

Las Ventanas al Paraíso - A Pampered Paradise

Written by Written by Amy Strand

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From the moment you step foot on Los Cabos territory en route to Las Ventanas al Paraíso, you are swept up in a whirlwind of luxury. An airport host awaits to take you to your driver - in a Mercedes, no less - who offers Mexican sweets ("If you're on a diet, break it," he says), chilled water and a pre-loaded iPod for the duration of your drive. You may think it doesn't get any better than this, until you arrive at the resort.



Since opening in 1997, Los Cabos's only Five-Diamond resort, Las Ventanas al Paraíso, A Rosewood Resort, has been imitated all over the globe for its innovative services and gold standard of luxury - a standard that is evident from the time of arrival. At Las Ventanas, there is no front desk, no bell hop, and best of all, no check-in lines. Rather, you are personally greeted in the open-air lobby by Las Ventanas employees who promptly offer chilled towels, margaritas and plenty of warm smiles. It is then that you are introduced to your personal butler who will assist you during your stay. (Because there is no front desk, simply call your butler's extension whenever you need anything - from a cup of coffee in the morning to help packing your things upon departure.)

Although you'll be anxious to tour the grounds, you'll first be escorted to your suite for a private check-in. All 71 guest units at this Ty Warner property are suites - the largest standard guest rooms in Mexico. While each suite is different, inside you're likely to find sweeping views of the Sea of Cortez, a large outdoor patio and hot tub, a rooftop terrace (in the rooftop terrace suites), and plenty of complimentary drinks and snacks to welcome you. For an even higher level of luxury, you may reserve a one- or three-bedroom suite complete with a private infinity edge pool and outdoor shower.



With such top-notch accommodations, leaving your suite may feel like an unwelcome chore; but, your growling stomach will find that a casual lunch at the Sea Grill's swim-up bar hits the spot. Keep in mind that while at Las Ventanas, not only is it acceptable to completely relax and forget about the outside world, it is expected. Fill your afternoons enjoying the pool butlers' personalized services at one of the four infinity-edge pools (they provide buckets of bottled water and Evian spray, and offer luxuries and treats like sunglass cleaning and frozen sorbet cones) or napping in a hammock underneath one of the beach palapas (simply raise the numbered flag that coordinates to the time you would like woken up, and an attendant will gladly oblige). Las Ventanas also offers a selection of more engaging activities like yacht outings and snorkeling trips, cooking classes, tequila lessons and golf at nearby courses.

As if further relaxation is even required, a chunk of your time should be used for experiencing the internationally acclaimed spa. Following the holistic four elements menu (earth, water, fire and air), The Spa's treatments range from traditional, with the aromatherapy facial and therapeutic massage, to more elaborate with the couple's Pure Wellness and Sea and Stars treatments. While the stunning open-air waiting area and gender-specific saunas, steam rooms and whirlpools make for the perfect pre- and post-treatment Zen, Las Ventanas also offers spa suites for anyone looking to be pampered in privacy. (Feeling more like a luxe condo or home, each spa suite comes equipped with numerous living areas, terraces, bedrooms, a treatment room and infrared sauna.)



When evening falls and the moon begins to rise over the Sea of Cortez, a meal that includes both spectacular fare and views is on the menu.

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At the resort's signature eatery, The Restaurant, Executive Chef Fabrice Guisset whips up his award-winning Baja Mediterranean cuisine that always includes an array of fresh fish accompanied by organic vegetables - two dinner favorites are the merlot glazed tuna with onion marmalade and the roast suckling pig with sweet potato puree. If a celebration is in order, a meal taken in La Cava, the resort's wine cellar boasting 3,500 bottles, is perfect for private parties and special events. (In addition, a tasting menu is offered in La Cava every Thursday night - reservations are limited to 14 people and must be made in advance.) Finish off the evening with a nightcap in the outdoor lounge and maybe even a Cuban cigar - after all, when a day is this perfect, you don't want it to end.

Las Ventanas al Paraiso
888.767.3966, www.lasventanas.com.