



Le Petit Hotel



Hotel L'Esplanade

Two Caribbean Gems... Polished to Perfection

Soon after marrying in Charlotte, Vermont, Kristin and Marc Petrelluzzi came down to St. Martin to visit Marc's parents who have resided on the island for the past 20 years. This was back in November of 1996 and it was supposed to be a two month vacation. Ten years later, they're still here and loving it!

By Blue Gabor

Owners of two of the finest hotels on the island, Kristin and Marc have received countless praise for their warm hospitality and admit that most of their guests are repeat customers.



Hotel L'Esplanade, a well-kept secret among travelers who appreciate true privacy and style and *Le Petit Hotel*, "For the Lucky Few", have recently updated their look. Kristin and Marc have graced each studio, loft and suite in these relaxed and spacious boutique hotels with Balinese hardwood furniture, "Celestial Beds" loaded with feathers and fine linens, comfy bathrooms stocked with Provençal bath products and modern kitchens that are perfect for preparing late-afternoon snacks of paté and fromage from the local French grocer. Every room at L'Esplanade has a private balcony overlooking the turquoise water and is draped with the bright pink bougainvillea blossoms that are pleasantly ubiquitous on the island. At Le Petit Hotel, you can't get closer to the sea; the foundation is literally set upon the sand, the waves lulling you to sleep every night.

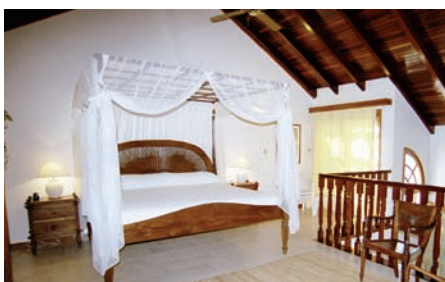
lounging at L'Esplanade's dreamy pool, or swimming in the calm, crystal waters of Grand Case Bay, one can choose from dozens of five-star restaurants prepared in authentic French style, or for a more Creole flavor, a generous plate of Johnny cakes and shrimp, barbecued on the spot.

Recently acknowledged by *TripAdvisor* as two of the Caribbean's "Best Hidden Gems", both hotels have established a cult following from guests that enjoy an authentic, luxurious, unpretentious and un-touristy Caribbean experience with a homey feel.

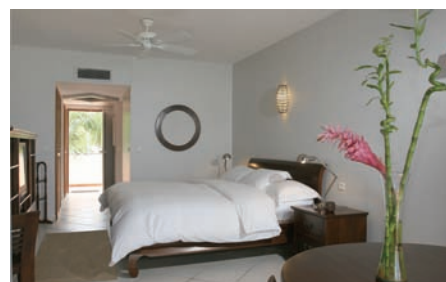
Kristin, Marc and their staff truly go out of their way to make sure that everything is just right with an impeccable eye for detail. From the blossoms placed around your room for your arrival to their music selection in the reception (think Jack Johnson, Jerry Garcia, Bob Marley), they epitomize Grand Case's laid-back lifestyle. You can't go wrong at either of these friendly, family run gems!

The hotels are set at different ends of Grand Case, a foodie's haven and a one-road town on the French side where, after a day of

More information can be found at www.lesplanade.com & www.lepetithotel.com, or give them a call at Hotel L'Esplanade (590) 590 87 06 55 - Le Petit Hotel (590) 590 29 09 65.



Interior - L'Esplanade



Interior - Le Petit Hotel



Balcony - Le Petit Hotel