

ELEGANT RESORTS & VILLAS OF THE
MALDIVES



White powdery beaches and crystal clear waters

The 820 km long string of 1192 coral islands are unusually pristine.

Located to the west of Sri Lanka, the 26 natural atolls which make up the Maldives contain some 1192 coral islands, infinite sandbanks and reefs that stretch 820 km across the equator from north to south and 120 km east to west.

Spread over 90,000 square km of the Indian Ocean, only 200 of the islands are inhabited and another 90 are resort islands, the majority being located north of the capital of Malé. Most of the islands are less than 1 km square with land no higher than 2 metres above sea level.

The climate is tropical and has two significant seasons: the north-east monsoon from December to May is light and fairly dry while the south-west monsoon from June to November occasionally brings brief downpours followed by sunshine. The temperature ranges from mid 20's to mid 30's, the highest being in April and May.

The Maldives is famed for its rare underwater beauty and has some of the best dive sites in the world. Many of the resorts have excellent house reefs and just a short swim from the beach snorkellers too can experience some of the most incredible underwater life on our planet.

THE ELEGANT RESORTS & VILLAS COLLECTION

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* Operating as Hilton Maldives Resort & Spa until 18 Dec 07

SPEEDBOATS & SEA PLANES

Due to the geographical nature of the Maldives, 99% sea and just 1% land, transport is via speedboat and seaplane. Malé International Airport is on a separate island from the capital Malé. After collecting luggage and clearing customs, a seaplane or speedboat whisks you away. Paradise awaits.

Many of the newer resorts are accessed by seaplane which operate during daylight, providing a spectacular view of the islands. Speedboat transfers are scheduled around international flights and service most of the resorts within a 30 to 50 minute transfer from Malé. Private transfers are also available.



SEAPLANE



SPEEDBOAT



Weather check: www.meteorology.gov.mv



island experiences beyond the ordinary

Elegant Resorts & Villas of the Maldives await the discerning, sophisticated traveller who seeks distinguished standards of style and comfort alongside experiences way beyond the ordinary.

Explore far horizons and discover castaway magic within surroundings of incredible natural beauty. Create your own tales of the Indian Ocean. Become marooned in uberluxury. Tumble into turquoise waters from the deck of your overwater villa. Enjoy personal raptures of the deep face-to-face with amazing marine life.

Indulge both inner and outer senses. Be cooled by sea breezes infused with the aroma of floral scents and fragrant oils perfumed with crushed flowers. Enjoy fine international cuisine and new world wines and be dazzled by the radiance of stars reflected in the rippling waters whilst beach side dining. Sail the Indian Ocean exploring palm-fringed inlets, white sand coves and azure lagoons of crystal clarity aboard sophisticated graceful Dhonis specifically designed to pamper and please.

Elegant Resorts & Villas individually tailors island experiences for the discerning traveller. Each Maldivian resort is unique and all styles of luxury are well catered for. We delight in fulfilling specific requests and assisting with indulgent escapes; honeymoons, significant occasions, spa retreats, family holidays as well as exclusive use of an island for a night or more. Explore the possibilities. You deserve the very best.

Elegant Resorts & Villas has carefully chosen a selection of Resorts & Villas each for their unique style, location and facilities. We look forward to finding you, your perfect place in paradise.



THE “W RETREAT & SPA MALDIVES”

whatever - whenever - wherever

A sophisticated luxury playground with the “Whatever-Whenever-Wherever” W attitude.

Your experience begins at the W lounge at Malé International airport before boarding your seaplane to the pristine Island of Fesdu, a retreat from the rest of the world and renowned for its dive sites.

The “W” features six gourmet eateries and cocktail bars, an overwater rejuvenation spa with indoor and outdoor treatment areas and a fantastic variety of ocean adventures. After dark dance the night away at the hip 15 Below bar, certainly the coolest in the Maldives.

The “retreats” are bi-level beachfront and overwater villas that let indoor and outdoor mingle; roofs with peek-a-boo views of the sky and glass-panelled floors that reveal lagoon fauna below. Each features state-of-the-art sound system, plasma screen, indoor & outdoor living area, plunge pools and day beds for lolling in the lap of luxury.

✈ 25 mins

above Sip Lounge & Dining *top right* W Retreat & Spa *middle right* Away Spa - Your Overwater Spa Pavilion - to die for! *bottom right* Ocean Oasis - Overwater Villa



whatever - whenever - wherever



utterly chic

COCOA ISLAND

utterly chic

At Cocoa the style is deliberately restrained, a simple yet sophisticated mix of the contemporary and the indigenous. There are just 33 rooms that occupy converted “dhoni” boats as used by the Maldivian fishermen. Each of the dhoni sit offshore overhanging the lagoon. The inside-outside space merges on the horizon-side with floor to ceiling glass windows opening up to a substantial deck for slipping in and out of the water. The same decks ensure privacy for lounging in the sun or a quiet place for alfresco dining.

In-room facilities are decadent in their detail. Guests can choose between air-con or overhead ceiling fans. Beds are draped in the finest Italian linen. Other facilities include flatscreen plasma with satellite, DVD & CD minbar and more.

The Shambhala cuisine is considered a crucial element of the Cocoa experience, designed to maximise energy and well being with the use of organic foods. The Shambhala theme continues at the Shambhala Retreat where there is an open air pavilion for yoga practise on the sunrise side of the island. In addition there are four treatment rooms, steam and a hydrotherapy pool.

The house reef which encircles Cocoa, delineates a gin clear lagoon that is rich with sealife. It is a sea without currents, making Cocoa Island an ideal choice for families.

 30 mins

top left The Infinty Pool *top right* Dhoni Loft Suite *bottom left* Villa Sundeck *bottom middle* A sample of the exquisite food *bottom right* Dhoni Suite



lose yourself

TAJ EXOTICA RESORT & SPA

exclusive • private • romantic

Attention to detail and impeccable service are two of the Taj Exotica's trademarks. The third is The Taj Spa, a private island sanctuary, which offers an exquisite range of treatments based on the ancient healing rituals and wellness of India. The Spa is the epitome of privacy. Fanned around a central courtyard garden and surrounded by one of the largest lagoons in the Maldives are a series of themed treatment pavilions.

Of the 62 elegant villas, most are Lagoon villas built overwater offering infinite views of the Indian Ocean. The beach villas are steps from the lagoon and styled with designer fittings, tropical outdoor showers and plunge pools. When you tire of the beach, head for the indoor games room or high tea at the Equator Lounge.

There are a choice of restaurants including all day dining at 24 Degrees with an interactive kitchen serving up Pan-Asian cuisine and the Deep End Mediterranean inspired fine dining.

Taj Exotica is easily access from Malé by speedboat 24 hours.

 15 mins

above Arrival at Taj Exotica *right from top* Stretch your imagination at the Taj Grande Spa; Lagoon Villa; Deluxe Beach Villa with pool; Lagoon Villa - On the Edge



immerse your spirit



ONE&ONLY KANUHURA

natural beauty

One&Only Kanuhura is an all-villa resort where service is understood and luxury is understated. The island setting is breathtaking with white powder beaches and coconut trees which provide a tropical backdrop for easygoing elegance. Every effort has been made to retain the natural beauty of the island. Close by are some of the world's best diving sites, with the outer reef dropping down nearly 2,000 metres.

A short boat ride away is a sister island providing a Robinson Crusoe experience. By day there are six beach cabanas offering guests a retreat from the afternoon sun. In the evening the island becomes a haven for private parties or a romantic candle-lit dinner under the stars.

Kanuhura has 100 villas both on the beach and overwater, all with sea views and either access to your own white sand beach or a private wooden staircase leading into the clear waters of the lagoon. Extensive use of hand crafted timber, raffia, bamboo and other natural materials creates an elegant rustic interior befitting the natural island surroundings.

Children are made welcome at KidsOnly and adults are alternatively wined and dined, seduced by the large spa and freshwater pool or distracted by activities that range from Pilates to volleyball and cigar and cognac specials.

 40 mins

top left Private Island Sleep Out middle left Beach Villa bottom left Private Island dining at "The Cove" below Maldivian Air Taxi





sleek and spectacular

ONE&ONLY REETHI RAH

unashamedly big and beautiful

This all-villa resort offers an unrivalled level of style and sophistication. Nowhere else in the Maldives is there a resort with as much space and exclusivity as One&Only Maldives at Reethi Rah. It is set on one of the largest islands in North Malé Atoll. Adorned with endless white sand coves and turquoise bays, there is ample space to grace each and every villa with an ocean view, a generous private veranda and either an overwater deck or stretch of powder-soft sand. The 130 Villas are each exquisitely designed and decorated with an elegant Asian touch.

Set apart from the rest of the resort, the One&Only Spa by ESPA is set within tranquil gardens and manicured lawns, offering a wide range of facilities and classes. Personal spa journeys are tailor made by your wellbeing consultant.

There are a choice of dining options at Reethi Rah and the emphasis is on Island chic. The main restaurant is set in thatched overwater pavilions with a cellar housing 16,000 bottles of the world's greatest wines.

There is a concerted effort to spoil all members of the family with the KidsOnly club, dedicated staff for babysitting and activities for teens.

 75 mins

left The Villas top right The Spa - Your massage room middle right Water Villa bottom right Grand Beach Villa



adrift in tranquility

CONRAD MALDIVES RANGALI ISLAND*

two islands - three exceptional experiences

This resort combines three distinctive experiences on two islands, linked by a bridge and surrounded by a vibrant coral reef and lagoon. The beach villas and The Spa Retreat are located on Rangalifinolhu Island, while the water villas are on Rangali Island.

BEACH VILLAS

The 79 beach villas are scattered in tropical gardens and are just steps from the beach. Stunning living areas are arranged around courtyards with fountains, while huge outdoor garden-bathrooms offer a taste of the tropics. There are plush daybeds, lush Frette pillows to sink into; with the addition of a private plunge pool and garden for all Deluxe Beach Villas.

THE SPA RETREAT & SPA WATER VILLAS

A secluded retreat set on stilts over the lagoon at the tip of the island. The Spa has 9 treatment rooms, 21 Spa Water Villas and a Spa Restaurant. Perfect for those seeking a total spa experience.

The large Spa Water Villas have a private sundeck, direct access to the lagoon and a separate treatment villa for totally private in-villa massages and therapies.

WATER VILLAS

50 water villas of ever increasing degrees of luxury offering sweeping views of the lagoon and iridescent sunsets.

Dining options in the 7 restaurants and 3 bars are served in stunning locations, the most famous being the all glass undersea restaurant which sits five metres beneath the waves next to a coral reef. Book in advance!

✈ 30 mins

top left Dhoni top right Spa Retreat Villa bottom left Outdoor massage bottom middle Deluxe Beach Villa bottom right The Resorts Two Island

*operating as Hilton Maldives Resort & Spa until 18th Dec 07



ISLAND HIDEAWAY AT DHONAKULHI

a true celebration of nature

A true Island Hideaway in the very north of the Maldives on a crescent shaped island with rich dense vegetation of coconut and banana trees, where nature and luxury blend harmoniously.

Island Hideaway consists of six types of spectacular guest villas, the signature villas being their two Hideaway Palaces, each of three bedrooms and generous living areas sprawled across a golden natural sandbank, one facing the sunset and the other the sunrise.

The Dhonakulhi Residences are scattered along the white sandy beach front and lapped by the balmy waters of the Indian Ocean. They feature open plan living areas, indoor-outdoor bathrooms and an open air Alfresco Garden Dining pavilion where guests can gather and savour Maldivian cuisine.

The Hideaway Spa by Mandara capitalises on the dramatic Indian Ocean where the sun, sand and sea theme flows throughout with waterways, waterfall walls and sand floors.

The dive sights surrounding Island Hideaway are absolutely untouched and unspoilt, where divers can see two shipwrecks at 16 metres and an array of fantastic marine life all around. This rich underwater world is also a safe paradise for swimmers and snorkellers.

Whatever the time of day or night, the resident chefs remain entirely at your disposal to personalise your menu and excite your palate. There is a choice of restaurants and dining is on the beach to maximise your experience of the sights and sounds of the Indian Ocean.

 45 mins +  20 mins

above Aerial shot of the swimming pool and Meeru Bar *right from top* Funa Pavilion Bedroom; Sample of the beautiful food; The Jasmine Garden Villa & Infinity Pool; Dhonakulhi Residence Evening Arrangement; Hideaway Water Suite, Outdoor Deck; Aerial shot of the Dhonakulhi Residences Aerial

edge of desire

sensual living spaces below deck and ashore

DHONI MIGHILI

a very private affair

6 luxuriously appointed dhonis, each with its own beach bungalow and a butler.

The experience at Dhoni Mighili is all about you. A dedicated 'Thakuru, Maldivian butler, captain and two additional crew members, are on call 24 hours a day throughout your entire stay. Your Thakuru will take you to specially selected snorkelling spots, bring you the freshest local papaya and place flowers on your bed. Whatever your desire or need; be it a personalised dive lesson, assistance with creating the perfect moment for a proposal or even how you like your martini- shaken or stirred! Even your menu and dining location is all about you. Find a secluded cove on the beach and select your menu or dine aboard your dhoni.

There are only six luxuriously appointed, fully air-conditioned dhonis, each partnered with its own intimate beach bungalow with an outdoor bathroom and waterfall shower. These 65 foot traditionally handcrafted Maldivian sailboats are the epitome of simplistic elegance. The dhonis have both the traditional ivory sail and a motor. Sail or cruise, the choice is yours. The bow of the Dhoni is inviting with its comfortable sun lounges, overflowing with cushions to laze in the Maldivian sunshine. At night your Thakuru will transform the deck into a sensual setting for dining under the stars while out at sea. An inviting king size bed with Frette linen and goose-down duvet graces the decorated cabins. Dhonis all boast SMEG kitchen appliances and Philippe Stark bathroom fittings. In cabin entertainment includes a 20" LCD screen with Bose DVD surround sound theatre.

EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE ISLAND

Dhoni Mighili can be reserved exclusively for 2 to 24 guests at any one time. Ultimate privacy from the paparazzi is assured while on the island; not a single lens or flash in sight.

✈ 30 mins

top left Infinity Pool *top right* Bathing Pavillion *bottom left* Outdoor Massage *bottom middle* Deluxe Beach Villa *bottom right* Snorkelling





HUVAFEN FUSHI

an experience like no other

Dedicated to delivering an experience beyond each guest's wildest dreams, an experience like no other, your escape to paradise begins at Malé airport. After being greeted by your "Thakuru", your Maldivian butler, step aboard a luxury speedboat and skim across the Indian Ocean to Huvafen Fushi.

Set within its very own lagoon, Huvafen Fushi is a naturalist's wonderland where the stunning environment above and below the waterline is an attraction within itself. There are 43 "naturally modern" bungalows each showcasing their own distinctive design of high tech comfort and top line detail. Facing the lagoon with direct access onto the sand, the Beach Bungalows have freshwater pools, decks and sumptuous day beds from where you can laze and soak in the ocean views.

Lagoon bungalows, with their split level layout, lead into the tropical waters and feature a private deck with sala and a separate sun bathing deck with spectacular panoramic views. Your Bose surround-sound, with DVD and 40" plasma, also has speakers in the bathroom and on the deck, so chill to your favourite tunes from the fresh water of your infinity pool.

The colours and textures of the sea provided Aquum Spa with the inspiration to make its mark on the world spa scene. Aquum Spa has two underwater spa treatment rooms, the others are above with a view. When not being used for the very latest in spa therapies, reserve the underwater pavilion for a private and romantic candle lit dinner. The master chef and his team tempt at every turn with flavoursome light and healthy cuisine, always served in stunning settings. Destination dining in secluded areas of the island and beyond is also a must.

 30 mins

top the Huvafen Fushi Resort *top right* View from the Deluxe Beach Bungalow
middle right Lagoon Bungalow with Plunge Pool *bottom right* Lagoon Pool

an experience like no other





unmistakeably luscious

THE BEACH HOUSE AT MANAFARU

unmistakeably luscious

As you head north, fly over some of the most beautiful atolls where the islands become larger, greener and the beaches more spectacular

Spread over an idyllic private island in the far north of the Maldives, surrounded by coral reef lagoons, stunning natural beaches and luscious vegetation, rare in the Maldives, is The Beach House at Manafaru.

The Beach House has 68 villas, each with private pool. Designed to celebrate traditional Maldivian style, they feature private outdoor dining areas, open air en-suite bathrooms and traditional thatched roofing. Beach front villas have a private courtyard and sala for protection from the sun. Suites and water villas boast the addition of a Jacuzzi. Water villas have glass panels in the floors to enjoy the spectacular marine life below. Indoors the villas are equipped with all mod cons; internet access, LCD TV's and iPod hook up. And yes, there is a butler who will tend to your every need.

Work out at the fully equipped gym or cool down in the infinity pool. Divers can explore the local ship wrecks and experience spectacular dive spots. Close by are two private islands. One dedicated to motorised water sports and the other for guests seeking more intimate experiences and beach picnics.

Dining can be in the romantic over water pavilion, on the beach, in the Asian specialty restaurant or in the privacy of your villa. Freshly-caught seafood and Maldivian specialties share the menu with culinary treats from around the globe, complemented by wines from the island cellar.

Surrounded by lush tropical vegetation is the jungle style Spa with sauna, steam room, plunge pools and indulgent floral baths. The treatment rooms are dotted intermittently throughout the foliage to create a truly back to nature experience.

✈ 45 mins + 🚤 45 mins

top left Velaa Grand Water Exterior *top right* Amazing Marine Life *bottom left* Kahanbu Villa Interior *bottom right* Swimming Pool

soneva gili

SONEVA FUSHI & SONEVA GILI & SIX SENSES SPA

intelligent luxury - no news - no shoes

Soneva Fushi & Soneva Gili & Six Senses Spa espouse a Robinson Crusoe ambience with décor best described as Rustic Chic. Personal butlers known as Mr & Ms Fridays anticipate the guests every need.

SONEVA GILI

Soneva Gili is set in a sparkling lagoon, with jetties threading across the shallow waters to over-sized villas. The 43 stilted accommodations plus the vast Private Reserve continue the Soneva philosophy of Intelligent Luxury. They offer private roof-top and over-water sundecks. Every room delivers spectacular water views. Sumptuous daybeds compliment the rustic chic interiors and all villas feature a host of creature comforts. Several villas feature private Spa Suites. Come ashore for great dining and equally great wines from the Gourmet Cellar. Or perhaps a romantic moonlit dinner delivered right to the villa; or a sunset champagne cruise on a traditional dhoni. The Six Senses Spa offers everything expected, and some things unexpected; glass floor-panels beneath massage tables heighten the sensual experience. The resort has its own fully - equipped PADI diving school plus a variety of water activities.

 20 mins

top left Soneva Gili - Waiter Service *top right* Soneva Gili - Room with a view *middle* Soneva Gili Crusoe Residence

SONEVA FUSHI

Set on a 45 hectare island within one of the furthest atolls from the capital, the legendary Soneva Fushi presents a luxurious experience in an understated yet sophisticated style. Offering 65 villas set privately in the lush jungle and looking towards the surrounding lagoon, Soneva Fushi captures the very essence of a castaway fantasy. 24 villas offer private pool options while the Jungle Reserve and The Retreat incorporate tree houses. Dining alternatives abound with a choice of restaurants - or just about anywhere you choose - complimented by an excellent wine cellar. There is also a Six Senses Spa and a PADI dive centre.


 25 mins

above right Deluxe Soneva Fushi Villa *right* Soneva Fushi Beach Picnic



soneva fushi



A woman is walking away from the camera on a wooden deck. She is wearing a long, white, flowing sarong that covers her lower body. Her feet are bare. In the background, there is a blurred view of the ocean and a sandy beach under a bright sky.

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Language: Dhivehi is the local language. English is widely spoken by Maldivian's and in the resorts.

Currency: The Maldivian currency is the Rufiyaa. The US Dollar is commonly accepted as are major credit cards in the resorts.

Local Time: GMT + 5 hours. So that you may enjoy an additional hour of daylight, some resorts set their clocks to "Island Time", 1 hour ahead of Malé.

Business Hours: Generally 0900 to 1700 in the private sector. The weekend falls on Fri & Sat.

Mobiles & Laptops: Current technology and satellite links allow Maldives to have a sophisticated communications system. IDD facilities are available at resorts. Mobiles & Laptops usually work.

Electricity: 230-240 Volts -AC

Alcohol: Sorry, travellers are prohibited from taking alcohol into the Maldives however once at your resort there is an amazing choice of imported beers, wines & spirits.

Packing: The average year around temperature is a balmy 28 degrees. Dress is generally casual. In Malé, women should wear modest clothing. At the resorts, casual during the day and island chic for the evening. Shopping can be very limited so pack "everything" you will require for your escape to paradise. Luggage allowance on the Twin Otter seaplanes. is 25 kg per passenger. Soft and waterproof is preferable for journeys on seaplanes & speedboats.

draped in raw beauty

Also in the **Elegant Resorts & Villas portfolio** • Elegant Resorts & Villas of the Indian Ocean • Elegant Resort & Villas of Tahiti & Her Islands
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ELEGANT RESORTS & VILLAS

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