



SUN HOTELS
& RESORTS

Press Pack

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Sun Hotels & Resorts owns and manages two luxury hotels in the Maldives. These include Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort and Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort.

These hotels were incorporated into the Sun Hotels & Resorts brand in 2007 and each offers a Sun International Diving School - with PADI Gold Palm status and extensive courses for beginners through to the more experienced – and a Sun Spa. Taking a holistic approach to health and wellness derived using the five elements of Chinese medicine and traditional treatments; each Sun Spa provides an unrivalled variety of treatments based on aromatherapy, Ayurveda, Swedish, Balinese, Thai and Shiatsu practices.

Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort - www.olhuvelimaldives.com

Located on the tip of South Malé Atoll and only 45 minutes by speedboat from the airport, this beautiful island retreat is suitable for the whole family and offers stunning beaches, abundant sandbanks and superb recreational activities.

Facilities at the 164-room resort include a selection of restaurants and bars, two large pools with infinity edge, a separate children's pool, play area and a specially created activities program for kids, floodlit tennis, volleyball and an excellent watersports centre with kite-surfing, wake boarding, troll fishing and dolphin safaris to name a few. A large, shallow blue lagoon surrounds the whole island, which also makes it great for snorkelling and various watersports.

Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort - www.vilureefmaldives.com

Award-winning* Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort is located in the South Nilandhe Atoll and is a green and fertile resort - known locally as the 'Garden Of Eden' for its idyllic natural beauty. Reached by a 35-minute seaplane transfer from Malé, the resort is surrounded by lush vegetation, swaying coconut palms and pristine white sandy beaches and offers understated laid-back luxury.

The 121-room resort has much to offer to its guests, but its greatest assets are something that no other resort can boast because it's natural: one side of the island is a protected lagoon and the other side is a beautiful reef ideal for snorkelling and diving. Facilities include a selection of restaurants and bars, an infinity pool, fitness room, tennis court, table tennis, volleyball court and a watersports centre offering wake boarding, windsurfing and catamaran sailing to name a few.

* In August 2012, Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort was awarded a certificate of excellence by TripAdvisor for its exceptional travel ratings over the past year.



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| Name: | Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort |
| Location: | South Malé Atoll: 45-minute speedboat from Malé |
| Website: | www.olhuvelimaldives.com |
| Opened: | 2002 (renovated in 2005) |
| General Manager: | Abdulla Thamheed |
| Architect/designer: | Mohamed Shafeeq |
| UK Tour Operators: | Ambassador Travel Bridge The World British Airways Holidays Destinology DialAFlight First Choice Hayes & Jarvis Holiday Genie Kenwood Travel Kuoni Purely Maldives Southall Travel Thomas Cook Thomas Cook Signature Thomson Thomson Tailormade Trailfinders Travelbag Trayvale Travel Travel Republic Tropical Sky Tropic Breeze Value Added Travel |
| Accommodation: | <p>All 164 rooms and villas are luxuriously furnished with custom-made teak furniture and lighting combining traditional architecture with modern interiors. The room categories are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Deluxe Rooms (96)</i> Beach-fronted with spacious bathrooms and a terrace or balcony overlooking the beach and lagoon. Interconnecting rooms are available for families• <i>Beach Villas (8)</i> Individually appointed facing prime beach-front, each beach villa offers a spacious bathroom and features an open-air enclosed |

courtyard for maximum privacy with a large sala – perfect for an afternoon siesta. Double glass panelled doors lead out to a private verandah with a day bed, which overlooks the beautiful beach and lagoon.

Deluxe Water Villas (21)

Situated on stilts over the water, these villas offer an extended deck overlooking the lagoon with chaise lounges for private sunbathing and a swim-up platform, which provides direct access to the lagoon via private stairs

- *Jacuzzi Water Villas (32)*

With the same facilities as the deluxe water villas but with a larger bathroom with roll-top bath benefiting from fabulous views of the lagoon and a further Jacuzzi bath situated on the large private sundeck

- *Honeymoon Water Villas (5)*

Discover island life at its fullest in these luxurious villas. Each offers the same amenities as that in the Jacuzzi water villa in addition to a separate living room with sliding glass doors offering panoramic views. The large sundeck also benefits from a steam shower in addition to an open-air Jacuzzi tub

- *Presidential Water Suites (2)*

Offering the height of luxury for those seeking paradise. The two-bedroom suites are fitted with the finest furnishings and offer complete privacy with unparalleled views and butler service. Each suite incorporates a large open-plan living and dining room, kitchenette with butler's entrance and two king-size bedrooms each with a dressing room and luxury en suite bathrooms. Outside, a split-level deck comes equipped with a private plunge pool with Jacuzzi, steam shower and chaise lounges with a small dining table and staircase into the lagoon on the lower deck area

The following facilities are available in all rooms and villas:

- Air-conditioning
- Bathrobe/slippers
- CD/DVD system
- Ceiling fan
- Direct dialling
- Fully stocked mini bar
- Safe
- Satellite TV
- Hairdryer
- Kettle with tea and coffee making facilities

Food:

Sunset is the main over-water restaurant serving buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner with stunning views over the lagoon. À la carte dinner options include The Four Spices restaurant, offering Asian food at its finest with highlights of Japanese, Indian, Thai and Maldivian flavours. For an extraordinary gastronomic experience, The Four Spices has also introduced a new Wine Pairing Menu with five-courses, each accompanied by a wine carefully selected by the sommelier to complement the food. Meanwhile, the Lagoon Restaurant, overlooking the beautiful beach and lagoon, is the place for an easygoing lunch or dinner. Island Pizza, located close to the Sunrise pool, is a popular option for a light lunch and in-between snacks

Beach barbecues, romantic dinners and in-villa dining can also be arranged

There are three bars; the main Lagoon Bar which offers nightly entertainment, the Dhoni Bar with its relaxing ambience located by the pool and the Sunrise Bar which offers drinks and snacks all day for the whole family

Recreational activities:

- A full range of activities and excursions
- Badminton/volleyball
- Billiards/snooker
- Children's pool
- Kids' programme of activities
- Floodlit tennis
- Fully equipped gymnasium
- Library/cyber café
- PADI Gold Palm Sun International Diving School
- Private Karaoke
- Souvenir boutique/jewellery shop
- Sun Spa
- Table tennis
- Two infinity edge swimming pools
- Water Sports World

Time Difference:

GMT +6 hours



| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Name: | Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort |
| Location: | South Nilandhe Atoll: 35-minute seaplane from Malé |
| Website: | www.vilureefmaldives.com |
| Opened: | October 1998 |
| General Manager: | Mohamed Rasheed |
| Architect/designer: | Tekton Design Pvt Ltd |
| UK Tour Operators: | Ambassador Travel Bridge The World Destinology DialAFlight Holiday Genie Kenwood Travel Purely Maldives Southall Travel Thomas Cook Thomas Cook Signature Thomson Thomson Tailormade Trailfinders Travelbag Trayvale Travel Travel Republic Tropical Sky Tropic Breeze Value Added Travel |
| Accommodation: | <p>All 121 rooms and villas have been designed to blend with nature, yet providing modern comforts. They are luxuriously furnished with custom made teak furniture and lightings and come complete with a four-poster king-size bed. The room categories are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Garden Villas (20)</i> Semi-detached villas are situated within the landscaped garden and come with twin or double beds with air-conditioning, satellite TV, mini bar, safe and partially open-air en suite bathrooms• <i>Beach Villas (60)</i> Individually appointed and designed in the shape of the renowned Nautilus shell, the villas have a four-poster double bed as well as a comfortable divan, which can accommodate an additional third person. The bathroom is large with an open-air enclosed courtyard for maximum privacy. Double glass panelled |

doors lead out to a large timber deck with sun loungers, which overlooks the beautiful beach and lagoon

- *Jacuzzi Water Villas (29)*

Located over water, these villas come with an extended deck overlooking the lagoon with chaise lounges for private sunbathing, a Jacuzzi bath and a swim-up platform, which provides direct access to the lagoon through private stairs

- *Honeymoon Water Villas (5)*

These luxurious villas each offer the same amenities as that in the Jacuzzi water villa but with an additional steam shower, a Jacuzzi tub and separate living room with glass panelling on three sides offering a panoramic views

- *Water Villas With Pools (6)*

Each stilted villa boasts panoramic ocean views and direct access to the lagoon via a private stairway. For added relaxation, the villas boast a large balcony with an extended sun deck, infinity plunge pool, chaise lounges for private sunbathing and a large hammock suspended over the lagoon. The interior comprises a large bedroom with a choice of a four-poster or double bed, a day bed which can accommodate an additional third person, a dressing area and bathroom with a large roll-top bath, double sinks and separate shower.

- *Presidential Water Suite (1)*

Situated at the far end, where the two footbridges meet, the suite offers complete privacy, unparalleled views and butler service. The spectacular glass-walled living room provides stunning views of the surroundings and rooms are fitted with beautiful teak furniture and ornate furnishings.

It comprises two king-size bedrooms with four-poster beds, a luxury en suite bathroom and a kitchenette. Outside on the double-levelled timber deck is a private plunge pool, open air Jacuzzi and chaise lounges. A staircase from the second level, leads into the lagoon below

The following facilities are available in all rooms and villas:

- Air-conditioning
- Bathrobe/slippers
- Ceiling fan
- Direct dialling
- Fully stocked mini bar
- Hairdryer
- Kettle with tea and coffee making facilities
- Safe
- Satellite TV

Food:

A blend of exotic and western cuisine with plenty of locally caught fish and seafood. There is the main restaurant serving breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as an á la carte restaurant situated over the lagoon. Dinner for two can be arranged on the beach or the privacy of a guest room. There is a pool bar and main bar where the evening entertainment occurs, serving a variety of tropical fruit juices to fine wines. A pizza menu is also available at the pool bar

Recreational activities:

- A full range of activities and excursions

- Badminton/volleyball
- Billiards
- Floodlit tennis
- Fully equipped gymnasium
- PADI Gold Palm Sun International Diving School
- Water Sports World
- Small Children's playground
- Sun Spa
- Swimming pool
- Table tennis

Time Difference:

GMT +6 hours



SUN INTERNATIONAL DIVING SCHOOLS

The Maldives is home to a wealth of neon-coloured marine life, virgin reef and turquoise blue seas of the Indian Ocean, making diving or snorkelling a must for all guests. Sun Hotels & Resorts recognised this need in each of their resorts and so set up a dive school at each island. The Sun International Diving Schools have PADI Gold Palm status - the highest standard given by PADI to any of its international dive bases - and thus provides safe, professional and exciting diving.

With multi-lingual staff on-hand, the school focuses on taking small groups on dives ensuring an amazing experience for all divers. Courses are available from a Discover Scuba course for beginners to a Rescue Divers course for the experienced divers and even a speciality course including drift diving. Nitrox and Re-breather courses are also available.

With the Maldives having an average sea-water temperature of 86F, this allows for clear visibility year round, sometimes exceeding 50 metres.

Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort

Divers at Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort have some incredible marine life to explore. They can expect to see an extensive array of fish and marine creatures from whale shark, mantas to eagle rays and even dolphins. A key attraction of divers to Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort is the magnificent experience of night diving to view the manta feeding on plankton

Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort

Diving at Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort has something to offer everyone – from easy diving to long reef diving and the possibility of seeing whale shark, tuna, eagle rays, mantas and turtles. Located in South Nilandhe Atoll, the variety of corals and reef fish is greater than in any other atoll. Great for beginners, the width of the channel and the shallower drop-offs allow for easier diving. Another highlight at Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort is the extremely friendly batfish who often join divers for the duration of their dives



SUN SPAS

Guests can ensure they ease away all tensions at a Sun Hotels & Resorts' property by visiting one of their Sun Spas – each a retreat in the truest sense. The concept for the brand involves a holistic approach to wellbeing, with treatments incorporating the five elements of Chinese medicine (wood, fire, earth, metal and water) and traditional Ayurveda to promote health and wellness.

Each spa has been carefully located on the three islands in settings as enticing as the treatments themselves – dense, lush vegetation ensures inner sanctum, tranquility and privacy. Their philosophy embraces the restorative and rejuvenating qualities, offering a wide range of treatments which promise to revitalise mind, body and soul.

Sun Spas emanate a feeling of natural serenity within the private spa pavilions, which are customised depending on the treatment, be it aromatherapy or hydrotherapy. Each of the Sun Spas provide an unrivalled variety of treatments based on aromatherapy, Ayurveda, Swedish, Balinese, Thai and Shiatsu practices. An example includes the Sun Spa Signature massage, a 90-minute full body massage combining Swedish, Hawaiian, Lomi-lomi, Balinese, Japanese, Shiatsu, Thai and Aromatherapy techniques and performed in synchronisation by two therapists – the most relaxing treatment ever!

Beauty treatments include facials, body scrubs, face masks, manicures and pedicures. There is also a hair salon, separate men's and women's wet areas with hydrotherapy pools, saunas, steam bath, Jacuzzi and dedicated relaxation areas.

Some of the treatments on offer include:

Sun Spa Signature Massage
Slimming Therapy
Swedish Massage
Aromatherapy Massage
Stone Massage
Balinese Massage
Thai Yoga
Japanese Shiatsu
Jet Lag Recovery
Reflexology
Intensive Care by Biokos

Honey Cucumber Facial
Ayurvedic Dosha Facial
Ayurvedic Shirdhara Massage
Ayurvedic Marma Massage
Ayurvedic Dosha Massage
Indian Head & Neck Massage
Re-hydrating Coconut Scrub
After Sun Body Mask
Spice Scrub
Nourishment Clay Mask
Revitalising Seaweed Mask



BACKGROUND

Sun Travels & Tours Pvt Ltd was established as a travel agent and a tour operator in 1990. In 1997, the company successfully bid for Meedhuffushi Island in South Nilandhé Atoll to be developed as a tourist resort and, in October 1998, the four-star Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort was subsequently opened.

Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort has since gone on to achieve many awards and its success led the company to continue its expansion with various cruise ships and speed boats.

In November 2001, Sun Travels and Tours Pvt. Ltd acquired Emerald Resorts Pvt. Ltd which owned the lease of the management contract of Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort, in South Malé Atoll. The resort was refurbished in 2002 and again in 2004, when it sustained great damage during the 2004 Tsunami. With a total investment value over US\$ 30 Million, the redevelopment put Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort on the map as an excellent four-star plus resort suitable for the whole family.

In January 2004, Sun Hotels & Resorts was registered and trade marked. At this time, Sun Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd., Safari Vessels M.V Fathuhulbari and Sunset Queen, Sun Investments Pvt. Ltd., Emerald Resorts Pvt. Ltd., Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort and Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort were all brought under the umbrella of Sun Hotels & Resorts.

The Sun Hotels & Resorts brand has also developed Sun International Diving Schools and Sun Spas, which have been rolled out into each resort.



MANAGEMENT

Ahmed Siyam Mohamed – Chairman & Managing Director

Ahmed Siyam Mohamed, chairman and managing director of Sun Hotels & Resorts has had a meteoric career rising to the pinnacle of success in the Maldivian tourism industry in less than two decades.

Mr Siyam has moved quickly up the ranks at various resorts in the Maldives, including: transport manager receptionist, accountant, reservations manager, PR officer and airport representative. In 1990, he firmly established himself in the industry by co-founding Sun Travels & Tours Pvt. Ltd and was subsequently appointed managing director.

In 1997, Mr Siyam was directly involved in the acquisition and development of Meedhuffushi Island, now Vilu Reef Beach & Spa Resort in South Nilandhé Atoll and in 2001 with the takeover of Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort. He directly led the initial reconstruction of the resort and the subsequent redevelopment following the Tsunami in 2004.

With businesses established in South Nilandhe Atoll Atoll, Mr Siyam assisted the local island communities in their development programmes, concentrating on the social wellbeing of the island communities as well as the economic benefits to his businesses. In 2005, he was elected as the Member of the Maldivian Parliament for South Nilandhe Atoll.

Mr Siyam is an executive board member of MATI, he has won the National Award for distinguished service rendered towards the sustainable development of tourism in the Republic of Maldives and the President's Award for services rendered towards the tourism industry.



Zulaikha Manik - Director of Marketing & Reservations

Zulaikha Manik began her career in the travel industry in 1996 with Sun Travels, holding various positions within the marketing team. In 1999, she moved to Crown Tours where she remained as marketing manager overseeing seven resorts until 2001.

In 2003, Ms Manik re-joined Sun Travels as marketing manager and was quickly promoted to her current role of general manager: sales & marketing, where she is in charge of all marketing and contracting for Sun Hotels & Resorts.

Ms Manik comments, "My tourism education has been from a practical and hands on approach, which has been extremely useful in my career progression. I have a great interest in launching resorts and especially enjoy being involved in the decision making of every stage of a development, seeing it through to completion."

Ms Manik holds a diploma in Business Management from Leicester University.