

Interview with General Manager, Dennis de Groot

Professional Focus:

What inspired you to pursue a career in luxury hospitality, and what brought you to Silversands Grenada?

I've always been drawn to the human connection and transformative power of hospitality. Early in my career, I realized that true luxury isn't just about beautiful spaces, it's about creating moments that leave a lasting impact. After working with some of the world's most iconic brands, I was captivated by Silversands Grenada's bold vision: reimagining Caribbean luxury through contemporary design, authentic experiences, and a deep respect for the island's spirit. It was an opportunity to join a brand where excellence and innovation meet genuine warmth, something that deeply resonated with my own values.

How would you describe the guest experience philosophy at Silversands, and how do you bring that to life every day?

At Silversands, we believe that true luxury is effortless, deeply personal, and infused with the natural warmth of Grenadian hospitality. Every interaction whether a simple greeting or a curated island journey is an opportunity to deliver excellence with sincerity. I work closely with our team every day to ensure that the guest journey is intuitive, genuine, and designed to create extraordinary memories without ever feeling scripted.

What is your approach to leadership, and how do you inspire your team to deliver exceptional service?

Leadership, to me, is about empowerment and setting clear expectations with passion and purpose. I believe in leading by example being present, approachable, and inspiring a shared vision of excellence. I invest in my team's growth, trust their abilities, and encourage creativity and ownership. When people feel valued and supported, exceptional service becomes second nature.

Silversands is known for its blend of modern design and island culture. How do you balance luxury with authenticity?

At Silversands, luxury is not about excess, it's about a refined sense of place. We honor the natural beauty of Grenada by embracing minimalism and letting the environment speak for itself. Every design choice, every guest touchpoint is thoughtfully curated to reflect modern sophistication while remaining deeply rooted in Grenadian culture, from locally sourced ingredients to partnerships with local artists and craftspeople.

What is one aspect of Silversands Grenada that you believe truly sets it apart from other luxury resorts in the Caribbean?

Silversands offers a different kind of Caribbean luxury where luxury elegance meets world-class design. Our iconic 100-meter infinity pool, the longest in the Caribbean, is a symbol of this ethos: bold, beautiful, yet completely in harmony with the island. Beyond the aesthetics, it's the heartfelt connection our team forms with guests that makes a stay here unforgettable.

Personal Connection & Lifestyle:

What's your favorite hidden gem or must-see spot in Grenada that you recommend to every guest?

Grand Etang National Park never fails to amaze. Whether it's hiking through lush rainforest trails, spotting Mona monkeys, or simply soaking in the serenity of the crater lake, it offers an authentic glimpse into Grenada's untouched natural beauty.

How do you unwind and recharge when you're not overseeing operations at the resort?

Spending time with my family is my greatest source of balance and joy. My wife, young daughter, and I love to explore Grenada together even if it is simply enjoying a quiet afternoon outdoors. Being present with them reminds me why I do what I do. It's in those simple, shared moments that I find real perspective, recharge my energy, and reconnect with what truly matters.

If you could describe your perfect day at Silversands both as a General Manager and as a guest what would it look like?

As General Manager, a perfect day is seeing our guests genuinely connect with our icons and hearing the buzz of satisfaction in the air. As a guest, your day might begin with a sunrise yoga session overlooking the ocean, followed by a vibrant breakfast spread at Asiatique, a refreshing dip in the infinity pool, and a rejuvenating Silversands Signature treatment at the Spa culminating in a

beachside dinner and curated cocktails at the Beach Lounge, where the rhythm of live music carries you into the night.

What's one local dish or cocktail that you believe every visitor should try during their stay?

The "Oil Down" is a must-try Grenada's national dish, a hearty one-pot meal of breadfruit, coconut milk, turmeric, and salted meat or seafood. For a cocktail, I always recommend a "Spice Island Rum Punch", a perfect, tropical blend that captures the essence of Grenada's rich spice heritage.

What is one personal value or life lesson that influences the way you lead and work in hospitality?

Authenticity. No matter how beautiful the setting or how polished the service, people connect with sincerity. Staying true to oneself and encouraging others to do the same creates an environment where genuine moments of hospitality can truly shine.

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