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DIVA FLIES THE FLAG FOR FAMILY-FRIENDLY MALDIVES

Pioneering luxury resort Diva has revealed yet another surprising side to its personality, bringing a maternal touch to the Maldives with the creation of its complete Family Experience. Embracing kids of all ages, Diva's Family Experience dispenses with hand-me-down concepts such as fold-out beds, boring board games and tagging along with Mum and Dad; at Diva, tots, teens, and everyone in between can enjoy their own magical Maldivian experience.



Traditionally regarded as the preserve of canoodling couples and hideaway honeymooners, the picturesque resorts of the Maldives have invariably catered for kids as something of an afterthought. Yet with fantastical, picture-book natural surroundings and warm, shallow lagoons teeming with multicoloured marine life, the islands are an inspiring, eye-opening treasure trove for young adventurers. Recognising this, Diva has further enhanced its already unrivalled family facilities - including no fewer than 18 interconnecting rooms and three interconnecting water villas - by adding a host of new services, facilities and activities designed especially for families.

Younger children are treated as guests in their own right from the moment they land at Diva, from being greeted in reception with a soft toy and fruit 'mocktail' to the personalised welcome letter and basket of sweets from *The Nest* that awaits in their villa. Equipped with indoor and outdoor play areas; soft 'sleep' room; special dining area; and TV and video games room, *The Nest* is a dedicated, supervised club for guests aged three - 12 years. An imaginative range of fun, educational activities include traditional Maldivian arts and crafts

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such as shell necklace making, palm weaving, Bodu Beru dancing and Henna painting; the Young Mixologist certificate, where kids learn to mix their favourite juices to make the perfect drink; and the Young Environmentalist programme, in which they explore the island's tropical flora, herb gardens and orchid nursery and learn to respect and care for nature.

Kids as young as eight eager to get their first glimpse of the Maldives' kaleidoscopic underwater seascapes are welcome at Diva's PADI-certified dive centre, which offers 'Bubblemakers' and 'Discover Scuba' introductory lessons, with special children's diving equipment provided.

Families with babies and toddlers under three years of age can even stop by *The Nest* to stock up on essentials such as extra nappies, swimming nappies, milk bottle sterilizers and baby care kits. Young families will also be reassured to know that rooms can be equipped with comfortable baby cots on request, baby sitters can be booked to give Mum and Dad an evening off, and staff have a "nothing is impossible" approach to even the most picky parental requests. Even mealtimes are a breeze: all of Diva's seven restaurants are equipped with baby chairs and colouring packs to keep younger children entertained, and offer specially devised, healthy kids' menus which can be tailored by the island's chefs to suit specific dietary requirements. Baby food products are also available.

Independent-minded teenagers craving their own space can avoid having their style cramped by parents or younger siblings by hanging out at *The Place*, Diva's sports café-style club especially for 13 – 17 year olds. Teen guests can enjoy PlayStation and Wii games; table football; table tennis; big-screen sports events; and their own non-alcoholic, no-smoking bar. There are regular opportunities to meet and socialise with other teenage guests, from movie nights and video game contests to a teens' club night at *Musik* on Tuesdays, a sunset cruise on Thursdays and sunset fishing trips every Tuesday.

TotsToo (www.totstoo.com; 020 7284 3344) offers seven nights at Diva from £5,755 for a family of four. Price based on two adults and two children sharing two interconnecting deluxe rooms and includes breakfast, return British Airways flights from London and seaplane transfers. Price shown is valid for travel until 30 September 2010.

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Notes to Editors:

Founded in 1990 and based in Mauritius, Naiade is a renowned hotel group with an undisputed reputation in the Indian Ocean. The group currently consists of nine hotels and one private island: Beau Rivage (five star deluxe), Legends (five star), Les Pavillons (five star), Tamassa (four star), Merville Beach (three star plus), Le Tropical (three star), and the private island of Ile des Deux Cocos, all in Mauritius; Hotel du Recif (three star) and Grand Hotel du Lagon (four star) in Reunion Island; and Diva (five star deluxe) in the Maldives. Each hotel has its own individual charm yet all the resorts in the portfolio share high levels of service and warm hospitality setting them apart from their competitors. www.naiade.com

For further press information, or to discuss opportunities to visit Diva Maldives, contact:

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