

Marriott International to Enter the Maldives with a 100-Villa Renaissance Resort in 2009

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The first Marriott International-branded resort in The Republic of Maldives, one of the world's premiere resort destinations, will open in 2009 under a management agreement with ADK Travels Private Ltd.

The five-star, 100-villa Renaissance Maldives Gaakoshibee Resort & Spa on Gaakoshibee island in the Shaviyani Atoll, will be located about a 55-minute flight by seaplane from Male, the capital city of The Maldives. The island is largely untouched with dense foliage throughout and boasts a pristine white sand beach fronting the resort. Like other islands in The Maldives, Gaakoshibee offers rare underwater beauty along with a profusion of psychedelic colors and an abundance and variety of underwater life that promise to fascinate divers and snorkelers alike.

'We are thrilled to soon be part of the tourism infrastructure of The Maldives,' said Ed Fuller, president & managing director of international lodging at Marriott. 'Its unique 'One Island, One Resort' approach to tourism delivers an exclusive and private holiday experience that is almost impossible to replicate elsewhere. It is what has made The Maldives one of the primary destinations for holiday-goers and honeymooners from the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy and elsewhere. We are confident this Renaissance resort will be hugely successful from day one.'

'We are delighted to be associated with Marriott International and we are confident that together we will offer a unique holiday experience in the Maldives this is both interesting and fulfilling to our guests,' said Hassan Fazal Hussain, managing director of ADK Travels. 'We are sure that both our partnership with Marriott International and the resort that will be managed under this partnership will be enormously successful.'

Marriott's Renaissance brand appeals to travelers who like things to be 'interesting.' They expect the hotels they select to embody the locale and to help them live life to the fullest, and to help them 'take it all in.' For them, travel is an adventure to be savored with gusto.

The Renaissance Maldives Gaaskishibee Resort & Spa will offer a mix of spacious beach and over-water villas. Beach villas will have a private garden, indoor/outdoor five-fixture bathroom, an outdoor shower, oversized bathtub and direct access to the beach. Over-water villas will have five-fixture bathrooms, a daybed on a large private sundeck and will provide direct access to the lagoon. All villas will have their own private plunge pool.

The resort will offer its guests a choice of five food and beverage outlets: an all-day restaurant and two specialty restaurants, two bars and an underground wine cellar. Both specialty restaurants, which will come with their own bars and outdoor areas for al fresco dining, will be located over water to offer its patrons more than just an experience for the palate. While the Beach Bar and Grill is located on the southern end of the island, the Sunset Bar on the western side of the resort will be conveniently attached to the Mediterranean specialty restaurant.

Recreational amenities will include an over-water Spa with eight treatment rooms, four of which will be over water, and a beauty/barber shop, a health and fitness center, a discovery center, a library, an Olympic-sized lap pool, a lagoon pool and a kid's pool, a water sports center, a diving center, a kids' club and a games room/recreation pavilion.

Additional amenities will encompass a gift and sundry shop, a CD and DVD library with internet facilities and laundry and valet service.

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