

# MALDIVES

An aerial photograph of a speedboat moving through clear, turquoise Maldivian waters. The boat is leaving a white, swirling wake behind it. In the distance, a person is seen swimming in the water. The overall scene is vibrant and captures the beauty of the Maldives.

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**INSIDER**



## Waldorf Astoria Maldives Ithaafushi

Though it's just a 30-minute yacht trip from Malé and the airport, Waldorf Astoria Maldives Ithaafushi feels fabulously far-flung: a trio of islands dotted with stylish villas and suites, and multiple sugar-soft beaches around a peaceful lagoon. For families, the youth club and activities will keep the kids entertained while you hit the spa, soak in the swimming pool (there are two), or explore the islands by catamaran. There are 11 restaurants to choose from, each in a spellbinding spot: like the sunset-view terrace of

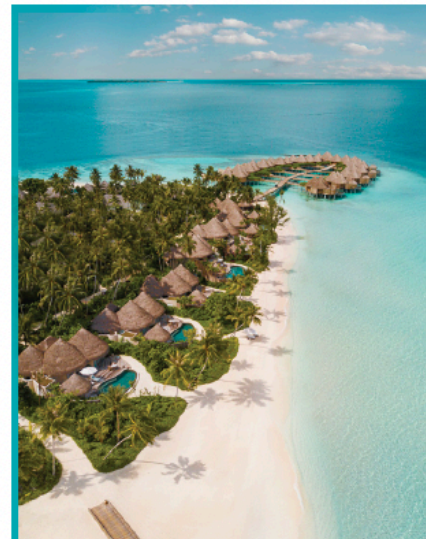
Amber, the Arabian-styled village of Yasmeen, and the treetop 'nests' of Terra – for incredible stargazing while you dine.

### DON'T MISS...

The adrenaline rush of an X-Jetblade, the under-feet hydro sport – or the X-Jetpack, which flies up to 15 metres into the air. The watersports centre is full of great gadgets, including Seabobs and jetskis too.

### ROOM WITH A VIEW...

Why have a villa, when you can hire Ithaafushi Private Island? This nine-bedroom sanctuary is totally separate from the main resort, with five swimming pools and a string of spectacular beaches.



## The Nautilus Maldives

With just 26 villas on the entire island, you can spend a whole fortnight at The Nautilus Maldives and rarely see another soul. Indeed, the only crowds you'll encounter are the whale sharks and manta rays of Hanifaru Bay – an incredible dive spot that's just a 30-minute boat ride away. Guests are encouraged to follow their own rhythms, with no set time for dining and no activity timetables: instead, each experience is completely bespoke, whether that's a seaplane tour of Baa Atoll, or a sandbank barbecue beneath the stars. The accommodations are secluded and spacious, with butler service and private pools in each one.

### DON'T MISS...

The over-water dining pavilion at restaurant Zeytoun, which features four private jetties – each with a table set for two.

### ROOM WITH A VIEW...

Described as a 'castle' by the resort, the three-bedroom Nautilus Mansion is located right on the beach, and features a traditional Maldivian undolhi (swing-bed) overlooking the waves.