

## **LUXURY RESORT AND MARINA COMMUNITY UNDER DEVELOPMENT IN CURACAO**

### **Santa Barbara Plantation begins Phase I of development including 18-hole Pete Dye-designed golf course, marina and Hyatt Regency Hotel**

CURACAO, Netherlands Antilles (January 2, 2008) – Santa Barbara Plantation has broken ground along a natural harbor known as Spanish Water in Curacao, 25 minutes from the capital city, Willemstad. Upon completion of the first phase, which includes a 350-room Hyatt Regency Hotel opening in the fall of 2009, Santa Barbara Plantation will offer upscale residences and amenities including an 18-hole Pete Dye-designed golf course, the 120-slip Seru Boca Marina capable of accommodating vessels up to 80 feet in length and a homeowners' beach club.

Santa Barbara Plantation's first phase of residential development includes 108 Terrace Homes priced from \$1.1 million and offering commanding views of the golf course and the Caribbean Sea. The Terrace Home models will be ready for viewing in mid-2009. Also available are 125 single family home sites priced from \$450,000 to over \$1 million. The sites offer magnificent vistas and front either the golf course or Spanish Water. Marina Village, a 27-unit residential community overlooking Seru Boca Marina, consists of three- and four-bedroom patio homes ranging from 1,700-2,100 square feet in size and priced from \$650,000.



Complementing the site's dramatic hills and valleys are unique architectural and interior design elements that reflect Curacao's rich culture and history as an important Dutch trading seaport during centuries past. The interior design of the Hyatt Hotel will feature a nautical theme, incorporating maritime charts and relics from tall ships. Beneath the hand-loomed area rugs, the flooring will be of an unusual limestone that is mined in shades ranging from brilliant white to rose from a mountain quarry on the property's

eastern boundary, near historic 19th Century ruins that will be restored and preserved by the developer. Also reflective of the traditional look of homes in Curacao are handmade clay tile roofs and weather-resistant solid teak louver doors and window shutters.

Santa Barbara Plantation will feature a host of recreational amenities such as a beach club for homeowners and their guests, a full-service marina from which world-class diving and fishing trips will be arranged, fine and casual dining, a tennis center, business center, outdoor swimming pools and boutique retail shops. The Hyatt Regency Hotel will include additional onsite amenities such as Hyatt's *Red Sail* Beach rental & tour center and the highly acclaimed Hyatt Pure Spa, complemented by spacious spa bungalow units available for rental featuring in-suite spa services.

The 18-hole Pete Dye-designed golf course is scheduled for a fall of 2009 opening and will offer priority tee times to Santa Barbara Plantation homeowners and guests of the Hyatt Hotel. The dramatic natural contours of the site will yield a layout that provides golfers with spectacular views and plenty of challenge.

“This land is incredible – the contours, the views, the ruins, the setting. The topography has enough movement; you don’t have to create it,” said Dye during a visit to Santa Barbara Plantation in November of 2007.



*Left to Right: P.B. Dye with Pete Dye*

Because of Curacao’s arid climate, Dye selected the hardy, salt-tolerant Paspalum grass that allows for watering with reclaimed and brackish water.

“Paspalum provides a better golfing surface than Bermuda grass and even bent grass,” he said. “Water is precious. We want to conserve it. We’ll use gray water, salt water, recycled water, the whole nine yards.”

Complementing the golf course will be an 8,000 square-foot clubhouse featuring a fully stocked golf shop, locker rooms and a restaurant and lounge.

Santa Barbara Plantation is taking shape approximately 40 minutes from the Hato International Airport, which is regularly served by major air carriers such as American (twice daily from Miami), Continental and Delta. KLM/Air France also offers a number of flights each week from Amsterdam. Only 20 minutes away is the capital city, Willemstad, where shoppers can enjoy the open-air and floating markets, and traditional Dutch architecture can be found in the historically preserved buildings and streets. Willemstad, best known as being a diverse melting pot of cultures with historical monuments throughout, represents more than 50 different ethnic groups that have influenced the diversity of the population in Curacao.

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