

Sparkling sands

With incredible amenities and abundant activities, each of these six luxury beach resorts boasts top-class personalised experiences for all, as S.R. Loftis discovers

There's nothing like a view of the ocean horizon from your balcony, the smell of salt in the air and the hot sand under your feet. If you're in need of a luxury beach holiday, these six resorts can provide everything you could possibly dream of.

SONEVA FUSHI MALDIVES

There couldn't be a dreamier location for a fun and exciting holiday than Soneva Fushi in the Maldives. Imagine a private pool, gorgeous tall windows to let the

natural sun in, and your own private water slide.

Whether it's a secluded beachfront villa or just a place to sleep when you're not out experiencing the incredible activities on offer in the Maldives, there will be a perfect option at this resort

Picnics on the beach, star-gazing night cruises and snorkelling with manta rays are just a few of the activities available here, as well as romantic private meals on the beach and special interest activities, such

as glassblowing classes and marine biology for teenagers at the Soneva Academy.

soneva.com/resorts/soneva-fushi/
Covid status: Open with restrictions

&BEYOND MNEMBA ISLAND

With no more than 24 guests at &Beyond's Mnemba Resort at one time, visitors to this Tanzanian island oasis are far away from the noise and business of everyday life. Each beachside banda extends onto a private section of

beach, and any desired amenities will easily be brought to you, whether it be breakfast in bed, sushi on the beach, or a secluded candlelit dinner and a view of the sunset. Your days could be spent quietly with tranquil yoga and private massages, or with a sense of adventure, scuba-diving to view the local wildlife or explorations of the close-by streets of Zanzibar.

In September, &Beyond celebrated 30 years of pioneering its now-proven ecotourism model of responsible travel, with countless conservation programs. andbeyond.com

Covid status: Open with restrictions

Below: Secluded villa at Soneva Fushi, the original luxury desert island hideaway in the Maldives, where manta rays play in the perfectly blue shallows



AMANPURI THAILAND

The Amanpuri Resort Thailand experience is a memorable one. With ocean villa accommodation options, guests can experience poolside sun-bathing, a personal bar and a live-in chef to celebrate the best Thai cuisine has to offer without leaving your own private paradise. Fun family activities, such as day-programs for children that encompass a critter safari, a treasure hunt and sand sculpting, are available, as well as wake-boarding, paddle-boarding, or a leisurely Seabob trip. For those in need of a deeper relaxation program, Amanpuri is also a great place to go. Their wellness staff can provide you with a bespoke health and wellness program to improve stress, physical health or mindfulness, as well as full medical consultations and nutrition and diet plans. Wellness immersion experiences are tailored to suit your personal

and medical needs, and provide three or more days of holistic therapies, treatments and activities to re-balance your health.

www.aman.com/resorts/amanpuri

Covid status: Open with restrictions

BAOASE LUXURY RESORT CURAÇAO

If you're looking for a romantic getaway to spice things up, Baoase Curaçao is a great option. Not only does this gorgeous location have beautiful cakes, chocolates or champagne packages on offer, it is the perfect location for a romantic proposal by the sea, an intimate honeymoon with romantic turndown service, or even a photoshoot with those you love. While Baoase offers all these luxury romance experiences, it doesn't shy away from offering exciting experiences to active or adventurous guests too. With a fully kitted out gym, the beach on their doorstep and countless



tours from hiking to snorkelling, Baoase appeals to gym rats, divers and adventure-lovers from every walk of life. After a long day swimming with dolphins or a deep-sea submarine trip, you can also return to your resort for a relaxing spa and wellness retreat or even a little retail therapy at their very own Baoase Boutique.

baoase.com

Covid Status: Open ➤

Top: A spectacular elevated private infinity pool at one of the five-bedroom Ocean Villas at Thailand's breathtaking Amanpuri Resort Above: A couple enjoying a bottle of wine in the over-water hammock at sunset on a private jetty at the Baoase Luxury Resort on the Caribbean island of Curaçao



LUX* GRAND GAUBE MAURITIUS

LUX's Grand Gaube resort on the island of Mauritius is the perfect getaway for when you need a home away from home. With bespoke interior design by Kelly Hoppen, each villa with its own outdoor spa, private section of beach and a gazebo for those quiet massages you've been craving, will create the dreamiest atmosphere for your holiday.

There is fun for the whole family here, with a nearby golf course, a program for kids and teens that includes a cinema and crab hunting, as well as nightly entertainment from the Mauritian local artists. With six restaurants and seven bars within their complex, you'll barely want to step foot outside of the resort for even a moment.

luxresorts.com/en/mauritius/hotel/luxgrandgaube

Covid status: Fully open to vaccinated travellers

SHANGRI-LA BORACAY

This island resort in the Philippines' Western Visayas is famed for its relaxed luxury and warm Filipino hospitality. With intimate loft villas within



tropical gardenscapes, seaview suites and deluxe rooms with private verandas, everyone will find a perfect setting for their custom vacation destination.

Top: Shangri-La's luxury resort is close to the famous Punta Bunga Beach on Boracay in the Philippines, where the water sports and dive sites are exceptional Above: Poolside at Lux Resorts' Grand Gaube in Mauritius Right: Kayaking in Tanzanian waters at &Beyond's stunning Mnemba Resort

also have options such as beautiful tropical pool settings and a spa pampering that compliments the perfect natural surroundings. shangri-la.com/en/boracay/boracayresort/

Covid status: Open with restrictions ■

