No Time To Die At GoldenEye

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One of the Beach Villas at GoldenEye

Back in the 1950’s, a former British naval intelligence officer named Ian Fleming would decamp to Jamaica for a couple of months each winter. Now a budding novelist, he would knock
off a new thriller in eight or 10 weeks before returning to London. Thus was James Bond introduced to the world.

Fleming's house, GoldenEye, was later bought by music impresario Chris Blackwell, founder of Island Records. Blackwell turned it into an elite getaway and the setting is truly spectacular and clearly inspiring. This is, after all, where Sting composed “Every Breath You Take.”

Now, to mark the release of the 25th James Bond movie, No Time To Die, which is partly filmed in Jamaica, GoldenEye is offering a dedicated package, the “Ultimate James Bond Experience,” to celebrate the birthplace of what is arguably the greatest spy series ever created.
*No Time to Die*, which will be released on November 20, 2020, marks Daniel Craig’s final appearance as 007. The island of Jamaica stars once again, having played a central role in such films as *Dr. No* and *Live and Let Die*.

Fleming discovered the beauty of Jamaica during a WWII mission in 1942. Four years later, he returned and purchased 15 acres of undeveloped land and named it GoldenEye to pay homage to the naval operation that first brought him to the island. Those winter sojourns lasted for more than two decades and resulted in the 14 Bond books, which were made even more famous by the films that followed.

Chris Blackwell is widely credited with popularizing reggae, in particular the recordings of Bob Marley, and his Island Records went on to be the idiosyncratic label for artists as diverse as Traffic, Roxy Music, Jethro Tull, U2 and Nirvana, among many other artists.
Blackwell refurbished and expanded GoldenEye and opened it as a resort in 2011. GoldenEye is a luxury lair with private beaches, hidden coves, and tropical gardens. It’s not a hotel but rather a collection of private villas, cottages and beach huts.

The stand-alone Beach & Lagoon Villas are set in a tropical gardens and are set on either on the beach or the lagoon. Each one has a secluded outdoor shower. Ann Hodges, the Jamaican architect, designed each villa with barefoot living in mind, which means high ceilings and oversized furniture. The Lagoon Cottages have water access from their private docks. The Beach
Huts are eclectic and some are elevated 10 feet to offer spectacular ocean and mountain views. The grandest villa is StrangeWays, a three bedroom villa with spectacular Caribbean views. Set on tip of a cliff, it is essentially a private compound and offers private butler service. The original three bedroom Fleming Villa, which was designed by Fleming himself, can also be rented.
There are four dining options: The Gazebo, Bizot Bar, Shabeen and the Bamboo Bar. There’s also the newly expanded Field Spa. GoldenEye is located 20 minutes east of Ocho Rios and 90-minutes by car from Montego Bay Airport. If you’re flying private, it’s just an eight-minute drive from Ian Fleming International.

The “Ultimate James Bond Experience” is a four-night package that includes accommodations in a stand-alone Hut, Villa or Cottage, each one with a private entrance. Guests receive a bottle of Bollinger champagne, featured in many of the Bond films and novels, as well as a copy of *GoldenEye: Where Bond was Born* by Matthew Parker and signed by Chris Blackwell. You’ll also get a tour of the Fleming Villa (pending availability). The package comes with daily breakfast for two and a complimentary welcome flask of Blackwell Rum. It includes a guided snorkeling tour through the nearby reef and visit to Firefly, Noel Coward’s former hilltop home, where Fleming spent many afternoons, gin and bitters in hand. Guests can enjoy the James Bond outdoor film series offered every Thursday this fall leading up to the release of *No Time to Die*. Package rates start at $2,630 for four nights and it can be booked now through December 19, 2020. For details, visit www.GoldenEye.com.