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CHEFS' SECRETS

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IT TAKES TWO  
COUPLES WORKOUTS

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and waxing. About the only service they don't offer is hair extensions, so remember to BYOB (bring your own braids). Check out [ashford.ie](http://ashford.ie) for special Internet deals. Otherwise, rooms start at approximately \$315 per night.

**Getting there:** Delta offers one-stop trips from Miami to Shannon Airport (connecting in New York) that require 14 hours of travel time.

**General info:** [discoverireland.com](http://discoverireland.com)

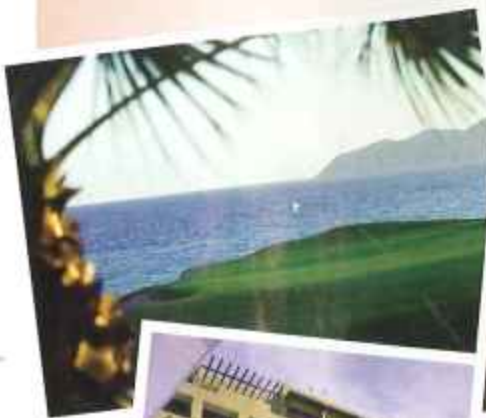
## PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

**The allure:** Those in search of a fairytale romance will feel equally at home strolling Prague's labyrinthine cobblestone lanes. A hilltop castle dominates this beautifully preserved city, which grew up along the Vltava River in the Middle Ages. Within the castle compound, rows of brightly colored cottages, with their diminutive doors and playhouse-like proportions, seem ideally suited to Snow White's dwarves. Horse-drawn carriages that might have transported Cinderella stand at the ready in front of Tyn Church, which, with its vaguely menacing multipronged spires, calls to mind Maleficent's stronghold from *Sleeping Beauty*. After you've toured Prague Castle, explore the river on a pleasure cruise ([prazskebenatky.cz](http://prazskebenatky.cz)). You also can enjoy a view of the Vltava from the Charles Bridge, where artists hawk paintings and sepia-toned photographs of the city. At night, settle in for a performance at the Estates Theater (where Mozart premiered "Don Giovanni" in 1787), the National Theater ([nd.cz](http://nd.cz)) or the Prague State Opera house, where the elaborate architecture is as much a part of the entertainment as the opera itself ([opera.cz](http://opera.cz)).

**Where to stay:** The Aria Hotel salutes Prague's passion for music with 52 rooms and suites devoted to different genres and musicians, from Billie Holiday to Beethoven. Its CODA restaurant, a bijoux red bistro outfitted with plush sofas and mirrored walls, has a rooftop terrace overlooking Prague Castle. Among the for-lovers-only offerings is an Enchanted Fairytale Honeymoon package, which includes Champagne, strawberries, roses, an upgrade to a suite, breakfast, massages and a three-course dinner at CODA (from \$2,113 for three nights). Rooms from \$416 per night. ([ariahotel.net](http://ariahotel.net))

**Getting there:** Fly into Praha Ruzyně airport, about 12 miles outside the center of Prague.

**General info:** [czechtourism.com](http://czechtourism.com), [prague-info.cz](http://prague-info.cz)



## LOS CABOS, MEXICO

**The allure:** Given the hard-driving reputation of its party capital, Cabo San Lucas, you might think that the only romance found in this region along the southernmost tip of Baja California is the kind that occurs after last call. Think again.

Lovers of handcrafted creations will delight in the quaint galleries that line the art district of downtown San José del Cabo; lovers of adventure will thrill at the chance to race across the world's fastest and longest zip-line course—nine cables suspended between canyon walls, some as high as 400 feet off the ground—at Desertica Multi-Adventure Park; and lovers of golf will find several challenging desert courses, designed by the likes of Jack Nicklaus and Robert Trent Jones, that border the Pacific Ocean and Sea of Cortez. No love,

however, is complete in Los Cabos without the right resort as a home base.

**Where to stay:** The problem with the Marquis Los Cabos has nothing to do with not enjoying your stay. It's about never wanting to leave. That sensation begins to rush over you upon walking through the arches of the dramatic open-air lobby, which overlooks the Sea of Cortez. The resort features 237 suites, all with spectacular views, but true romantics should consider one of the 28 casitas—each with more than 1,600 square feet of space (decorated in contemporary Mexican decor) and private patios within earshot of the pounding surf. Second-floor casitas have rooftop pools. The world-class Spa Marquis, covering 15,000 square feet, works indigenous ingredients (cactus oils, agave) into its soothing facial and body treatments. On the dining front, the intimate and

elegant 20-seat Canto del Mar features course after course of exquisite French fare specially prepared by renowned chef Thierry Dufour. At night, the resort is known to invite a local astronomer to set up his high-powered telescope right on the beach so that guests can enjoy jaw-dropping views of the planets and stars within range. Daytime activities, however, are equally inspiring—including trips aboard the *Novia Mia*, an 80-foot Turkish schooner available to guests of the Marquis Los Cabos (for a separate fee) that sails in and around Cabo San Lucas Bay and stops for snorkeling. ([marquisloscabos.com](http://marquisloscabos.com))

**Getting there:** Several airlines—including Delta, Continental and Aeromexico—offer one-stop flights from Miami to Los Cabos International Airport. Travel time is roughly eight hours.

**General info:** [loscabosguide.com](http://loscabosguide.com) ©

