

VELASSARU MOMENTS

APRIL 2016
ISSUE

VIEW ONLINE

Welcome to our April issue of Velassaru Moments 2016

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

Deluxe Villa with Pool

We have unveiled a new room category – Deluxe Villa with Pool. The spacious 110sqm Deluxe Villa with Pool with its own private garden and fronted by a shaded patio. It features an expansive split-level bedroom, lounge with courtesy counter and a spacious open air bathroom. The bathroom opens up into a private garden courtyard with an oversized plunge pool, sundeck and outdoor shower. The Deluxe Villa with Pool has been designed to be able to cater for two adults and two children sharing comfortably.

Complimentary Velassaru Morning Cruise

Explore the extraordinary beauty of the blue waters of Maldives on our traditional Dhoni. Morning cruises are now part of the experience at Velassaru Maldives. This complimentary excursion will take place four times a week from 0800hrs to 0900hrs.

Velassaru New Website

We have been working on a new design of our website as part of a dynamic evolution of its visual identity. We understand guests today are using their smartphones and tablets to make travel decisions, the new responsive website will be completely up to date with modern web design trends while also offering a simpler, more intuitive navigation. Please check around mid-year for the launch.

Inclusion in The Small Luxury Hotels of the world "The Small Luxury Cookbook"

We're proud to announce our inclusion in the Small Luxury Cookbook – a collection of recipes from over 200 of its hotels around the world designed to inspire your inner culinary flair. Small Luxury Hotels of the World has chosen one of our Turquoise menu recipes to be included within its pages!

Executive Chef Carlos Exprua's recipe in the book is one of our favourites in the all-day-dining restaurant –Turquoise. The Maldivian Grilled Tuna, served on a delicious creamy coconut rice with citrus and mango fruit salsa.

"We want to create the dish to honour Maldives' popular and exquisite ingredient, the yellowfin tuna. The dish encapsulates the essence and flavours of Maldives." – Carlos Exprua

This is the perfect present for foodies and travel lovers alike. The Small Luxury Cookbook is available for purchase at Velassaru Living or on the SLH Cookbook website www.slhcookbook.com

TIME TO SPA

New Spa Menu Unveiled at the Spa at Velassaru Maldives

The Spa has recently launched a new menu and reviewed price list with additional of signature treatments as well as carefully chosen daily specials created to provide an authentic healing experience. The Spa is now delighted to announce the new couple retreat rituals and body treatment:

- Couple Bespoke
Couples will enjoy a relaxing two and a half hours of treatment, a lush body scrub followed by our signature massage.
- Celebrate Romance
A two hour treatment specially designed for couples to experience together that begins with a Viotherapie massage, followed by a facial treatment and ends with a specially prepared romantic bath and with an accompanied bottle of wine for two.
- Coconut Body Scrub
A nurturing body scrub mixed with virgin coconut oil specially designed to invigorate and re-energise.

Complimentary Group Yoga Class in the Morning

To help regain a sense of inner balance, morning group yoga is now available at the perfectly located, sunrise facing deck at Chill Bar from 0630hrs to 0730hrs three days a week.

For a full listing of spa signature treatments and services, visit: www.velassaru.com/the-spa

WINE & DINE

Enhanced Sand Menu

Sand restaurant spools you for choice by offering an enticing range of Pan-Indian Ocean cuisine. New favorites include Reef Fish Cрудо, Maldivian Salt Crusted Catch of the Day and Spicy Chocolate Fondant! Spectacular beachfront settings under the stars while overlooking dramatic ocean views – a dining experience not to be missed! Visit our menu page here – <http://www.velassaru.com/sand>

New Breakfast Live Cooking in Vela

Spill for choice, guests can now indulge in our improved breakfast buffet offerings at Vela restaurant featuring an extensive spread of both local and cuisines from around the World. Interactive live stations which include Salmon Eggs Benedict, Sri Lankan Hoppers, Indian Dossa as well as other highlights and live-station cooking. The buffet enhancement also features selection of traditional and innovative fine pastry choices.

Velassaru Unveil its New Etesian Menu Concept

Fresh Seafood with a Contemporary Flair.

We are excited to introduce a completely new Etesian menu that features a fresh modern take on seafood dishes with play on both the classic and contemporary, with the Velassaru signature culinary twist. Fresh from the Indian Ocean daily catches, intense yet refined, a seafood symphony awaits you. Visit our menu page on this link – <http://www.velassaru.com/etesian>.

Velassaru Indulgence Package

With effect from the 1st of November, 2015, our ever popular Velassaru Indulgence package has been completely enhanced. An extensive range of new inclusions as well as significant supplementary items make up this truly World class offer. The beverages included in the package can now be enjoyed throughout the day in outlets during standard operating hours.

Mixology 101

Pineapple Passion Fruit Mojito – an old favourite with a delicious tropical twist!

Summer is just around the corner and it's all about sipping on something a little tropical to get you in the summer vibe. A delicious mojito is always guaranteed to give you that chilled-out holiday feeling. We are sharing with you Velassaru's very own winning mojito cocktail recipe. It's an absolute winner!

40 ml	White Rum
15 ml	Pineapple Juice
20 gms	Fresh Lime
10 ml	Sugar Syrup
1	Passion Fruit
15 ml	Passion Fruit Liqueur
10 gms	Mint Leaves
30ml	Soda

Method

Muddle pineapple juice, sugar, mint, limes and passion fruit – add rum – shake well, strain into a whiskey glass, add crushed ice and top-up with the soda. Float half a passion fruit and a pineapple leaf on top for a finishing flourish!

Top tips for making flavoured mojitos

Muddling is a technique of gently pressing ingredients such as berries, lime quarters and sugar into a glass, and gently but firmly press together

DIVE & DISCOVER

Maldives has some of the most beautiful diving sites in the world, the warm water and clear visibility make it a pleasure to dive. Immersion Dive Centre Baseleader, Rudi Palm, shares with us the three of his favourite diving sites...

Kuda Giri Wreck

Located less than half an hour from Velassaru, close to Kanduoili Giri Island, is a special place known as Stingray City. Renowned as one of the most thrilling dives sites in the world! More than 100 resident Stingrays who seem to invite you as welcomed guest to their beautiful home that they share with a plethora of gorgeous tropical fish will make this experience one never be forgotten. Swim, explore, enjoy, and take a few selfies with the Stingray locals!

Embudhoo Express

A 2km drift dive through the Embudhoo Kandu, Embudhoo Express is located in a Protected Marine reserve that is arguably among the most fascinating channel diving spot in Maldives. This experience is only suitable for advanced scuba divers that have good drift diving skills. While you are traversing the channel that has an ongoing current there is a very likely chance that you will see numerous grey reef Sharks, white tip Sharks, Barracuda, big-eye Travelly as well as yellowfin Tuna.

Stingray City or the Fish Factory

Located less than half an hour from Velassaru, close to Kanduoili Giri Island, is a special place known as Stingray City. Renowned as one of the most thrilling dives sites in the world! More than 100 resident Stingrays who seem to invite you as welcomed guest to their beautiful home that they share with a plethora of gorgeous tropical fish will make this experience one never be forgotten. Swim, explore, enjoy, and take a few selfies with the Stingray locals!

Subscribe to our YouTube channel for great scuba diving videos we've seen this year – <https://www.youtube.com/user/VelassaruMaldives>

Complimentary Guided Snorkeling Tour

Velassaru Maldives is a private coral island surrounded by a crystal clear aquamarine lagoon that offers a treasure trove of marine life. Immersion is now offering a complimentary guided snorkelling tour on Monday and Friday afternoons for guests to experience a close encounter with the flora and fauna of the island. During the one hour tour, guests will get an insight to our beautiful house reef.

New prices for Immersion and Glide

A completely new pricelist was recently introduced to Velassaru Dive Centre and Glide Watersports activities. Immersion at Velassaru offers a wide range of unforgettable activities both under, on and over water. Glide Watersports boasts a premium range of sports facilities and activities for an aquatic adventure.

TASTE FOR LIFE EVENTS

Valentine's Day at Velassaru

Velassaru Maldives celebrated Valentine's Day in style. Guests were invited to a memorable day starting with a spa indulgence at The Spa and there after our Guests were offered a choice of a premium degustation dinner at Etesian Restaurant or an exclusive romantic dining experience on the beach both hosted by Ruinat Champagne.

Easter Weekend

Velassaru Maldives had a basket-load of cracking events happening over the Easter weekend. The weekend hopping-off with a 'Purely White' party on the Main beach. Easter Sunday was fun-filled for the little one as they took part in the egg painting in Etesian garden.

UPCOMING EVENTS

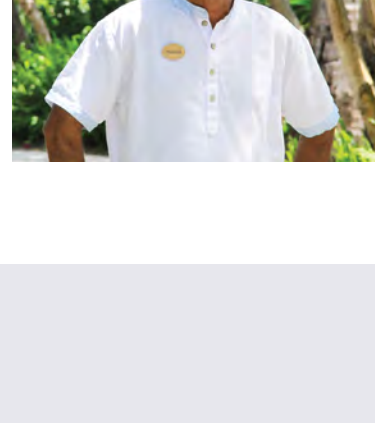
May 2016

- 06-08 Mojito Weekend
Irresistibly fresh and punchy, you're guaranteed to beat the heat with our selection of delicious Mojito cocktails.
- 13 Rosé Wine Dinner
Indulge yourself in our epicurean degustation menu paired with an outstanding selection of Rosé wines from around the World in Etesian restaurant.
- 16 & 20 Afternoon Chill-Out Session
A lazy afternoon chill-out session by the highly acclaimed DJ Nuthiya at Chill Bar.
- 17-19 Afternoon DJ Masterclass Sessions with DJ Raysoo
DJ Raysoo, one of Asia's leading DJs, will show us how to spin the decks at Sand restaurant.
- 21 Moonlight Vibes
Join us for a spectacular night of music and a range of full moon inspired cocktails on the Main Beach. Groove to sets with our internationally acclaimed, husband and wife duo, guest artists – DJ Raysoo and DJ Nuthiya.
- 29 Delicacies of Indian Ocean
Savour the best the sea has to offer in Sand restaurant

June 2016

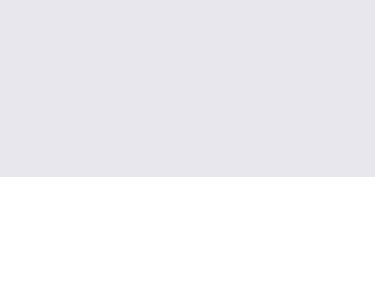
- 17-19 Margaritas Weekend
A selection of Margaritas, in Fen Bar.

VELASSARU TEAM



Tyrone Rajapakse – Rooms Division Manager

Tyrone Rajapakse, a Sri Lankan national, recently joined the Velassaru team as the Rooms Division Manager. Tyrone's invaluable knowledge and vast experience in the industry include management roles in hotel revenue and profit, front office and sales responsibilities for properties around the world. Prior to joining the Team, Tyrone assumed the role of Director of Revenue for Six Senses and before that Complex Senior Director of Revenue for Per Aquum Resorts. Tyrone is a graduate from Ceylon Hotel School in Sri Lanka, specialized in Accommodation Operations and Catering Management, having 20 years' experience in hospitality across Sri Lanka, Kingdom of Kuwait, Seychelles and Maldives. Tyrone is indeed a great asset to Velassaru.



Employee of Year, Mohamed Hussain

Originally from South Adu, the last Southern atoll in Maldives, Mohamed Hussain first arrived at Velassaru in 2002. Hussain has continuously work on the island for more than 13 years and has seen many changes over the years including the complete re-launch of Velassaru in 2009. A vital member of the Team during this entire period always with his warm and engaging personality, Hussain has touched many hearts both Guests and Team alike. His passion for his job and his exceptional Guest service standards made him an obvious choice for Employee of the Year 2016.

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Currently, there are more than 30,000 followers on Velassaru page. Follow us every day and discover interesting stories and opportunities Velassaru has to offer.

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