

# Island life

Indulge in a blissful break on Vakkaru Maldives, a luxurious island hideaway where you can enjoy sunbathing, swimming, snorkelling and stargazing in beautiful natural surroundings

**I**n the UNESCO-protected Baa Atoll in the Maldives – a 30-minute scenic seaplane journey from the capital Malé – you will find an intimate hideaway offering relaxed luxury that draws on the natural beauty of the island and its surroundings. Vakkaru, which means ‘coconut timber’ in Maldivian, is an independently run hotel and home to over 2,300 coconut trees, which provide shade, cast elegant shadows across the white sands and are harvested for use in the cuisine at the hotel’s four restaurants and two bars.

Accommodation comes in the form of 125 beach and over-water villas and suites. The design, which is inspired by the hotel’s idyllic setting and local Maldivian architecture, blurs the lines between inside and out. Generous beachfront and over-water private terraces, outdoor showers and

floor-to-ceiling windows make the most of the beautiful uninterrupted views.

Vakkaru is surrounded by a diverse and lively reef, which is perfect for snorkelling and diving. Guests can go on an expedition with a marine biologist or take goggles and explore on their own. After a day outside in the water, unwind on the terrace or in one of the restaurants and bars – many of the ingredients used are from the island’s own organic garden and dishes range in style from European to Asian.

In addition to the restaurants, various dining experiences can be arranged in complete seclusion – be it on your terrace, the beach or beneath the palms in a hidden corner of the island. And the Maldives is one of the best places in the world for star-gazing due to the lack of light pollution, so you can enjoy wonderful views both by day and night.

**READER OFFER** Book your Maldives family holiday for at least seven nights and enjoy free stay, meals and transfers for up to 2 children 12 years or below. Offer is valid for stays until December 19, 2019. To book, visit [vakkarumaldives.com](http://vakkarumaldives.com)