

LOS ANGELES CONFIDENTIAL

INSIDE SUNDANCE

SARAH JESSICA PARKER,
COLIN FARRELL &
A BEVY OF TOP STARS

THE LATEST ON OSCAR AND THE STRIKE

THE POWER ISSUE

KEVIN MORRIS,
EMMANUELLE SEIGNER,
COLIN COWIE,
RANDE GERBER,
PAULA ABDUL,
BONNIE SOMERVILLE,
DJ AM,
THE LA KINGS,
LOREE RODKIN
& THOM FILICIA

EXCLUSIVE!

Kate Beckinsale

TAKES FLIGHT IN SNOW ANGELS





Pleasure Principle

Find fulfillment as resorts and residences meld in Punta Mita.

A 1,500-ACRE PENINSULA with sun-drenched white-sand beaches and lapping ocean waves just to the north of Puerto Vallarta, **Punta Mita** is the ultimate in vacation options and exclusivity.

If the ease of a resort is what you're after, the Four Seasons Punta Mita has everything you could possibly desire. Choose among spacious guest rooms, suites, and four- and five-bedroom villas. We're quite partial to the villas for their private pools and hot tubs, outdoor showers, fully equipped kitchens, wireless Internet, and butler and chef service. The resort has two pools (one for families, one for adults) and multiple dining options, the most romantic of which is the beachside Bahia restaurant. The Apuane spa is spacious and calming (in-house spa treatments are also offered), and there's an adorable boutique with an exclusive Punta Mita resort collection by designer Milly and an appealing selection of last-minute bikinis. Stay tuned: The St. Regis will soon open a resort on the peninsula as well.

Yearning for even more privacy? Punta Mita offers a luxurious assortment of villas and haciendas for rental (or purchase, if that's your bag). The exclusive Rancho Estates on the southern end of the peninsula has two gems, both fully staffed: the modern beachfront Beidisia boasts six bedrooms, an infinity pool, a guest house, and a screening room, while the sprawling palapa-style Papelillos has nine bedrooms and goes for \$10,000 a night.



Watch the surfers catch a few waves in the Bay of Banderas while you catch some rays poolside. Other residences are available at communities like El Encanto, Las Palmas, and Hacienda de Mita, closest to the Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course, where as a resident you're entitled to a prime tee time. If it's sand between your toes you seek, the residence beach club is just a short drive away.

Punta Mita may be a tropical heaven, but don't sequester yourself completely: There's fun aplenty in nearby Puerto Vallarta. Decidedly more upscale than tourist-heavy counterparts like Cancún, Puerto Vallarta offers pedestrian-friendly cobblestone streets, art galleries, and a smattering of gourmet restaurants. Standouts include chef Thierry Blouet's *Café des Artistes* (cafedesartistes.com) with its junglelike courtyard garden, wine bar, cigar lounge, and adjacent tasting-menu-only restaurant, and Trio (trioptu.com) with its eclectic Mediterranean offerings. And since you can sleep off your hangover the next day in your villa's hammock, feel free to party with abandon at de Santos rooftop bar (desantos.com.mx). Visit puntamita.com.mx; fourseasons.com.—BETSEY MCLAIN