



## **Sanctuary Cap Cana – Star Service Online**

The Sanctuary was the first luxury hotel to be built in the Cap Cana complex near Punta Cana's international airport. This resort is designed to appeal to high-end clientele in search of a tropical destination within a safe and easy-to-reach resort complex.

Once complete, Cap Cana will feature multiple high-end hotels (including a Ritz-Carlton), numerous celebrity-designed golf courses (many already complete), shopping, and numerous housing and villa projects including the cliff-top Donald Trump property, although these have yet to begin construction.

Previously for adults only when operating as a Secrets resort, the Sanctuary is now under new management and welcomes families, and the Castle section of the resort is still designated as adults-only for those who prefer seclusion and privacy. It is tucked near the entrance and juts out over the sea with impeccable water views. The facade is built to look like an ancient Spanish village with attractive colonial touches seemingly out of a story book, and each building compliments the next with stone-lined exteriors, trickling fountains and blossoming flowers. Guests are welcomed with chilled towels and flavored water. Like its sister property, the Sanctuary offers both all-inclusive and European Plan options. There are no awkward wristbands to designate your plan, either.

Guests have access to five restaurants and five bars, which operate on a rotational basis depending on the day of the week and occupancy. On-site, Blue Marlin serves up delectably fresh seafood for lunch and dinner from its stilted perch in the middle of the turquoise water. A separated stilted bungalow serves as the perfect gathering point for receptions, parties or meetings with its plentiful seating and supreme views. Casabella serves a deluxe breakfast spread, and Wok specializes in Asian fusion cuisine for dinner. Those looking to enjoy the teppanyaki table should book it in advance, as the two tables fill up quickly. Four swimming pools are the main congregating point, with one featuring a glass wall overlooking the other and an infinity edge that spills water down the side. One of the pools is entirely filled with saltwater. Lounge chairs encircle the pool where servers bring drinks and food. This level of attention continues to the beach, where drinks and snacks can also be hand-delivered. Underground tunnels propel staff throughout the grounds to minimize disturbance to guests.

The adult-area Castle serves as a hotel within a hotel with swim-out villas, a separate reception area, bar and lounge area, and an infinity pool.

The convention area can accommodate groups of up to 500 with the requisite business facilities in place. Complimentary wireless Internet signals can be found near reception and in some of the common areas.



Weddings are extremely popular here and account for a large portion of the group business. A spa center nearby provides massage and beauty treatments for guests of the hotel and those staying elsewhere in the Cap Cana complex. Also available are a deluxe fitness center with the latest equipment, a series of plunge pools and multi-temperature bucket showers, sauna, steam room and outdoor treatment cabanas with their own showers and soaking tubs.

Rooms are spacious, with the smallest classified as junior suites. Double doors provide soundproofing. Separate sunken living rooms feature access to furnished balconies, while large king or double beds in the bedrooms are draped in fine linens and plush pillows. Ensuite amenities include flat-screen TVs, complimentary high-speed Internet access, minibars, espresso machines and CD/DVD players. The decor is modern and tropical with colorful artwork, polished mahogany woods and bright fabric colors.

Baths feature Dorothy Prentice-branded toiletries, silk robes, slippers, plump towels and powerful showers. Request the suites that jut out directly over the ocean for the most picturesque experience. The luxury villas are the most expansive and the most expensive, but afford not only the best views but also the most space. Monarch villas are oceanfront with separate living areas and a private-bungalow style that many repeat guests like. Private patios overlook the sea. The five Royalty Villas are even larger and feature expansive terraces with infinity-edge pools spilling into the oceanfront. Privacy is paramount, and three of them feature outdoor showers. The three Imperial villas with enormous, contemporary accommodations and terraces are especially popular with honeymooners. The best of the three is 3047 with one of the island's largest balconies and a private plunge pool with a 180-degree view of the turquoise water.

Room service is nonstop, and pets are generally turned away. All guest accommodations are nonsmoking.

This top-notch offering in Punta Cana appeals to the area's targeted higher-end clientele and attracts everyone from business moguls to movie stars. This resort rules the roost now that its sibling Salamander-managed hotel Fishing Lodge at Cap Cana has opened. Not only does Cap Cana boast the region's best hotels, but it also features easy proximity to the airport (with minimal noise) and access to the highly decorated Punta Espada Golf Course that attracts serious duffers to the island.