

weddingbells

# Why The Maldives Is The Ultimate Honeymoon Paradise

By Alison McGill



Photography courtesy of [Four Seasons Resort Maldives At Kuda Huraa](#).

Tell someone you are going to Maldives and watch their head spin. It's one of the world's most gorgeous, sexy, exotic and coveted locales; a place celebrities frequent (Gwyneth Paltrow just honeymooned there in December!) and most of us mere mortals only dream of visiting. It tops most romantic travel bucket list trips. We recently lived the dream and had the chance to explore this remote archipelago of atolls. It truly is *everything* you envision it to be—here we break down what makes the Maldives such an incredible and unforgettable honeymoon hotspot.



Photography courtesy of [Four Seasons Resort Maldives At Landaa Giraavaru](#).

### **Maldives 101**

The Republic of the Maldives is a sovereign archipelagic nation located in the Indian Ocean. The Maldives is comprised of 26 natural atolls consisting of dual island chains and it is located in a strategic area with access to major international sea routes in the Indian Ocean. The Maldives is actually situated on top of a vast underwater mountain range with more than 1,190 islands and sandbanks. All the islands are encircled by a lagoon which has the most incredible crystal clear water. The islands are protected by a reef structure, housing some of the world's most exclusive and spectacular underwater life.



Photography courtesy of [Four Seasons Resort Maldives At Landaa Giraavaru](#).



### **What Makes The Maldives So Amazing?**

You will definitely fall in love with the incredible geography of The Maldives. The waters are the most incredible shades of azure and turquoise. The white sand beaches are pristine and some of the best in the world and it's sunny for a good part of the year (wet season is from May through November). Because it is such a remote destination, it is incredibly private, which is why celebrities adore it—Gwyneth, The Biebers and influencer Chiara Ferragni have all recently honeymooned there. Once you are on resort, there is not much more to do than soak in all the beauty of your chosen island paradise. You can dive, spa, dine, beach explore, swim and completely unplug (all resorts do have Wi-Fi though!) Any transportation off resort is via boat or seaplane.



Photography courtesy of Four Seasons Resort Maldives At Kuda Huraa.

### **Where to Stay**

For the ultimate trip of a lifetime, plan your honeymoon stay with time divided between the two otherworldly [Four Seasons Maldives](#) properties. Upon arrival at Malé airport, start your island adventure at the [Four Seasons Resort Maldives At Kuda Huraa](#). You will be met by resort staff and whisked to your destination via speedboat ride. The hotel's breezy and luxe open air lobby sets the tone for the absolute Zen you will experience at this lavish island paradise—even when the resort is at capacity you'll feel as though you have this Maldivian village-feeling property all to yourself. There are a few different room types to choose from at Kuda Huraa and each is spectacular, but the choice honeymoon pick is a sunrise overwater villa complete with your own infinity pool you can dive into from your bedroom and look over the azure waters of the crystal lagoon that surrounds you (you can also access the ocean via a ladder on your bungalow deck).



Photography courtesy of [Four Seasons Resort Maldives At Kuda Huraa](#).

The resort can be easily navigated on foot or via bicycle and getting to the resort's Island Spa is a particular treat as you hop on a traditional dhoni boat to ferry you the short distance across the lagoon. For the most supreme spa experience, visit at night for the Secrets of the Sea scrub/wrap/floating massage enjoyed under the island's stars. You can also dive, paddle board, take a scenic cruise around the island or just luxuriate in your bungalow and enjoy world-class private dining—indulge yourself!



Photography by Alison McGill.

To reach your next hotel stop, hop aboard a [Trans Maldivian Airways](#) flight and take a 30-minute island hop to [Four Season Resort Maldives At Landaa Giraavaru](#). This lush, verdant island hideaway is located in the BAA Atoll UNESCO Biosphere Reserve that is focused on wellness thanks to the ancient Indian healthy-lifestyle practice of Ayurveda. The most exclusive accommodations here are also overwater villas, where you can dive straight from your deck into the ocean for a swim or snorkel and observe hundreds species of Maldivian marine life, including manta rays.





Photography courtesy of [Four Seasons Resort Maldives At Landaa Giraavaru](#).

With a focus on wellness, the resort has its own Ayurvedic doctor on-staff who you can book a consult. The doctor will evaluate your current body and mind state and suggest strategies for optimum wellness (a perfect thing to do after the stress of wedding!). The open-air spa is quite simply one of the most spectacular on the planet and much of the menu is focused on treatments with an Ayurvedic twist. The 75-minute Abhyanga massage is a must do—two therapists work in tandem using warm oils which are chosen especially for you based on your dosha and the treatment closes with a steam shower and custom-mixed body scrub.



Photography courtesy of [Four Seasons Resort Maldives At Landaa Giraavaru](#).

Another of our favourite honeymoon experiences at Landaa Giraavaru is booking the mid-ocean table for two dining experience, where you sail out from the resort's shore to a floating platform in the middle of the Indian Ocean for a candlelight dinner served by boat. Sound like a dream? Everything about this property and Kuda Huraa absolutely is.

## Getting There

If you're going to indulge yourself with the ultimate celebrity honeymoon, you want to get there in high style so consider splashing out with a business class ticket to Maldives on [Cathay Pacific](#). From Vancouver and Toronto, you can fly direct to Hong Kong, then connect on to your island oasis from there. Though the trip is a long (i.e. 12 hours to Hong Kong from Toronto, then another six to Malé) Cathay's [business class cabin](#) ensures you arrive rested and relaxed thanks to your travel pod that comes equipped with a fully reclining bed, duvet, tons of movies and shows on Netflix, and gourmet food on demand (each meal comes with a full cheese *and* dessert course beautifully displayed on a proper trolley!).



Inside Cathay Pacific's The Wing Lounge in Hong Kong. Photographer courtesy of [Cathay Pacific](#).



The dan dan noodles are renown as one of the best airport lounge dishes in the world! Photography courtesy of [Cathay Pacific](#).

You likely will have a layover in Hong Kong which gives you time to check out Cathay's world-renown airport lounges. There are four in total—[The Wing](#), [The Bridge](#), [The Pier](#) and [The Deck](#). You could literally spend days in these high design style spaces—which feel more like a luxury home or hotel than a lounge—experiencing all the incredible food offerings (hello noodle bars—Cathay Pacific's dan dan noodles are legendary) and amenities like foot massages, showers and tranquil, cozy sleep areas.