

# DISCOVERIES



1. THE NEWLY REFRESHED TORTUGA BAY HOTEL IN PUNTA CANA. 2. A REVISITED GUEST ROOM FEATURES A WOVEN-RATTAN BED AND CHAISE LONGUE. 3. THE LATE FASHION DESIGNER OSCAR DE LA RENTA AT HIS BELOVED HOME IN PUNTA CANA. 4. THE MAIN DINING ROOM WAS REDECORATED AS PART OF THE RENOVATION.

## HOT SPOT

### In True Fashion

*Oscar de la Renta's Tortuga Bay hotel gets a thoughtful update*

**W**e wanted a small jewel of a hotel," Oscar de la Renta once said of Tortuga Bay, the iconic Punta Cana resort he designed some ten years ago. "We wanted something that would be unbelievably comfortable, that people would come back to and would tell their friends about." Spreading the word proved easy: Seemingly overnight, the hotel's sunny yellow villas and ocean-facing suites landed on every jet-setter's bucket list. But time and ocean air take a toll. So, early last year, in consultation with the late fashion maestro's wife Annette, the owners set about restoring the property to peak comfort, enlisting AD100 decorator Markham Roberts to help revamp the villas and common spaces while retaining Oscar's vision. "We didn't have to reinvent the wheel," says Roberts, who worked with Annette to refresh the public dining room's seating in Oscar's original textiles. The new outdoor lounge and bar, meanwhile, stay true to the overall vibe with a tiled roof and Caribbean-style accents. And to honor Oscar's Dominican heritage, the design team enlisted local artisans to create each piece of new furniture, from upholstered wicker chairs to carved-wood tables. Ever the ardent researcher, Roberts even dug into decades-old family photos, duplicating a mahogany table and bookcases from the de la Rentas' Connecticut home. "There isn't anyone whose taste I respect more," Roberts notes. "Oscar's gone, but his spirit is sure alive and well down here." [tortugabayhotel.com](http://tortugabayhotel.com) —CARLY OLSON



1, 2, AND 4. BJÖRN WALLANDER; 3. FRANÇOIS HALARD