



### Island Map Inside

With all the pertinent details while on island...

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### Poppin' Bottles

Why champagne is the NYE drink...

Details Page 4



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## A Different Kind of Cruise Ship: The Stad Amsterdam



The gentle swell of the Caribbean Sea moves through Simpson Bay. On this day around Christmas, a large fleet of elegant mega yachts are anchored about half a nautical mile offshore, glistening in the tropical sun. Their lines appear to be drawn with a sharp pencil, sleek space-age shapes, designed to cut through the ocean with speed and efficiency.

One vessel stands out as if transported from another era into the present; a three-masted clipper, representing the sailing ships of yesteryear.

The tall-ships of the nineteenth century were the fastest commercial sailing ships ever conceived, connecting the globe's continents with relative efficiency until steamers replaced them.

Getting closer to the ship, it becomes apparent that there are modern elements to it; the hull is not wooden, but made of steel. Discreetly installed but still visible are an array of satellite dishes and radar antennas.

This is the clipper Stad Amsterdam; a ship built not long ago in The Netherlands. The design is inspired by the lines of the historic square-rigged De Amsterdam of the mid-eighteen-hundreds but executed with the latest technology and materials. For a few days, she has stopped in Sint Maarten for re-provisioning and picking up passengers to continue her Caribbean tour. Flying the Dutch flag, the Stad Amsterdam represents the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

### Charming Caribbean Style and Tasty Food



This restaurant may have started with family recipes and flavors reminiscent of the owner's Trinidadian heritage, but The Palms Restaurant now has an identity of its own.

Full Article on Page 19

### Sea Life Protected in Dekker Jewelry



After living on the island for over five years Joanne Dekker decided to start a line of island inspired work without harming the environment.

By Leslie Hickerson Full Article on Page 15

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