

ROLE CALL: ON LOCATION WITH 10 OF TV'S MOST INTRIGUING MEN

Statement[®]

IT'S WHO YOU ARE

**ALL TV
& FASHION
SPECIAL**

Featuring 60 pages of
rising stars from
Heroes, *Terminator*,
The Office, *Pushing Daisies*,
How I Met Your Mother
and more...

**AMERICA
THE
BEAUTIFUL**

FROM ASSISTANT TO
COVER GIRL—TV'S
UGLY BETTY MAKES A
STATEMENT

95
JUNE NO. 4, 2008



www.statementmag.com

SERENITY NOW!

If free-flowing tequila and cerveza are what you're after, there's no place like Cabo San Lucas. But if you're seeking a mellower Mexican experience, stick to San Jose Del Cabo, home to Cabo Azul Resort & Spa, one of the loveliest, most luxurious resorts in the region.

NESTLED IN A BEAUTIFUL BAY WHERE THE SEA OF CORTEZ MEETS THE PACIFIC OCEAN, CABO SAN LUCAS IS FAMOUS FOR ITS CASUAL ATMOSPHERE AND HIGH-ENERGY NIGHTLIFE. It's also a popular port of call for cruise ships along the Mexican Riviera, a popular destination for spring break revelers and anyone else in the mood to party the night away. But you already know that. Just down the road from party central—in fact, much closer to the airport—is San Jose Del Cabo. A charming and romantic colonial town with the flavor of Old Mexico, it provides a welcome respite from the busy, loud, fiesta atmosphere found 20 miles south in Cabo San Lucas. And it's here where the newest jewel of Baja is located.

Off to a resounding start since its opening in the fall of 2007, Cabo Azul Resort & Spa is set on 12 acres of breathtaking oceanfront with endless views of the Sea of Cortez. The 332 one-to-three-bedroom villas conceived by renowned designer Dodd Mitchell—who soared into the spotlight with his redesign of the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel and its subsequent Style Channel show—highlight this upscale property. Mitchell has designed not just a resort, but living, breathing art. But perhaps his most impressive achievement was striking a balance to create an environment of high-end luxury and mellow comfort.

The resort's grounds are no less soothing, with impeccably maintained lush tropical landscaping surrounding the striking three-tiered cascading infinity pools that appear to converge with the ocean beyond. Here is where you begin to appreciate Mitchell's style—dark exotic woods contrasting with crisp white linens, inventive lighting, including in-pool fire pits and fun, whimsical water features. Dramatic bamboo pods surround the pools where you can laze away the day while sipping the perfect mojito or margarita from the poolside bar, brought to you by a member of the staff, or, if you prefer, you can always just jump in and swim up to the bar and grab a drink yourself.

Texture is a key element to Cabo Azul's design success. This is most apparent in the villas themselves, where the dark woods and crisp whites exude calm and relaxation, and you can feel the stress leaving your body.

Mitchell really works his design magic in the bedrooms. The dark, ornately carved wood furniture is complemented by large, overstuffed beds covered in high-thread-count, stark-white cotton linens from SLEEP by Dodd Mitchell, which are draped in a flowing gauze fabric canopy under a thatched wood ceiling. Dramatic lighting hidden beneath all the fabric and wood casts endless shadows which seem to dance around the room.

The view through one of Cabo Azul's poolside bamboo pods.





TRAVELSTATEMENT



(from top to bottom) A Mitchell-designed bedroom; the scented Jacuzzi at PAZ; a beachside massage hut for two.

Each villa includes a Jacuzzi tub for two in the bedroom. The three-bedroom penthouses have a second tub in the master bath with an open window onto the bedroom, each designed with relaxation and romance in mind. The state-of-the-art villas are equipped with full-service kitchens with stainless steel appliances and wood carved cabinets, flat-panel televisions and Internet services.

Stepping into your spacious villa is like taking a breath of fresh air—literally. Open the sliding glass door and the indoor and outdoor spaces converge like magic as the glass disappears into a wall pocket to unveil a beautifully furnished terrace with views of the pools and sea below.

LUXURY IN A RESORT GOES BEYOND ITS PHYSICAL PRESENCE AND AMENITIES AND EXTENDS TO ALL LEVELS OF SERVICE.

This is evident at Cabo Azul, where general manager Cesar Gonzalez oversees a staff that is friendly, professional, attentive and, most important, discreet. If luxury is the total package, then Gonzalez and his staff have gift-wrapped this package in a shining bow.

The quality level remains high among the many dining options, which include enjoying an alfresco meal by the beach. Dodd Mitchell-designed Javier's Cantina and Grill is an elegant beachside restaurant featuring a creative, cutting-edge take on traditional Mexican fare and stunning views. Guests can choose to dine inside or on one of the patios under the sun or stars.

For a more casual menu, the food at Flor de Noche is available at the swim-up bar, where you can enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner in a bathing suit, or

in the dining pavilion itself. The centerpiece of Flor de Noche is a large rope installation that resembles an abstract jellyfish. The striking piece hangs from the soaring ceiling and extends down just above another infinity water feature in the center of the restaurant.

For a light snack or an easy lunch with the kids, the Plaza Café, with a gelato and coffee bar complete with Internet terminals, is just the place. The resort even has a small, well-stocked market that carries everything from wine and tequila to bagels and eggs for guests who just can't make time to relax. This comes in handy for those traveling with children.

Perhaps the most luxurious dining option is to have the property's private chef prepare a romantic candlelit dinner in your kitchen, which can be served on your terrace, where you can enjoy the sounds of the surf and the starry night. But if you can't extract yourself from that poolside lounge chair, coming soon to the resort will be outdoor ceviche, taco and tequila tasting bars.

The apogee of indulgence may be PAZ, Cabo Azul's state-of-the-art spa. Encompassing 7,000 square feet of pure tranquility, the spa is designed to refresh, rejuvenate and relax. Feel your stress lift away amid the white La Paz stone rooms, under a ceiling of backlit dangling seashells surrounded by waterfalls and the intoxicating Cabo Azul signature scent. Guests can relax in the steam room or sauna, or choose from an extensive menu of therapeutic spa treatments heal not just the body, but the mind and soul as well, such as the Onyx, Opal and Lapis Crystal Massage Treatments. The Paz Signature Massage begins with aromatherapy oil, drizzled onto pressure points to begin the relaxation process before a customized massage of Swedish, Thai and Reflexology techniques.

The spa also features a wet treatment room with a Vichy shower massage bed. If it's alone time you crave—or for those couples seeking privacy—you can request the rooftop VIP treatment room with his-and-hers massage tables and bath for two. If you want to hear the waves crashing next to you, also available are two cabanas on the beach for massage therapies such as the reflexology massage. And to top off the perfect spa experience, guests can take a dip in the scented Jacuzzi—or, if you dare, the arctic plunge.

You may think twice before leaping into the frosty water, but no second thoughts are needed when considering a trip to Cabo Azul. And, hey, if all that luxurious languor makes you want to cut loose at a crowded cantina, Cabo San Lucas is just a cab ride away. ☺



Flor de Noche.



El Corazon

A CEREMONY BY THE SEA

EVERY BRIDE DREAMS OF A ROMANTIC, TAKE-YOUR-BREATH-AWAY WEDDING. That and more await at El Corazon, the picturesque, non-denominational wedding chapel at Cabo Azul Resort and Spas. The dramatic open-air chapel sits high above the resort, overlooking the tropically landscaped grounds and infinity pools below.

With so many options available to today's engaged couples, a wedding planner can be essential, especially for a location ceremony. A good planner will make sure all local laws are in compliance, keep you on budget and generally ensure that your special day is as stress-free and magical as you always envisioned.

At Cabo Azul Resort and Spa, that person is Sergio Morales, who has been a Los Cabos wedding planner for more than a decade. His experience runs from intimate ceremonies, such as the bride and groom exchanging vows on the beach, to celebrity bashes with hundreds of guests. Best of all, Sergio's services come at no charge to the husband and wife to be. —RB