



BAROS MALDIVES LEADS PIONEERING EFFORTS IN CORAL PRESERVATION AMIDST RISING OCEAN TEMPERATURES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Baros Maldives' marine biology team is at the forefront of combating the detrimental effects of coral bleaching caused by El Niño - a climate pattern responsible for above-average sea surface temperatures in parts of the Pacific Ocean. Notably, during the 2016 El Niño event, Baros successfully relocated coral frames to deeper waters, saving the majority of the coral. Today, these frames are thriving as part of the world class Baros house reef.

The ocean, Earth's largest solar energy collector, plays a crucial role in climate stabilisation by absorbing and releasing heat. While sunlight is the primary heat source, industrial activities have significantly increased greenhouse gas levels, intensifying the ocean's energy absorption. Despite the natural distribution of heat through waves, tides and currents, the ocean is unable to dissipate all the absorbed energy, leading to rising sea temperatures.

The rapid increase in water temperature poses a severe threat to marine life, causing sudden stress that can result in irreversible damage. Coral reefs, in particular, are vulnerable, with many colonies facing the risk of death. Corals, which are colonial organisms made up of polyps, live symbiotically with microalgae. These microalgae provide nourishment and colour through photosynthesis. However, stress causes the microalgae to leave, resulting in coral bleaching. During this state, corals rely solely on suspended particles for nourishment.

Our oceans are currently experiencing their fourth global bleaching event. While manual protection of reefs from heat is impossible, coral restoration projects offer a viable solution. In 2016, Baros's swift intervention, moving coral frames to deeper water, mitigated significant damage to the house reef. The Maldives atoll chain's strategic location, with strong underwater currents and heavy summer rains, further aided in cooling the surface water.



Since 2006, Baros has been dedicated to reef protection and restoration. Their initiatives include relocating coral frames to deeper waters during rising temperatures and creating artificial coral gardens. In these nurseries, coral fragments grow undisturbed on hard substrates, encouraging coral cloning. Healthy cloned corals are then transplanted to degraded reef areas to aid regeneration.

This April, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) confirmed a repeat of the 2016 warming event. Drawing from past successes, the Baros marine biology team has once again relocated existing coral frames to deeper areas of the house reef. Over 100 frames, created by guests in the past four to five years, have been moved and are currently being monitored. It is anticipated that by the end of July 2024, the heatwave will dissipate in cooler ocean areas, with a successful rainy season further alleviating stress on the coral colonies.

Baros remains committed to preserving and protecting the island's coral reefs, continually striving to ensure a sustainable and vibrant marine ecosystem for future generations. The [Baros Eco Explorer package](#) invites guests to participate in this immersive journey, led by Baros's resident marine biologist.

Join the Baros team in their groundbreaking preservation efforts. For more information, visit www.baros.com or contact the team at reservations@baros.com or call +960 664 26 72. Contribute to safeguarding our precious marine ecosystem and witness firsthand the pioneering conservation work at Baros Maldives.

For interview requests with the resident marine biologist, please contact: Hanaan Rasheed | Assistant Marketing Manager | hanaan.rasheed@baros.com | +960 664 34 97

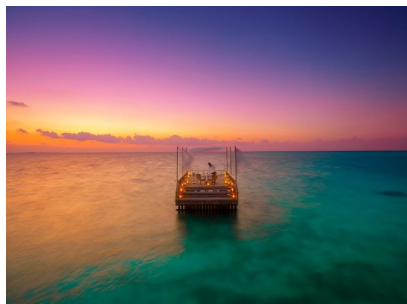
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ABOUT BAROS MALDIVES

The Maldives Icon - Baros is an award-winning luxury private island resort in the Maldives, a short 25-minute speedboat ride from Maldives International Airport. This tropical haven is home to 75 sophisticated villas framed by a seemingly endless powder-soft white beach and a glittering lagoon surrounded by a world-class house reef. It's paradise personified.

Welcoming guests since 1973, Baros has spent decades honing its services and cultivating its environment, making it the Maldivian Icon. An award-winning resort, and a member of Small Luxury Hotels of The World, Baros is celebrated for its authentic spirit, legendary service, outstanding comfort and understated elegance.

The Maldives Icon



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