

Adventure Isles

FORGET THE BEACH: TRY THESE FIVE WHITE-KNUCKLE EXCURSIONS INSTEAD. — DL



JUMP STREET

Follow the rum-fueled crowds to Rick's Cafe, a cliff-hugging bar in Negril, Jamaica, where tourists and locals alike routinely hurl themselves from a series of rocky bluffs the tallest of which is 35 feet above sea level. Afraid of heights? Then descend to one of the lower cliffs, where you can jump from just 5 feet above the water. Safety check: Drinking and jumping is not recommended. rickscafejamaica.com



HOT STUFF

Fed by five active volcanoes, Dominica's canyons are geothermal works in progress. See them on an Extreme Dominica canyoning tour, a three-hour excursion that takes visitors hiking, rappelling, climbing and swimming through a white-water gorge. (Wear a swimsuit.) When you're done, consider trekking to Boiling Lake, a natural hot spring that reaches 198 degrees Fahrenheit. extremedominica.com



UP AND AWAY

If you want a real bird's-eye view of Belize's lush rainforests without having to head to the airport, a microlight (also known as an ultralight) excursion with Big Earth might be the better ticket. On this cross between hang gliding and flying a small plane, you'll get a glimpse of howler monkey troops, thatch-roof villages, winding rivers and forgotten Maya temples from about 5,000 feet up. bigearth.com



ZIP IT UP

Experience one of the world's longest zip-lines with a ride on The Beast, a 4,745-foot-long line suspended more than 850 feet above ground in Puerto Rico's Toro Verde Nature Adventure Park. This is not your typical mundane canopy tour: You'll fly over the forest Superman-style face down, hands out and at speeds of up to 65 mph - for nearly three hair-raising minutes. ziplinetourspr.com



DIVE RIGHT IN

Experience a full 40 seconds of bloodpumping free-falling, followed by a long, slow glide over Aruba's rugged landscape. With Skydive Aruba, first you'll fly to 10,000 feet aboard a four-passenger Cessna; then you and your instructor will take the plunge in tandem which begins as a 120 mph descent over the Caribbean Sea. No experience necessary. skydivearuba.com