

MARCH 2021 ISSUE

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# VELASSARU MOMENTS



## Welcome to our March Issue of Velassaru Moments 2021

There is always something new happening at Velassaru Maldives and this issue brings you lots of exciting news from the island. We are constantly striving to see how we can improve your stay with us and we would like to take this opportunity of highlighting some key implementations that happened during the last quarter.



# AROUND THE ISLAND



## Staying with Peace of mind in Velassaru Maldives

Velassaru Maldives re-open on November 01, 2020 following all the safety requirements and recommendations set out by all the relevant authorities available to us to make sure the guests can enjoy their holidays in comfort and safety. Slightly adjusted service procedures are implemented carefully to not disrupt the guests' resort experience.

These include screenings and temperature checks for all team members. Daily protective measures regarding food handling, sanitization, disinfection, and cleaning procedures.

Following the most recent requirements from several international airlines and destination countries for travelers to provide a negative PCR test certificate upon their return travel journey, Velassaru has introduced the PCR testing facility so guests do not have to travel out of the island. Each PCR Test will be done through our well-trained medical team and will be taking the samples and coordinate to send them to a government approved facility for testing and results will be received before departure.

All resort team members are thrilled to once again provide excellent guest service and appreciate our guests' loyalty. The team has worked diligently to establish measures that will deliver a luxury service culture and safe experience to our guests.

For information about the guest experience, and how our resort will operate during these times, please [click here](#).

## Valentines Celebration

This year, Velassaru Maldives invited couples to celebrate Valentine's Day with an indulgent couple's spa treatment at The Spa and followed by an exclusive romantic dining experience on the beach.

### Velassaru Spa – Valentine's Vinothérapie

The experience includes a couple's full body scrub, wrap and massage followed by a specially prepared bath for two with accompanying bottle of wine.

### Romantic Beach Dinner

On this special occasion, dinner tables were set on the expansive beach for a tranquil night with panoramic oceanfront moonlit view. Couples enjoyed an intimate five-course dinner and two glasses Champagne Taittinger with live music.

## Special Offers 2021

Experience the ultimate escape from everyday and stay at Velassaru Maldives and enjoy great savings! Our EXCEPTIONAL MALDIVES GETAWAY package includes everything you need for an unforgettable break. The exclusive 3-night offer includes breakfast and complimentary stay for kids (restriction applies). Check our Special Offers page on this link <https://velassaru.com/special-offers>

## Velassaru Events Calendar 2021

Look forward to escaping to a chic and contemporary retreat to suit every occasion; culinary getaway, spa journey or simply a romantic break away from it all! Find the best things to do all year with our Events Calendar of 2021.



# WINE & DINE



## Dhivehi Cuisine

Maldivian food is a must-try for whenever you visit the Maldives. You may not be able to visit us right now, so we are here to help you bring a piece of the island at home with this Maldivian cuisine, also called Dhivehi cuisine. It is largely based on three items: coconuts, fish, and starches. This tasty dish, called Mas Huni, incorporates all three for a truly authentic recipe that's easily replicated just about anywhere.



### Mas Huni

Serves 2-4

#### Ingredients

1 can of canned tuna chunks in water  
2 onions (finely sliced)  
1 green chilli (or scotch bonnet)  
1 cup of grated coconut  
½ large lime (juice and zest)  
Salt to taste

#### Preparation:

Squash the onions, and green chilli (or Scotch bonnet) with lemon juice and salt. Add the tuna and mix well.  
Mix in the coconut. Serve with Roshii or warm and toasted bread of your choice.

## Mixology 101

### Pool Side Cooler

Just a sip of one of these fun, refreshing drink will remind you of a warm tropical breezes and sand between your toes. It's like a vacation in a glass!

#### Ingredients:

Southern Comfort 30ml  
Peach Liquor 30ml  
Passion Fruit Puree 40ml  
Passion Fruit Syrup 20ml

#### Method of preparation:

Shake all ingredients together and fine strain into a chilled martini glass. Garnish with fresh passion fruit seeds.

# DIVE & DISCOVER



Diving in one of the world's most beautiful diving sites, in a tropical warm water and crystal clear visibility makes Maldives one of the most enchanting destination you can possibly find. Immersion Dive Centre Baseleader, Carmen Dressler, shares with us one of her favourite diving sites...

## Velassaru Cave

The caves are found directly to the north of Velassaru and range in depth from 15 to 32 meters. The caves cut into the vertical wall of the reef causing a jagged appearance, like the edge of a serrated knife. With only 10 minutes away by Dhoni, it is a 200 meters reef rich in overhangs along a formidable wall, with an incredible coral life. Some of the caves have sandy bottoms and are an ideal resting place for stingrays, turtles and nurse sharks. Simply an incredible spectacle worth to witness!!

## Diving for Kids – Bubble Maker Programme

There are number of options to give children a truly unforgettable underwater experience here in the Maldives.

IMMERSION Dive Centre offers PADI Bubble Maker programme for children who are at least 8 years old. This course is an introductory session for children who are interested in diving but too young to enrol on the PADI Junior Open Water Diver course. It is carried out in shallow water and gives them the chance to experience breathing underwater and to blow a few bubbles in a safe and secure environment.



# TASTE FOR LIFE



## UPCOMING EVENTS IN MARCH – MAY 2021

### MARCH

- 05–09 [Rum Cocktail Week](#)  
Experience the flavors of the Caribbean with Rum inspired cocktails at FEN
- 14 [Mother's Day Garden Burger & Gourmet Hot Dog BBQ](#)  
A delightful Burger BBQ lunch buffet in TURQUOISE Garden
- [Vibes of Summer](#)  
A day of sun, sea, sand and chill out music at the pool and FEN garden
- [Spa Time](#)  
Mother's Day Massage with a Refresh Facial Spa package
- [Mother's Day Special Sunset Beach Yoga](#)  
Special sunset yoga on the beach
- [Mother's Day Sunset Cruise with Canapes and Champagne](#)

### APRIL

- 03 [Kids' Easter Egg Hunt in FEN Garden](#)  
Follow the clues left by bunny around the garden to complete the hunt followed by a sweet buffet in FEN!
- [Easter Sunday Dinner Buffet](#)  
Celebrate the Easter Sunday with an enhanced buffet in VELA
- [Garden Burger BBQ](#)  
A delightful BBQ lunch buffet in TURQUOISE Garden
- [Vibes of Summer](#)  
A day of sun, sea, sand and chill out music at the pool and garden area
- 04 [Easter Sunday Seafood Buffet](#)  
Enjoy a refreshing seafood
- 05 [Easter Egg Painting](#)  
Kids' Easter egg painting in ETESIAN
- 09–13 [Island Spice](#)  
A selection of tropical cocktails created by our head mixologist

### MAY

- 13 [Eid Al-Fitr in Vela](#)  
Mark the end of Ramadan with an enhanced buffet in VELA
- 14 [Flavours of Maldives Cooking Demonstration](#)  
Learn the secrets of Maldivian cooking in Sand Restaurant

# VELASSARU TEAM



Executive Chef – Joao Costa

Velassaru Maldives would like to extend its warm welcome to Joao Costa as the resort's Executive Chef. Originally from Portugal, Chef Costa learned the heritage of Mediterranean cuisine from his grandmother and family. Passionate and curious about kitchen and cooking techniques, Chef Costa's approach to cooking is to present a classic cuisine on a modern and innovated way. He graduated from hospitality school in Algarve and he began his career in South of Portugal. He has held positions in some of the world-class hospitality brands such as Le Meriden, Intercontinental, Sheraton and Anantara.

Chef Costa specialises in Mediterranean cuisine, western cuisine, fine dining, Arabic, European, and banquets. He is known for his kitchen and cooking style for mixing flavours and textures using seasonal and local ingredients combined with creative culinary techniques from around the world.

# AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Awards and Recognition Our award-winning resort has received accolades from around the globe, and has garnered praise from travellers and industry bodies alike. Our world-class service earns us awards from Trip Advisor year after year.

[Agoda Gold Circle Award 2019](#)



[Hotels.Com/Expedia – 2020 Loved by Guests Award Winners](#)



[Booking.com Traveller Review Awards 2021](#)

We are thrilled to share that Velassaru Maldives been awarded the Traveller Review Awards 2021 by Booking.com for superb reviews. This award, based on review scores from verified travelers worldwide, celebrates the exceptional Booking.com hospitality partners. Each of them has shown incredible resilience in the face of disruption, overcoming trials and tribulations while providing travellers with experiences that last a lifetime.



[SLH Award Winners 2020 – Highly Commended in the 'INVITED Hotel of the Year'](#)

We are delighted to share that Velassaru Maldives has been Highly Commended in the 'INVITED Hotel of the Year' award category of the SLH Awards 2020! Small Luxury Hotels of The World is the proud champion of the most incredible community of independently minded hotels in the world, and it's a great achievement to have stood out amongst them all. We are happy to share our to celebration to all of our amazing guests & team member specially in these challenging times

INVITED is a member loyalty programme at SLH. Making each SLH member experience better, INVITED rewards you each time you make a booking on SLH.com or through our SLH Voice Channel.

## CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

[Facebook](#)

Facebook Currently, there are more than 59,000 followers on Velassaru page. Follow us every day and discover interesting stories and opportunities Velassaru has to offer.

