

# I've been to 30 tropical islands. From Bora Bora to Barbados, here are the top 5 I'd visit again.

[Kelly Magyarics](#) Aug 12, 2024, 10:25 AM EDT

## I loved the luxurious vibes in St. Barts.



When I wasn't window shopping or out on the water, I was lounging on the beach in St. Barts. [Kelly Magyarics](#)

Glittering St. Barts is full of fancy spots, with a yacht-filled harbor, designer shops along the pristine streets of Gustavia (the island's capital), and luxurious hotels such as the Hotel Manapany and Eden Rock.

I found a lively day-drinking scene at Nikki Beach, a destination that's attracted celebrity guests such as Mariah Carey, and restaurants with menus and wine lists to rival any Parisian hot spot.

But you don't have to be a multimillionaire to soak in the island's beguiling swankiness. During my visit, I spent an afternoon on a catamaran ride and did some window shopping at the home-design store Maison Pélican.

Visitors can also find elevated cuisine at various price points — I had tuna poke and chilled rosé from Ti' Corail on a laid-back beach, and it was one of my favorite meals.

I was most surprised by the many local beaches, such as the sandy Gouverneur Beach and the secluded Colombier Beach, a spot accessible only after a steep (but worth it) hike.

If you're a Francophile who adores fabulous food and an upscale feel, I highly recommend St. Barts.