

112 Maldives

Soneva Fushi

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40 Climb into a harness, fasten your helmet, dive into the rainforest and glide through the warm, salty breeze. First time zip-lining to dinner on a remote tropical island? Welcome to Soneva Fushi (hotel.qantas.com.au/sonevafushi).

Continually transforming since it first welcomed guests in 1995, the Maldivian resort's latest additions don't end at the thrilling tree-top dining experience. There's also eight spectacular new water retreats (in addition to the beachfront villas) perched above the aquamarine lagoon around Kunfunadhoo Island in the Baa Atoll Biosphere Reserve. (No judgement for racing your kids – or partner – up the sustainable plantation timber staircase to test-drive your personal water slide.)

Whether you splash out on a water retreat or stay in one of the 63 villas of varying configurations that fringe the sunrise and sunset beaches, at Soneva you'll find that luxury is subtly revealed. It's in the craftsmanship of furnishings (most made by locals using reclaimed materials) and thoughtful touches such as matching the scent of your room's amenities to the favoured fragrances you nominated in your pre-arrival survey.

Leave it in the capable hands of your barefoot butler to coordinate activities spanning eco-conscious surf trips (boards are made from recycled waste), snorkelling with manta rays (led by marine biologists) or a night glamping beneath the stars on a private sandbank.

And if you can't get there until 2023, no worries – you'll arrive just in time to enjoy the new wellness facilities. ●



