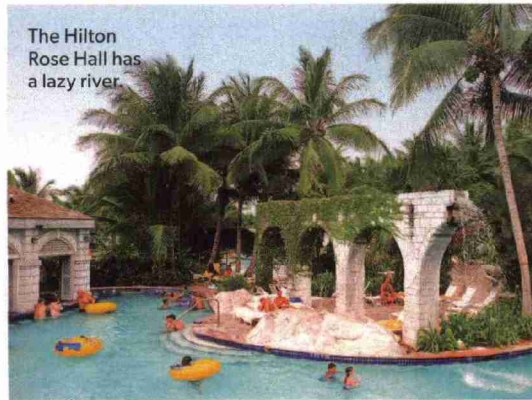
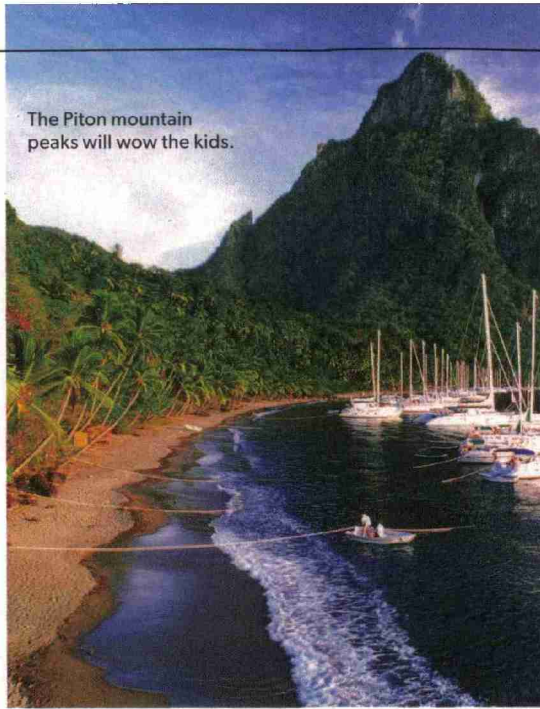




going places



The Hilton Rose Hall has a lazy river.



The Piton mountain peaks will wow the kids.

2 Jamaica

Yeah, mon! One of the largest Caribbean islands, Jamaica made our list because of its affordable, kid-friendly resorts, nonstop flights from many U.S. cities, and family-centered culture. "Jamaica has lots of personality," says Kyle McCarthy, cofounder of Family Travel Forum. "And the resorts on this island in particular offer lots of activities for toddlers and preschoolers."

Sand Sanctuaries Situated on a small, calm cove of beachfront near **Ocho Rios**, the all-inclusive **Franklyn D. Resort** gives every family a private nanny to watch the kids during the day. "We've been there four times since my girls, now 8 and 11, were toddlers," says Brian Young, of Chicago. "The rooms aren't fancy and the beach, while nice, isn't as beautiful as it is elsewhere on the island. But having a nanny to take the kids swimming or to the resort's scheduled activities so my wife and I can enjoy kid-free time more than makes up for it." (Spring rates for a one-bedroom suite with a master bedroom for you and beds or cribs in the living area for the kids start at \$273 per adult, \$30 for kids 6 to 15, and free for children under 6. Summer rates are a bit less; fdrholidays.com.)

On a small private beach in **Montego Bay**, the all-inclusive **Hilton Rose Hall Resort & Spa** woos families with an on-site water park (including a splash area for the toddler crowd), nature walks, a club for kids ages 4 and older plus child care for babies and toddlers, and adult classes such as spinning and rum mixology. (Spring rates for a room with two beds start at \$359 per night per couple, free for kids 12 and under. Summer rates start at \$299 per night per couple; rosehalleresort.com.)

Side Trips If you're staying near **Ocho Rios**, visit **Dunn's River Falls**, a collection of cascading waterfalls and small lagoons that most kids ages 8 and over should be able to climb with you. (It's okay to bring kids over age 5 because there's a staircase that runs parallel to the falls.) "Book trips through your resort or with a local touring company, since it's not easy to drive around Jamaica and there are unsafe areas," suggests McCarthy.

3 Saint Lucia

It's a happy mix of land and sea. "With calm surf and lots of space to spread out, many of the beaches are great for families, but there's plenty to do out of the water too," says Doug Stallings, *Fodor's Caribbean* editor. Zero in on **Castries**, the capital, and the surrounding area, for family-friendly lodging.

Sand Sanctuaries

Two kiddie pools, a drop-off club for children ages 4 to 12, babysitting services, and activities ranging from coconut bowling to kite flying (for them) and sunset cruises and tennis lessons (for you) turned the all-inclusive **Windjammer Landing Resort in Castries** into family nirvana. "The water was so calm—I don't think that I saw a wave the entire time we were there," says Lisa Elliott, of Indianapolis, who visited with her boys, ages 8 and 11. (Spring rates start at \$149

per person in a one-bedroom villa. Summer rates start at \$529 per night; windjammer-landing.com.) Another all-inclusive option: **St. James's Club Morgan Bay**, also in Castries, which offers a drop-off club for kids ages 4 to 11, babysitting services, and four pools, including one with slides and a wading area and another secluded on a hilltop for adults. (Spring and summer rates start at \$176 per night per adult and \$36 per night per child ages 2 to 11 for a room with two beds, free for younger kids; morganbayresort.com.)

Side Trips About an hour from Castries, in **Soufrière**, travel through a "drive-in" volcano. (Guided tours from your resort are \$80 per person; islandroutes.com. Or drive in your rental car and pay \$5 admission per person, \$8 if you want to take a mud bath.) "My kids were fascinated with the bubbling mud," says Elliott.

LEFT: COURTESY OF HILTON ROSE HALL RESORT & SPA. RIGHT: CHAD EHLERS/GETTY IMAGES.