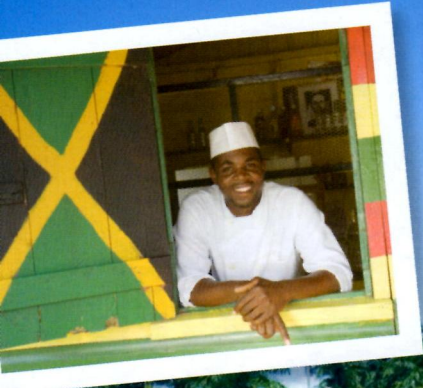


Rio Chico, Jamaica and, left, a cheerful cook



BEST HOT SPOT

Think bougainvillea, butlers, a personal chef, gardens, crystalline streams and waterfalls, private beaches, turquoise sea, swimming pools and colonial architecture. The Rio Chico estate, on an island with a great house, sleeping six, and a two-bedroom guest cottage, is picture-postcard Caribbean and the home of Gordon "Butch" Stewart, founder of Sandals and Beaches and head of the largest Jamaican private-sector group. Rio Chico is unabashed, over-the-top spoiling, with all the toys, perfect for a special house party. uniquevillasofjamaica.com



BEST LIST 2011

DOME FROM DOME

IL CAVALIERI, ROME



St Peter's? The Vatican? Don't dome-moan, how much more iconic can you get? This is the *non plus ultra* in busy, busy Rome. Fabulous gardens, pool, suites, restaurant overlooking the touchstones of Christendom. Perfect for taking children to Rome as they even have a gladiator training course for little brutes. romecavalieri.com

BEST CUBES

Modern India, a brave new architectural world, embracing cubed "tents" at the foot of the walls of the Amber Fort, Jaipur. Rasa is exciting, inviting, with a vast swimming pool and arched restaurant; it is also well-priced, rare in increasingly expensive India. greavesindia.com



HAPPY APPS

KAYAK

This handy little app helps takes the hassle out of booking flights and hotel rooms or renting a car. It gives you all the info you need, conveniently broken down according to price or duration. —ALICE B-B



BEST WATER

The sea around Song Saa Private Island, Cambodia, is some of the world's clearest in one of the last untouched paradises. A conservation and marine reserve, Song Saa will open in November 2011 as Cambodia's only private-island resort. Every pavilion has its own swimming pool—largesse, given the crystalline pool all around—the spa has its own island. Cambodia must be seen before Angkor Wat is obscured by development; Song Saa will be perfect downtime. The glamorous way to arrive is by seaplane. songsaa.com



PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY IMAGES (FLAG); CORBIS (CHEF); SHUTTERSTOCK (WATER TOYS); TUSHKA ILLUSTRATES (IPHONE)