

SKY

Top 10 Beaches

SHARE



One of the most romantic and picturesque beach destinations, Bora Bora is known for its pristine cerulean waters and stilted accommodations.

ELIZABETH DOYLE

1. **Playa Punta Paloma // Tarifa, Spain.** The southernmost point of mainland Spain—about 8 miles across the Strait of Gibraltar from Africa—possesses the best windsurfing and kitesurfing conditions in all of Europe. Fly into: Málaga (AGP)
2. **Ipanema // Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.** Rated by Travel Channel as the Sexiest Beach in the World, the sandy shores that line Rio's coast are the place to see and be seen. Head over to Posto Nove for a full dose of celebrity sightings. Fly into: Rio (GIG)
3. **Grace Bay Beach // Providenciales, Turks & Caicos.** Often named the most beautiful beach in the world, Grace Bay is home to crystal clear waters, 12 miles of white sand beaches and Jo Jo, the bottle-nosed dolphin. Fly into: Providenciales (PLS)
4. **Pink Sands Beach // Harbour Island, The Bahamas.** Three miles of hard-packed light coral sand line the pristine waterfront of Harbour Island. The sand is made up of tiny bits of coral, crushed shells and red-shelled single-celled organisms called foraminifera. Fly into: Nassau (NAS)
5. **Palawan // The Philippines.** While Alex Garland's *The Beach* took place in Thailand, he drew inspiration from the jagged limestone islands, subterranean rivers and sugary sand beaches of Palawan for the tumultuous tale. Fly into: Manila (MNL)
6. **Lanikai Beach // Oahu, Hawaii.** Considered to be one of the best swimming beaches in Hawaii, the turquoise waters remain calm year-round thanks to an offshore reef. Couple that with sprawling white sand beaches and swaying palm trees, and it's obvious why Lanikai translates to "heavenly sea." Fly into: Honolulu (HNL)
7. **Bora Bora // French Polynesia.** One of the most romantic and picturesque beach destinations, Bora Bora is known for its pristine cerulean waters and stilted accommodations—and it boasts black and white sand beaches. Fly into: Papeete (PPT)
8. **Paradise Beach // Mykonos, Greece.** If you are looking for a party beach, this is it. Expect large crowds during the high season (July and August) and loads of tanned and toned beachgoers. Fly into: Athens (ATH)
9. **Plage de la Briande // Saint-Tropez, France.** One of the most secluded beaches along the Côte d'Azur is perfect for those looking to sunbathe in solitude. Parents, be forewarned: Many beaches in Europe are topless. Check with your concierge, or locals, before bringing the little ones. Fly into: Nice (NCE) or Marseille (MRS)
10. **Crane Beach // Barbados.** Located on the island's south coast, the beach possesses all the draws of the Caribbean, but with bigger waves, leaving the waters littered with surfers waiting on the next swell. Fly into: Barbados (BGI)