



Ready for the road? Carnival vibes – plus romance and reefs

Get those dancing shoes ready - this hip-swinging edition gives you the lowdown on what to expect from Antigua Carnival, now just weeks away. We also bring you the highlights of Romance Month, the latest on the Moon Gate Hotel & Spa and how a very special new arrival is helping to keep the island's stunning coastline in pristine shape.



Antigua Carnival the Caribbean's Greatest Summer Festival

From vibrant street parades and open-air parties, to animated live music contests and steel band shows, there's a reason why Antigua Carnival is dubbed the Caribbean's Summer Festival.

Upbeat soca music – an exhilarating blend of soul and calypso – is the rhythm on the road and it's impossible not to be swept up in its buoyant, intrinsically Caribbean vibe.

Most of the action takes place in the capital St. John's where the Antigua Recreation Grounds is currently being transformed into 'Carnival City'.

A highlight is the **Party Monarch** song contest when local Soca stars compete for the crown and a visual spectacle is guaranteed.

Carnival is deeply ingrained in local culture, but visitors are warmly welcomed, whether you want to take part in parades or watch from the sidelines. **Dance along? Hint: it's all in the hips.**

ANTIGUA'S CARNIVAL 2022



The Caribbean's most romantic destination

Meanwhile, love has been in the air throughout **June which is officially Romance Month**. Loved-up couples arriving into V.C. Bird International Airport have been taking advantage of a free fast-track service which includes **walking a romantic pink-hued 'Love Lane'**. The amorous initiative was extended into the arrivals area where a chapel cascading from the ceiling offered couples a unique photo opp.

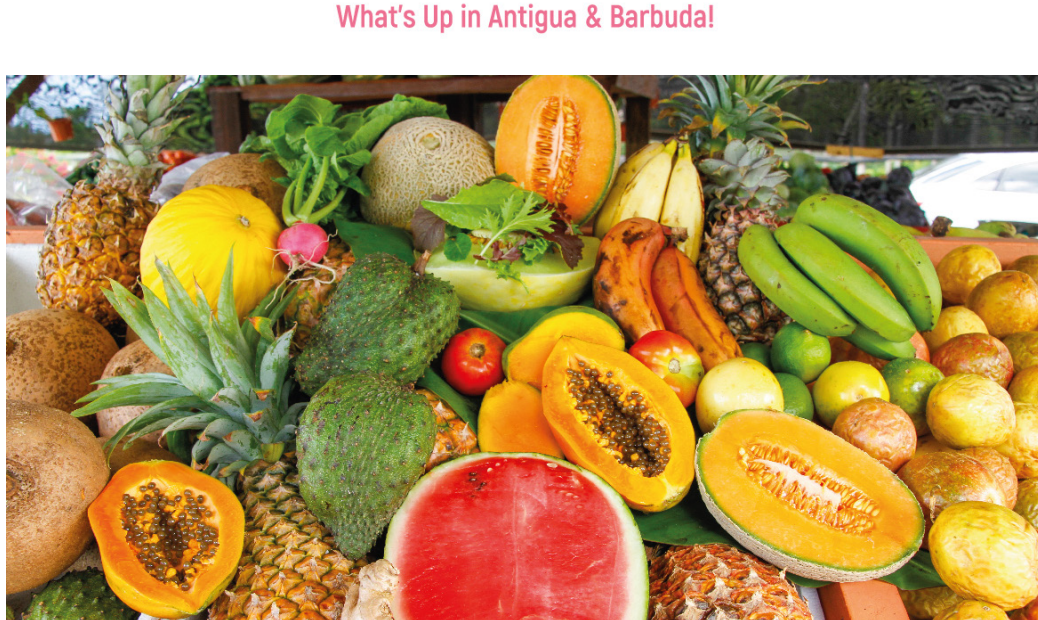
June 25th saw one celebrity couple tying the knot at the Carlisle Bay resort after winning an all-expenses paid wedding courtesy of the Tourism Authority. **Grammy award-winning 90s R&B singer-songwriter Jeffrey 'Jeff' Redd** and the

Broadway producer Theresa O'Neal were chosen to **cement their union with a once in a lifetime destination wedding**. We're not known as the Caribbean's most romantic destination for nothing.

This month, the love has been extended to our reefs too with the launch of the **National Parks Authority's new marine protection vessel**. Acropora, named after an endangered coral, will carry out vital monitoring exercises. The vessel doubles up as a floating classroom to help **local schoolchildren gain a deeper understanding of the marine world and the intriguing species that call it home.**



What's Up in Antigua & Barbuda!



Deliciously sweet tropical fruits

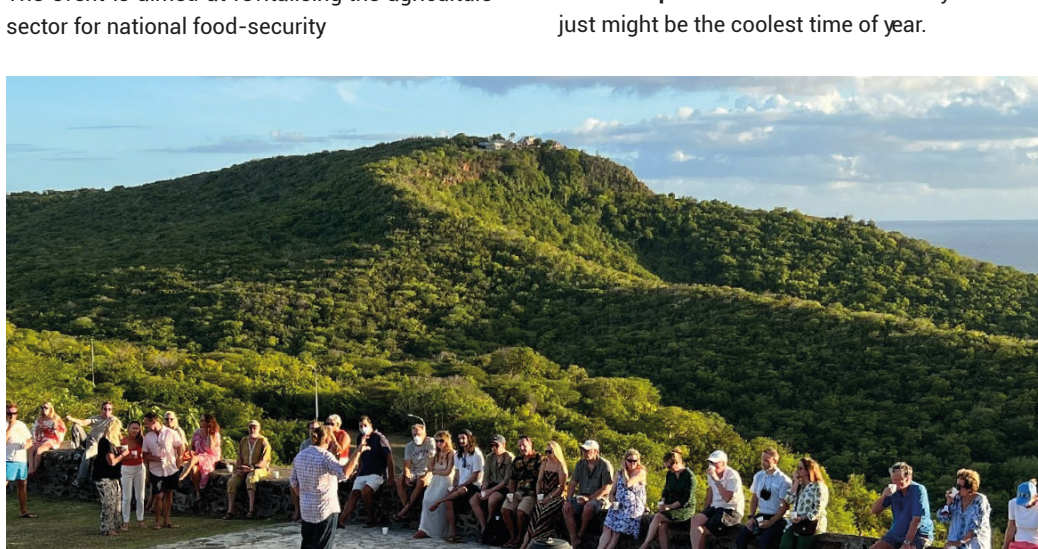
The summer solstice has passed and we're feeling hot, hot, hot.

One of the best parts of the warmer months is the explosion of summer fruits that appear in gardens, on hillsides and roadsides alike. Impossibly juicy mangoes are omnipresent, along with plums, buttery papayas and the sweet **Antigua Black Pineapple, the national fruit.**

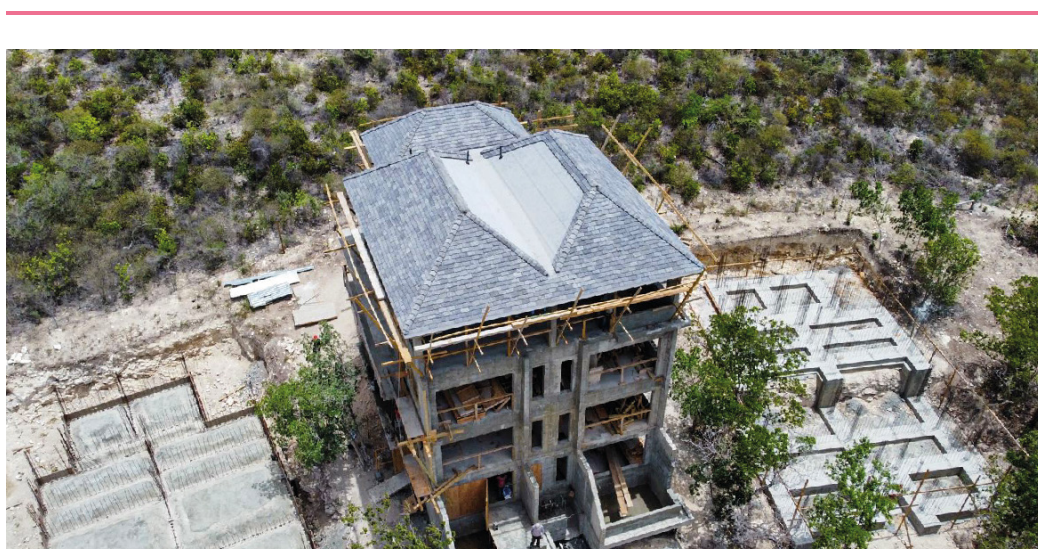
After 2 years of dormancy, the **PiAnGo Fest celebrating our love of pineapples & mangoes**, is back, with Caribbean Bank (CUB) as a title sponsor. On August 13th and 14th, you can expect two full days of action with a Chefs Grill-Off, Mango and Pineapple Eating Competitions, Agro-Processors Competition and a Goat Race. The event is aimed at revitalising the agriculture sector for national food-security

It's not just the fruit adding a splash of colour in all their scarlet splendour are currently demanding attention too.

Meanwhile, anyone seeking a laidback Friday afternoon pastime, away from the heady pace of Carnival festivities, is well advised to **check out the popular Rum in the Ruins event**. You don't have to be a history buff, delivered by **local experts in the whimsical ruins of Dow's Hill overlooking Nelson's Dockyard**. Held every two weeks, it offers exceptional insight into the country's rich maritime past. One more reason why summer just might be the coolest time of year.



Rum in the Ruins at Nelson's Dockyard National Park



Work advances at Moon Gate Hotel & Spa

Work is fast progressing on the first four buildings of the seven which will comprise the Moon Gate Hotel & Spa overlooking glorious Half Moon Bay beach.

Building 1: Following the casting of the slab of the plunge pool suites, block work continues in Building 1.

Building 2: The ground floor of the plunge pools have been casted, block work and infinity edge trough have been completed. The foundation cells are now back filled and blinded; the floor slab, ring beam and column steel extensions are underway ahead of the casting of the next floor slab.

Building 3: The roof tiles are completed along with lay down of the area of the solar panels;

the filling and painting of fascia boards, soffits and balcony ceilings have started this month. The guttering system has been installed when the fascia board painting is completed to allow the start of rain water collection into the cisterns under Building 3. The laying out of the shower stalls, WC enclosure and wardrobe areas in all the suites are underway to allow internal plastering to begin. Corresponding plumbing and wiring fixes are well underway on all floors. The external plaster of the entire building has begun.

Building 4: Casting of the footings is complete, and foundation block work is underway.

MOON GATE DEVELOPMENT

Investing in **Moon Gate Antigua** gives buyers the option to apply for citizenship and a passport through the **Antigua and Barbuda Citizenship by Investment Program**. **Make your love affair with Antigua and Barbuda permanent with CIP.**

FULL CIP DETAILS

