



Clockwise from opposite page, far left: the six-bedroom Olivewood residence is set around the swimming pool, living area 'pavilions' and garden courtyards; the two-bedroom guest pavilion; a luxury bedroom; the dining pavilion styled as a 'ruin'; Chris Parra, CEO of One Caribbean Estates; the magnificent outdoor living terrace; classic decorative touches; the stunning sea view from the master bedroom



Sandy Lane. The very name is synonymous with glamour. Not just in the roll call of celebrities who have sprinkled their stardust on this fabled stretch of white sand and tranquil, blue waters on the West Coast of Barbados – and those include Queen Elizabeth II, Jackie Onassis, Greta Garbo, Princess Margaret and Sir Winston Churchill in the early 1960s to Luciano Pavarotti, Mick Jagger, Rihanna and Gwyneth Paltrow. Nor even in the Caribbean setting that has been the winter-sun playground of presidents and business tycoons alike. It's a destination where heritage, discretion and understated luxury create a sophistication beyond a holiday whirl of rum cocktails under palm trees on a sun-drenched island. Sandy Lane isn't just a luxury estate; it represents a particular lifestyle.

The story began in the early 1960s, when Oliver Messel – an award-winning set and costume designer for Broadway shows and the Royal Ballet – and British MP Sir Ronald Tree saw the potential of showcasing the beauty of this coast through romantic architecture with a theatrical flourish. In 1961, Tree opened the Sandy Lane Hotel while Messel turned his artistic eye to designing grand mansions with magnificent outdoor living terraces. The hotel attracted the elite – the movie star David Niven used to mix his own cocktails at the bar and Aristotle Onassis would be rowed ashore to party from his yacht – and Messel's fabulous houses became status symbols of the elite. Messel's villas are notable for their pillars, arched windows, lattice work, symmetry and use of the local Barbados coral stone. His homes retain a high currency, and so does his design

legacy. Today, the acquisition of a plot of land or a property on the Sandy Lane estate is about desiring a share of that lifestyle, a time-honoured world of privacy and stability. This gilded stretch of seafront in the centre of Saint James parish has long been established as the address of choice for discerning investors and owners. These ingredients have ensured exceptional real estate investment security, with residential properties representing not only a top destination for homeowners, but a solid investment. The Sandy Lane Estate property has a strong record in increasing in value and, post-pandemic, demand has skyrocketed. 'More and more wealthy people, from all walks of life, are seeking to invest in a beautiful safe haven in a piece of paradise,' says Chris Parra of One Caribbean Estates. Parra, CEO of the leading, independent

boutique property brokerage, is proud to offer Olivewood for sale. This six-bedroom property overlooks the third fairway of the Old Nine Golf Course at Sandy Lane (and boasts its own custom-designed Ian Woosnam practice green). Sitting on a private ridge in an elevated plot of nearly two acres, Olivewood enjoys spectacular views of the platinum West Coast and Caribbean Sea. Designed for maximum privacy by Michael Gomes, and completed in 2004, its appealing style is that familiar now classic mix of plantation house features – a formal main-house structure adorned with wrap-around verandahs, shutters and detailing – with more whimsical decorative touches. The layout of the villa is based on a series of five connected pavilions and linking garden courtyards, set around a swimming pool and garden water features. The pavilions afford

## The Sandy Lane Estate isn't just luxury residences; it represents a particular lifestyle

paradisiacal views to the Caribbean Sea, the golf course and landscaped gardens while providing a natural, healthy, cross-ventilation of fresh air through the entire house. The palatial master suite occupies the entire upper level, while the dining pavilion is full of island character. Constructed from reclaimed coral

stone from a demolished sugar factory, it is designed to look like a magical 'ruin', with chandeliers suspended from exposed timbers and the openings in the stone walls allowing the garden plants to creep in. Olivewood has added allure for an investor. Prospective owners will be eligible to acquire an adjacent property, Arcadia, which sits on its own c. one-acre plot of land and boasts the same alluring sea views as Olivewood. Arcadia presents a unique investment opportunity for anyone seeking to further capitalise on the success of the Sandy Lane Estate story. One Caribbean Estates, with its bespoke listings and personalised client approach across 25 islands in the region, can offer experienced advice and services to explore and deliver the Sandy Lane Estate dream. Guide price: Olivewood – US\$9.95m [onecaribbeanestates.com](http://onecaribbeanestates.com)

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