

BAROS
maldives

PRESS KIT

THE ESSENCE OF THE MALDIVES

A rare privilege... Baros Maldives is a resort that offers understated elegance with a sense of authenticity, value and local culture. A lush, tropical island set in the shimmering waters of a shallow lagoon in the North Male' Atoll, ringed by a reef alive with marine life. The island is accessed by speed boat within 25 minutes.

Stay in elegance in individual Villas created from timber and sandstone, poised and peaceful over a translucent lagoon, or nestled discreetly among exotic blooms by the beach. Revel in romantic privacy; blissful seclusion where noise and others, exasperation and hassles, are a world away. The essence of the Maldives is defined at Baros.

The island is designed by nature for a divine vacation – vivid blue lagoons; glittering sun-soaked, golden beaches; exotic flowers blooming beside natural sandy trails shaded by forty-year old palm trees – and created by skilled craftsmen and artists, inspired and devoted – gracious sandstone and fine wood villas; delectable dining, dedicated and warm service.

The Elements

- Small coral island, round in shape and surrounded by a sandy beach;
- A unique house reef alive with colours, fish, turtles, rays and corals;
- Lush vegetation, manicured gardens reflecting the typical Maldives Island feel;
- No traffic, no pool, no motor sports thus keeping the tranquillity of the place;
- Sailing on a live aboard Dhoni (traditional sail boat);
- Showcasing of talented local artists and musicians;
- Meeting the local culture at the Maldivian lounge (coming up late 2009) or during various experiences;
- Maldivian culinary delights and Maldivian theme day.

The Unique Selling Points

- Sense of Authenticity.
Baros has cultured elegance and offers the essence of the Maldives.
- History of the island.
Its growth to today's position, with a contribution to the history of the country, whilst being a Maldivian enterprise ensures its credibility towards customers.
- Sense of home.
Warm hospitality and creation of emotional moments.
- Creative culinary.
The Lighthouse is unique and is a landmark.
- Innovative diving with experienced team and a fabulous oceanographic environment.
A la carte private and luxury diving (Diving by design), a house reef to oneself and a Marine Centre dedicated to the sustainability of the underwater world.

HISTORY AND LANDMARKS

Baros; a Maldivian entrepreneur “success story” that started in the seventies... Baros was the third resort to open in the Maldives and falls under the umbrella of Universal Enterprises Private Ltd, a 100% Maldivian company, pioneer of tourism in the Maldives.

2009

January – Baros Maldives is chosen by TripAdvisor for its 2009 Travelers' Choice awards in three categories: Best for Romance (Asia), Best Luxury (Asia) and Best Luxury (Worldwide).

2008

June – The Baros Residence receives the Indian Ocean's Leading Villa award by World Travel Awards.

2007

November – The Baros Residence receives the Indian Ocean's Leading Villa award by World Travel Awards.

2006

June – Baros Maldives is awarded the Small Luxury Hotels of the World recognition.

2005

December - Official launching of Baros Maldives as a 5 star boutique resort.

May – Construction of the new Baros Maldives starts.

1996

Re-construction and major refurbishment of Baros Holiday Resort.

59 individual wooden beach cottages and 4 more water bungalows are built.

1994

A further 7 individual coral-walled beach rooms are added to the island.

1993

The first 12 water bungalows are built over the lagoon.

The island at that time becomes the second one to have water bungalows in the Maldives.

1985

The first desalination plant of the Maldives is installed on the island of Baros.

The first 10 individual coral-walled beach rooms are built some time after.

1983

12 more beach rooms are added to the property.

1973

Opening of Baros Holiday Resort with 28 rooms.

Before the island was uninhabited and was a palm tree plantation.

THE ARCHITECTURE

The Maldivian architect, Mohamed Shafeeq (AKA Sappé), whose portfolio includes some of the most beautiful and luxury resorts in the Maldives, Seychelles, Mauritius and Philippines, has created with Baros Maldives a perfect combination of outside and inside life. The Maldives is all about outdoor living - The Welcome pavilion, the restaurants and bars are all open areas. The Villas have large windows for natural daylight and have access to the natural surroundings. The Lighthouse is a landmark, a new dimension to view from and a structure that can be seen from far in the atoll. The Villas inspire romance, intimacy and cosiness.

His achievement was in association with the interior designer Anita Indra Dewi. Sappé's favourite materials are natural stones, tropical wood and coconut thatch. Baros has a minimalistic inspired contemporary architecture; a resort designed with a certain taste...

THE BAROS RESIDENCE AND THE VILLAS

Surrounded by green foliage and bird-of-paradise blossoms, the Baros Residence is an intimate place to stay, to share secrets, to relax. It has a private pool amidst the blooms of a tropical garden. A day bed on the sun deck, private spa massages, a linen canopied bed; tropical timbers and bas-relief; an extravagant bathroom. A butler on call to assure warm and willing service whenever required in this romantic hideaway.

The Deluxe Villas, Baros Villas and Water villas offer luxury with tranquil refinement. The spirit of Baros here slowly seduces the senses. Amongst other amenities, the Villas have King size beds, daybeds to chill out, Lavazza espresso machines and a personal wine chiller with bottles selected on arrival. Some have complete open-air bathrooms, whereas others have contemporary bathrooms with rainfall showers. Water Villas boast bathrooms with a view on the lagoon and have steps to the water. The villas at Baros offer tropical elegance amidst the raw beauty of the island.

THE LIGHTHOUSE AND UNPARALLELED CULINARY OPTIONS

The Lighthouse, contemporary and elegant fine dining restaurant, is the highlight and landmark of Baros Maldives. It is Baros' Signature. It features elaborate composed symphonies of seafood as well as modern fusion cuisine with a dominance of Asian and Mediterranean influences. The accent is on authenticity, creativity and aesthetics. The ambience is modern. Service is attentive yet discreet. The wine cellar, set in a stylish glass-panelled section of the restaurant, includes precious and selective labels from many of the world's most respected regions. The beverage selection also includes an assortment of waters. The Lighthouse Lounge, an elegant Martini and Champagne bar, is designed like a gallery and its terrace offers 360-degree views of the ocean. It offers niches of privacy and discreet service accompanied by ambient jazz music. The Lighthouse lounge is contemporary yet refined with an ambience that fills all senses.

The resort boasts two other original dining venues all set over the lagoon, a palette of private dining options as well as a cocktail bar.

Lime Restaurant

Thatched, arched and open-sided pavilions by the water for the heart and soul of good dining. Breakfast selections to enhance your wellbeing are tastefully displayed. All-day dining from an à la carte menu of enticing dishes from around the world.

Cayenne Grill

Alfresco dining in thatched gazebos offering niches of privacy above the lagoon. Especially prepared seafood, fish, meat and vegetarian dishes served with flavours of distinction and accompanied by a healthy selection of salads and irresistible desserts. A favourite retreat for a leisurely meal infused with the flavours of the tropics. On Saturday evenings, Cayenne Grill transforms itself into a venue of a traditional Maldivian dining for a memorable authentic experience.

Villa Dining and Island Dining

On demand 24-hours a day - breakfast, snacks, meals and drinks are served with discretion in the confidential privacy of guests' Villas. No need to dress for dinner! Dine anywhere on the island, on request. Whether it's a barbecue for two on the beach, a Thai feast on the boardwalk, a picnic on a sandbank or a candle-lit banquet in a palm grove, the dedicated team of chefs and butlers takes care of it all.

Sails Bar

The centre of conviviality - the open-sided Sails Bar is the natural place under the palms for a refreshing juice, beer or wine at any time. In the evening, mellow background music accompanies the joy of camaraderie and the enjoyment of amazing cocktails, fine spirits and liqueurs. Three times a week, this bar showcases talented local musicians who will entertain with live blues and the unforgettable classics!

THE OCEANOGRAPHIC WORLD AND INNOVATIVE DIVING

Baros has its own oval-shaped house reef rich and alive with marine life and being so close to the shore that even non-divers can swim to it and spend hours effortlessly snorkelling. The reef has gentle slopes and is easy of access. Then around the island in the North Male' Atoll, there are 30 superlative dive sites that never fail to delight even the most experienced diver.

Divers Baros Maldives, lead by an enthusiastic team with nearly 30 years of experience and presence in the Maldives, offers year-round Scuba Diving excursions and PADI courses. The dive centre offers enriched air Nitrox diving with a 32% Oxygen blend, the latest in diving equipment for rent including digital underwater cameras, special torches and dive computers. Safe diving is one its main objectives.

Baros proposes à la carte private and luxury diving; 'Diving by Design' is a different and unique approach whereby diving experience is customised and personalised...

Divers Baros Maldives team work in close relationship with the resort's Marine Centre. The resident Marine Biologist conducts awareness presentations to the island's residents as well as organises accompanied snorkelling and reef tours. For those who would like to watch the reef from above, without getting wet, there is also the possibility to hop on the resorts' glass bottom boat. One of the Marine Centre's objectives is to sustain the underwater environment around the island.

NOOMA, THE DHONI OF ROMANCE

Your own 'dhoni' (traditional sail boat) for an ultimate and intimate Maldivian experience. The Maldives' cool breeze over the cobalt-blue water of North Male' atoll has at all times been ideal for seafaring and day trips.

Nooma is our 19-metre traditional boat that offers a vast single sail and auxiliary engine. Panoramic views flow from every angle. The large hulled vessel is perfect for stability as it lazily navigates the atoll during day trips or sunset cruises. Beautifully fitted this boutique boat comes with tasteful Baros décor and outstanding service. At sea, she is the dhoni of romance and every wish is catered for; a specially trained butler will be at your service at all times. Before departure, choose from some superb packages that are on offer or design your 'à la carte' experience.

AQUUM SPA

This spa welcomes to a peaceful and tranquil sanctuary. A space to renew your strength and your inner sense of well-being. A selection from the finest botanical treatments for the face and body is on offer.

The highly skilled, dedicated and intuitive therapists care for you, body, mind and spirit. Immerse your being in soothing energy. Verdant gardens and spa cocoons lie behind the privacy of Aquum Spa' intricately carved doors. Every treatment blends stylish design and tranquil elements. Guests make the most of their spa visit, by being invited to book a private Spa Suite. The experience begins with an en-suite gentle steam bath to open the pores. Refresh with a splash of chilled water and then enjoy the intimate setting of one's own personal 'Sala'.

LEISURE

There is more to Maldives than Baros, and we help you discover the essence of the islands with excursions that can be arranged on request by our friendly and ever helpful Guests Activities Agents.

An exploration of the Maldives.

- Big Game Fishing
- Dolphin Cruise
- Reef Snorkelling
- Romantic Sunset Cruise
- Glass Bottom Boat Cruise
- Male' Sightseeing and Shopping
- Sunset Fishing and Catch your own dinner
- Seaplane Photo Flight
- Local Island Explorations
- Private Excursions and cruises

Other leisure activities include non-motorised water sports, fully equipped fitness centre, pool table, table tennis and board games.

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