

MAIA SEYCHELLES - An Introduction

Maia is one of the most exciting resorts in the Seychelles. The hotel, which opened in September 2006, is named after the most beautiful of Pleiades' seven daughters and one of the stars in the Seven Sisters constellation; Maia was also the name first given to the Seychelles by discoverer Vasco da Gama.

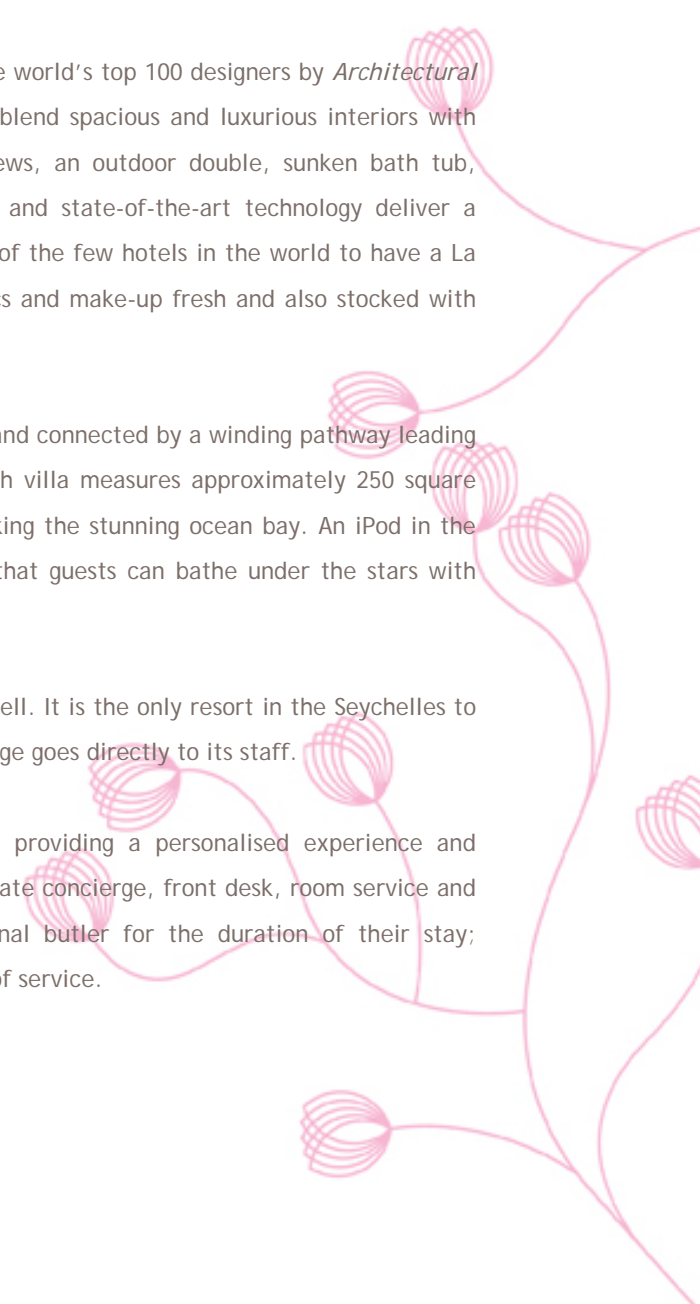
Stretching 30 acres on the southwest coast of the island of Mahé, Maia overlooks Anse Louis. Each of its 30 spacious one bedroom villas has uninterrupted ocean views, some nestled on the white sandy beaches and others perched high on the mountain top with panoramic views. Using predominantly local materials, the villas maintain a modest and natural exterior with top hat-thatched roof tops and reached via a gated pathway through their own private gardens.

The architecture and interiors by Bill Bensley (named one of the world's top 100 designers by *Architectural Digest Magazine*) reflect Maia's beautiful setting and cleverly blend spacious and luxurious interiors with magnificent outdoor space. Walk-in showers with garden views, an outdoor double, sunken bath tub, natural stone, glass, Thai silks, Balinese-style teak furniture and state-of-the-art technology deliver a feeling of understated but unquestionable luxury. Maia is one of the few hotels in the world to have a La Prairie Beauty Fridge in each villa - ideal for keeping cosmetics and make-up fresh and also stocked with the latest La Prairie sun care range.

Peace and privacy are key: spacious villas are sparsely laid out and connected by a winding pathway leading through lush gardens - recently awarded "Best in Africa". Each villa measures approximately 250 square metres and each has its own eight metre infinity pool overlooking the stunning ocean bay. An iPod in the room is connected to sound systems throughout the villa, so that guests can bathe under the stars with their favourite tunes.

Maia believes that well-looked after people look after people well. It is the only resort in the Seychelles to have a five day working week and to ensure that its service charge goes directly to its staff.

Furthermore, Maia believes that luxury is all about service, providing a personalised experience and anticipating any guest requirements. Rather than offering separate concierge, front desk, room service and housekeeping services, guests are allocated their own personal butler for the duration of their stay; available 24 hours a day and providing almost telepathic levels of service.



Maia's restaurant, Tec-Tec, serves contemporary Mediterranean cuisine with Asian, Créole and Arabic influences. The Sunset Pool Bar also serves light bites and cocktails and guests can enjoy private BBQs in their villas or on the beach front.

Maia Spa consists of three pavilions set within the mature private rock gardens of the resort. Each pavilion has an open-air treatment room, private garden and private bathing area. Therapists have all been trained for three months in the "quality of touch", thereby assuring guests the most divine signature massages.

The Spa's brand of choice is La Prairie and the spa menu remains simple, the focus being on delivering a few treatments perfectly. Signature treatments include the Maia Massage, a fusion of consistent pressure, long strokes and gentle stretching, blended with a soothing rhythmical flow of delivery to ease muscle tension; and the Gentle Soul Massage, where the massage is synchronized with the breath, moving deeply and gently into tired muscles using full palm pressure. There is also a meditation pavilion where complimentary morning yoga, self-shiatsu and Qi Gong meditation sessions are held. Private lessons may also be booked in the Spa or the privacy of guest villas.

Maia's symbol is the lotus blossom - the flower unfolding to reveal each petal in turn. Maia's promise to guests is that they will leave with their senses restored and their spirit revived, similar to a lotus flower in bloom - ready to face the world looking fabulous.

Press Information:

Elke Menz

Director of Sales and Marketing

Tel : 00971 43432211

Mail : elkemenz@southernsun.com

MAIA

LUXURY RESORT & SPA | MAHÉ | SEYCHELLES

Anse Louis Mahé Seychelles PO Box 722

Tel +248 390 000 Fax +248 355 476 reservations@southernsun.sc

www.maia.com.sc / www.myownmaia.tv

Press information: Claire Bernard/ Sarah Hurley at Mango PR

Firstname.lastname@mangopr.co.uk / 020 7421 2509

May 2009

