Trend Alert

SECOND LIVES

DON'T CALL IT A COMEBACK: THESE HOTELS WITH INTRIGUING PASTS HAVE BEEN HERE FOR YEARS.

Do you believe in reincarnation? Some of the most swoon-worthy resorts and wedding sites were built for vastly different purposes. Start your future at these hotels with fascinating pasts, and they can stand in as your "something old."

Religious Conversions - You don't need to be a believer to appreciate the exquisite Spanish architecture of Hotel El Convento, a former 17th-century convent in old San Juan, Puerto Rico. The elegant, art-filled property feels worlds away from the island's laid-back beaches, but don't worry — they're just a few miles down the road. Rooms from $1,775; weddings from $120 per person. Belmond Villa San Michele, a Renaissance-period monastery born again as a boutique hotel, is one of Tuscany, Italy's most romantic wedding venues. Celebrate alfresco in the lush hilltop gardens, or step inside the recently added Davanzati Room, overlooking Florence's skyline. Rooms from $625; weddings custom.

Sugar Mills - For centuries, sugar was the main crop throughout the Caribbean. These days, many of the mills that dot the islands — like Ottley's Plantation Inn on St. Kitts — have new lives as hotels. Ottley's sprawling lawn that fronts its charming 18th-century plantation is an especially sweet spot to wed. Rooms from $230; weddings from $1,795. Another option: say I do at the 400-year-old stone Sugar Mill Hotel in the British Virgin Islands; new in 2016 are refreshed rooms, a pool and an all-inclusive plan. Rooms from $295; weddings from $500.

Private Residences - At GoldenEye, on the north coast of Jamaica, wed at one of the coolest...