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# Winter Escape: Viva la Mexico *Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit*

By Marcus Stewart

Nestled in one of the most exclusive residential developments along the spectacular Banderas Bay and only 20 minutes away from Puerto Vallarta International Airport, Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit is an exquisite and exciting oceanfront property sure to make you and your travel party extremely happy. Whether you plan to relax in your expansive suite, indulge in the world-class spa, play golf, take surf lessons, shop, or enjoy a four-diamond culinary experience, there is something for everyone at Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit.

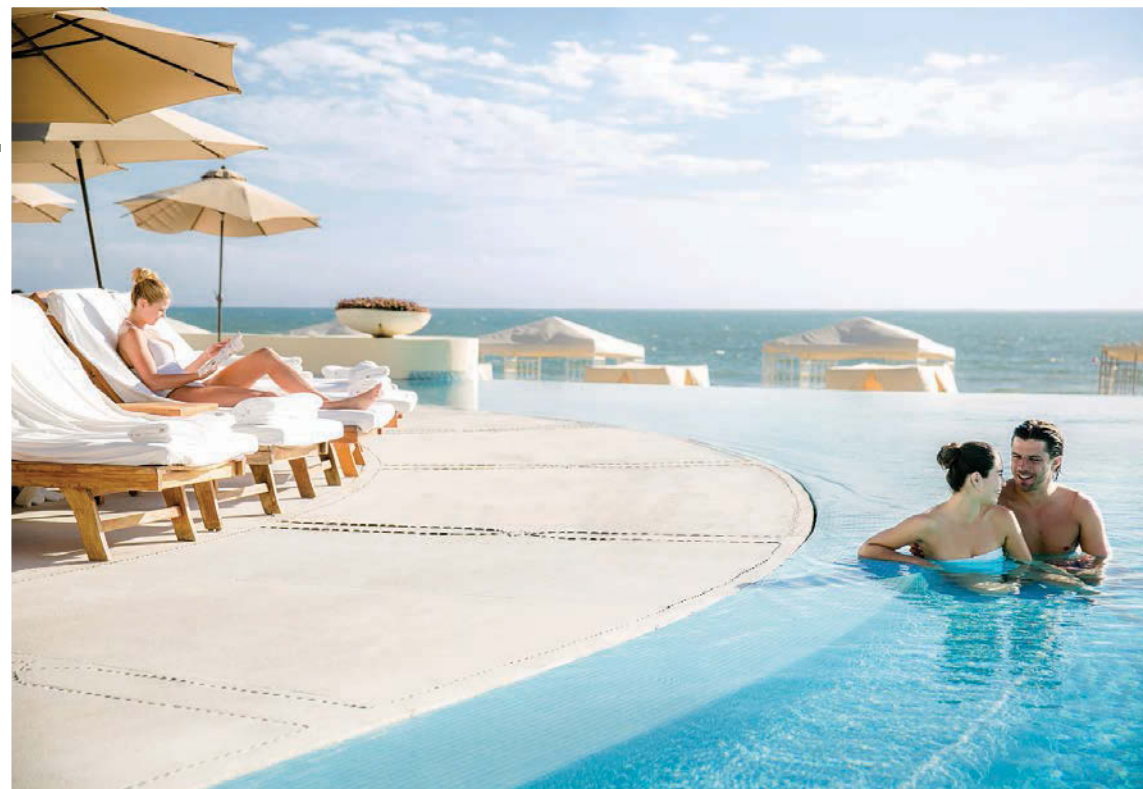


[W Vallarta.GrandVelas.com](http://Vallarta.GrandVelas.com)

As the winter season has made its arrival, there is nothing higher on the list than being able to make a run for the luxurious border for relaxation and vitamin D. Mexico's Riviera Nayarit is home to many wonders but the most award-winning luxe haven would be the Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit. This all-suites and spa resort is a member of The Leading Hotels of the World and a recipient of the coveted AAA Five Diamond Award.

Designed by famed architects, Elias Elias of Guadalajara, Mexico, and renowned Mexican interior designer Melin Castro, the Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit boasts 267 suites, all with private terraces and ocean views. These contemporary accommodations are decorated with teak furnishings imported from Bali, light neutral tones, and tropical-influenced color accents.

Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit samples cuisine from around the world at its five restaurants, three of which have been bestowed a total of 12 AAA diamonds for fine dining. Frida, a fine dining experience featuring Mexican cuisine, is best known for its dishes that legendary artist Frida Kahlo made for her lover, the famed Diego Rivera. Accompanied by a live violinist nightly, Lucca serves Italian-Mediterranean cuisine in an elegant fine dining atmosphere. Piaf offers French classic cuisine, from rack of lamb to soufflés, to the tunes of a live saxophone. More casual options, Selva del Mar, is located poolside and offers an informal and fast service alternative, and Azul serves several types of cuisine, including Mexican, Italian, Chinese, Japanese, and grilled steaks and seafood, oceanfront.



The 16,500-square-foot Spa at Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit, a member of The Leading Spas of the World, is the crown jewel of the resort. The spa's design includes a palapa-style entrance, furniture from Bali, and a large marbled wall with cascading water. The spa experience begins for guests with the seven-step Hydrotherapy Ritual that includes a eucalyptus-scented steam room with chromotherapy, a bi-thermal pressure shower, peppermint ice fountain, hot and cold lagoons, sauna, hydro-reflexology, and Jacuzzi. The Spa at Grand Velas features 20 treatment rooms, more than 30 spa treatments, a high-performance gym and exercise room, spa boutique, and a beauty salon. Many treatments feature organic elements, using coffee and chocolate, candle wax and sea shells, deep river stones and volcanic glass, tequila cream, aromatherapy oils, and more. A novel element, guests booking two or more spa treatments at the spa receive a complimentary designer swimsuit travel bag upon departure.

While this property has everything an adult could dream of, the team at Grand Velas Riviera Nayarit also offers an array of child-friendly activities and amenities, including a tiered three-temperature infinity pool, a children's pool, tennis courts, a new state-of-the-art teens facility, and non-motorized sports, such as snorkeling, kayaking, boogie boarding, and water polo.

Beyond all-inclusive and beyond all compare, this goes beyond a vacation. The Grand Velas Riviera is an experience! **B**