

AN OVERVIEW: InterContinental Maldives Maamunagau Resort, where time stops, and beautiful stories unfold



(June 2022) An exclusive private island resort, situated on the southernmost tip of the Raa Atoll, next to UNESCO biosphere reserve Baa Atoll, <u>InterContinental Maldives Maamunagau Resort</u> enjoys one of the most secluded locations in the Maldives. Offering world class service, including being the first resort worldwide to offer Club InterContinental® benefits to all guests, 81 spacious, stylish villas and residences combine with extensive wellness facilities, bespoke experiences and six restaurants and bars to offer a luxurious experience for families, friends and couples.

Opened in September 2019 and reached via a 35-minute seaplane transfer from Male, <u>InterContinental</u> <u>Maldives Maamunagau Resort's</u> location flanking the UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, Baa Atoll, means the resort is as beautiful as it is enriching, with guests' stays enhanced through education, exploration and relaxation. Set within Maldives' largest natural lagoon, the colourful coral house reef teems with black tip sharks and turtles, and manta rays are frequent visitors between December – April each year as they migrate between the atolls during the northeast monsoon months. Just south of the resort sits Baa Atoll, which is home to Hanifaru Bay, one of the very few places in the world where whale sharks congregate to mate, and where visitors can snorkel amongst feeding congregations of whale sharks and large groups of manta rays.

Intuitive Design: Created with both couples and families in mind, the design of InterContinental Maldives was created by Singapore-based architects's Eco-ID, aiming to be inspiring, refined and made for stylish barefoot living. 81 private villas each feature contemporary Maldivian interiors, with the twostorey **Lagoon Villas** the first of their kind in the Maldives, combining overwater views with direct beach and lagoon access. **Overwater Villas** offer expansive outdoor decks and **Beach Villas** provide direct beach access. The resort also has four exclusive two and three-bedroom **Residences**, with the largest, the three-bedroom Royal Beachfront Residence, offering 790sqm of luxurious privacy.

Spa & Wellness: The signature **AVI Spa** features six overwater treatment villas along with steam rooms, ice fountains, a yoga pavilion and a fitness centre. Meaning 'sunshine', the AVI Spa delivers a transformational wellness experience, coupling indigenous Asian health practices with organic European botanicals to offer treatments that energise, relax or rejuvenate. Treatments use a range of leading brands including Eminence Organics, VitaJuwel Crystal Gemstones, Kerstin Florian and Margret Dabb's Pure Products, and guests can also enjoy varied treatments through the resort's visiting practitioner programme. In addition, resort menus can also be tailored to create a wellness retreat experience, without compromising the luxury experience.

Service & Experiences: As the first and only all-Club InterContinental® resort, each guest enjoys benefits including a dedicated Island Curator, committed to their personal service, and complimentary



daily treats including afternoon tea with three tiers of tantalising savoury delicacies and rare loose-leaf varietals selected by the in-house tea sommelier; an evening aperitif offering a selection of premium wine and cheese or non-alcholic alternatives; and all-day soft drink refreshments by the pool or beach.

Restaurants & Bars: InterContinental Maldives offers six distinct restaurants and bars including **The Retreat**, an adults-only space with a private bar and its own infinity pool at the water's edge, and **Café Umi**, a Japanese-inspired restaurant providing elevated comfort and classic favourites, inspired by sustainable cuisine. **Fish Market** is a unique sea-to-table interactive kitchen concept blending the best Maldivian seafood with aromatic flavours from South East Asia. **The Lighthouse** delivers a memorable dining experience with 360-degree views of the Indian Ocean, whilst **The Collective** offers more casual 'grab-and-go' dining. Finally, **Sunset Bar** provides a stylish and romantic ambience with the best sunset moments on the island.

Families: Villas and residences of varied sizes mean families of all styles can be luxuriously accommodated, while the resort's 'Planet Trekkers Programme' for those aged 4-12 offers games, arts and crafts, and fun activities in the kids club area that offers plenty of space with a splash pool, large garden and pirates ship climbing frame. There's also lots of opportunities for budding marine biologists to take expeditions to enjoy the abundance of marine life on the doorstep.

Bespoke Experiences: An ongoing series of bespoke guest experiences bring unique collaborations to the InterContinenal Maldives, recently including internationally renowned French DJ and Producer Michael Canitrot who entertained with live poolside sessions and nightime sets, and Dutch celebrity chef and best-selling author Jord Althuizien, famed for his fireside cooking. In March 2022, The Marshmallowist, the UK's first artisanal producer of gourmet marshmallows, offered sweet treats for guests over a five day residency, from a pop-up hot chocolate bar, to a marshmallow masterclass for adults and children.

Sustainability, Marine Life & Conservation: Committed to sustainability and to preserving the ocean for future generations and guests, InterContinental Maldives enjoys an enviable position, flanking the Maldives' only UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve Baa Atoll, which is home to **Hanifaru Bay**, a dedicated manta ray sanctuary, run in partnership with the Manta Trust and Ocean Group. InterContinental Maldives supports the Maldivian Manta Ray Project to nurture a safe habitat for the manta rays within the resort's lagoon, which is home to a large and healthy population of juvenile manta rays, as well as educating guests and offering the opportunity to swim alongside these graceful creatures and snorkel over underwater coral gardens.

The resort's Marine Discovery Centre is staffed by a team of experienced marine biologists who work closely with the Manta Trust and Ocean Group, and have developed a first-of-its-kind marine conservation programme for guests. Through a range of hands-on activities, including tracking mantras, evening talks and replanting coral to protect the resort's vibrant reefs through a coral nurseries programme, guests are able to gain a new perspective on marine conservation efforts and join daily snorkel excursions, which may also catch glimpses of turtles, dolphins, sharks and other marine inhabitants. For those who wish to continue their support on return home, a Manta Trust-led programme allows InterContinental Maldives guests to name new mantas and track them as they migrate around the Maldives, with 100% of funds going directly to the Manta Trust.

InterContinental Maldives is focused on minimising its environmental impact with a commitment to reducing waste from both plastic and glass, composting bio waste and giving it new life with the IHG Green Engage system. The resort's agreement with Parley Maldives works to reduce reliance on single-use plastics, intercept sources of plastic waste, and prevent it from entering the oceans or being



disposed of in destructive ways. Parley takes the resort's plastics and recycle them to make usable products.

Awards: Opened in September 2019, InterContinental Maldives Mammanagau Resort is already a multiple award winner, including being listed in **Conde Nast Reader Awards 2020** as: Winner: Favourite Romantic Hotel (International); Top 3: Favourite New Hotel (International) and Top 3: Favourite Hotel for Design (International), and named by **CNN Travel** as one of 20 stunning new Asia Pacific luxury hotels to check into in 2020.

Overwater Pool Villas at InterContinental Maldives Maamunagau Resort, start from US\$880++ per night, two sharing, including breakfast and daily Club InterContinental® benefits.

For more information, please visit <u>www.maldives.intercontinental.com</u> For real time updates, follow on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/intercontinentalmaldives</u> and Instagram <u>@intercontinental_maldives</u>.

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Press kit & media images can be found here: Press Kit

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Notes to Editors:

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