

## The Hotel PeVUE

## VELAS VALLARTA Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

It was just my second trip to Puerto Vallarta, but it's easy to see why this Pacific region of Mexico is becoming so popular with travelers—especially as an alternative to the typical Caribbean and Gulf destinations on the east coast. The all-inclusive resort Velas Vallarta is located directly on the beach next to a host of activities, the resort's spa and kids club—making it well-suited for family and romantic getaways alike.

Boasting 10 acres along the coast, with views of the Sierra Madre Mountain Range, Velas Vallarta is located in one of the most exclusive areas in the Vallarta-Nayarit region. Swim-up bars, first-rate service and resort peacocks are just a few of my favorite features of the property. In addition, Velas Vallarta has made numerous strides in its dedication to sustainability and the surrounding ecosystems—eliminating plastic straws, fostering orphaned wildlife and diverting raw food waste to a local hog farm.

For me, the highlight of visiting Velas Vallarta was the resort's championship golf clubs-Marina and Vista Vallarta. Flying in from New Jersey, and without my clubs. I was quickly outfitted with a set with club pro, Ivan Cueva at the Marina Vallarta pro shop. You could hardly tell it had rained the previous day once stepping onto the Joe Fingerdesigned course, featuring a mix of tropical Pacific views of Banderas Bay and the Sierra Madre. Just a short walk or drive from the resort, these well-maintained courses-like many in Puerto Vallarta and Riviera Navarithave no doubt been a driving force for the region's tourism. And after playing 18 holes, it was easy to see why.

Brian Kovener,Co-Founder





To say my time at Jade Mountain was the most magical experience of my life is an understatement. Every morning began in my own private sanctuary, where I was quickly serenaded by the songs of the St. Lucia black finch and the view of the twin Piton Mountains. Like something straight out of a honeymoon magazine, Anse Chastanet—the property Jade sits on—is at the doorstep of lush landscapes, unspoiled rainforests and incredible dive sites.

From top to bottom, the entire resort is simply an architectural marvel. With overlapping sets of bridgeways leading to each sanctuary, colorful recycled glass pool tiles and handcrafted stonework, it was often hard to leave the room. With the absence of the fourth wall and no TVs or radios, the resort really gave me a deeper appreciation for nature and ultimately, life.

Sourced from the resort garden and surrounding communities, the food at Jade Mountain is reason enough to visit—featuring James Beard Award-winner, Chef Allen Susser's exotic "Jade Cuisine" concept. In addition to having access to all five of the property's dining options, Jade Mountain also has suite service which is available at anytime. It was my favorite destination to date and perhaps the most magical experience of my life—one I won't soon forget!

—Jamie Lawrence, Marketing Director



