

Condé Nast Traveller

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One&Only
RESORTS

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22 Family Special June 2017

BEST FOR: TODDLERS

ONE&ONLY LE SAINT GERAN, MAURITIUS

When it comes to snatching some winter sun with small people in tow, Mauritius has it all: direct overnight flights, minimal time difference, reef-ringed beaches and islanders who love children. Now, after a major overhaul, Sol Kerzner's original big-hitting hotel, One&Only Le Saint Géran, is set to re-open this December. To make it more family-friendly than ever they're even swapping two holes of the golf course for a variety of activity and fitness clubs, with sunken trampolines, paddle courts and a mini putting course. Programmes for KidsOnly (ages three to five and six to eight) and OneTribe (nine to 11) will combine favourites such as the after-dark crab hunt with newfangled fun including drone building.

Bedrooms will have a sophisticated tropical palette of dark palm greens, muted sea blues and smoky greys; mid-century-modern-style walnut furniture finished with brass and leather; and a bar with a Mojito station for the parents. Sleeping arrangements for children are well thought out: in Junior Suites, the cleverly designed chaise at the foot of the bed folds out.

For bigger gangs or older children, the double-room Ocean Suites have squidgy sleep-out sofas. The tip of the hotel's private peninsula is renamed Palm Grove and will have a new cabana-ringed pool and a restaurant, La Pointe, serving a please-'em-all lunch of salads, burgers and grilled fish.

Food can be ordered anytime, anywhere, with lunch boxes delivered by bike to the beach once the 'I'm huuuungry' cry goes up. In the evening, the heaving tables in La Terrasse are the dream of little eaters who love to load up their plates. And the best bit? Under-fives now stay half board for free.

INSIDER TIP Waterskiing here is not just for grown-ups. Kids as young as three can waterski by skimming across the sea on an inflatable aquaplane.

BOOK IT Elegant Resorts offers seven nights from £3,480 per person, based on two adults and one child sharing, including breakfast, flights and transfers. +44 1244 897515; elegantresorts.co.uk