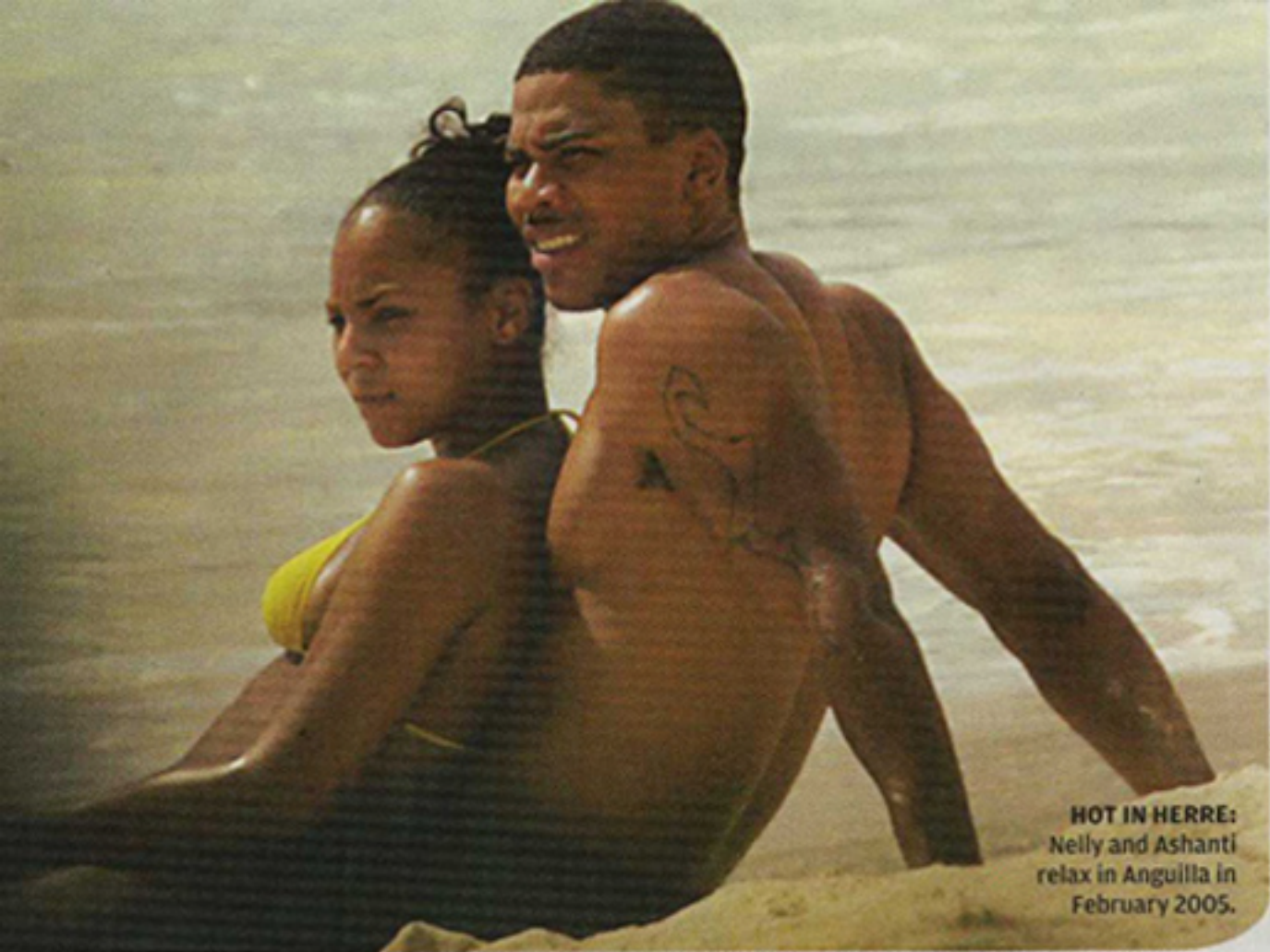




THE GETAWAY

ANGUILLA is a beautiful island where the beautiful people go. You should go, too. Here's why.

Looking for a quiet place to kick back and enjoy a few Coronas or maybe sip a little Cris? Follow Jay-Z and Beyoncé's Gucci flip-flops to Anguilla, a sleepy island haven in the British West Indies known for its tranquility and privacy. Located just north of Saint Martin and bordered by the North Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea, Anguilla boasts stretches of white sandy beach, clear turquoise water, an average temperature of 80 degrees, and some of the most luxurious hotels in the Caribbean. The elite traveler's closely guarded (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



HOT IN HERRE:
Nelly and Ashanti
relax in Anguilla in
February 2005.

secret for years, Anguilla's profile has been on the rise thanks to some recent high-profile celebrity visits. (In addition to Hov and B, Nelly and Ashanti have been spotted enjoying the sands, and last year, Denzel Washington flew in for his 50th birthday.) Sure a trip to Spring Bling is cheaper, but wouldn't you rather really shine?

WHEN/HOW TO GO True ballers go to avoid the winter chill, but if you plan on livin' it up during the high season (November-April), expect to drop some serious change. The rates are more affordable from June to August, but hurricane season runs from August to September, so don't forget to check the forecast before packing your beach bag. American Airlines offers a daily flight from Puerto Rico. You can also either catch a charter flight from Puerto Rico, Antigua, or Saint Martin, or take a 15-minute ferry ride from Saint Martin.

WHERE TO STAY One of the most venerable Anguilla institutions is **Cap Juluca**, a posh resort set on 179 acres of two pristine beaches with 58 rooms and junior suites, seven suites, six private villas (with private pools), and gorgeous white-washed, Moor-inspired architecture. Since opening in 1988, Cap Juluca has attracted everyone from honeymooners to windsurfers with its sultry atmosphere and discreet charm. The hotel is equipped with three restaurants, though the most indulgent and romantic option is the privately catered surfside candlelight dinner. (888-858-5822; capjuluca.com)

Foodies will love **CuisinArt Resort & Spa**, a first-class hotel with dazzling beachfront views of Rendezvous Bay. The on-site hydroponic vegetable farm keeps the resort's two restaurants laced with fresh veggies and herbs. And

you haven't had a spa treatment until you've tried the Hydroponic Cucumber and Aloe Wrap—a sunburn-cooling and moisture-restoring treatment made with homegrown cukes and aloe vera. You can also sign up for daily cooking classes ranging from Thai Tuesdays to French Fridays. (264-498-2000; cuisinartresort.com)

For those not quite ready to buy a Caribbean vacation home but interested in lamping in one for a spell, hop in your G4 and check out the brand-new **St. Regis Temenos Villas**. The super-secluded, superluxe enclave is awash in white Mediterranean-style decor and consists solely of three villas, each offering four master suites, a private infinity pool, state-of-the-art entertainment center, outdoor dining area, and butler service. Meals are custom made by the on-site chef. (264-222-9000; stregis.com/temenos)

WHAT TO DO Anguilla is a beach-lover's haven, so don't expect to spend your days in high-end boutiques and your nights downing Jello shots. Instead, spend an afternoon at Shoal Bay East, a lively, powdery beach offering some of the island's best snorkeling. While there, be sure to swing by Uncle Ernie's snack bar, where \$9 will get you a banging cheeseburger, a cold Heineken, and maybe even a joke or two from 86-year-old Uncle Ernie himself, who still holds down the bar. If you're feeling a bit more adventurous, take the ferry to Gorgeous Scilly Cay, an open-air restaurant serving grilled lobsters on an island all its own. And there's no better way to wind down at the end of a hard day in paradise than at the Malliouhana Hotel & Spa poolside patio or candlelight lounge, piña colada in hand, watching the sky melt from pink to blue. Cheers. *Andréa Duncan-Mao*