

IN TOUCH

The News from Baros Maldives | August 2010

Baros Maldives Wins Two World Travel Awards



BAROS
maldives

Turtles Hatch At Baros · The Maldivian Lounge · Five Villas upgrade to Baros Pool Villas · A New Chef Takes the Culinary Helm · Sandbank Interludes · Satay Bar

Baros Maldives Wins Two World Travel Awards

Baros Maldives, the small luxury resort emphasising the essence of the Maldives, has won two top places in the 2010 World Travel Awards announced at a ceremony in Johannesburg on 7 July 2010.

The resort has been recognised as The Indian Ocean's Leading Hotel and, for the second time, as The Indian Ocean's Leading Villa. We are also pleased to advise that two other Universal Resorts have received recognition with Kurumba Maldives awarded Maldives' Leading Hotel and Labriz Seychelles for Seychelles' Leading Hotel.

Resorts, villas and hotels nominated for these awards included 22 other prestigious properties in the Seychelles, Mauritius, Sri Lanka and the Maldives.

In its 17th year of recognising the best in travel, The World Travel Awards are based on nominations by travel professional as well as by consumers.

The nominations are vetted and inspected by a group of industry experts who concentrate on the quality customer experience of nominated parties. Issues such as customer relations to creativity, quality of service, standards, guest satisfaction, product innovation and business acumen are included in this review. The stringent process of vetting and qualifying takes place throughout the course of each year.

Baros Maldives, a purely Maldivian owned and operated resort, has consistently won awards since it opened as one of the pioneers of the tourism industry in the Maldives in 1973.

Following a complete renovation and upgrading to premium luxury standard in December 2005, Baros Maldives features accommodation in 75 individual beachside villas, some with private pool, and 30 overwater villas as well as one Baros Residence. The resort has three restaurants, including the iconic Lighthouse Restaurant renowned for gourmet cuisine, two bars, a spa, a dive centre and a spectacular house reef.





Turtles Hatch At Baros Maldives

For the first time since its renovation as a luxury resort in 2005, turtles have hatched in the wild at Baros Maldives.

This happened on the morning of Wednesday 21 July 2010 when guests were surprised to see tiny Hawksbill turtle hatchlings emerging from the sand beside Deluxe Villa 117, which is in a quiet area with its own private beach entrance.

The resident marine biologist at Baros Maldives explained that turtles hatch from eggs laid in a hole dug in the sand by the

mother turtle about 60 days before. They hatch underground but dig their way out, usually in the late evening or at night and follow the moon light towards the water.

Turtles know by the sand temperature if it is day or night. It was cool on 21 July due to rain and this lowered the sand temperature, enabling guests to enjoy the rare daytime sight of turtles emerging from the sand and scrambling towards the sea.

A female turtle usually lays several batches of eggs at two to three week intervals on the

same beach, so there is a chance that the same turtle has laid eggs elsewhere on the island. If so, guests are hoping to see another hatching at Baros Maldives soon.

Since turtles prefer to lay eggs on uninhabited islands or quiet beaches, the hatching of Hawksbill turtles at Baros Maldives is seen as a success for the resort's concept of luxury accommodation created in a sustainable, natural environment.

The Maldivian Lounge

(Opening in November 2010)

Few visitors to the Maldives know about the rich heritage and fascinating past that binds 1,191 coral islands isolated in the Indian Ocean together as a nation.

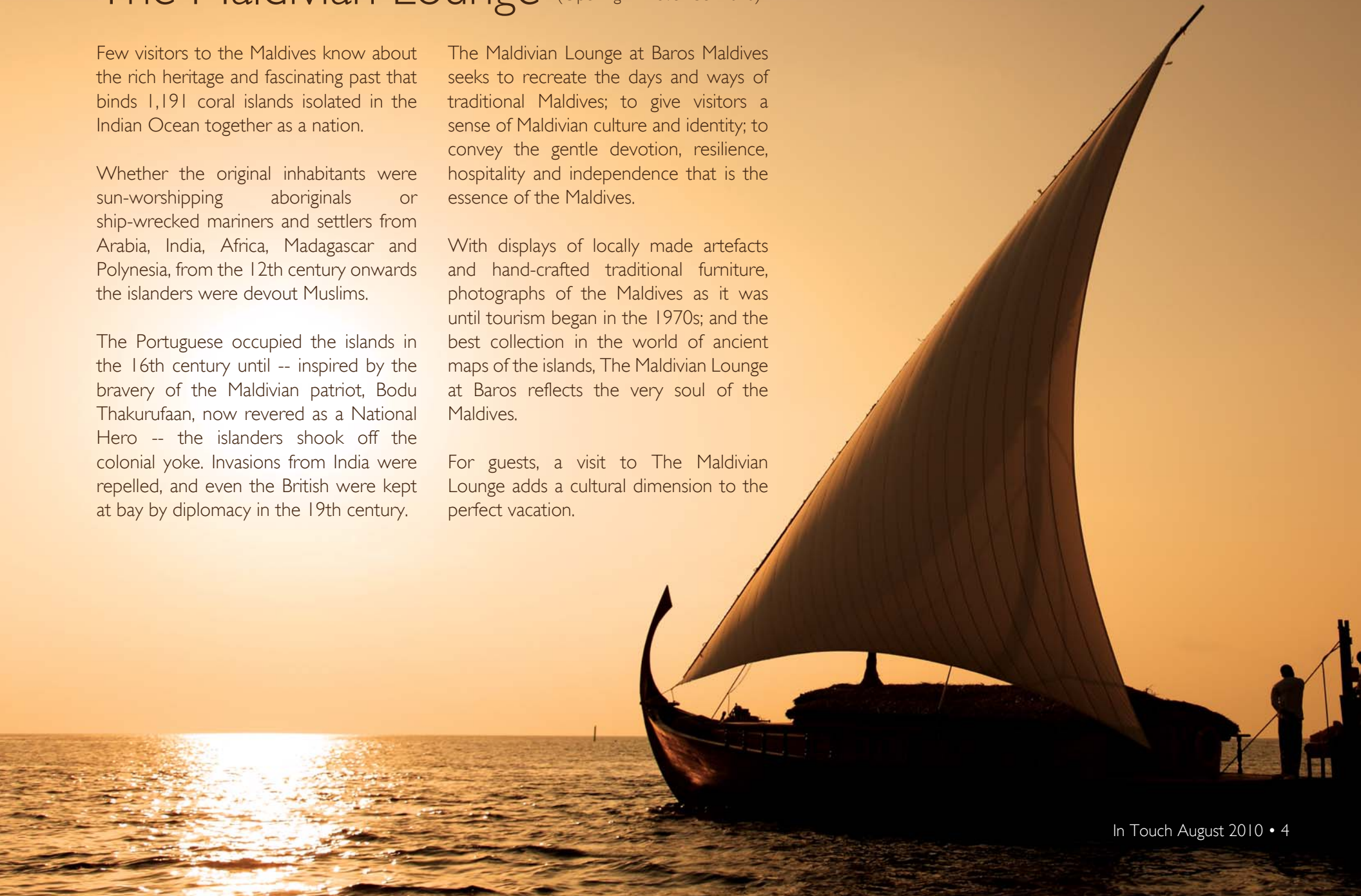
Whether the original inhabitants were sun-worshipping aboriginals or ship-wrecked mariners and settlers from Arabia, India, Africa, Madagascar and Polynesia, from the 12th century onwards the islanders were devout Muslims.

The Portuguese occupied the islands in the 16th century until -- inspired by the bravery of the Maldivian patriot, Bodu Thakurufaan, now revered as a National Hero -- the islanders shook off the colonial yoke. Invasions from India were repelled, and even the British were kept at bay by diplomacy in the 19th century.

The Maldivian Lounge at Baros Maldives seeks to recreate the days and ways of traditional Maldives; to give visitors a sense of Maldivian culture and identity; to convey the gentle devotion, resilience, hospitality and independence that is the essence of the Maldives.

With displays of locally made artefacts and hand-crafted traditional furniture, photographs of the Maldives as it was until tourism began in the 1970s; and the best collection in the world of ancient maps of the islands, The Maldivian Lounge at Baros reflects the very soul of the Maldives.

For guests, a visit to The Maldivian Lounge adds a cultural dimension to the perfect vacation.



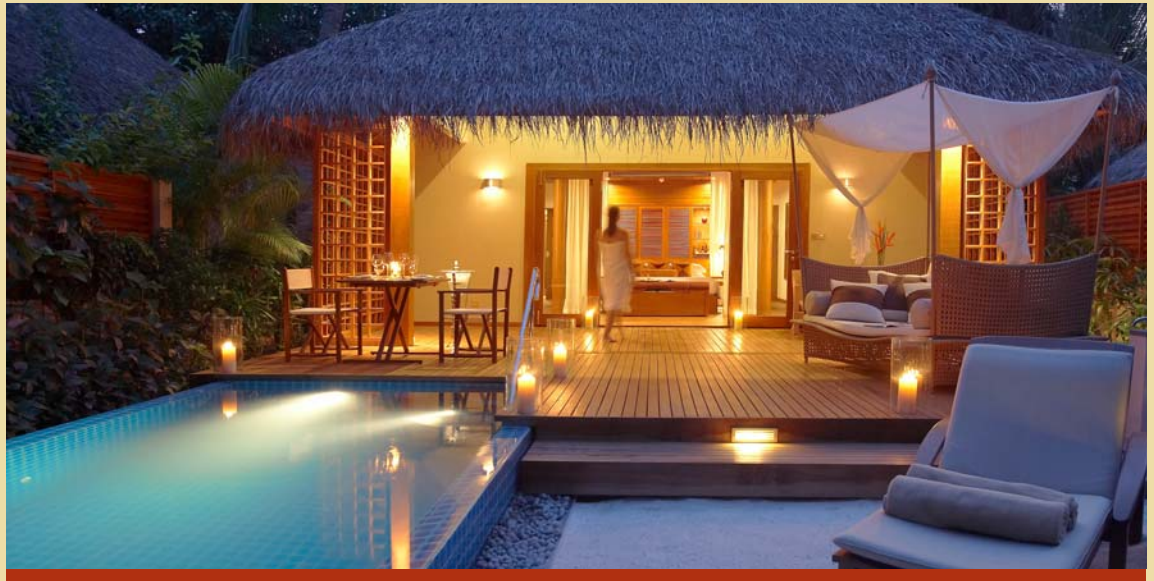
For lovers of the good life, Baros has always been the best. Now the best just got even better.

To enhance the refined luxury of a holiday on one of Nature's special islands, we are adding pools and exclusive upgrading to five existing Baros Villas right on the beach. From November 2010 we will have a total of 10 of these delightful, private pool villas without spoiling the intimacy of the resort.

Each Villa stands alone in a secluded tropical glade with its own swimming pool of pure translucence, just a few steps away from the turquoise lagoon lazily lapping against the shore.

Each Baros Pool Villa is the epitome of sophisticated design. The four-poster bed sitting deep within the Villa looks out over the veranda and sundeck to the pool, beach and sea. There is also a daybed in the shade on the veranda, sun loungers for two, and a table on the wooden deck for In-Villa dining under the stars. Natural light floods the Villa's beautiful interior, and the gorgeously contemporary bathroom has a discreet outdoor garden rain shower. The television is concealed in an ottoman, wine is in the chiller, and a dedicated resort host can be summoned at any time.

These 10 Baros Pool Villas are perfect for couples who want to share romantic moments in rustic, tropical simplicity with ultra-modern amenities - at a great price.



Five Baros Villas upgrade to Baros Pool Villas

(Opening in November 2010)



A New Chef Takes the Culinary Helm at Baros Maldives from 1 July 2010



Baros Maldives is pleased to welcome internationally-acclaimed chef, Peter Alexander Fritz, as the resort's new Executive Chef to run and oversee the culinary design of Baros Maldives.

Executive Chef Peter has extensive experience spanning 33 years within the Asia Pacific region. Most recently he worked with the Four Seasons group, and has held key positions as Executive Chef of the Grand Hyatt Jakarta and Bali Hyatt Resort, and with Shangri-La Hotels & Resorts.

In 2002 Chef Peter worked as the Executive Chef at Baros Holiday Resort, the name of Baros Maldives before its upgrading to its current luxury level. During that time he took part in the foundation work that has made Baros Maldives a leader in fine dining in the Maldives.

He takes over from Executive Chef, Damian Barrett who, after nearly five years of delighting diners at Baros Maldives, has returned to Australia.

At Baros Maldives we are thrilled to have Chef Peter on our team and look forward to continued culinary excellence with him at the helm.

The Lighthouse, the resort's signature restaurant is both iconic and innovative in its architectural and culinary design. Al fresco dining takes on a new image of comfort and distinction at the Cayenne Grill while the resort's Lime Restaurant provides a fresh approach to all-day dining.

Baros Maldives... Experience the Essence and Culinary Excellence of the Maldives.



Baros Maldives Introduces Sandbank Interludes



In the middle of the Indian Ocean, under a million stars by night or under a sunny, clear blue sky by day, are two sandbanks just minutes away from Baros by a speed boat. These idyllic desert islands are perfect for memorable romantic moments.

Attended by a dedicated chef and service personnel, couples can enjoy a unique interlude, relaxing and dining on an isolated island created only from sand.

A tent is erected for shade and privacy during the day. In the evening, after guests have gazed at an amazing sunset and enjoyed champagne and canapés, dinner is served by candle light. The menu is created especially for sandbank dining for two, adding a fitting finale to the experience of a lifetime.



Satay Bar

The perfect place for an afternoon meal

Located by the water at The Cayenne Grill, close to The Palm Garden and The Sails Bar, is the contemporary styled Satay Bar. Open daily from noon to 16.00hrs, this is ideal for an afternoon meal or a light snack in an informal ambience.

As well as grilled, sizzling satays of meat, seafood or chicken on skewers complemented with spicy peanut sauce, wok dishes and grilled bites are also served. Signature drinks and beers are available, as well as champagne and wines.

Guests can enjoy dishes from the Satay Bar in the Palm Garden under venerable palm trees, by the sea in one of the Cayenne Grill's overwater pavilions, or simply sitting by the counter while the chef demonstrates his skills. At night a special Satay Bar set menu is served to tables on request.



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