



LUXURY TREADING LIGHTLY



Kudadoo Maldives
PRIVATE ISLAND
BY HURAWALHI



LUXURY TREADING LIGHTLY AT KUDADOO

For just about everyone, waking up to the gentle lapping of the ocean against the sun-drenched beaches of the Maldives is a dream come true. The country's vivid marine life and plentiful relaxation and romantic occasions lure travelers hungry for outstanding experiences to determine for themselves whether all those 'picture perfect' and 'paradise on earth' reviews hold water.

To ensure, however, that care for the natural environment doesn't take a back seat when offering luxury services, Kudadoo is proud of its comprehensive and ever-expanding efforts to reduce its environmental footprint, and its awareness raising campaigns among guests and local communities.



THE RETREAT AND THE SOLAR PANEL

Kudadoo's most iconic feature and the island's hub is The Retreat. The social centre of any stay, it provides a communal space for all to enjoy; it houses a restaurant, a bar, a wine cellar, an infinity pool, a gymnasium, a steam room, a sauna and a Himalayan salt chamber, a boutique, a spa and meeting facilities. The views from the upper level are out of this world; 'This is perhaps the highest vantage point in the Maldives built over the sea! Standing on the upper deck in the middle of the Indian Ocean, looking afar to the horizon, there is no other feeling comparable to this. Think the 'I'm flying' scene in the Titanic,' notes Yuji. The Retreat is a truly impressive, 21-metre high building.

The Retreat's graceful gently sloped roof grates the bright Equatorial sunlight into a comfortable dappled glow underneath and, even more significantly, it generates electricity. It has been determined that the solar panels on this 2,000-square metre roof generate sufficient power to serve 50 guests and 100 staff occupying the private island at any time.

The Retreat's roof incorporates 984 solar panels that span an area of 1643m² and can produce 575MWh of power annually and generate a peak power of 320kWp, enabling Kudadoo to be purely powered by the sun.

Kudadoo truly showcases what the future of sustainable resorts in tropical climates looks like. Although the solar system generates a surplus of electricity, all residences are designed to minimise energy consumption.

YUJI YAMAZAKI

After his outstanding work on Hurawalhi's public spaces, selecting New York-based architectural firm Yuji Yamazaki Architecture PLLC to design Kudadoo Maldives Private Island in its entirety was an obvious choice.

Yuji has gone above and beyond by breaking away from common resort design and has conceived Kudadoo as a cohesive representation of the place, with each building and each design detail taking inspiration from the Maldives' unique characteristics.

Yuji Yamazaki's exceptional Architecture has completely transcended Kudadoo to promote sustainable tourism through solar-powered architecture.



THE SALT SOLUTION

Spending time in Kudadoo's very own Himalayan Salt Room – a first for the Maldives – named 'Lonu Cave' and breathing in the world's most healing salt air is the natural way to clear sinuses, your lungs and ease muscles, then submit to the invigorating Himalayan salt stone therapy to feel completely cleansed and rested.

Himalayan salt is a natural product containing trace minerals that are also present in our bodies. The salt is mined by hand by skilled workers using traditional methods, so there's little to no pollution or waste byproducts from manufacturing.

LINE DRYING OF LAUNDRY

Line drying is used to further reduce the resort's use of electricity for machinery, and adding to the mix of eco-friendly practices used at the resort.

HEAT RECOVERY SYSTEM

The resort's hot water requirements are met through a high-efficiency heat recovery system. Waste heat produced by generators is cleverly converted into sufficient amounts of electrical energy to enable you relaxing, hot showers without a negative impact on the environment.

DESALINATION & WATER BOTTLING

Further decreasing Kudadoo's environment footprints is its supply of glass-bottled drinking water from a plant on a nearby sister property. This proximity reduces the amount of plastic and significantly reduces carbon emissions related to transport.

Kudadoo has stopped the purchasing of drinks that come in plastic bottles, instead committing to either glass or aluminium canned versions.

BAMBOO STRAWS

The wasteful single-use plastic variety have been replaced with bamboo straws.



RECYCLING INITIATIVES

The person in charge of Kudadoo's recycling is Priyantha, Chief Engineer, who is also entrusted with the same role at Hurawalhi. With a 'can do' attitude, Priyantha and his team look after all recycling matters at our recycling center.

All waste plastic, cardboard and glass bottles from the resort are sorted and collected for recycling. Much of the sorting takes place by team members at the point of contact, including our villa, restaurant and bar attendants. Once segregated, glass bottles are placed into a crusher to make powder, while cardboard and plastic are compacted before being sent to a recycling company in the capital island Male'.

This recycling initiative has allowed the incinerator requirement to be reduced by significantly. Plastic rubbish bags have eliminated completely from the resort.



PARLEY FOR THE OCEANS

A partnership we are particularly proud of is that with the Maldives' branch of Parley for the Oceans that advocate avoiding the use of single-use plastics and encouraging responsible disposal of plastic that would otherwise end up in the ocean.

Whenever possible, we follow Parley's guidelines of avoiding, intercepting, and redesigning the standards for plastic pollution. Recyclable waste as well as any plastic debris washed onto our beaches is regularly collected by Parley to ensure that it is treated as environmentally responsible as possible.

REGULAR ISLAND AND BEACH CLEAN UPS

On the last weekend of September each year, Kudadoo's team and guests Maldives join millions of others across the globe for the annual Clean Up the World event. The Prodivers team, together with members from the Marine Centre and guests participate in a house reef snorkel and scuba dive clean up on a local house reef.

Whereas Clean Up the World is a big event, and part of a global campaign, we put a lot of emphasis on the environment in our day-to-day operation. Regular island clean ups are scheduled throughout the year.

SMART SYSTEMS IN VILLAS

Air-conditioners use inverter technology that continuously regulates the temperature; combined with sensors in doors that switch the unit on/off. Guests get to enjoy comfort while practicing good energy conservation behavior.

SUSTAINABILITY SOURCED WOOD

All Wood, originates mainly from Canada, New Zealand and Indonesia, and have been sustainability sourced and managed, inflicting no damage to wildlife and land.

WOODEN AMENITIES

Kudadoo has chosen to only use wooden key cards for accessing villas, helping to further reduce the amount of plastic at the resort. Similarly, bathroom amenities such as the comb, toothbrush and shaver are also made from wood.

BUILDING MATERIALS

Extensive use of natural materials and smart design and architecture allows for optimal use of natural conditions. LED lights are used at the entire resort and are generating significant savings per day. Rainwater is used extensively for irrigation purposes.

HEALING EARTH

Kudadoo has partnered with Healing Earth, a recognized leader adept at green amenities tailored to the unique needs of luxury destinations across the globe, in the creation of two bespoke collections of biodegradable lifestyle amenities that contain bio-identical active ingredients, organic essential oils and fair-trade botanicals.

SUSTAINABILITY OF FOOD

A state of the art composting machine is allowing Kudadoo to recycle the organic waste produced at the resort, which comes mainly from the kitchen and restaurants. The compost is spread back to the resort's vegetable garden.

PRESERVING THE OCEAN

Led by a resident marine biologist and run in close cooperation with Prodivers Maldives, the Marine Biology Center at our sister property Hurawalhi is here to share our passion for the ocean with you, and to further study the unique marine environment of which Kudadoo is a part.

Beneath the soothing swaying of palm trees and steps away from some of the world's most biodiverse natural terrain, there could hardly be a better place to stimulate your curiosity and wonder of the ocean.

The bustling underwater metropolis that awaits below the water surface around Kudadoo is certainly well worth a visit.

Lhaviyani Atoll is made up of a number of narrow and shallow channels that funnel the nutrient-rich water directly into Kudadoo's proximity, resulting in an incredible amount and variety of marine life. The island sits between two such channels and as a result is home to an abundance of sea life. Currents, abundant sun and clear water provide aquarium-like conditions for over 2,000 species of fish and more than 200 species of coral. Crustacea and invertebrates are aplenty in the Maldives too. It becomes apparent that magic lies in wait around every corner; Kudadoo offers unforgettable experiences with the ocean's toughest survivors – sea turtles, dolphins are known to throw dazzling performances, and guests can come up close and personal with Kudadoo's majestic manta rays and reef sharks.

Our marine biologist brings expertise and love of the ocean to Kudadoo. A professional of the Manta Trust with a thorough knowledge of the Maldives' marine environment and a broad understanding of the intrinsic value of coral reefs is on site to make guests realise that Kudadoo – and the Maldives in general – is a very special place for aquatic exploration.

The ocean-savvy biologist conducts not only research on the Lhaviyani Atoll manta ray population (to which guests can contribute by reporting sightings), but also performs studies on reef ecology; resident marine biologist runs workshops and trips aimed at sharing knowledge and hence increasing awareness of the importance of conserving this fragile ecosystem.





MANTA RAYS

Lhaviyani Atoll, where Kudadoo is located, is one of the places in the Maldives that manta rays seem to love! Our resident marine biologists, the resort team and our guests, through photo submissions, have helped to identify almost 400 individual manta rays.

Just like our loyal returning guests, many of these gentle giants keep coming back to the area with a whopping 314 that have been sighted more than once! Manta rays are fascinating and clever fish but are also extremely vulnerable, which is why Kudadoo, a strong advocate of sustainable tourism, strictly adheres to Manta Trust' guidelines on swimming with them.

All excursions are run responsibly, with great respect for these sensitive giants. Before snorkeling or diving with manta rays, all guests are provided information on how to ensure that interactions are memorable and sustainable in equal measure.

Estimated reef manta ray population in the Maldives: 5,000-6,000 Identified individuals: 4,160 Most mantas identified around Kudadoo are up to 2.3 meters in size, with a few giants boasting a wingspan of over 3 meters! Most frequently seen manta ray in the Lhaviyani: Feng Shui

In brief: How to swim with manta rays

- Enter the water quietly
- Keep fins under the water to avoid splashing
- Do not approach closer than 3 metres – let the manta come to you
- Approach from the side – never block its path
- Do not chase the manta as it swims past
- Never touch a manta ray When scuba diving at cleaning stations, stay at the side of cleaning stations
- Never swim on top of a Manta
- Keep low but be careful not to damage the reef when scuba diving.
- While scuba diving, if a manta swims towards you, stay low and stay still In addition, follow local guidelines given during the dive or snorkel briefing



CORAL REEF NURSERY

We have established the first coral nursery where currently 200 coral fragments are growing in a well-monitored environment to be transplanted back onto the reef in the future. Coral reef nurseries are important in the continued battle against coral bleaching due to water temperatures rising.

SUSTAINABLE FISHING EXCURSIONS

Kudadoo is committed to a sustainable fishing policy and purchases from a selected range of local suppliers that follow the Maldives' leading stance on the subject. Fishing techniques in the Maldives follow the centuries old technique of pole and line fishing. Size guides are followed.

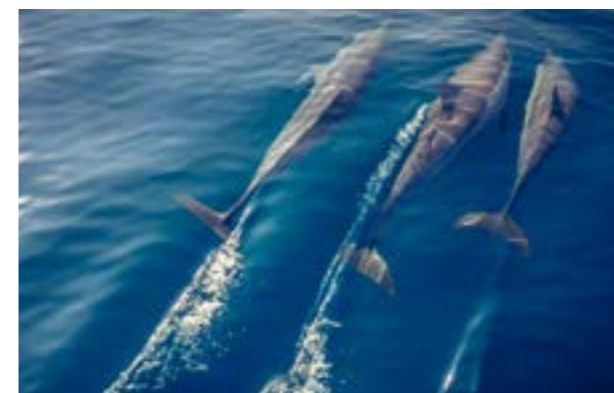
PRODIVERS MALDIVES

The 'Maldives' Best Dive Center' (2018 Tauchen Awards) has ocean conservation at its heart and adheres to all PADI and Project Aware guidelines on the protection of the environment. They teach the PADI Project AWARE Coral Reef Conservation Specialty courses and Project AWARE Dive Against Debris courses to divers

THE OLIVE RIDLEY PROJECT

Kudadoo reports sightings of sea turtles for the purpose of identification and research purposes, and supports the foundation's ghost net removal efforts.

We help with entangled turtles and report these encounters to Olive Ridley Project as well as to Atoll Marine Centre Kudadoo encourages the use of bio-degradable sun block. It is available for purchase in the Prodivers shop.



THE REEF OUTSIDE 5.8 UNDERSEA RESTAURANT

Paige, an enthusiastic diving instructor with broad marine conservation experience, started an initiative of great ecological value back in May 2016: coral gardening outside 5.8 Undersea Restaurant at Hurawalhi, our sister property.

‘Prodivers and I wanted to create an extension of the existing reef that would represent, on a small scale, the beauty of the Maldives’ underwater while at the same time reviving marine life that had, at the time, been weakened by the El Niño. With a carefully devised plan of action, a team of divers dislodged some blocks of coral that showed few signs of life and placed them onto the shelves surrounding the restaurant. Just one day after the first coral planting was complete, the area was covered with damsel fish, wrasse were feeding in the sand, and pairs of butterflyfish were hovering over the reef.

An additional piece in Hurawalhi’s ‘sustaining the reef’ jigsaw puzzle is a sunken shipwreck, an artificial reef that already sees some vibrant marine life activity. Paige observes that the life around the wreck is different from other parts of the reef: ‘Trumpetfish, moray eels, giant pufferfish and small groups of snappers have already made it their home. Hopefully we will have sponges and soft corals covering it in a few years.’

‘No matter what time of the day you dine at the restaurant, you can see the most beautiful array of marine life in all colours of the rainbow. There are oriental sweetlips hovering under a table coral, giant trevallies hunting, jellyfish bioluminescing as they drift by in the current – I could list all of the species that one can expect to see during a meal, but I don’t want to spoil the magic that’s waiting here.’





LOCAL SCHOOLS

To instill a deeper understanding of the world's environmental issues and to encourage a desire to look after natural resources, Kudadoo regularly hosts local school visits. These visits foster the children's environmental awareness through interesting discussions on a variety of topics, such as the importance of healthy coral reefs and oceans, plastic pollution and energy saving.

Through nature walks around the resort, school children receive firsthand knowledge from the resident marine biologist and representatives of other departments that are involved in the implementation of Kudadoo's green initiatives.

EDUCATION

We work together with tourism operators, NGOs, and schools from around Lhaviyani Atoll in order to spread sustainable tourism practices and mitigate manta ray injuries. Hurawalhi just recently hosted the second Marine Biology Workshop where representatives of various tourism operators and NGOs of Lhaviyani were able to discuss research findings and sustainable practices to protect the marine environment.

TEAM TRAINING

To make sure that awareness and education lead to a positive environmental attitude, sustainability is a topic at the forefront of team members' trainings. Covering areas of the economic significance of protecting Maldivian biodiversity, actions to protect coral reefs, endangered species (including trainings on how to help turtles entangled in ghost nets) and recycling, among others,

Kudadoo is proud that its team members understand why nature must lie at the heart of everything we do. Kudadoo's team participate in many international environmental campaigns such as Earth Hour, Earth Day, World Oceans Day, Wildlife Day.

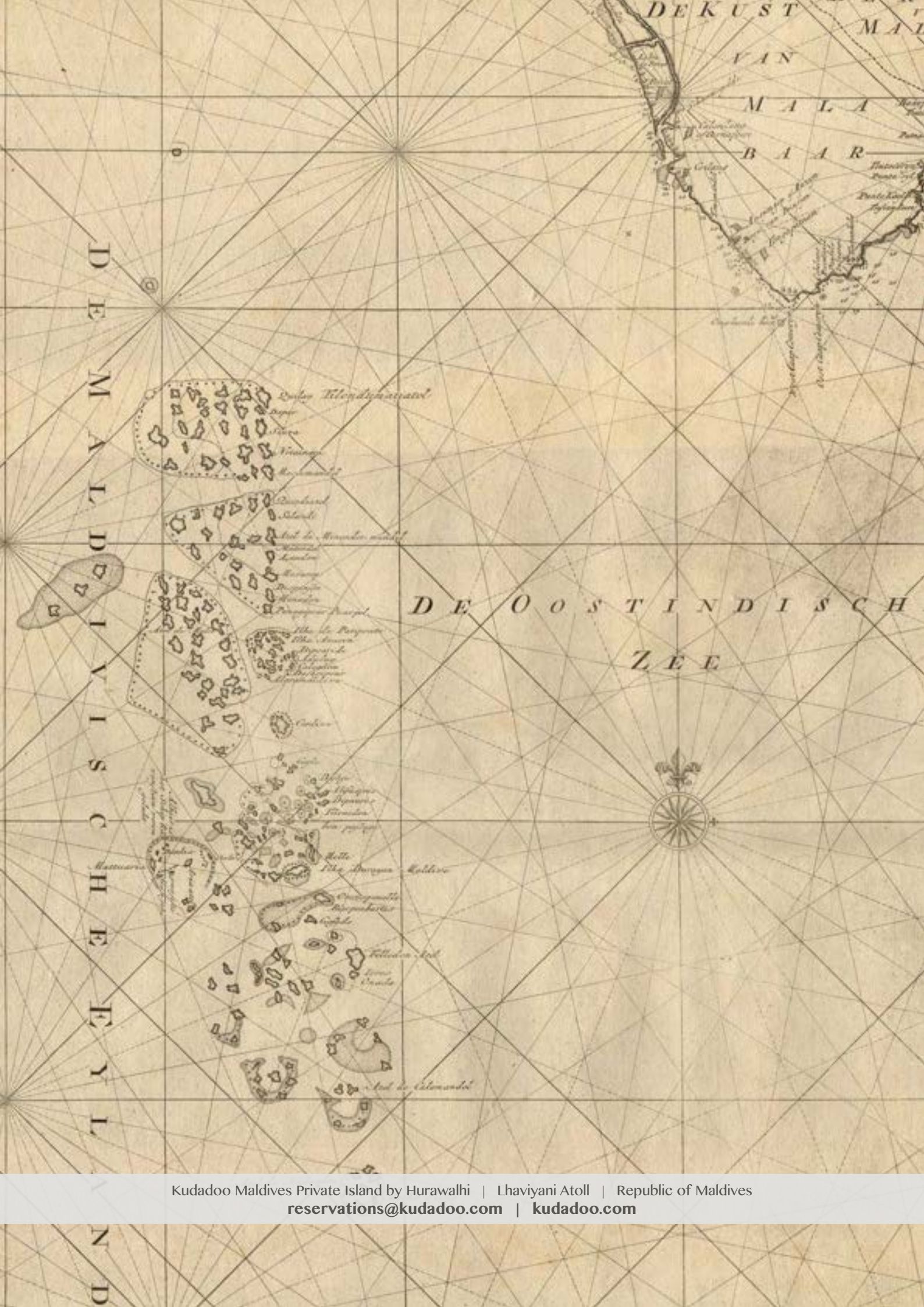
AWARDS

Kudadoo's sister property Hurawalhi is proud of having received the Travelife Gold Certification in just its second year of operation.

OUR COMMITMENT

Caring for the environment is part of Kudadoo's core values. Sustainability of natural resources as well as social responsibility are at the forefront of everything we do; from solar cells that power the resort in its entirety and sustainable building material to environmentally conscious activities, amenities and food, at every touchpoint in Kudadoo we aim to minimize our impact on the environment.

Being located in a fragile environment, the island has an intimate understanding of the importance of preserving and protecting nature for the future, and puts a big emphasis on social responsibility toward local communities as well. While being sustainable from the outset, to be in sync with nature and actively raise awareness to inspire others to follow suit.



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