



Postcard From Kurumba: September 2012 Issue

We are pleased to announce that the refurbishing and revitalizing process of Kurumba is progressing well with most of the more challenging aspects now completed. We are impatiently waiting for the delivery of all of our new external furniture for the beach bar, café and pool side. The feature here will be more sofas, day beds and pods plus new and more comfortable style of sun loungers for around the pool. It will arrive to be a nice pre-Christmas treat and we certainly hope that you get a pleasant wow on your next stay.

In conjunction with our 40th birthday this year, we've organised many exciting activities throughout 2012. Please have a look at our special 40th Anniversary section on our website for more details on what you can look forward to, if you are planning to visit us this year. Also in this month's edition, we've included a recipe to our ever popular Coconut Parfait ice-cream which we hope you would enjoy making, in your own home!

If you find the time, please check out our wabsite and have a look through our "Kurumba Today" page to keep you updated and informed of our daily activities and events. That's enough from us. Read on to see what else is happening in Kurumba.

Sunny regards from the team at Kurumba Maldives.



Revitalise & Refresh

Kurumba Café now has an open feeling and is much brighter and airy. We just have some finishing touches such as new tiles, furniture and a new counter to serve snacks and homemade ice creams. We are sure that this will be a nice change for your next stay.



The Veli Spa now has an open, wooden floored reception area and new walkways over the water with lotus flower planters to offer your the "green" serene feeling. Once the new decorations, fabrics and furniture arrive, we are sure that it will help bring the standards of our spa up to a higher level.

Our Family Villas are currently going through a major overhaul with the Jacuzzis being replaced with plunge pools, installation of higher roofs and new windows that offers more natural light. These will be renamed Garden Pool Villa's and will offer two bedrooms, separated by sliding doors. We are now waiting for the final touches with new day beds, furniture and decorations to finish off these rooms. These will be ideal for family's or couples seeking privacy and your own plunge pool.



'AL Naturale' With Upul

Upul, our Horticulturist & Landscape Manager and his team have been busy with several landscaping projects in Kurumba. The landscaping teams focus has been to modernise the style of plantings with the addition of more plant species and also to manage a layout which offers our guest rooms more privacy, while maintaining the views.



We certainly hope that you notice the addition of lush tropical plants around the island, on your next visit. We do believe that we have the most species of plants and flowers of any resort in the Maidives. For all our flora enthusiast, please feel free to browse the green house and orchid nursery the next time you are on holiday with us.

Also, during our landscape reviews, we managed to remove some of the concrete amenities, such as our bins and ashtrays and replaced them with a more "Al Natural" version. The bins are now a hessian bag and ashtrys, a coconut flower husk, which certainly offers you a much better island feel.



Your Loyalty Programme

Still dreaming about taking a relaxing swim in the warm turquoise waters, the feeling of soft sand between your toes and the joy of a refreshing sunset beverage with the sea breezes cooling your lightly sun-kissed skin? Blissfully remembering the fragrance of Kurumba's flowers placed specially for you on your bed? The challenge of deciding which area to snorkel, what book to read, which restaurant we should dine in this evening, or what spa treatment shall you indulge in?

Recapture the feeling again and again with our renewed Friends of Kurumba program. We at Kurumba are grateful for our return guests and acknowledge them with special benefits and discounts. We have made some alterations to the program to align with our sister resort, Velassaru. Members are now able to use these return guest benefits on Velassaru and vice versa.

For more details, click here or email us at sales@kurumba.com



Snorkelling Channels & Social Responsibility

As you may be aware, we are working hard to reduce our impact on the surrounding environment and to develop our social responsibility efforts.

Glenn, our Recreation Manager and Verena, our Marine consultant are leading this project to develop five snorkelling channels. This will improve access to the reef at lower tides and we hope also to reduce damage from fins and people standing on coral.



To complement our already comprehensive waste management plant, this month we have now purchased a composter from Japan that will compost much of our kitchen waste. Combined with our recycling area, green waste mulcher, glass crusher and plastic shredder, we believe that we now have one of the best waste management systems of all the Maldives resorts.

If you have been keeping up to date on Facebook or twitter, you will notice that we have been supporting two local orphanages. You can help us by bringing essential consumables for these young children in need. For a comprehensive list of items, please click here.



Tastes Of Kurumba

Why not make your very own Kurumba Ice cream? This is a slightly different version, transforming our signature ice cream into a coconut semi-fredo which you can make, in the comfort of your own home.

Coconut Semi-Fredo (8-10 portion)

Ingredients

200g sugar 125ml water 150g egg yolks 500ml whipped cream 1g salt 300ml coconut milk 15ml lemon juice

Method

- 1) Boil sugar & water for about 5 minutes.
- 2) Beat the egg yolks with salt in your kitchen aid till very fluffy; add the hot sugar -water mixture, slowly, little by little.
- 3) Keep your machine running with the mixture till it cools down to room temperature.
- 4) Fold under the coconut milk lemon mixture.
- 5) Last fold under the very stiff whipped cream.
- 6) Fill into dessert glasses or dishes and freeze covered over night.
- 7) Serve with tropical fruits or fruit salad.

Happy Cooking, Executive Chef Ralf



Catching Up With The Jones

We met up with the Pillais at the Sand Bar to learn about their Kurumba.

Why have you chosen Kurumba as your holiday destination?

Mervin: We are the Pillai family, my wife Charmaine, and my daughters, Shainne & Liyah. We come to Kurumba because this is a resort that offers us everything, some activities for adults, some for kids like the kids club, so it was an ideal resort for us. Amenities and facility are great too.

What is the highlight of your stay here in Kurumba?

Mervin: The highlight for one, is the people who work in Kurumba. What makes the difference is the staff. When you come to a place when you know you're at home, that what a true holiday is. That's what we feel about Kurumba every single day of our stay here. The thing that stood out most is the team going the extra mile. On our daughter's birthday, they decorated the room, set up everything and prepared a cake. Whether in the room or the restaurant the service is always exceptional. That touch will leave us a good taste of Kurumba. That's what I think is a trademark of the resort. It was way beyond our expectation.

Charmaine: It's the warmth & friendliness of the staff from the day we arrived up until now. It's never ending. There's always a smile on their faces. Everyone goes out of their way to help you with anything. They go above and beyond when it comes to helping the guests. The staff even know our children by their names. We love it, because for us, this is a home away from home.

If we could change something, what would your advice be?

Charmaine: Personally I have the wow feeling when we arrived. There's nothing I can see that needs changing. The fact that you guys have here for 40 years. It just shows how successful you are in what you are doing. Everything you have is stunning. We are spoiled for choices when it comes to dining. What will make us come back is the fact that you have great team members here. Also, the bathroom amenities like shampoo and hair conditioner and the notes of the ingredients, most other hotel I have been to don't care about detail too much. But you have, so well done.

Mervin: These things you just need to be maintained. That's your edge. Additional favorite is the mosquito band, ideal for guests with lotion allergies.

Is Kurumba a right choice for you, as a family destination?

Charmaine: Yes. The Kids Club is excellent. They've got activities for kids every day. The Daily Kurumba is a very organized time table that really help us a lot, to plan ahead of time. The complimentary activities that you offers, like the Marine Biology presentation, helps our kids learn a lot. It an educational experience for the whole family. Movie under the stars was also great.

Mervin: The do's and don'ts of snorkeling is great, which is really important. We went on the sunset cruise, which was just a highlight; the staff also advise guests what to do when the weather is bad or good.

We are celebrating our 40th Anniversary. Do you have any message?

Another 40 years, keeping doing what you doing because you doing so well. We must come back to Kurumba for when we celebrate our wedding anniversary.

KURUMBA MALDIVES

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