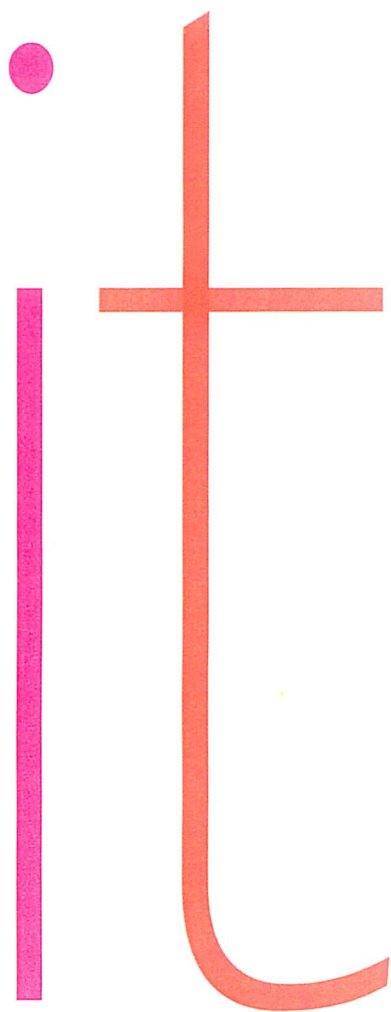


TRAVEL + LEISURE



LIST 2010

BEACH KAUAI, HAWAII

St. Regis Princeville

When St. Regis announced its takeover of the Princeville Resort—and its plan to transform the 25-year-old property, redesigning the pool and adding a spa—we hoped that the cliff-top hotel would retain more than just its prime position overlooking Hanalei Bay. The resort doesn't disappoint: 400 staffers (some with more than 25 years at the hotel) are still the best on the island, and now Jean-Georges Vongerichten has taken over the already popular Kauai Grill. Our favorite in-room amenity in the 252 plush rooms is the bathtub set next to floor-to-ceiling windows; the flick of a switch turns the glass opaque for privacy. *5520 Ka Haku Rd.; 888/627-7124 or 808/826-9644; princevillehotelhawaii.com; doubles from \$435.*