



NESCAFÉ

TASTE OF ADVENTURE

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR KITY ENTERPRISES PVT. LTD.

One Breath at a Time

with

Fahd Faiz

Founder, Freedive Maldives

Maldives Welcomes
1 Millionth Tourist of 2026

Pg: 04

Sheraton Maldives Appoints Audra
Arul as Director of Sales & Marketing

Pg: 09

Barceló Nasandhura Launches
"World Cup 2026: Live at Alimas"

Pg: 19

JOALI Maldives Launches Summer
Camp Programme 2026

Pg: 25



PAGE: 16

YOUR DIGITAL LIFE MADE EASIER

ooredoo.business@ooredoo.mv



ooredoo
business



Scan for info

BUILT LOUD MADE TO PERFORM

Premium Marine Audio designed to
power every adventure.



ENGAGE YOUR ADVENTURE

KICKER Marine Audio. Engineered to Excite.

Contents

- 03 Across the Skies
- 06 In A Nutshell
- 08 Movers and Shakers
- 11 Wellness
- 13 Art & Talent
- 14 Feature
- 18 New Openings
- 20 Events and Awards
- 23 In the News
- 26 Bon Appétit
- 27 Frankly Speaking



Managing Editor
Mariyam Maaisha

Editor
Mariyam Zeena

Assistant Editor
Adam Manaf Ali

Content Assistant
Insha Esa (Intho)

Management Team
Ismail Hameed / Ismail Shifraz

Sales & Marketing
Mohamed Hassaan Ismail

Finance & Accounts
Mariyam Niuma / Yusra Naseer

Consultant
Ahmed Ijaz

Design
Richard Mendonca, Flavours Inc

Interview Photography
Kuda Richard

Web Development
Ahmed Adnan (Adhurey)

Distribution
Shahid Uddin

Website:



Published by:
Maldives Publications Pvt Ltd
Champa Building 4, 5th Floor
Orchid Magu, Male' City 20189
Maldives
Mobile : +960 798-0088
Phone : +960 3306606, 3307898
Email : news@islandchief.com

News & Press Releases to be shared by email to :
news@islandchief.com

Follow us on ;



@theislandchief

Vietjet Expands to Sri Lanka with Colombo Flights from August



Vietnam’s ultra-low-cost air carrier 'Vietjet' is scheduled to launch in Colombo in August this year.

The airline operates under a low-cost business model, offering basic "Eco" fares while providing premium options such as "SkyBoss" and "Business" class on select wide-body aircraft like the Airbus A330.

Its first direct international route will connect Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and Colombo, Sri Lanka, said Mahen Kariyawasam Chairman, Andrew The Aviation Company (Pvt) Ltd, local representative for VietJet Air in Sri Lanka, which serves as the airline's General Sales Agent (GSA).

Under the leadership of Kariyawasan, this company manages the airline's operational hub in Colombo, facilitating passenger services, travel trade partnerships, and operational coordination. Additionally, Royal Spence Aviation, a subsidiary of Aitken Spence PLC, acts as a Passenger Sales Agent for VietJet and Thai VietJet, providing comprehensive support to meet diverse traveler needs.

The establishment of the Colombo office and the appointment of these agents are part of VietJet Air's strategic expansion into the Sri Lankan market, with direct flights between Colombo and Ho Chi Minh City expected to commence in August.

The new service will operate four return flights per week, serving as a strategic air bridge to foster tourism, trade, and investment between the two nations. This expansion is part of Vietjet’s broader effort to strengthen its connectivity across South Asia, complementing its existing extensive network of flights to major Indian hubs such as New Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru.

The announcement was made official in May 2026 during a high-level meeting involving Vietnamese and Sri Lankan leadership, highlighting the route's importance for regional cooperation across Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific.

Vietjet, founded in 2007 and officially launched its maiden flight on December 25, 2011. The carrier operates as a subsidiary of Sovico Holdings and has grown into a major regional player. The airline utilizes a fleet of modern Airbus aircraft to serve an extensive network spanning Southeast Asia, Central Asia, China, Japan, India, and Australia.

The airline is noted for its unique marketing strategies.

Ahmedabad to Colombo Just Got Easier



Starting 19 June 2026, FitsAir, Sri Lanka’s first private international airline, launched direct flights between Ahmedabad and Colombo, cutting travel time to just 3 hours and 40 minutes. Introduced in partnership with City of Dreams Sri Lanka, Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts, and Walkers Tours, the new route aims to make Sri Lanka a more accessible luxury getaway for travellers from Gujarat, catering to weekend breaks, family holidays, weddings, wellness retreats, and entertainment-focused escapes.

The new service is expected to strengthen tourism and cultural ties between India and Sri Lanka. Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts highlighted the growing demand among Indian travellers for premium yet easily accessible international destinations, while FitsAir said the route would provide a seamless travel experience while boosting

tourism and cultural exchange between the two countries.

Operating three times a week between Ahmedabad's Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport and Colombo’s Bandaranaike International Airport, the service eliminates the need for lengthy layovers. Combined with travel conveniences such as UPI payments and specially curated holiday packages, the route positions Colombo as one of the most convenient short-haul international destinations for Indian travellers, particularly those from Gujarat with an

interest in heritage tourism, shopping, beaches, cuisine, and nightlife.

The launch also spotlights City of Dreams Sri Lanka, South Asia's first integrated resort destination, which combines luxury accommodation, dining, entertainment, nightlife, leisure, and destination wedding facilities. Visitors can also explore Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts' wider portfolio in Colombo, including Cinnamon Grand Colombo, Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo, and Cinnamon Red Colombo, as well as curated itineraries extending to Kandy and Sri Lanka's southern coast.

Maldives Welcomes 1 Millionth Tourist of 2026

The Maldives has welcomed its one millionth tourist of 2026 within the same timeframe as last year, highlighting the resilience of the country's tourism industry despite global travel disruptions.

The milestone was marked at Velana International Airport with a ceremony hosted by Visit Maldives Corporation, the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, MACL, and Maldives Immigration. The one millionth visitor, Almudena Ortuño Esparza from Spain, arrived on June 21 aboard Qatar Airways for her first trip to the Maldives and was welcomed with a traditional reception and gifts.

Tourism Minister Mohamed Ameen said reaching the milestone despite

disruptions caused by conflict in the Middle East reflected the dedication of the tourism sector. Visit Maldives CEO Ibrahim Shiuree attributed the achievement to intensified marketing campaigns in key markets such as India, China and Russia, alongside partnerships with major travel and aviation companies.

As part of the celebration, Esparza received the first official invitation to visit during Visit Maldives Year 2027 and a complimentary six-night stay at Coco Bodu Hithi. The milestone underscores the Maldives' continued appeal as a leading global travel destination and confidence in meeting its tourism targets for 2026.



Emirates Brings its Global Travel Rehearsal Programme to the Maldives



Airport (MLE), from check-in to the departure gate. Supported by airport and airline staff, the students and their families walked through check-in, security and the departure lounge. They also experienced immigration, luggage pick-up and meet and greet supported by pre-arranged officers who answered questions from families.

Jaber Mohamed, Emirates' Country Manager - Sri Lanka & Maldives said: "We are proud to bring the Travel Rehearsal initiative to the Maldives, helping to alleviate travel anxiety for people with neurodivergence. We have been conducting this programme across our network to alleviate travel anxiety faced by people with accessibility requirements by providing a safe and supportive simulation of the journey. We appreciate the support and commitment of MACL and the participation of the Aminiya School to make this rehearsal a success. I would also like to recognise the Emirates Airport Services management and team in the Maldives, who have done outstanding work in pioneering this initiative."

Emirates, the world's first Autism-Certified Airline, has conducted its first-ever "Travel Rehearsal" programme in the Maldives, at Velana International Airport (MLE).

The Travel Rehearsal programme allows people with accessible travel requirements to experience a guided

simulation of the complete air travel journey, familiarising them with airport procedures and onboard environments ahead of time - helping reduce anxiety and build confidence before an actual flight. This is the first-of-its-kind initiative conducted at Male's airport, organised by Emirates and supported by airport stakeholders in addition to

other partners.

Emirates partnered with Maldives Airport Company Limited (MACL), and the Inclusive Support Unit of the Aminiya School, Male to bring children with autism and their families to experience the travel journey with Emirates at the Velana International



MALDIVES' BEST & FASTEST **5G**

#5Ghatttrick



Based on Ookla® Speedtest Intelligence® data, 1H 2025. All rights reserved.

Alila Kothaifaru Observes World Environment, Ocean Days



At Alila Kothaifaru Maldives, June is marked by a renewed focus on environmental stewardship, with a series of sustainability initiatives aligned with World Environment Day and World Ocean Day. The resort brought together its management and team members for activities designed

to raise awareness and encourage action in protecting fragile ecosystems both on land and beneath the ocean’s surface.

The programme began on World Environment Day with a tree planting activity on the island, inspired by the

theme “Our Land, Our Future.” The initiative highlighted the link between biodiversity, healthy ecosystems, and human wellbeing, while contributing to ongoing efforts to preserve and enhance the island’s natural landscape.

Marine conservation formed a central pillar of the month’s activities through collaboration with Euro-Divers Maldives. The programme included reef awareness sessions, coral planting with the resort’s marine biologist, house reef clean-up dives, and beach clean-ups. Guests and staff also took part in educational experiences such as “Ocean Discovery Night,” focusing on sea turtles and the importance of protecting marine biodiversity.

A dedicated Sea Turtle Week from 8 to 16 June further deepened guest engagement, featuring snorkelling

excursions guided by the marine biologist and interactive conservation talks. According to Igor Semenov, these experiences aim to inspire responsible interaction with marine life, while General Manager Thomas Weber emphasised that sustainability remains central to the resort’s philosophy, with every initiative designed to help guests actively contribute to environmental protection.



Soneva’s Next Chapter: Introducing Bare Luxury

Soneva, the resort group behind Soneva Fushi, Soneva Jani and Soneva Secret in the Maldives, has long set the global standard for a mindful approach to luxury hospitality. With the opening of its first property in 1995, Soneva pioneered Barefoot Luxury, grounded in the then-radical belief that true luxury means freedom from the unnecessary, coupled with a duty of care. Shoes came off and the idea took root.

Today, Soneva announced the evolution of its founding vision: Bare Luxury. This bold philosophy is not a reinvention, but a distillation. The result of three decades of listening, editing and refining.

Bare Luxury is not minimalism, nor absence. It is the deliberate removal of everything that does not serve to reveal Just What Matters: nature in its raw wildness, space for joy, presence and connection.

Soneva finds itself once again at the forefront of a profound shift in travel, as luxury travellers seek conscious,



intentional and immersive experiences grounded in purpose, connection and wellbeing.

“Soneva’s founding spirit is more relevant now than it was thirty years ago,” said Neil Gallagher, Chief Executive Officer of Soneva. “Fast consumption, constant stimulation, the growth of AI and the pressure we all feel to optimize every hour has made the case for something quieter and more human. Bare Luxury is Soneva returning to its original instinct: that

the most remarkable thing we can offer our guest is not more, but truer.”

The evolution signals both a deepening and a homecoming. What doesn’t change are Soneva’s founding values. What changes is the clarity and intention with which that spirit is expressed across every dimension of the guest experience.

It begins with the visual: a refined Soneva logo and the Soluna monogram, derived from the Latin Solis (sun) and

Lunae (moon), symbolising wholeness. From there, this conviction shapes every decision, from villa design that supports wellbeing, to restaurant concepts that invite play, to menus led by the garden rather than the other way around.

What emerges is Just What Matters: not just a new tagline but Soneva’s promise to every guest, that nothing exists without purpose and nothing that matters is missing. Bare Luxury is also a blueprint for what comes next, not just for the industry but for Soneva itself.

From Wreck to Reef: Siyam World’s Ocean Conservation Mission

Siyam World Maldives has unveiled one of the Maldives’ newest and most exciting wreck dives, transforming a former 66.36-metre Maldivian tuna freighter into an underwater attraction with a greater purpose. Resting beneath the waters of Noonu Atoll, the vessel serves as the foundation of Wreck to Reef, a new annual conservation initiative under the Sun Siyam Cares sustainability platform. Over time, the wreck is expected to evolve into a thriving artificial reef through natural coral growth and active restoration efforts, creating valuable habitat for marine life.

The project traces its origins to a vision shared in 2021 by Sun Siyam Group Founder and Chairman Ahmed Siyam Mohamed. After being sourced, cleaned, and prepared for deployment, the vessel was purposefully sunk in

October 2024. Despite an unexpected setback that left the wreck upside down on the seabed, a dedicated local team successfully rotated it upright, creating an accessible dive site ranging from 10 to 24 metres deep. Since then, sharks, rays, turtles, reef fish, and corals have rapidly colonised the structure, highlighting its potential as a major artificial reef project.

Taking place from 11 to 15 June 2026, the inaugural Wreck to Reef event will bring together divers, conservationists, scientists, content creators, and ocean advocates to celebrate both the launch of the wreck and the start of its ecological transformation. Guests will have the opportunity to participate in coral planting dives, directly contributing to the reef’s growth while becoming part of a long-term restoration effort designed to



strengthen marine biodiversity and ecosystem resilience.

Beyond creating a world-class dive attraction, Wreck to Reef aims to foster meaningful guest engagement in ocean conservation. Through ongoing reef monitoring, biodiversity assessments, educational activities,

and annual event editions, visitors will be able to track the site’s progress for years to come. Supported by Sun Siyam Cares, the initiative positions Siyam World as a destination where adventure and conservation go hand in hand, inviting guests to help shape the future of a living reef beneath the waters of Noonu Atoll.



Marine Vibe

KAWASAKI

JETSKI

COMING SOON

IN MALDIVES 



LEGENDARY PERFORMANCE.
NOW ARRIVING IN **PARADISE.**

Kawasaki

JETSKI

watercraft®

Sheraton Maldives Welcomes Aminath Nadheema as Executive Housekeeper

Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa is pleased to announce the appointment of Aminath Nadheema as its new Executive Housekeeper.

Bringing more than two decades of hospitality experience and a remarkable journey of passion, perseverance, and leadership, Nadheema joins the resort to lead the Housekeeping department and further elevate the guest experience through operational excellence and heartfelt service.

A respected hospitality professional with an inspiring career spanning some of the Maldives' most renowned luxury resorts and international destinations, Nadheema's appointment marks a meaningful homecoming within the Marriott family. Having started her journey in 2006 at W Maldives, she returns to Marriott International with a wealth of expertise gained through leadership roles at Six Senses Laamu, VARU by Atmosphere, Anantara Dhigu & Anantara Veli, Niyama Private Islands Maldives, and The Westin Doha.

Nadheema's hospitality journey began in 2003 and has been defined by a

commitment to creating memorable guest experiences. While her early career focused on guest relations and front-of-house operations, a career development programme within Starwood introduced her to the world of housekeeping—an experience that ignited a passion that would shape her future.

Driven by a desire to continuously learn and grow, she pursued Housekeeping Management studies at Hotelschool The Hague before progressing into leadership roles within the discipline. Her dedication and expertise led to her promotion as Executive Housekeeper at Niyama Private Islands Maldives, where she became recognised as one of the first female Maldivian Executive Housekeepers in the country's tourism industry.

In recognition of her achievements and contributions to hospitality, she received the Gold Award in Hotel and Hospitality Management at the Professional and Career Woman Awards Maldives in 2021.

Throughout her career, Nadheema has successfully led multicultural teams, managed pre-opening projects, navigated high-occupancy operations, and

championed service excellence across luxury resorts. Her leadership philosophy centres on collaboration, empowerment, accountability, and fostering a positive workplace culture where team members can thrive.

"We are delighted to welcome Nadheema to Sheraton Maldives," said Greg Allan, General Manager of Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa. "Her journey is a testament to dedication, resilience, and a genuine passion for hospitality. Nadheema brings exceptional operational expertise and an inspiring leadership style that aligns perfectly with our people-first culture. We are confident that her experience and vision will further strengthen our commitment to delivering exceptional guest experiences while nurturing and empowering our associates."

For Nadheema, housekeeping is far more than maintaining rooms—it is about creating lasting impressions and meaningful guest experiences.

"I am honoured to join Sheraton Maldives and return to the Marriott family," said Aminath Nadheema,



Executive Housekeeper at Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa. "Throughout my career, I have always believed that housekeeping is the heart of a hotel. Every detail, every interaction, and every effort behind the scenes contributes to the memories our guests take home. I look forward to working alongside the team to build a culture of excellence and genuine care, while continuing to create experiences that make every guest feel welcomed and valued."

Anantara Maldives Celebrates 10,000 Coral Milestone with Dr Oriana Migliaccio



As Anantara Hotels & Resorts celebrates 25 years of creating locally rooted experiences, a significant conservation milestone is also being marked in the Maldives. Dr Oriana Migliaccio, Resident Marine Biologist at Anantara Dhigu

Maldives Resort, Anantara Veli Maldives Resort, and Naladhu Private Island Maldives, has overseen the planting of the 10,000th baby coral, highlighting nearly a decade of dedication to reef restoration and marine conservation.

Originally from Naples, Italy, Oriana's passion for the ocean began in childhood through family stories about the Mediterranean's once-abundant marine life. That fascination evolved into a lifelong mission during her first scuba diving experiences in the Red Sea, ultimately leading her to pursue a PhD in Life and Biomolecular Sciences. Today, she combines scientific expertise with hands-on conservation, helping guests connect with the fragile ecosystems that surround the Maldives' islands and lagoons.

Education remains at the heart of her work. Through initiatives such as the 'Reef Hero' PADI speciality course, guests learn the fundamentals of coral conservation and often transition from observers to active advocates for marine protection. Oriana also engages visitors through sustainability workshops, including creative projects that transform discarded ghost nets

into bracelets, encouraging meaningful conversations about environmental responsibility and the impact of individual actions. Her efforts form part of Anantara's Holistic Approach to Reef Protection (HARP), under which more than 10,000 corals have been nurtured and restored since 2017.

Inspiring the next generation is equally important to Oriana's mission. Through her 'Marine Biology for Kids' sessions, young guests are encouraged to view the ocean as a living ecosystem deserving of care and respect. In a country increasingly vulnerable to climate change, coral restoration offers both visitors and local communities a tangible way to contribute to environmental resilience. For Oriana, the goal is clear: to leave behind reefs that are healthier, stronger, and more vibrant than those inherited, ensuring the Maldives' marine ecosystems continue to thrive for generations to come.

Sheraton Maldives Appoints Audra Arul as Director of Sales & Marketing



Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa has appointed Audra Arul as Director of Sales & Marketing, effective 28 May 2026. She brings more than 30

years of global hospitality experience and a strong track record in commercial leadership across Asia, the Middle East, and the Maldives.

Audra has held senior sales and marketing roles with leading hospitality brands including Marriott International, Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts, Dusit Hotels & Resorts, Hyatt Hotels Corporation, and Hilton-affiliated properties. Her career spans luxury resorts, city hotels, and major pre-opening projects across multiple markets including Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, China, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and the Maldives.

Before joining Sheraton Maldives, she served as Director of Sales & Distribution at The St. Regis Al Mouj Muscat Resort in Oman and previously held the role of Cluster Director of Sales & Distribution for

Marriott International's Sindalah Island development in NEOM, Saudi Arabia. Her past experience also includes leadership positions at Dusit Thani Maldives, Crossroads Maldives, Le Méridien Jakarta, Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts, and Sheraton Hanoi.

In her new role, Audra will oversee the resort's sales, marketing, public relations, and revenue strategies as Sheraton Maldives continues its enhancement journey. The resort said her appointment reflects its commitment to strengthening market presence, building strategic partnerships, and driving sustainable growth while further elevating guest experiences at one of the Maldives' most accessible family-friendly island destinations.

CO₂e Assessed Product

EVOLVE YOUR AIRCARE ELEVATE YOUR SPACE

+960 3309699
redstar.mv
info@redstar.com.mv
REDSTAR RESORTWARE
M.Maanel,Fareedhee Magu, Malé 20213

ELEVATING MARINE TRANSFER IN MALDIVES

— SAIL BEYOND —
LUXURY



“VR46 — Where comfort meets adventure, and every journey feels like paradise.”



SAFETY
FIRST



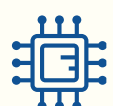
05 STAR
SERVICE



PREMIUM
LUXURY
BOAT



PREMIUM
LUXURY
BOAT



SMART
TECHNOLOGY

WWW.BESTDIVESMALDIVES.COM

info@bestdivesmaldives.com

+960 3305960

Nine ELE|NA Sanctuaries Celebrate Global Wellness Day

ELE|NA celebrated Global Wellness Day 2026 by uniting its nine wellness sanctuaries across the Maldives under the theme #JoyMagenta, a global call to embrace wellness as a source of joy, connection, and vitality. The annual event, observed in more than 130 countries, encourages people to adopt healthier lifestyles through simple but meaningful actions that promote physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing.

Throughout the day, ELE|NA's sanctuaries hosted a range of wellness-focused activities for guests and colleagues. Programmes included sunrise and sunset yoga, Aqua Zumba, guided meditation, sound healing, tea ceremonies, wellness workshops, family-friendly activities, and healthy food experiences designed to

encourage mindfulness and holistic wellbeing.

The celebrations reflected ELE|NA's commitment to creating spaces where individuals can reconnect with themselves, others, and nature. Activities throughout the day combined movement, relaxation, creativity, and nourishment, offering participants opportunities to slow down, reflect, and embrace healthier habits.

A highlight of the event was ELE|NA's partnership with the Cancer Society of Maldives, which saw cancer survivors invited as honoured guests to participate in wellness activities in recognition of Cancer Survivors Month. The initiative underscored the importance of healing, resilience, and



community support, reinforcing ELE|NA's belief that wellness should be

accessible, inclusive, and meaningful for everyone.



POWER MEETS PRECISION with the Yamaha F300 Outboard Engine built for those who demand uncompromising performance on the water. Engineered for reliability, efficiency, and smooth control, it delivers the confidence to go further, faster.



SOLE DISTRIBUTOR

(960) 300 9797
www.aliamaldives.com


alia bai'al raqsi
SHARIAH COMPLIANT FINANCING

The Anam Mui Ne Launches Champa-Inspired Wellness Journeys



Luxury beachfront resort The Anam Mui Ne has introduced Champa Journey, a new collection of wellness experiences inspired by the rich cultural legacy of the ancient Champa Kingdom and Vietnam's long-standing herbal healing traditions. The four signature spa rituals

blend contemporary wellness practices with indigenous ingredients and therapies designed to promote relaxation, improve circulation, and restore natural energy flow.

Drawing on centuries-old Vietnamese

remedies, the 120-minute treatments incorporate locally sourced botanicals such as perilla leaves, lemongrass, pandan leaves, aloe vera, turmeric, pomelo leaves, and sea salt. Rice, a symbol of nourishment and prosperity across Asia, plays a central role throughout the collection, featuring in herbal compresses combined with warming herbs and spices. Mineral-rich mud, inspired by the Champa civilization's connection to the earth and sea, is also used in facial treatments to cleanse and revitalise the skin.

Each ritual offers a distinct wellness journey. Champa Dawn Renewal combines steam therapy, Ayurvedic-inspired head massage, herbal foot care, body exfoliation, and a full-body massage to awaken the senses. Champa Sacred Earth focuses on grounding and relaxation through

herbal oil massage and warm rice compress therapy, while Champa Flow Within pairs a wave-inspired massage with a restorative herbal bath. Meanwhile, Champa Bloom Essence features steam therapy, a nourishing mud facial, and sound healing to encourage mindfulness and emotional balance.

Complementing the spa experiences are light macrobiotic refreshments crafted from herbs, grains, seeds, and native botanicals, including tonics, herbal infusions, and wholesome dishes. According to resort manager Peter Ye, the collection reflects The Anam Mui Ne's commitment to creating wellness experiences that are deeply connected to the destination, celebrating both the healing traditions and cultural heritage that continue to shape the region today.

Reset at Westin Sets the Rhythm for Global Wellness Day at The Westin Maldives

The Westin Maldives Miriandhoo Resort celebrated Global Wellness Day 2026 with *Reset at Westin*, a thoughtfully curated island programme designed to inspire guests to reconnect with movement, mindful nutrition, and restorative rest. Built around the brand's core wellbeing pillars — Move Well, Eat Well, and Sleep Well — the full-day experience offered a balance of energising activities and calming rituals in the tranquil surroundings of the Maldives.

The day began with Sunrise Yoga, led by resident wellness specialist Santosh Singh, allowing guests to welcome the morning with gentle movement and mindfulness. Guests were then encouraged to stay active through Beach Fitness at the resort's outdoor gym, combining strength, mobility, and functional movement in a relaxed and social environment. A Breathing Workout session further enhanced the programme by blending controlled breathing techniques with light



exercise to boost focus, energy, and stress relief.

Wellbeing through nutrition was also a key focus of the event. During a Healthy Juice Bar workshop, guests learned how to create nourishing beverages using fresh island ingredients. Recipes featuring pineapple, lime, ginger, cucumber, and

leafy greens highlighted the benefits of hydration, detoxification, and immune support while promoting a more mindful approach to healthy living.

As the day transitioned into evening, guests gathered for a scenic Sunset Run before winding down with Yoga Nidra, a deeply restorative guided meditation practice often referred to

as yogic sleep. According to Resort Manager Nithil Baskar, the initiative was designed to encourage guests to slow down and prioritise self-care. Set within the Maldives' UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, The Westin Maldives Miriandhoo Resort continues to offer wellness-focused experiences that help guests leave feeling refreshed, balanced, and restored.

City of Dreams Unveils Artist Spotlight

Featuring Sri Lankan Talent



City of Dreams Sri Lanka, in partnership with John Keells Foundation, presents the 7th edition of its Artist Spotlight series titled ‘Urban Pop – Colombo Reconstructed’, a new exhibition by Sri Lankan multidisciplinary artist Charith Wijesundara, curated by Kasun Jayamanne.

Drawing from both his self-taught artistic practice and professional background in architecture, Charith’s work reflects a deeply personal interpretation of Sri Lankan identity. His

compositions are informed by the textures and contradictions of the city, where old and new structures coexist, fragments of popular culture overlap with tradition, and everyday urban experiences become embedded with memory and meaning.

“Colombo especially continues to inspire me because it constantly feels unfinished and evolving. New developments sit beside older structures, street culture overlaps with commercial imagery, and different generations experience the same spaces in completely different ways,” says Charith Wijesundara. “Rather than documenting the city directly, I’m more interested in capturing its atmosphere, energy, and the feeling of living within it.”

Through layered imagery, familiar symbols, fragmented urban references, and moments of humour and irony, ‘Urban Pop – Colombo Reconstructed’ examines how culture is continuously

reshaped within contemporary city life. The works draw from recognisable Sri Lankan visual language while reinterpreting it through a contemporary lens, creating moments that feel both nostalgic and immediate.

“I’m naturally drawn to familiar Sri Lankan symbols, myths, and everyday visual culture because they already exist within people’s memories and experiences,” he explains. “By reworking them through a more contemporary visual language, I’m exploring the relationship between tradition and the present moment.”

For curator Kasun Jayamanne, the exhibition arrives at a particularly significant time for Colombo as the city continues to evolve both physically and culturally.

“Charith’s work holds a compelling tension between architectural order and intuitive disruption. His compositions



feel layered, fragmented, and alive, reflecting the complexity of Colombo itself,” says Kasun Jayamanne. “Rather than depicting the city directly, he reconstructs it through multiplicity and overlap, allowing audiences to experience Colombo through emotion, memory, and contradiction.”

Presented within the dynamic setting of City of Dreams Sri Lanka, the exhibition forms part of a broader vision to position Colombo as an emerging destination for contemporary art and cultural dialogue.

ECOPURE WATERS



**ECOPURE
WATERS**
INTERNATIONAL

UNRIVALLED WATER
BOTTLING SYSTEMS

Are you looking for a more sustainable solution?

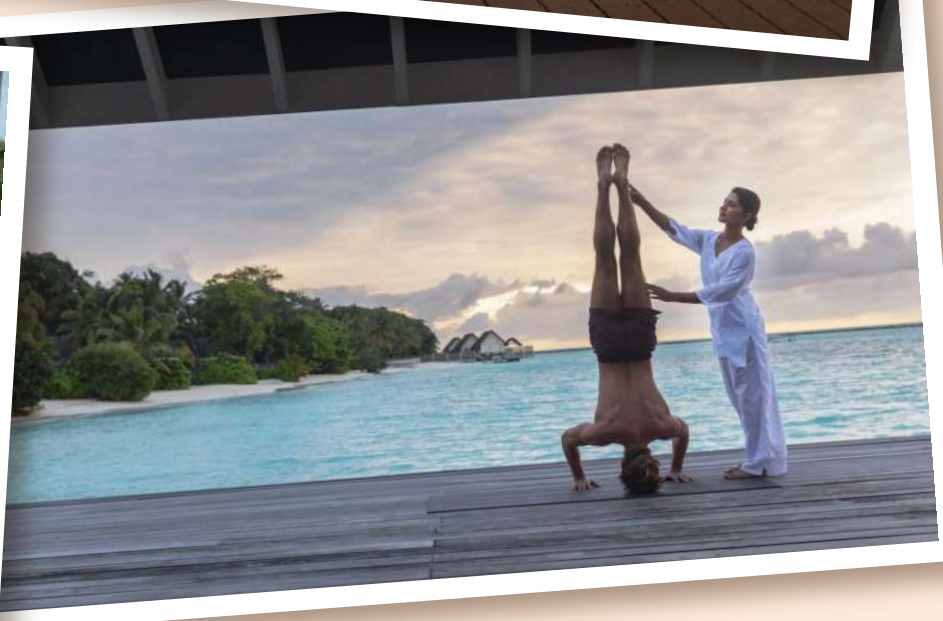
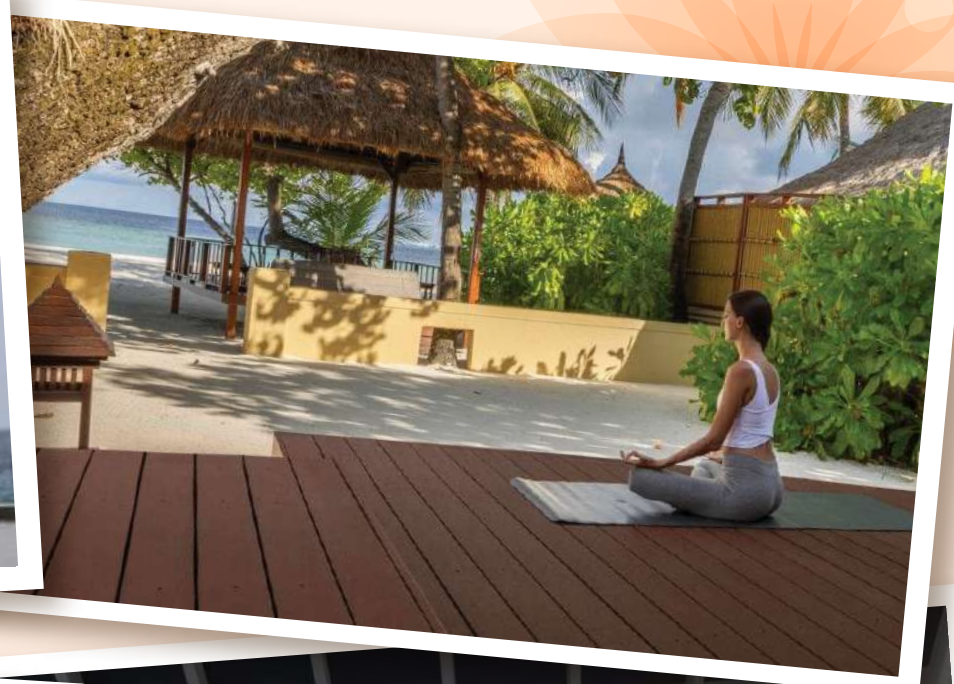
Let us help you eradicate the environmental impact of single use bottles and create powerful branding opportunities with your own pure filtered water in reuseable glass bottles, all while saving money.



YOUR
LOGO
HERE

Contact us today: info@ecopurewatersint.com

Wellness in Many Forms: How Maldives Resorts Celebrated Global Wellness Day 2026



Global Wellness Day 2026 witnessed resorts throughout the Maldives adopting the global theme of "Joy" via experiences aimed at nourishing the mind, body, and spirit. Though each property had its unique approach to wellness, a shared theme surfaced: motivating guests to wind down, reconnect with their inner selves, and discover joy through significant experiences.

At Milaidhoo Maldives, wellness was considered through the linked foundations of nutrition, physical harmony, and tranquility. Visitors started the day with gratitude meditation and breath exercises before engaging in creative self-care via a coconut scrub workshop utilizing natural island elements. The schedule proceeded with couple stretching, sound therapy

sessions, and sunset yoga, while mindful eating experiences emphasized the resort's philosophy that nourishment is essential for holistic wellness.

The Westin Maldives Miriandhoo Resort emphasized intentional rejuvenation with its "Reset at Westin" initiative. Centered on the brand's wellness pillars of Move Well, Eat Well, and Sleep Well, the day included sunrise yoga, beach fitness classes, breathing exercises, and a healthy juice-making workshop.

A sunset jog promoted community involvement before attendees wrapped up the day with Yoga Nidra, a profoundly restorative practice aimed at enhancing relaxation and sleep quality.

Wellness provider ELE|NA united nine sanctuaries throughout the Maldives

with a common vision of connection and happiness. Their festivities emphasized the significance of communal wellness, featuring events aimed at promoting human interaction, physical activity, and uplifting experiences. Significantly, one sanctuary hosted cancer survivors as esteemed guests in collaboration with the Cancer Society of Maldives, emphasizing that wellness encompasses community support and inclusiveness, not just spa services.

Simultaneously, Joy Island Maldives turned the event into a lively festivity focused on wellness and community. The day started on a classic dhoni with a Hatha yoga practice at sunrise amidst the Indian Ocean. The standout feature was an unprecedented floating breakfast experience that merged healthy dining with the resort's

whimsical charm, showcasing that wellness can be enjoyable and unforgettable. During the day, attendees engaged in activities that promoted balance, connection, and gratitude for the natural environment.

Collectively, these festivities highlight the changing landscape of wellness tourism in the Maldives. Although conventional spa services and physical activities are still significant, resorts are progressively adopting wider notions of wellbeing that include mindfulness, social interaction, creativity, nutrition, and emotional wellness. Global Wellness Day 2026 demonstrated that wellness transcends self-improvement; it also involves experiencing joy, fostering connections, and creating significant moments that persist long after visitors go back home.

SEAMLESSLY CONNECT TO THE WORLD

Introducing  USD Debit and
Credit Cards in the Maldives
for the first time.



Features

- Wide International Acceptance
- Complementary Lounge Access
- Lower Transaction Fees
- Advanced Security Features

*Terms & Conditions apply

REDEFINE
convenience
**ACROSS
BORDERS**



One Breath at a Time

with

Fahd Faiz

Founder, Freedive Maldives



Every remarkable journey begins with a defining moment. What inspired your transition into freediving, and how did that journey ultimately lead to the creation of Freedive Maldives?

My journey into freediving began with a deep fascination for the ocean and a desire to experience it in its purest form. Growing up in the Maldives, the sea was always a part of my life, but freediving revealed an entirely different dimension of it. The ability to explore underwater using only a single breath created a sense of freedom, connection, and mindfulness that I had never experienced before.

As I progressed in the sport, I realized that many people—both locals and visitors—were unaware of the opportunities freediving could offer. In 2015, I founded Freedive Maldives with a vision to introduce world-class freediving education to the country, create new opportunities for Maldivians, and establish the Maldives as a leading destination for freediving tourism. What began as a passion project has since evolved into a platform that has trained divers from around the world and helped build a growing freediving community in the Maldives.

As a pioneer of freediving in the Maldives, what were the greatest challenges—and opportunities—you encountered when introducing the sport as both a recreational activity and a professional career path in 2015?

One of the greatest challenges was awareness. In 2015, freediving was still relatively unknown in the Maldives, and many people associated breath-hold diving solely with fishing or traditional practices. Introducing it as a structured sport, educational discipline, and professional career required significant effort in public education, training standards, and safety awareness.

At the same time, the opportunities were immense. The Maldives possesses some of the most pristine waters and diverse marine ecosystems in the world, making it an ideal environment for freediving. There was a clear opportunity to diversify tourism experiences, create employment pathways for young Maldivians, and position the country as a premier destination for underwater exploration. Over time, these opportunities have continued to grow as global interest in wellness, adventure, and sustainable tourism increases.

Having trained more than 1,000 students from around the world, what are some of the most memorable transformations you have witnessed, both in terms of personal growth and diving achievement?

The most rewarding aspect of teaching freediving is witnessing personal transformation. Many students arrive carrying fears—fear of the water, fear of depth, or self-doubt about their abilities. Seeing them overcome those limitations and discover confidence within themselves is incredibly powerful.

I have seen non-swimmers become comfortable in the ocean, individuals overcome lifelong anxieties, and students achieve depth milestones they once thought impossible. Beyond the physical achievements, freediving teaches patience, self-awareness, and emotional control. Those are lessons that often extend far beyond diving and positively influence careers, relationships, and personal wellbeing.

“As I progressed in the sport, I realized that many people—both locals and visitors—were unaware of the opportunities freediving could offer. In 2015, I founded Freedive Maldives with a vision to introduce world-class freediving education to the country, create new opportunities for Maldivians, and establish the Maldives as a leading destination for freediving tourism.”

Since establishing Freedive Maldives in 2015, Fahd has played a pioneering role in introducing internationally recognised freediving education to the Maldives, training more than 1,000 students from around the world while helping position the destination as a hub for marine adventure and experiential tourism. Beyond the sport itself, his work has championed ocean conservation, sustainable tourism, and new opportunities for young Maldivians to build meaningful careers connected to the sea.

In this exclusive interview, Fahd reflects on his journey from passionate ocean enthusiast to industry pioneer, the evolution of freediving in the Maldives, and his vision for a future where tourism, conservation, and personal transformation go hand in hand.

As travelers increasingly seek immersive, wellness-focused experiences, how has the rise of experiential tourism influenced the growth and popularity of freediving in the Maldives?

Experiential tourism has played a significant role in the growth of freediving. Modern travelers increasingly seek meaningful experiences rather than simply visiting destinations. Freediving offers exactly that—a combination of adventure, mindfulness, personal development, and a profound connection with nature.

The Maldives provides a unique setting where individuals can encounter manta rays, dolphins, turtles, and vibrant coral reefs while experiencing the tranquility of breath-hold diving. As wellness tourism continues to expand globally, freediving aligns naturally with travelers seeking mental clarity, stress reduction, and authentic engagement with the environment.

Freediving is often described as a journey of self-discovery as much as a sport. How has it shaped your perspective on life, leadership, and personal wellbeing?

Freediving has taught me that success often comes not from force, but from calmness, patience, and trust. The deeper you dive, the more you learn that tension and fear can become obstacles, while relaxation and focus create progress.

This philosophy has influenced both my personal life and leadership approach. I have learned the importance of remaining composed under pressure, adapting to challenges, and leading by example. Freediving continually reminds me that growth happens outside our comfort zones and that resilience is built through consistent practice, discipline, and self-belief.

Beyond its recreational appeal, freediving fosters a unique connection with the marine environment. How can the sport inspire greater awareness of ocean conservation and encourage more responsible interactions with our oceans?

Freediving allows people to experience the ocean in a quiet and intimate way. Without the noise of equipment, divers often develop a deeper appreciation for marine life and the delicate ecosystems that support it.

When individuals witness coral reefs, marine species, and underwater habitats firsthand, conservation becomes personal rather than theoretical. Freediving encourages respect for the environment and promotes responsible ocean practices. Through education and direct experience, the sport can inspire people to become advocates for marine protection and sustainable tourism.

Freedive Maldives has been at the forefront of several landmark initiatives, including the internationally recognized Neyvaa events. What impact have these projects had on showcasing the Maldives as a destination for marine adventure and sustainable tourism?

The Neyvaa events were created with a vision of bringing together athletes, ocean enthusiasts, conservation advocates, and international visitors to celebrate the unique marine environment of the Maldives. These initiatives have demonstrated that the

Maldives offers far more than traditional resort tourism.

By attracting international participants and media attention, such events have highlighted the country's potential as a destination for marine adventure, sports tourism, and sustainable experiences. They have also created opportunities to promote environmental



awareness while showcasing local culture and communities alongside the natural beauty of our oceans.

The Maldives is globally renowned for its natural beauty and ocean heritage. What opportunities do you see for young Maldivians looking to build meaningful careers in tourism, marine conservation, and other ocean-based industries?



The opportunities for young Maldivians are greater today than ever before. Beyond traditional tourism roles, there are emerging careers in marine conservation, ocean research, environmental education, adventure tourism, underwater photography, content creation, water sports

instruction, and sustainable tourism development.

The key is to combine passion with professional training. As global demand grows for authentic and environmentally responsible experiences, Maldivians have a unique advantage because of their close relationship with the ocean. Investing in education, certifications, and practical experience can open doors

to meaningful careers that contribute both to personal success and national development.

Looking ahead, what is your vision for Freedive Maldives, and how would you like its contribution to the Maldives' tourism and marine sectors to be remembered in the years to come?

My vision is for Freedive Maldives to continue setting international standards for education, safety, and innovation while expanding opportunities for local communities and aspiring professionals. I hope to see more Maldivians entering the freediving industry, more international visitors choosing the Maldives specifically for freediving experiences, and stronger collaborations between tourism and conservation initiatives.

Ultimately, I would like the Freedive Maldives to be remembered as an organization that helped transform the perception of the ocean from something people simply admire to something they actively understand, respect, and protect.

Finally, if there is one lesson or experience you hope every visitor takes away after exploring the Maldives through freediving, what would it be?

I hope every visitor leaves with a deeper appreciation for both the ocean and themselves. Freediving has a remarkable way of revealing how capable we are when we slow down, trust ourselves, and become present in the moment. At the same time, it reminds us of the beauty and fragility of the marine world that sustains us.

If visitors leave the Maldives feeling more connected to nature, more aware of the importance of protecting our oceans, and more confident in their own potential, then the experience has achieved something truly meaningful.

Waldorf Astoria London – Admiralty Arch Opens for Reservations



Waldorf Astoria London – Admiralty Arch, the highly anticipated luxury hotel and residences set within one of the capital’s most recognisable landmarks, is opening reservations today ahead of its autumn debut. It marks the next chapter for one of London’s most ambitious restoration projects, and a defining milestone for Waldorf Astoria in the United Kingdom. Positioned on The Mall opposite Buckingham Palace in St James’s, the restored Grade I listed monument will welcome overnight guests for the first time in its history.

Spanning 200,000 square feet and standing at the ceremonial heart of London, Admiralty Arch has long been synonymous with national pageantry and state occasions. Commissioned by King Edward VII in memory of Queen Victoria and designed by Sir Aston Webb, the architect behind the Buckingham Palace façade, it was conceived as a defining gateway to the capital.

“As custodians of Admiralty Arch our vision has been to restore this extraordinary building with the care and respect its history deserves, preserving its architecture, craftsmanship, and character for future generations. Together with some of the UK’s finest historians, artisans, and

conservation experts, and in partnership with Hilton, Clare Smyth, and Daniel Boulud, we are shaping its next chapter, honouring its remarkable past while ensuring it remains an enduring icon for the century ahead,” said Leonard Sebastian, Reuben Brothers.

“Opening reservations marks a defining moment for the hotel, and we are immensely proud to bring this extraordinary building to life for the city,” said Guillaume Marly, general manager. “We can’t wait to reawaken Admiralty Arch, transforming a national monument into a destination that feels unmistakably London: historic in stature, contemporary in spirit. It will be a place that is both timeless and entirely of the moment.”

“Waldorf Astoria London – Admiralty Arch represents a rare convergence of history, place and possibility,” said Dino Michael, senior vice president and category head, Hilton luxury brands. “To open a building of such cultural and national significance to overnight guests for the first time is both a privilege and a responsibility. It reflects our vision for Waldorf Astoria as a brand that inhabits the world’s most meaningful destinations, where heritage is not preserved as a backdrop, but reinterpreted as a living, contemporary experience for today’s luxury travellers.”

SUEX

BluEmotion
UNDERWATER SPECIALISTS

PADI

SUEX - PADI

PRO DPV TRAINING WORKSHOP 2026

THE FUTURE OF DIVING IN THE MALDIVES

15 days use
of 3 x VR
Quantum DPVS

PADI Instructor
Training and
applications
organised by
Miles Crookes

S1 Maintenance
Training &
Marketing
techniques

PADI DPV
Student codes
x 5

Book your BLUEMOTION - SUEX - PADI

Interview with Miles Crookes

Miles, how long have you been importing SUEX DPVs into the Maldives?

We introduced SUEX DPVs in 2006 and were among the first dive centres in the Maldives to use them professionally. We started with just eight units at Constance Moofushi, and demand was immediate. Clients loved them, and waiting lists quickly became the norm.

How many DPVs have you supplied so far?

To date, we have imported more than 200 SUEX DPVs and supplied over 60 dive centres across the Maldives. Demand continues to grow every year.

Do you see DPVs as the future or just a passing trend?

Without a doubt, they are the future. Just like Nitrox, adoption started slowly but is now becoming standard. I believe every dive centre in the Maldives will eventually operate DPVs.

Why?

DPVs make diving safer and more enjoyable, especially in the Maldives' strong currents. They allow divers to cover greater distances, reduce air consumption and physical effort, and explore sites in a completely new way. They're easy to learn and are equally appreciated by beginners and experienced divers.

What about maintenance and support?

Blueemotion provides full technical support and annual servicing. SUEX DPVs are incredibly reliable, built to last for many years, and in the unlikely event of a technical issue, we can provide a replacement unit to keep our customers operating without interruption.



Miles Crookes

Miles Crookes has been at the forefront of introducing Diver Propulsion Vehicles (DPVs) to the Maldives since 2006. As General Manager of BluEmotion, PADI Course Director and the exclusive SUEX distributor for the Maldives, he has helped establish DPVs as an integral part of modern diving operations throughout the country.

How can dive centres try them?

Through our FREE TRIAL BSP (Blueemotion-SUEX-PADI) programme. SUEX provides three demonstration DPVs, PADI offers five free DPV certifications, and Blueemotion delivers instructor training and operational support at no cost.

The results speak for themselves: DPVs improve the guest experience, increase customer loyalty and can repay the investment in just a few months—not years.

Book your B-S-P training package which the following services and products free of charge

BluEmotion
UNDERWATER SPECIALISTS

BLUEMOTION SUEX DPVS MALDIVES
Official SUEX distributor & authorised
service providers for Maldives

B.T. Aqua & Sports PVT LTD
South Ari Atoll, Republic of Maldives

Tel: +960 7984032

Email: miles@bluemoiton.center

PADI

SUEX

Barceló Nasandhura Launches "World Cup 2026: Live at Alimas"

Barceló Nasandhura is delighted to announce the launch of Alimas World Cup 2026, a special live match viewing experience taking place at Alimas from 12 June to 19 July 2026.

To celebrate one of the world's most anticipated sporting events, Alimas will extend its operating hours throughout the tournament period, allowing guests to enjoy matches scheduled during late-night and early-morning hours in a comfortable and welcoming environment.

Guests can enjoy live screenings of every match while choosing from a range of specially curated food and

beverage packages designed exclusively for the tournament.

The themed packages include the Golden Glove Package, Golden Shoe Package, Golden Ball Package and Extra Time Package, offering a selection of snacks, beverages and sharing options for football fans and groups of friends.

The initiative aims to create an engaging atmosphere for guests while enhancing the overall dining and entertainment experience during the tournament. Alimas World Cup 2026 provides the perfect setting to gather with fellow supporters, enjoy exciting matches and experience the energy of football's biggest stage.



AMERICAN SPECIALTY

PREMIUM EXTRA HEAVY MAYONNAISE

3.79L

The goodness of **American** taste

SATA 2026 Concludes Evaluation Journey Across 7 South Asian Cities

The South Asian Travel Awards (SATA) has successfully concluded its month-long evaluation programme across six South Asian countries, marking a significant milestone in the lead-up to its landmark 10th edition. The comprehensive regional tour reaffirmed SATA's commitment to recognising excellence through one of the travel industry's most rigorous, transparent, and credible evaluation processes.

Over the course of one month, SATA's independent panel of distinguished tourism and hospitality experts travelled across Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and the Maldives, conducting comprehensive assessments of the region's leading travel and hospitality brands. From iconic city hotels and luxury resorts to boutique retreats, destination management companies, and tourism experiences, the evaluation journey showcased the diversity, innovation, and excellence that continue to shape South Asia's tourism landscape.

The SATA 2026 evaluation programme commenced in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 5 June, before continuing to Bengaluru, New Delhi, Kathmandu, Thimphu, Dhaka and concluding in the Maldives on 6 July 2026. Spanning six countries, seven cities, the programme represents one of South Asia's most comprehensive tourism evaluation

initiatives. To ensure consistency, transparency, and impartiality throughout the process, nine distinguished regional judges were appointed to evaluate nominees across every destination.

Unlike many conventional awards programmes, SATA places exceptional emphasis on first-hand evaluation. Every nominated property and tourism organisation is required to present directly before the independent jury, providing an opportunity to showcase its achievements, innovation, service standards, and unique offerings. In addition, the judges conduct technical assessments and on-site inspections where applicable, ensuring each nominee is evaluated against internationally recognised benchmarks for quality, operational excellence, sustainability, guest experience, and innovation.

The credibility of the South Asian Travel Awards is underpinned by its robust judging methodology. Independent jury assessments account for 60% of the final score, while verified online public voting contributes the remaining 40%, creating a balanced evaluation system that combines professional expertise with the perspectives of travellers and industry stakeholders.

The milestone 10th edition has attracted more than 350 nominations across over 50 award categories, reflecting SATA's



growing stature as South Asia's premier tourism recognition platform. The exceptional level of participation highlights the resilience, innovation, and continued growth of the region's travel and hospitality industry.

Over the past decade, SATA has evolved far more than an awards programme. Today, it serves as a respected regional benchmark for excellence, encouraging innovation, promoting sustainable tourism practices, fostering healthy competition, and strengthening collaboration among tourism stakeholders across South Asia.

With the regional evaluations now complete, attention turns to the highly anticipated South Asian Travel Awards

2026 Grand Gala Ceremony, which will be held in the Maldives in early October 2026. The prestigious celebration will bring together tourism ministers, national tourism organisations, hospitality leaders, airline executives, travel professionals, investors, media representatives, and distinguished guests from across South Asia and beyond to honour the region's finest achievements in travel and tourism.

While the jury evaluation process has officially concluded, online public voting remains open until 10 July 2026, giving travellers and tourism professionals the opportunity to support their favourite destinations, hotels, resorts, airlines, and tourism brands through the official SATA voting platform before the winners are announced.

Rosamund Pike to Headline Fari Islands Festival 2026



The Fari Islands Festival returns from 13 to 15 August 2026, bringing together Patina Maldives, Fari Islands and The Ritz-Carlton Maldives for its second edition, headlined by Academy

Award-nominated actress and humanitarian Rosamund Pike.

The three-day programme will feature music, wellness, gastronomy, art and marine conservation across two resorts, following a natural daily rhythm from reflective mornings and conversational afternoons to evening gatherings and late-night performances.

Rosamund Pike – Festival Headliner
Golden Globe, Emmy and Olivier Award-winning, and BAFTA and Academy Award-nominated actress Rosamund Pike will headline the 2026 festival. A returning guest of the festival, Pike has

been involved in shaping this year's edition from the inside.

Ahead of the festival opening, Pike will host a charity dinner in her role as Ambassador for MAG (Mines Advisory Group), a humanitarian organisation dedicated to clearing landmines and unexploded ordnance from conflict zones around the world.

Her festival programme will include a solo address on creative expression, exploring the roles people choose to play, drawing from her work as an actress and the ways individuals present themselves in the world. She will also lead a guided meditation in partnership with Lumenate, the psychedelic meditation app, introducing Nova, a light therapy mask

designed to support relaxation and reflection.

Pike's programme will also include a Maldivian cooking class at Patina Maldives' newly launched Kandu restaurant.

"I am delighted to be returning to Patina to headline the Fari Islands Festival for this innovative brand. I am interested in what relaxation means in terms of mental and physical resets, and how resets relate to creativity and performance. There is a crossover between the life of an actor and the responsibilities each one of us takes on in the roles we play in life. Hopefully, the festival will allow discussion of the intersection of the two. All we ask is for you to show up," said Pike.



AmmA groups

Mobile: +960 7200059

www.ammagroups.com

Lifetime Guarantee in Structural Rehabilitation

Structural Rehabilitation. on Excellence in the **Maldives**

AmmA Tradder (ATD), the engineering division of AmmA Groups, specializes in structural rehabilitation, repair, and strengthening works across the Maldives. Operating in a harsh marine environment, structures are continuously exposed to salt-laden air, high humidity, UV radiation, and tidal conditions, which can accelerate corrosion, concrete deterioration, and structural degradation.

A key advantage of ATD is the use of our own manufactured repair materials and specialized admixtures, developed specifically to withstand the Maldives' unique environmental conditions. These products are engineered to provide enhanced resistance against salinity, chloride attack, moisture penetration, and corrosion caused by the island nation's marine atmosphere and seawater exposure. This ensures superior durability and long-term performance compared to conventional repair materials.

ATD provides comprehensive solutions including structural crack repair, concrete restoration, corrosion protection, beam, slab, and column strengthening, pressure grouting, void filling, waterproofing systems, and marine structure rehabilitation. Every project begins with a detailed technical assessment to identify the root causes of distress and determine the most effective rehabilitation strategy.

Follow us For New Generations



AmmA groups
admin@ammagroups.com

N⁵⁹ CORROS GUARD –Reinforcement Anti-Corrosion Protection. As part of our continuous innovation for aggressive marine environments, AmmA Groups is introducing N⁵⁹ CORROS GUARD, our proprietary reinforcement anti-corrosion protection system specially engineered for Maldives conditions. Designed to withstand high salinity, humidity, and coastal exposure, N⁵⁹ CORROS GUARD enhances structural durability, extends service life, and reduces long-term maintenance requirements.

Visit Maldives Strengthens Presence at China-South Asia Expo 2026



Visit Maldives, in collaboration with the Ministry of Economic Development, Transport and Trade (MEDTT), is showcasing the Sunny Side of Life at the 10th China-South Asia Expo (CSAE) 2026, taking place from 11-16 June at the Dianchi International Convention and Exhibition Centre in Kunming, Yunnan Province, China.

Through this collaboration, MEDTT is facilitating the participation of Maldivian businesses at the expo, supporting their efforts to promote local products, services and experiences. The Maldives delegation includes representatives from MEDTT alongside a diverse range of Maldivian exhibitors, including MIFCO, Authentic

Maldives, LoveMe, Anbalange, Arena Maldives and Viva Trips.

As one of the region's largest international trade and consumer exhibitions, the event provides a valuable platform for the Maldives to connect with travellers, industry stakeholders and media from China and across South Asia.

Throughout the expo, Visit Maldives is promoting the destination's diverse tourism offerings to a broad audience, highlighting the Maldives as a destination that caters to a wide range of travellers. Visitors to the Maldives stand can discover luxury resorts, boutique properties, local island experiences, marine adventures and rich cultural offerings that showcase the diversity of the destination.

The participation of Maldivian businesses further enriches the country's presence at the exhibition. MIFCO showcases premium Maldivian fisheries products, while Authentic Maldives

promotes locally made products and cultural experiences. LoveMe presents locally inspired gifts and souvenirs from Fuvahmulah, and Anbalange highlights the craftsmanship and elegance of Maldivian luxury jewellery. Arena Maldives and Viva Trips represent the country's vibrant tourism sector, promoting travel experiences and services that enhance the visitor journey across the Maldives.

The Maldives pavilion features vibrant destination visuals, immersive branding elements and dedicated visitor engagement areas designed to showcase the country's unique tourism experiences. Visitors can explore promotional materials available in Mandarin, learn about the Maldives' diverse travel offerings and participate in interactive activities that highlight the destination's natural beauty, culture and hospitality. The stand also serves as a platform to strengthen connections with travel trade professionals and regional tourism stakeholders attending the exhibition.

Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa Launches Second Edition of Resort Run 2026

Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa has officially launched the second annual Maldives Hideaway Resort Run 2026, with the main race set for 18 September as part of a four-day World Wellness Weekend programme from 17 to 20 September on Dhonakulhi in Haa Alifu Atoll. The launch ceremony in Malé brought together event partners and showcased the event's Flora & Fauna-inspired branding, logo, race jersey, and scenic race routes spanning beaches, island trails, and the resort's water villa jetty.

Endorsed by Visit Maldives, the event is organised in partnership with TFG as race partner, with TFG Races providing registration, race timing, and bib services. Maldivian joins as the transport partner, Coral Glass as the content partner, and Sporting Vacanze as the agent partner, reflecting a collaborative effort to promote wellness

tourism through sports and lifestyle experiences.

The event will feature a 10K Challenge and a 5K Fun Run for both competitive and recreational participants. All runners will receive an official race T-shirt, timing bib, and partner goodie bag, while the top three male and female finishers in each category will be awarded trophies. The wider wellness programme includes yoga, fitness clinics, stretching sessions, sound bath experiences, group workouts, and evening entertainment designed to promote movement, recovery, and relaxation.

Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa said the event aims to strengthen the Maldives' position as a luxury wellness and sports tourism destination following the success of its inaugural edition in 2025. Open to both international visitors and



Maldivian residents, participation is free, with dedicated resort packages available that include accommodation, meals, transfers, and access to selected event experiences. Registration through TFG Races will open soon, while advance reservations can already be made directly with the resort.



Versa Hospitality Launches Versa Keys



Maldivian-owned hospitality group Versa Hospitality has announced the launch of Versa Keys, a tiered loyalty programme designed to reward guests for their curiosity, loyalty and time spent across the group’s growing collection of destinations worldwide.

Versa Keys introduces a membership structure based on nights stayed, with four tiers – Member, Silver, Gold and Platinum – each unlocking progressively richer benefits across all Versa Collection and Niva properties globally.

The programme will launch across all locations on 1 October 2026 and forms a key part of Versa Hospitality’s strategy to deepen guest relationships as the group continues its international expansion. Every new destination will be integrated into the programme upon opening, allowing members to earn nights and enjoy benefits wherever Versa operates.

Visha Mahir, CEO of Versa Hospitality, said Versa Keys reflects everything the company believes travel should be, rewarding the moments that matter – the time guests invest, the experiences they seek out and the memories they leave with. He added that as Versa grows, the programme grows with its guests, with every stay across every destination counting and each tier unlocking something more meaningful.

Guests can unlock lifetime rewards by staying across the Versa

Hospitality portfolio, with accumulated nights counting towards membership tiers and benefits redeemable at any Versa property. Membership begins automatically upon a guest’s first check-in, with the entry-level Member tier covering stays of one to six nights. Guests who stay seven nights or more qualify for Silver status, which includes enhanced arrival privileges, early check-in subject to availability, and discounts on food and beverages, spa treatments, excursions and laundry services.

Gold status is awarded after 48 nights and offers a curated experience for two once per stay, guaranteed late check-out until 4:00 p.m., and an additional 5% discount on top of Silver benefits across food and beverages, spa treatments and excursions. Platinum status, unlocked after 84 nights, includes all Gold benefits as well as an additional 5–10% discount on top of Gold rates for food and beverages, spa treatments and excursions, discounts on in-villa dining and minibar purchases, and guaranteed late check-out until 6:00 p.m.

Guests are automatically enrolled from their first stay, with qualifying nights accumulating across all Versa Hospitality properties. Resort teams will assist guests throughout their stay by highlighting earning opportunities, explaining available benefits and ensuring the programme adds value at every stage of the guest experience.



MARINE MASTER BOATYARD



DOCKING SERVICE UPTO 220 TONS



K.HIMMAFUSHI

+960 7430050
info@marineaster.mv

Dhiraagu Announces Planned Leadership Transition

Dhiraagu PLC today announced a planned leadership transition following the forthcoming retirement of its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Ismail Rasheed, after nearly four decades of service to the Company and the nation. As part of a structured succession plan, Valdemar ("Valde") Ferradaz has joined Dhiraagu as Chief Executive Officer Designate effective 1 July 2026.

The succession process was led by Beyon and overseen by the Board's Remuneration, Nomination and Governance Committee, with the appointment of the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer remaining the responsibility of the Dhiraagu Board of Directors. Ismail began his telecommunications career with Dhiraagu's predecessor under Cable & Wireless (C&W) before becoming part of Dhiraagu's founding team in 1988.

Throughout his distinguished career, he has played a pivotal role in the development of telecommunications and digital connectivity in the Maldives, leading initiatives that transformed the nation's communications landscape and helped establish the foundations of today's digital economy. His notable achievements include playing a key role in the pioneering network rollout programme, connecting every inhabited island in the country, and leading the introduction of GSM mobile services nationwide.

He also led the successful delivery of the Dhiraagu-SLT Submarine Cable System in 2006 and the development of the north-south domestic submarine cable network, which became the backbone of Dhiraagu's fully digital infrastructure. He played a key leadership role in Dhiraagu's 2011 IPO, including managing and marketing the offering to institutional and retail investors in the Maldives and overseas. As Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer since 2015, he has overseen a period of significant growth and transformation, including major investments in national digital infrastructure, expansion of next-generation mobile and fixed broadband services, and the successful completion of 100% Fibre-to-the-Home coverage across all inhabited islands of the Maldives.

Valde brings more than 30 years of international leadership experience in telecommunications and digital services across Africa, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean. A South African national, he helped launch South Africa's first mobile network and has held senior leadership roles with Vodafone, Digicel, Cell C, Telkom Mobile and MVNX, building a distinguished career in launching, growing and transforming telecommunications businesses across developed and emerging markets. His



experience spans mobile and fixed telecommunications, digital services, enterprise and consumer markets, business transformation and organisational turnaround.

Throughout his career, he has worked closely with governments, regulators, investors and strategic partners, supporting national digital development while delivering sustainable growth across diverse international markets.

Beyond his executive experience, Valde is recognised for a collaborative leadership style built on listening, empowering people and creating strong organisational cultures. He believes technology will continue to evolve, but sustainable success is created by trusted relationships, customer focus

and people who feel genuinely valued and empowered. During the transition period, Valde will work closely with Ismail, the Board and the Executive Management Team while meeting employees, customers, shareholders, regulators, government stakeholders and strategic partners.

The transition programme has been designed to provide continuity of leadership, facilitate the transfer of knowledge and relationships, and ensure a seamless assumption of executive responsibilities. The Board confirmed that the transition process has been carefully designed to ensure business continuity, stakeholder confidence and continued execution of the company's strategy, with no change to the company's priorities, commitments or long-term direction.

Zameel Crowned Champion of Ooredoo Nation Cup



Ooredoo Maldives has concluded the inaugural Ooredoo Nation Cup 2026, an FC 26 esports tournament held as part of its #OoredooFootballFoari campaign for the FIFA World Cup 2026.

The competition featured 48 of the Maldives' top FC 26 players, each representing one of the 48 World Cup nations. Mohamed Zameel Zihuny, representing South Korea, won the championship, earning MVR 8,000, a trophy, a Hisense 75-inch UHD 4K Smart TV, and a FIFA World Cup replica trophy.

Abdulla Maahil, representing Saudi Arabia, finished as runner-up, receiving MVR 5,000, a trophy, and a Hisense 65-inch UHD 4K Smart TV, while Zakwan Shihad, representing Austria, claimed second runner-up, winning MVR 2,000, a trophy, and a Hisense 55-inch UHD 4K Smart TV.

The tournament formed part of Ooredoo Maldives' nationwide World Cup campaign, which aims to unite football fans through promotions, digital experiences, and esports while supporting the growth of the local esports community.

JOALI Maldives Launches Summer Camp Programme 2026



JOALI Maldives will host its Summer Camp 2026 from 1 July to 31 August, offering a family-focused programme of creative, cultural and wellness experiences. Built around the resort's Creative Living philosophy, the initiative combines art, sport, gastronomy and hands-on learning through a series of exclusive residencies featuring internationally acclaimed artists, athletes and culinary experts. Younger guests aged 4 to 12 will also enjoy a dedicated programme at Muramas Kids Club, with activities designed to inspire creativity and adventure.

The residency programme includes French contemporary artist Aurélie Hoegy, Latvian ceramic artist Laima Laurina, and Maldivian heritage artist Hidhana Latheef, who will lead workshops in tapestry weaving, porcelain art and the traditional Kasabu Viyun weaving technique. Guests will have the opportunity to learn directly from each resident through interactive sessions tailored to different age groups.

The summer lineup also features Olympic gold medallist Nicola Adams OBE, who will host family fitness and boxing-inspired workshops, and master chocolatier Melissa Coppel, who will lead chocolate-making ateliers. Maldivian contemporary artist Raya Mansoor will conclude the residency programme with an artist showcase and exhibition, creating a new large-scale artwork during her stay and offering guests an insight into her creative process.

Alongside the residencies, Muramas Kids Club will offer a wide range of complimentary daily activities, including laser tag, cooking classes, photography, mosaic art, basket weaving, tie-dye, eco-themed crafts, Boduberu drumming, stargazing, balloon art, water games, beach sports, tennis clinics and junior archery. The programme is designed to provide engaging experiences for children while complementing the resort's broader summer calendar for families.

MEP SERVICES :



DIESEL GENERATORS



DESALINATION PLANTS



WASTE-WATER TREATMENT PLANTS



WASTE MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT



LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT



KITCHEN EQUIPMENT



VENTILATION SOLUTIONS



AIR CONDITIONERS & REFRIGERATION



PUMPING SOLUTIONS



SOLAR WATER HEATERS



TRANSFORMERS



CABLES & WIRES



LIGHTING ARRESTERS



ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION BOARDS



LIGHT FITTING & ACCESSORIES



LIGHTING & AC AUTOMATIONS



WATER STORAGE TANKS



PORTABLE & MINERALIZED
WATER BOTTLING PLANTS



CCTV & IT SOLUTIONS



INTEGRATED AV SOLUTIONS

OTHER SERVICES :

- Paints & Coatings
- Aluminium & uPVC Doors and Windows
- Flooring Solutions
- Luxury Glass Mosaic
- Pool & Floor Tiles



AFFORDABLE PRICING



DURABLE



ENERGY EFFICIENT



TECHNOLOGY

CONTACT US :

Saji K. R (+960) 991-4627 / Saji@Opromaldives.com
Manish (+960) 910-2968 / Sales.Cenpro@Opromaldives.com
Divesh Lalwani (+960) 944-8385 / Divesh@Opromaldives.com
O'Shop (+960) 968-3401 / Sales.Oshop@Opromaldives.com

O'Shop, H. RG Tower, Hithahfinivaa Magu, Male - 20094, Maldives

Josper Grilled Maldivian Octopus, Laamu Atoll Pumpkin, Miso & Coconut Blanc

Chef Ahmed Mazim – Sous Chef

My culinary journey began in 2015 following the completion of the Four Seasons Apprenticeship Program, laying a strong foundation rooted in discipline, precision, and respect for ingredients. Since then, my career has been shaped by continuous learning, creative exploration, and a deep curiosity for flavor development.



I have competed in numerous culinary challenges, earning recognition as Best Maldivian Chef, Most Outstanding Chef, and Chef of the Year in 2022. A pivotal chapter in my professional growth came through Four Seasons, which enabled me to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Culinary Arts at BHMS in Switzerland, where I refined my technique and gained exposure to European gastronomy and fine-dining philosophy.

Currently, I am part of the team at Fuego, a grill-focused restaurant that emphasizes dry-aging local fish and fermentation techniques to create bold, expressive flavors.

JOSPER GRILLED MALDIVIAN OCTOPUS

INGREDIENTS:

- Nos Maldivian octopus
- Nos Onion
- 80g Ginger
- 5 Nos Lime leaf
- Salt to taste

METHOD:

1. Prepare a light stock by adding sufficient water to a pot along with charred onion, ginger, lime leaf, and salt. Bring the stock to a boil.
2. Holding the octopus by the head, dip the tentacles into the boiling liquid several times to encourage curling. Submerge the octopus fully, reduce to low heat, and cover the pot with aluminium foil. Cook gently until the tentacles are tender, approximately 60 minutes, depending on the size of the octopus.
3. Once cooked, transfer the octopus immediately into ice water to stop the cooking process. Pat dry thoroughly, then marinate and refrigerate for a minimum of two hours.
4. Grill the octopus over charcoal to impart a smoky flavour. Serve the tentacles separately.

OCTOPUS MARINATION

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 Nos Onion
- 2 Clove Garlic
- 15g Ginger
- 2 Nos Lime leaf
- 1 Tsp Red chili powder
- ½ Tbs Tomato paste
- ½ Lemon grass
- 20ml Lime juice
- Salt to taste
- 180ml Sunflower oil

METHOD:

1. Heat sunflower oil in a pan and sauté the sliced onion until translucent.
2. Add the whole kaffir lime leaf, crushed lemongrass, and chopped ginger and garlic. Continue cooking until aromatic and lightly caramelised.
3. Stir in the red chilli powder and cook for a further 1 minute. Add the tomato paste and cook gently over low heat, adding a small amount of water as needed to prevent burning.
4. Remove the lemongrass and lime leaf, then blend the remaining ingredients until smooth, adding lime juice to balance the acidity.
5. Use this marinade for the octopus and lightly brush the octopus before serving.

LAAMU ATOLL PUMPKIN

INGREDIENTS:

- Nos Pumpkin
- Pc Star anise
- zzz1 Pc Bay leaf
- 1 Pc Cinnamon stick
- 3 Pcs Cardamom pods
- 2 Tsp dark soy sauce
- 200ml orange juice

METHOD:

1. Cut the pumpkin into quarters. Cut several pieces in varied shapes and roast at 170°C with a light coating of oil until fully cooked.
2. From the remaining pumpkin, extract the juice using a juicer. Measure approximately 450 ml of the pumpkin juice and combine it with orange juice and the selected spices. Reduce gently over low heat.
3. Once the liquid has reduced to one third of its original volume, strain through a fine chinois. Add dark soy sauce and continue reducing until a syrup-like consistency is achieved.
4. Use the pumpkin reduction warm when plating.

PUMPKIN LEAF OIL

INGREDIENTS:

- 15 Nos Mature pumpkin leaves
- 300ml Sunflower oil

METHOD:

1. Blanch the pumpkin leaves in boiling water for 15-20 seconds, until they turn bright green. Immediately remove and arrange on absorbent paper to eliminate excess moisture. Roughly chop the leaves to facilitate blending.
2. Transfer the pumpkin leaves to a Thermomix. Set the temperature to 60°C and blend with sunflower oil for approximately 10 minutes, until the oil is fully infused with the pumpkin leaf flavour.
3. Strain the oil through a fine chinois or cheesecloth. Transfer to a piping bag and hang overnight in the chiller to allow any remaining impurities to settle. Trim the tip of the piping bag to release the clear oil, discarding the sediment.
4. Use the clarified pumpkin leaf oil for plating.

MISO COCONUT BLANC

INGREDIENTS:

- 80ml Fermented coconut water
- 30g Dark miso
- 250g Butter
- 80ml Fish stock
- 165ml Coconut cream
- Salt to taste

METHOD:

1. Combine the fish stock, coconut cream, and fermented coconut water in a saucepan and bring to a gentle boil.
2. Reduce the heat and add the miso paste. Gradually whisk in the butter, ensuring it emulsifies smoothly into the sauce.
3. Adjust the seasoning with salt as required.

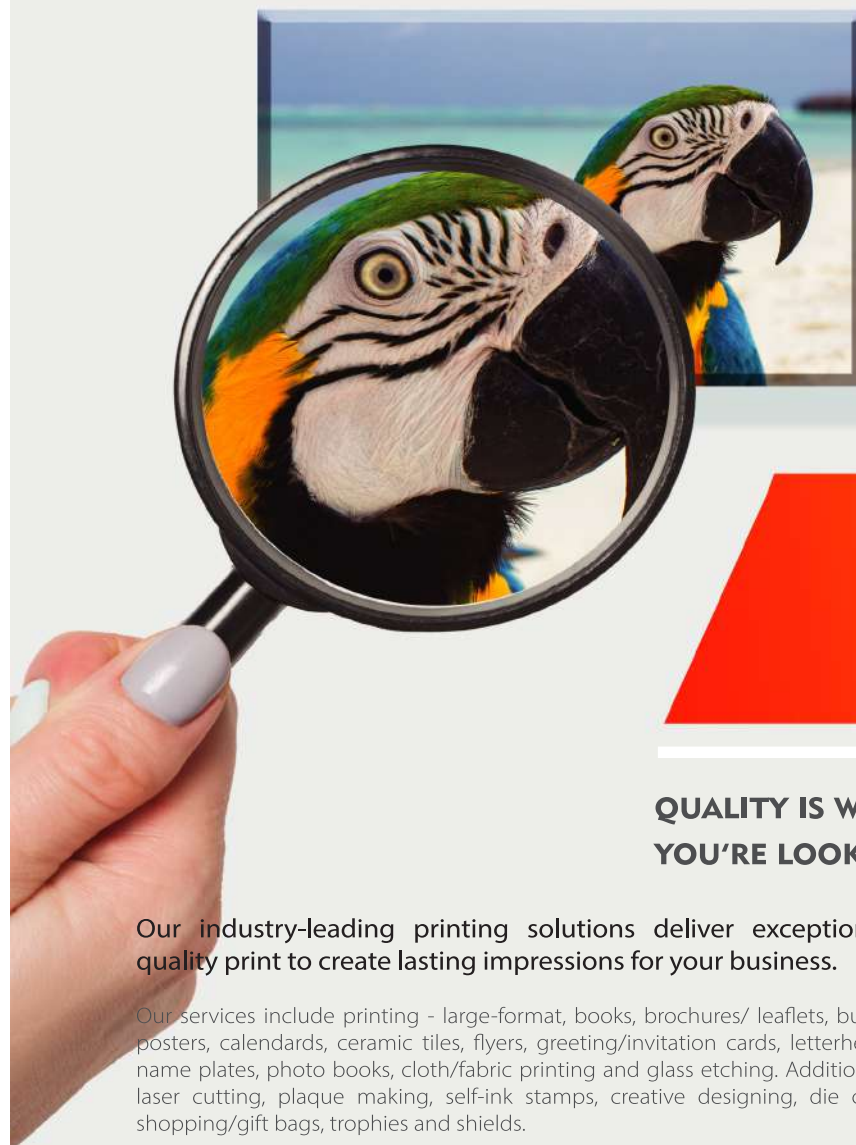


Courtesy of
Ahmed Mazim – Sous Chef
Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa



QUALITY PRINTING. DELIVERED FAST.

Quality is never an accident.
It is always the result
of intelligent effort.



QUALITY IS WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR ?

Our industry-leading printing solutions deliver exceptionally high quality print to create lasting impressions for your business.

Our services include printing - large-format, books, brochures/ leaflets, business cards, posters, calendards, ceramic tiles, flyers, greeting/invitation cards, letterheads, menus, name plates, photo books, cloth/fabric printing and glass etching. Additional services - laser cutting, plaque making, self-ink stamps, creative designing, die cutting, pins, shopping/gift bags, trophies and shields.

While celebrating over 20 years in the business we provide full color printing services onto any type of flat surface, including wood, plastic and metal.

Can targeting niche, high yield adventure tourism markets, such as technical diving and spearfishing effectively mitigate the decline in arrivals ?



Ahmed Zubair Adam
Blue Horizon

“ Yes, it will. Need to allow resorts to be able to do destination weddings / vow renewals and (in resort hotels only). It’s a big market that resorts can tap.

Also introduced retired pensioners to stay for 6 months with medical facilities in local islands .

Extreme sports with FAD / Special Buoys for spearfishing (cannot do without having a registered centre) with MNDF.

Technical Diving only thru registered Tech Dive Centres only (cannot do without having a registered centre) with MNDF.



Ibrahim Nizam
Tourism & Sustainability Expert.
Destination Marketing

“ Targeting niche and high-yield tourism will not diminish our guest-arrivals; instead, it will significantly enhance the Maldives’ brand image and strengthen our position in the global market.

The Maldives’ approach to sustainable tourism is a proven “low-volume, high-value” strategy with the option to offer value-added, affordable island hotels and accommodations in our local islands.

If technical diving and spearfishing are permitted, they must be conducted under strict rules, proper supervision and licensing protocols. Safety is paramount in tourism, and it must always be the top priority.



Ahmed Riyaz
Kraken Adventours

“ I’m sure it will help.. but isn’t this a global thing. The World Cup during the off season will definitely have an effect as well.



Abdulla Nasheed
Marselia Maldives

“ Of course it will add more numbers, especially to liveboards.



Fayyaz Ibrahim
Interim President
Divers Association of Maldives

“ Both require to be regulated, if it’s to be permitted.

For tech diving, it’s mostly for safety and also to include environmental responsibility. Likely to be a great income generator for the dive industry.

Spear fishing, if allowed as a tourist practice, has to be strictly regulated, otherwise exploitation is very likely.

Otherwise it can have a long term negative effect on marine habitats.

A spear fishing licence, the type of fish which can be spearfished, size, the gear which can be used, etc. has to

NESCAFÉ®



AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR

 LILY ENTERPRISES PVT. LTD.