

Fact Sheet

# The story of a small island

The story of this small island began when, lush and uninhabited, unspoiled and undiscovered, Milaidhoo was a secret castaway island with white, sandy beaches set in a lagoon teeming with marine life and ringed with a flourishing coral reef. When the opportunity came to add accommodation for guests, the Maldivian family that owns Milaidhoo had a vision of an island resort where, if a sultan from the past were visiting, he would find natural island-inspired comfort that seemed familiar.

In contrast to the concrete of modern constructions, local materials were used to create spacious villas and residences that could be opened up to allow for seamless outdoor living. To match the shape of the island and capture sea views, our Maldivian architect designed guest accommodation with curved, organic shapes. The custom-made furnishings and unique designs are Maldivian inspired, from the natural wooden floor to the thatched roof, all made by craftsmen specifically for Milaidhoo.

In place of the traditional luxury hotel formula of excess, Milaidhoo comprises qualities that are rare in this modern world: simplicity, natural style, and respect for its surroundings. Space and outdoor living are key, interpreting local heritage in a contemporary style. At Milaidhoo guests can enjoy meaningful experiences and discover the reality of island living, barefoot informality and going right back to nature. Time stands still, and guests are at ease with the genuine heartfelt hospitality of the traditional Maldivian way of life.

Milaidhoo captures the culture, the spirit and the heritage of the Maldives, and combines this with all the comforts of contemporary living, with attention to detail like no other in a relaxed, captivating atmosphere. Service is exemplary but never intimidating, caring and never casual, in line with Milaidhoo's concept of barefoot informality.

Above all, Milaidhoo offers a taste of the real Maldives, opening doors to local culture and experiences. Milaidhoo inspires the love of life and nature, where guests enjoy carefree living and feel they truly belong.



# Quick Facts

# GOOD TO KNOW

Opened in November 2016
Member of Small Luxury Hotels of the World
Five-star boutique private island resort
Located in Baa Atoll in the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and
the world-famous Hanifaru Bay, 126 km north-west of the
capital island, Male'
35-minute seaplane ride from Velana International Airport

Island size: 300m by 180m, 5.4 hectares
Children over the age of nine years are welcome

Architect: Mohamed "Sappe" Shafeeq

### A LOVE STORY

Wedding ceremonies Engagements Anniversaries Babymoons Honeymoons

## VILLAS & RESIDENCES

29 Water Pool Villas (245 sqm)
18 Beach Pool Villas (290 sqm)
2 Beach Residences (490 sqm)
1 Two Bedroom Ocean Residence (564 sqm)

# **FACILITIES**

Accommodation: 50 villas and residences with private pool
Three restaurants, two bars, including first Maldivian restaurant specialising in gourmet cuisine
24/7 Island Host service
Spa and gym, yoga and meditation 'Ocean Stories' Aquatic Centre

### EXCURSIONS

Fishing and Dolphin Cruises
Water sports
Diving, Snorkelling
Luxury yacht cruises
Traditional Maldivian dhoni cruises

#### NATURE & UNDERWATER

Outstanding and lively house reef In Season: Diving and Snorkelling with Manta Rays and Whale Sharks Resident marine biologist Coral Basket Sponsorship programme

# VILLAS & RESIDENCES

Milaidhoo offers a sense of Maldivian small island living with just 50 villas and residences. Each villa or residence offers total privacy with stylish, thoughtful décor designed and created by local artisans using responsibly sourced materials. The accommodation was designed by a Maldivian architect, inspired by conserving the natural beauty of the island and ensuring minimum impact on the coral reef. The villas and residences seamlessly fuse indoor and outdoor living and can be opened up 180 degrees to nature while the materials and crafts used blend modern, sustainable architecture with natural elements.



# ALL VILLAS AND RESIDENCES FEATURE:

Inside Air conditioning and ceiling fan Ocean views and access to reef

Oversized minibar

Private wine fridge

Discrete flat screen satellite TV en suite bathroom with soaking tub and

separate rain-shower

Services

24/7 Island Host service

Two pieces of laundry per guest per day

(except dry cleaning)

Unpacking and packing service Wi-Fi throughout the island

Outside

Large private freshwater infinity pool on a

private sun deck

Hanging Maldivian swing ('undhoali')

Large day bed

Sun loungers and umbrella

**Amenities** 

Tea and coffee

Beach bag and slippers

Yoga mats

Electronic safe

Iron and ironing board

Full range of toiletries by Acqua Di Parma

# NOTES FROM A CHEF

Culinary experiences are a highlight at Milaidhoo with a focus on light, wholesome food with traditional flavours. There are three world-class restaurants and two bars to choose from.



# BA'THELI BY THE REEF RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

Milaidhoo is home to the first restaurant in the Maldives that specialises in gournet local island cuisine, featuring dishes inspired by the Maldivian Spice Route. Named after the ancient wooden sailing vessels that brought spices and knowledge of other countries to the islands, Ba'theli by the Reef is one of the few fine-dining restaurants in the world that encourages its diners to come barefoot. Ba'theli's architecture reflects its heritage, built to resemble three boats that are supported by pillars so it appears to be floating by the reef in the lagoon.

The story of Ba'theli boats began over 5,000 years ago when the Maldives was a key port of call for trading vessels sailing from Indonesia and India to Arabia with cargoes of cinnamon, cardamom, turmeric, cloves, ginger and pepper. The Maldivian islanders bartered coconuts, sun-dried fish, cordage, cowrie shells and sails woven from coconut fibre for spices, rice, ceramics and silks. These locally-made cargo boats, or Ba'theli in the Maldivian language, collected these goods and sailed throughout the archipelago trading them, spreading knowledge about different lands, their customs and cuisine.

The menu created by the chef at Ba'theli by the Reef features dishes that originated in the Maldives, adapted for a gourmet palate. As in traditional Maldivian dishes, cooking techniques and ingredients come from around the Indian Ocean, India, Sri Lanka, and Southeast Asia. The restaurant concept is part of the Milaidhoo ethos to offer guests a very Maldivian holiday with a real sense of island life; the dining experience is truly island inspired, based on the culture, tradition and history of this destination.

### SHORELINE GRILL

The beachfront Shoreline Grill is where guests find superb meats and freshly caught local fish and seafood, simply cooked and beautifully presented. Guests dine barefoot on the sand in a private beachfront pavilion, or inside for a fantastic view of the show kitchen. This exceptional culinary experience inspires guests, and they can even enjoy an evening at our Chef's Table where chef designs a tailor-made menu, and cooks especially for them. Guests are also invited to arrange a pre-dinner wine tasting session in our wine room with our sommelier. This is barefoot informality at its best: easy, simple, no fuss.





### OCEAN RESTAURANT

Here's the tropical breakfast guests dream of: sitting on the deck by the ocean as our team delivers wave after wave of treats to the table. Or helping yourself to a huge variety of elegantly presented culinary delights, hand-picked from all over the world, locally sourced where possible. For lunch and dinner, the style remains casually comfortable with international dishes, perfectly presented, from our à la carte menu. Here, the key words are fresh, flavourful and friendly.

### COMPASS POOL BAR

Compass is the place to chill out and fall in love with our infinity pool that overlooks the ocean. When hunger calls, we're right here with light meals including gournet pizzas from our wood-fired oven, bento boxes, fresh salads and sandwiches, and of course, a tempting drinks list with the freshest juices, infused waters, wines and cocktails. The fun doesn't stop when the sun goes down; the area transforms into a laid-back lounge offering aperitifs and after-dinner drinks as well as an impressive selection of cocktails.





#### IN VILLA DINING

To us, in villa dining means the creation of a magical experience for our guests in the privacy of their own accommodation, 24 hours a day. The menu includes a carefully curated selection of dishes designed to please and satisfy a craving for something different; our chefs make it just right.

# AFFILIATIONS

 $SLH-Small\ Luxury\ Hotels\ of\ The\ World\ |\ KIWI\ Collection\ |\ Mr\ \&\ Mrs\ Smith$ 



### CONTACT

# MILAIDHOO MALDIVES

welcome@milaidhoo.com | +960 660 7788 www.milaidhoo.com | @Milaidhoo

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Milaidhoo Maldives c/o Universal Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. PO Box 2015, 39 Orchid Magu Male 20-02, Republic of Maldives welcome@milaidhoo.com | +960 660 77 88