

BRIDES

Honeymoon

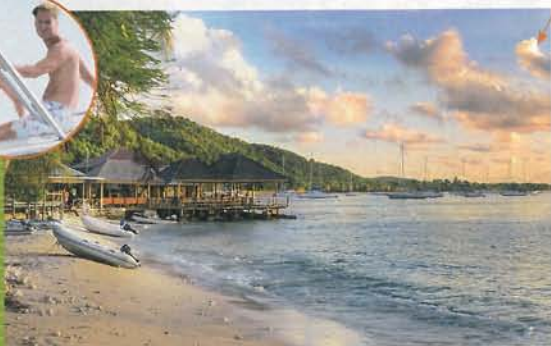
STARGAZING ON MUSTIQUE

BOLDFACERS (WILL AND KATE, MICK JAGGER, KELLY RIPA, S.J.P... THE LIST GOES ON) JET TO THIS CARIBBEAN ISLE TO CHILLAX. THIS IS HOW THEY DO IT.

- **STAY** Palatial millionaires' pads are everywhere on Mustique. Instead of coughing up obscene amounts of cash on one of the big boys, book a cozy Honeymoon Collection cottage, guest quarters on the grounds of a large home. (The owners put 'em up for rent if no one reserves the main house.) Each cottage comes with a pool, a golf cart for exploring, and a staff. *From \$7000 a week; mustique-island.com.* Or do the hotel thing at the plantation-style Cotton House. We flipped for the four-poster beds and the barbecue-shrimp pizzas at its dress-down café. *Doubles from \$520 (low season) and \$815 (high season), with breakfast; cottonhouse.net.*

- **DRINK** Share Mustique mules (ginger beer and vodka) at Basil's Bar (below), beloved by Britain's most famous lovebirds. Parties last till the wee hours—there's no official closing time—especially on Wednesdays, when there's a live band.

- **DO** Our fave beaches: Macaroni, for quiet champagne picnics, and Pasture, for leatherback-turtle spotting. Sunset cruises, horseback rides, and nighttime dives can all be set up. In fact, with the kind of clientele that breezes through here, we're pretty sure just about anything can be arranged. —Sandra Ramani



Model Julie Henderson gets wet on Maui as *SI*'s crack team sets up a sweet shot for this year's issue.

following *SI* to the sand

WE CHATTED WITH DIANE SMITH, SENIOR EDITOR OF *SPORTS ILLUSTRATED*'S SWIMSUIT EDITION, ABOUT HOW SHE CHOOSES THE PERFECT BEACHES FOR SHOOTING

Q | You travel nonstop in search of exotic locations for the magazine. In your mind, what makes a beach sexy?

A | Ideally, the sea is that inviting, crystal-clear blue, like a pool, and the sand is pink or white. But the very luxury of rolling right out of bed onto the sand—now, that's sexy.

Q | How long does a typical shoot take?

A | We're at a resort for two weeks, and we bring 400 to 500 bikinis. Sunrise and sunset offer magical light for photos, so hair and makeup start at 3:30 or 4 a.m., and we work from 6:30 to 9. We're all starved, so there's a huge breakfast, a break, and more shooting from 3:30 p.m. to 6. If it's raining, we improvise indoors or find shelter under an overhang. The lucky girls get the good weather!

Q | Do bystanders get curious?

A | If they ask questions, we say we're doing a German bathing-suit catalog. It's funny—our crew doesn't actually speak German, but people don't seem to notice that.

Q | The women you feature aren't stick-thin. Thank you!

A | We want the models to have curves—that's what looks healthy on a beach. —interview by J. G.

MAKEOUT SCENES

A LITTLE CHANGE OF POSITION (GOSH, HOTEL ROOMS CAN BE TIRESOME) WILL DO BOTH YOUR BODIES GOOD

» **"Eternity" (Halona) Beach, Oahu, Hawaii** This pristine stretch where lovers famously entwined in the 1953 film classic *From Here to Eternity* is still so secluded (a necessary scramble over rocks helps keep it that way), couples who come are practically required to get busy.

» **Cayo Costa State Park, La Costa Island, Florida** Finding privacy on public land in the Sunshine State? That's some trick. But it's easily performed on this tiny isle northwest of Fort Myers. A small public ferry will shuttle you over to sexy time.

» **Pink Beach, Barbuda** Imagine 17 miles of soft, pink Caribbean sand. (Crushed coral gives it that hue.) Now imagine having a mile of it in either direction all to yourselves. The currents can be strong, so, really, it's best that you stay anchored to the towel.

» **Honeymoon Cove, Isla Danzante, Baja California Sur, Mexico** Once the Villa del Palmar Loreto Beach resort sets up your transfer to this spot in a beautiful aquamarine bay, you may be blissfully stranded all day—especially if you've tipped the boat driver enough. —Bob Payne

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