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DREAM DESTINATION

For this winter's hottest Caribbean getaway, head to the Turks and Caicos islands, where stylish hotels meet state-of-the-art real estate

Just an hour's flight from Miami – and a sexy last leg by speedboat – Parrot Cay, the Caribbean island retreat *du jour*, still feels fashionably far-flung. Beloved by A-Listers for its privacy, service and style (masterminded by owner Christina Ong), its colonial villas and hotel rooms team white interiors with teak four-poster beds, while the COMO Shambala spa boasts a yoga pavilion and Jacuzzi garden among the mangroves. To up the luxe factor even further, book into one of two four-bedroom guest houses designed by fashion designer and T&C convert Donna Karan in collaboration with COMO Shambala Estate, with butlers on tap (www.parrotcay.como.bz).

An archipelago of 40 islands and cays in the Atlantic Ocean, the Turks and Caicos are known for white-sand beaches, great coral-reef diving and now exclusive real estate. Tropical style meets Zen chic at Amanyara Villas (www.amanyara.net), fabled Asian hotelier Adrian Zecha's recently opened hotel/real estate bolthole on Providenciales island, where guests can stay in serene timbershingled hotel pavilions or buy or rent a private villa with swimming pool and Aman-quality service laid on.

But for über-modern wow-factor watch out for Dellis Cay Villas (www.dellisicay.com), launching in 2009 on stunning private island Dellis Cay. Another resort/real estate hybrid, it will be managed by Mandarin Oriental, who will have their own hotel and apartments on site. Or if you're feeling flush, pick up a sleek, light-filled villa by one of seven global architects including Piero Lissoni, Zaha Hadid, David Chipperfield and Shigeru Ban. *ITC Classics* (01244 355527; www.itcclassics.co.uk) offers four nights with breakfast at Parrot Cay, followed by four nights at nearby Grace Bay Club from £2,945pp, including flights



Left Expect colonial villas, white and teak interiors and sleek swimming pools at Parrot Cay in the Caribbean

Above Relax in style in one of the timbershingled hotel pavilions at Amanyara Villas on Providenciales island

Top This stunning beach villa designed by Piero Lissoni is up for grabs on private island Dellis Cay