

Kurumba

MALDIVES IN FULL COLOUR



Postcard From Kurumba : March 2014 (Issue 15)

A sunny and warm welcome to our 15th issue of the Post Card from Kurumba.

I would like to personally thank the many returned guests who have mentioned that they greatly enjoy reading the postcards as a way to keep up to date. It is a great way to bring back memories and to feel a little bit of Kurumba in their own home. In this edition, we will be giving you a quick brief on our recent progress and a sneak peek into our plans for the year. As you well know, we do like to keep a few secrets/pleasant surprises up our sleeve for your next visit.

Reflecting on 2013, we achieved some great accomplishments winning Asia's Best All-Inclusive Resort award on Trip Advisor, as well as Maldives' best Corporate Social Responsibility programme awarded by the Maldives Association of Travel Agents. Many more projects were completed including the upgrade of the remaining pool villas, replacing all the resort beds, continued upgrades of the arrival lounge, reception, Royal Residence, Kurumba Cafe and the Beach Bar.

If I have to be honest, one of my personal favourite areas that we developed on 2013 is Kurect and the 12000-beer bottle herb garden. Kurect is our recycling centre that manages the majority of the waste and is debatably the best in the Maldives. We have made herb garden beds using beer bottles and we would like to thank all who made a minor or major contribution to providing us with empty bottles. You will be able to see these on our bi-weekly Back of House Tour.

We had a wonderful New Years' Eve celebration with our guests walking the red carpet and being entertained like the superstars of Hollywood. So many smiles, laughs and a full dance floor that said...oh what a night. We certainly have our work cut out for us trying to top this on the next New Years' Eve celebration.

For the year ahead, we are planning upgrades of Ocean Grill and Rendezvous Lounge. There are also some exciting new projects for the team in our heart of house including creating 22 new team member rooms.

Thank you once again for taking the time to read our updates and we certainly look forward to welcoming you back to your second home.

Sunny regards,
Jason Kruse
General Manager



Royal Residence

Kurumba has 9 categories of accommodation which incorporate state-of-the-art facilities and a fresh warm design.

These range from the Superior and Deluxe Rooms, the Deluxe and Beachfront Bungalows to the Kurumba Pool Villas collection which comprises of the Garden Pool Villa, Private Villa with Jacuzzi, Deluxe Pool Villa and the Presidential Pool Villa.

The ninth category being the most decadent of them all is the Royal Kurumba Residence. Just when you think its luxury goes unmatched, it has further improved itself with modern new fabrics, contemporary furniture and artworks, through a recent improvement programme. A kitchen has been added, while a mini-bar has been enhanced and the wardrobe being extended in size.

The Royal Kurumba Residence is ideal for families and guest who are seeking a pool villa experience with personal privacy. The Royal Kurumba residence is part of the Kurumba Pool Villas collection and its benefits include daily premium breakfast in Ocean Grill featuring free flow champagne, freshly squeezed juices and an a la carte menu, set beachside; daily afternoon cocktails in the Beach Bar and Butler service.



A Delightful Recognition

Kurumba Maldives is humbled to receive two recent honours. We have been awarded from Trip Advisor Travellers' Choice Awards for 2013 as the number one All-Inclusive Resort in Asia and number 14 in the world. This distinction recognizes Kurumba Maldives as outstanding in guest satisfaction as an All-Inclusive resort. The recognition is derived from the diversity and selection from our accommodation, unique dining experiences, while to complement your dining, the offers of live entertainment to suit all taste. A vast array of activities from water sports, recreational and cultural experiences create a perfect holiday setting for honeymooners and families alike.

The Travellers' Choice Awards are based on millions of reviews and opinions from Trip Advisor travelers, who provide unbiased and personal recommendations for travel. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for any guests giving us great reviews on trip advisor and making this happen for us.

We have made great improvements in our Corporate Social Responsibility programme, it has been distinguished by the Maldives Travel Awards which recently awarded Kurumba Maldives as the Winner of Leading CSR Programme for 2013. Our commitment to the local community started back in 1980, with opening a cooking school to help enhance the skills of our employees. It then progressed to outreach programmes with current ongoing projects that can be found in our Heart of the House Tour.

The Maldives Travel Awards is a recognized label initiated with the idea of the Maldives Association of Travel Agents & Tour Operators (MATATO) providing the tourism sector of the Maldives with recognition for their facilities and service excellence provided to guests.

(MATATO was founded in 2006 by a group of enthusiastic tour operators of Maldives. The association currently represents more than 50 travel agents and tour operators in the Maldives, with its mission, *Taking travel and tourism industry of the Maldives forward through unity, empowerment and co-operation.*)



A New Scene In Yoga

Veli Spa now has a new location for its yoga sessions; An open-air pavilion tucked away in Kurumba's lush garden.

The pavilion offers yoga classes accessible to all skill levels, from first timers to advance practitioners. The sessions range from 60 - 90 minutes. Services include: yoga for beginners, which includes easy postures, breathing exercises and meditation or you may opt for the power yoga sessions for those who want more of a strenuous work out. Other sessions focus on stress, back-pain, better sleep and the more popular Sunrise and Sunset Yoga, practiced on the beach, which includes a session of Asana (poses), Pranayama (breathing) and meditation. Lastly, the pre-natal yoga, the art of focusing your complete attention in one area that leads you to a state of peace and harmony.

The resident yogi, Dimple Soni, is a qualified yoga professional from India. She started her yoga practice in 2003 and gained a Master's Degree in Yogic Sciences from Dev Sanskriti University, India. She has led many yoga retreats, workshops and seminars, where her approach is towards holistic development.

The word yoga comes from Sanskrit, an ancient Indian language. In contemporary practice, this is often interpreted as meaning of "union".



As you know, we love doing things a little differently to enhance our guest experiences. Hence, we have undertaken the conversion of the traditional (and we think out-of-date) compendium into an informative magazine.

Kurumba Maldives has launched a new and improved in-house compendium. With radiant glossy pages and name Kurumba - the Magazine in Full Colour. It's a delightful and captivating read, it summarizes a concise and comprehensive compilation of what the resort offers and so much more. Peeks of its content materials range from dining options, bars, entertainment, activities, water sports, Veli spa, excursion, settling in and staying safe.

A highlight and enjoyable guest read is the Loyal Friends section, known as the Friends of Kurumba. Repeater guests share some of their fondest, nostalgic memories through the years of visiting the resort. For dining experiences outside of the Maldives, the savouring Maldivian recipes which can be brought back home and the more popular are the features which share experiences of local Maldivian island life.

It is a bi-annual magazine that is distributed in the guest rooms and villas throughout the year and can be taken home as a souvenir.



Catching Up With The Jones

One of the things that we are most proud of is the friends whom we have made along the years, our guests and many of you who have been visiting Kurumba for numerous years. It's always a pleasure to catch up every time you come back.

Recently we had the pleasure of meeting up with the Sansone Family comprising of Luigi, Daniela, Valentina and Matteo:

What motivates you to return to Kurumba?

The feeling of being in a place where we truly feel at home, with managers and staff who are all superb! This is definitely a home away from home for us.

How many times have you been to Kurumba?

This is our fourth visit.

What do you enjoy most about Kurumba?

The sea, the reef, the fish, the excursions and finally, the warmth of the island hotel.

If you could change something about the resort, what would it be?

Nothing at all!

When will we see you again?

We are already thinking about that! Can't wait to return!!

Thank you very much for taking the time to read our newsletter. We do hope to see you in Kurumba again very soon! If you have any comments or feedback of your visit with us, please feel free to drop us a line!

Kurumba Maldives

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