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Divi Resorts Welcomes Fresh Faces to Resort Teams on Aruba, Bonaire, and St. Croix

Divi's Caribbean resorts have hired a new Executive Sous Chef on Aruba, a new Dive Operations Manager on Bonaire, and a new General Manager and Executive Chef on St. Croix.

CHAPEL HILL, NC — A few new faces have joined [Divi Resorts'](#) talented teams on Aruba, Bonaire, and St. Croix.

Born and raised on Aruba, Gilbert Flemming is no stranger to [Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort](#). He worked at the resort four years ago and is now returning to prove himself as a powerful force in the kitchen. With 22 years of culinary experience under his belt, Flemming says he looks forward to providing top-notch service and artfully-prepared cuisine as the Executive Sous Chef at the resort's acclaimed signature restaurant, [pureocean](#), as well as the resort's two other eateries, purebeach and puredeli.

"My goal is to create an unforgettable dining experience for every guest Divi Phoenix Aruba," said Flemming. "I hope to add even more variety and flavors to our menu in the future so that each patron can enjoy something unique."



Gilbert Flemming



Pascal van Empelen

On Bonaire, Pascal van Empelen recently joined [Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino's](#) team as the new Dive Operations Manager for the award-winning on-site dive operation, [Divi Dive Bonaire](#). Hailing from the Netherlands, Van Empelen started diving in his home country nearly two decades ago and quickly fell in love with the sport. In 2012, he left his corporate marketing job to pursue his passion and become a full-time dive instructor on Bonaire.

"Bonaire is my favorite island for diving, hands down," said Van Empelen. "When I first visited nine years ago, I was mesmerized by the island's beauty both above and below the water. Just a few months later, I moved to Bonaire for a year, and in March 2018, I returned to the island for good. The marine life here is so incredible and I love contributing to the greater good of Bonaire with Reef Renewal Foundation Bonaire and STINAPA. Plus, I feel incredibly lucky to be a part of Divi Dive Bonaire's tight-knit team that not only wins

Scuba Diving's Readers Choice Awards year after year, but also works hard to create and grow new coral reef nurseries at the Calabas Reef, the resort's house reef."

At the completely renovated [Divi Carina Bay Beach Resort & Casino](#) on St. Croix, Dyal Sandhu takes the helm as the new General Manager, while Dennis Giancontiere is serving up gourmet cuisine as the resort's new Executive Chef.

"We are pleased to introduce our new General Manager, Dyal Sandhu," said Marco Galaverna, President & COO of Divi Resorts. "Since May, he's been hard at work overseeing the final weeks of training and reopening the resort."

With over 20 years of experience in the hospitality industry around the world, Dyal says he's enjoying his new adventure on St. Croix.

"My goal is to elevate our offerings and deliver an exceptional vacation experience so travelers want to return year after year," said Sandhu. "Guests can expect top-notch service, a safe environment, and a strong team dedicated to helping them create lifelong memories."

Joining him at the resort is Dennis Giancontiere, the resort's new Executive Chef. Giancontiere originally worked at Divi Carina Bay in 1989 before opening a restaurant of his own on the island. With over 50 years of experience under his belt, Giancontiere says guests can expect a world-class culinary experience at the resort's new restaurants and bars.

"In the span of my career, I've had the opportunity to work with some of the finest chefs in the country," explained Giancontiere. "Plus, I come from an Italian family, so many of my favorite recipes are handed down from my mother and grandmother over the years. I have taken all that I have learned and incorporated my style and technique into it."

Long considered one of the "big three" hotels on the island, Divi Carina Bay is currently an adult-only (18+), room-only resort offering an expansive beach, two sparkling freshwater pools, tennis, pickleball, shuffleboard, fitness center, complimentary Wi-Fi, concierge services and free parking. The 200-room property offers hotel rooms just steps from the beach and spacious hillside one-bedroom suites with full kitchens, living and dining areas, one or two private bathrooms, and balconies or patios.

Every inch of the resort has been renovated from top to bottom with new furnishings, fresh décor, modern amenities, and more. In February 2022, the resort will transform into an all-inclusive and adult-only resort, the only one of its kind on St. Croix, where guests will enjoy a wide range of amenities, including endless food and drinks at brand new restaurants and bars, a fitness center, an on-site water sports center, miniature golf, and so much more. Plus, guests can try their luck at [Carina Bay Casino](#), located just a short walk away.



Dyal Sandhu



Dennis Giancontiere

About Divi Resorts: *The Caribbean vacation experts for over 50 years, Divi Resorts features a collection of seven premium resorts spanning the five stunning islands of Aruba, Barbados, Bonaire, St. Croix, and St. Maarten. Divi Resorts currently offers 30% off all 2021 and 2022 room-only and all-inclusive Caribbean vacations. The company also offers a [best price guarantee](#), [worry-free cancellation](#), [travel insurance](#), [travel agent rates](#), a [Divi Devotion Discount](#), and other programs. For more information on Divi Resorts, call 1-800-367-3484 or visit www.diviresorts.com.*

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