drink
 - In Room Creole Package
 - Complimentary Creole breakfast daily*
 - Welcome cocktail on arrival
 - 10% Cash Back* using our Rewards Program
- Two Kids Stay and Eat FREE*
 - Complimentary Wi-Fi
 - Complimentary shuttle between the Bay Gardens properties ONLY
 - Complimentary non-motorized water sports activities
 - Complimentary unlimited passes to Splash Island Water Park

For more information on this amazing sale and to book your next island getaway, visit our website [here](#).

Spa & Wellness – Traveler Unwind

A perfect remedy to diminish the effects of jet lag both before and after your travels. This treatment begins with a warm classic pedicure with a foot massage combo, followed by a firm back, neck and shoulder massage, which will relax tense and knotted tissues as well as improving the circulation. Continue with a refreshing facial to recondition and moisturize the skin. The following treatments are included:

- Classic Pedicure and Warm Foot Bath
- Food Massage Combo
- Soothing Back Massage
- Express Facial



To book your Teen Rejuvenation Package, contact the La Mer Spa at the Bay Gardens Beach Resort & Spa at [758-457-8553](tel:758-457-8553) or via email at lammerspa@baygardensresorts.com.

Tour Feature – Aerial Tram Tour



Open-air gondolas, with a naturalist guide provide the one and only access to the upper layers of the rainforest. Ascending through the middle layer of the rain forest enjoy the fauna and flora. Descending you experience panoramic views of the northern tip of the island while viewing the top of the rainforest canopy.

The Aerial Tram Tour transports guests up and away from the heat and bustle of the lowlands to an ecological park located in the heights of St Lucia's forest reserve. Sixteen open-air gondolas ascend noiselessly through the rainforest, offering guests a magical view of nature in its majesty. To learn more about this tour and to book [click here](#).

Featured Employee – Shem Julien

We're excited to feature Shem Julien for our September 2024 newsletter! Shem has been an integral part of our team for over three years, serving as both a waiter and a bartender at Bay Gardens Marina Haven. His infectious positivity and dedication to providing exceptional service make him a standout member of our team. What Shem enjoys most about working at Bay Gardens is the opportunity to bring smiles to the

faces of both guests and fellow employees. His passion for hospitality shines through in every interaction, and his cheerful attitude helps create memorable experiences for all who visit.



Shem's life philosophy centers around happiness and self-improvement. His personal driving force is to always find joy and strive to live a better life each year. Outside of work, Shem keeps active by playing football and maintaining his fitness, balancing his love for sports with his professional responsibilities. One of Shem's proudest achievements at Bay Gardens Resorts has been receiving an award for his hard work and dedication. These moments stand out as particularly memorable, reflecting the impact he's made in his time here.

Looking ahead, Shem is determined to continue raising the bar for guest satisfaction. His vision for the future is to help Bay Gardens Resorts earn consistently positive reviews by delivering top-tier service. With his dedication and passion, there's no doubt Shem will continue to make a lasting impact on both the team and the guests he serves.

Thank you, Shem, for your commitment to excellence and for being a valued member of the Bay Gardens family!

Recipe - Accra



As we get ready to celebrate creole heritage month in St. Lucia, our recipe feature is one of our creole day staples. Fish cakes, or commonly known on island as "accra" are essentially small, fried saltfish fritters. They are savory and delicious and are easily eaten out of moderation when by yourself – which is why they make for a great starter or appetizer if you're hosting a creole-themed dinner party or night of entertainment. Everyone has a different

twist to their accra recipe, but here's the Bay Gardens Resorts specialty accra recipe..

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 lb. boneless salt fish
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 tablespoon green onion
- 1 small red bell pepper
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon parsley
- 1 teaspoon West Indian hot pepper sauce
- Dash fresh ground black pepper
- ¼ to 1/2 cup water
- Pinch of sugar
- Vegetable oil for frying (about 2-3 cups)

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1.) In a large pot cover the salt fish with water and bring to a boil and reduce the heat to simmer for about 20 minutes. Repeat this process if the saltfish is too salty.
- 2.) Finely chop green onions, bell peppers, parsley and add to a large mixing bowl.
- 3.) Drain boiled saltfish. Use a fork to shred it and remove any large bones. Add it to the mixing bowl with your chopped seasonings, then add the flour.
- 4.) Slowly add in the water and stir. The goal is a nice thick batter.
- 5.) Once the batter is ready, start heating the vegetable oil in a large frying pan at medium/high heat. It will take a few minutes on each side and when they start floating, they are ready to flip. The accras should be golden brown on each side.
- 6.) Lay the cooked accras on paper towels to absorb the excess oil.

Our Guest Experience

Have you seen what our guests are saying about us on TripAdvisor?

BAY GARDENS BEACH RESORT & SPA

Reviewed by: [trinija2024](#)

“Great Place to relax.”

“Excellent place to stay with a bit of something for all age groups. Staff were courteous, knowledgeable and responded in an efficient manner to my needs. The beach was very close to the hotel and the water is one of the best I have experienced in the Caribbean.”



BAY GARDENS HOTEL & INN

Reviewed by: Keith Y

“My home away from home!”

“The staff went beyond the call of duty to ensure that my stay was comfortable. I had a few specific requests and every one was met. This was my ninth stay at Bay Gardens. Why would I consider anywhere else? From the delightful buffet breakfast to the family-friendly atmosphere... When I'm in St. Lucia, Bay Gardens is my home away from home!”

BAY GARDENS MARINA HAVEN

Reviewed by: Hassan J

“Great Experience”

“We had a great stay here. The location was great, breakfast was good, and the rum punch was really good. We also utilized the Bay Gardens Beach Resort during our stay, which was great. Overall, I would recommend this hotel if you are looking for a nice place to stay.”