

The Hotel Report: Turks and Caicos Residences Get a Thom Filicia Touch

Written by Lilit Marcus · July 20, 2015



Courtesy Grace Bay Resorts
You won't miss home when you're at The Residences in Turks and Caicos.

Your weekly roundup of the best of what's new, what's coming up, and what we can't wait for in the world of hotels.

NOW OPEN

The luxury market in Turks and Caicos has expanded with [The Residences](#), a trio of four- and five-bedroom private homes underneath the Grace Bay Resorts aegis. Interiors were designed by *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* alum Thom Filicia—think custom-made sofa day beds, organic cotton linens, and driftwood credenzas. Each residence has an infinity pool, concierge service, and oceanfront views.



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The [Six Senses Douro Valley](#) opened last week in Lamego, Portugal, which is part of the UNESCO-listed Douro Valley region. The 20-acre property has 57 rooms, suites, and villas; a 24,000-square-foot spa, and an extensive wine program that pairs with the restaurant's focus on local dishes.

Memphis, Tennessee's long-abandoned Pyramid has come back to life as the home of the brand-new [Big Cypress Lodge](#). The property (now owned by the Bass Pro Shops chain) doubles down on the nature theme, with exposed wooden beams and deer heads mounted on the wall. The hotel also features the tallest free-standing elevator in the country, a 13-lane bowling alley, and an alligator habitat.

CHANGING HANDS

Starwood's Luxury Collection has acquired four properties in Europe: [The Augustine](#) (Prague), Caresse Resort and Spa (Bodrum, Turkey), Grand Hotel River Park (Bratislava), and Falisia Resort and Spa (Portopiccolo, Italy).

DiamondRock Hospitality has purchased the Sheraton Suites Key West; the company reportedly plans to relaunch the 184-suite property as a luxury resort.

COMING SOON

[The Durham Hotel](#), located in a former bank building, is due to open at the end of July in Durham, North Carolina. The 54-room luxury boutique property features a buzzed-about restaurant helmed by James Beard Award-winning chef [Andrea Reusing](#), who until now had been running the successful restaurant Lantern in nearby Chapel Hill.