



DO YOU DREAM OF LUXURY AND STARS?

If you've ever dreamed of walking amongst the stars, then the Maldives is the destination that will fulfil all your desert island fantasies.

Buried



By day, you can kick back on a sandy beach, with the sun in the sky, cocktail in hand, palm trees in the background. By night, you can stroll through the bioluminescent phytoplankton that live in the shallow waters. These tiny sea creatures create a bright blue glow to ward off predators and make it look as though the stars have fallen from the sky and landed in the sea. It's an impressive sight, but it can only happen when the environmental conditions are just right. No matter where you stay in the Maldives, this is a phenomenon to watch out for.

A tropical paradise

The Maldives is made up of over 1000 islands, some of which have been transformed into private tourist destinations. These islands are divided up into 26 atolls located in the Indian Ocean, southwest of Sri Lanka. They maintain a constant temperature of 25-30°, meaning you are almost assured perfect temperatures when you visit. However, monsoon season starts in April and ends in June, so you might want to avoid those months.

The Maldives has made its name as a romantic destination for honeymooners and there are several resorts that cater for adults only. So, if you plan to travel with children, your island options will be determined by which resorts will host you. Not that it really matters – all the resorts are incredible and some even come with a private butler to attend to your every whim. And all the islands are surrounded by lush green vegetation that ensures perfect views no matter which way you look. If, however, you are planning a few weeks of rest and relaxation without the distraction of children, you are in the right place. The Maldives boasts some of the top spa resorts in the whole world!

Joali Being is possibly the most famous spa resort, dedicating its service to total wellbeing. Instead of a TV in your room, you can enjoy musical instruments. The incredible food is all about fuelling your body – there's no junk food on this island and the spa itself offers unique treatments such as a cryotherapy chamber and salt room.

Other resorts include exciting features such as slides from your bedroom that lead into the crystal-clear seas and hammocks that hang right over the water.

A magical ocean playground

The islands make the best use of their most abundant asset – the sea. If water sports are your thing, there is nowhere better in the world to be – the waters are so warm, you might even forgo the wetsuit! You can enjoy scuba diving and snorkeling, or you can be really brave and swim with sharks! There are plenty of places to hire jet skis, waterskies, surf boards and kayaks, or you can enjoy the view of the ocean from the safety of the sandy beaches or one of the many boat tours. Look closely and you might even be able to see dolphins frolicking in the water.

Sustainable luxury

While this all sounds like pure freedom, there are certain laws that tourists are expected to abide by. The Maldives are Islamic islands, which means you can only drink alcohol in the privacy of your resort, and you won't be able to bring any off the plane with you. Drug possession is a jailable offence.

And they are big on sustainability too. So don't even think of dropping any litter or picking any coral! The Maldives is a clean, tropical paradise because the locals have worked hard to keep it that way. On your travels, you might like to visit one of the many turtle sanctuaries or nature reserves to see the effects of the Maldivian conservation for yourself.

These islands are a true testament to what can be achieved when you work with nature and not against it. You can have incredible luxury and still appreciate the environment around you.