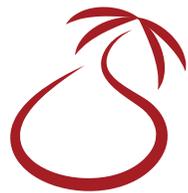


# A GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

SINCE 1984



veligandu

Island Resort & Spa  
MALDIVES





## MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

We have created a collection of old pictures for you to connect with our past.

Thanks to these fascinating images, we now have a window into some of the most interesting moments of Veligandu history.

These moments we cherish in our hearts. These moments are our life.

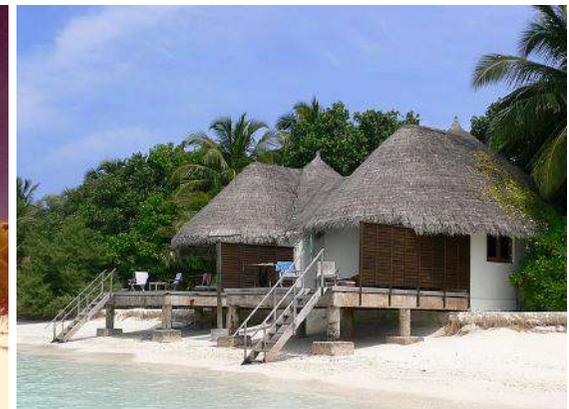
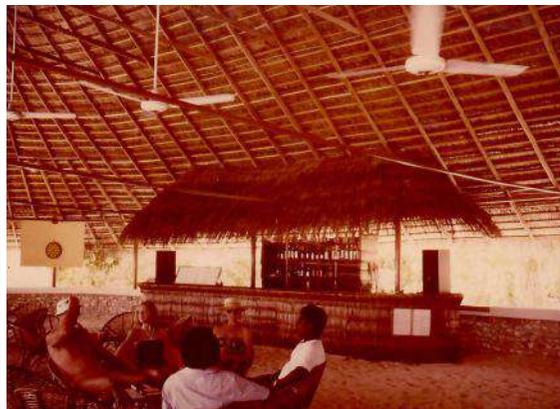
**Fathuhulla Ibrahim**

# RESORT HISTORY

- 1984** Veligandu opened with 17 standard rooms made of corals & with no air conditioners, 1 small restaurant, 1 bar, 2 Dhonis and 1 jetty. The resort operated with less than 50 team members.
- 1985** 15 rooms were built, totaling to 32 standard rooms
- 1986** 18 rooms were built, totaling to 50 standard rooms
- 1987** Another 5 rooms were built, totaling to 55 standard rooms
- 1991** 8 rooms were added under the Deluxe room category, giving the resort a total of 63 rooms
- 1998** Room upgrades were made: 45 Superior Rooms, 8 Deluxe Rooms and the first 10 Water Villas were constructed
- 2001** 12 newly constructed rooms were added under the new category: Deluxe Water Villa. Superior rooms decreased to 43, Deluxe Room and Water Villa remained with 8 and 10 respectively, giving Veligandu a total of 73 rooms.

1984

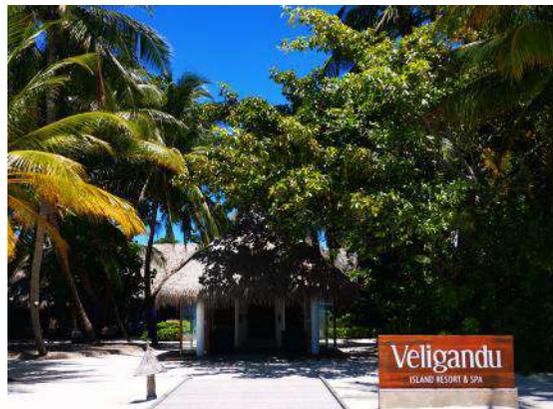
1990



- 2007** Veligandu closed from 1st of May 2007 to 23rd December 2007. All rooms were demolished except for the 22 Water Bungalows of which 10 rooms remain as original Water Villas and the other 12 were upgraded to Jacuzzi Water Villas in addition to the 42 new Jacuzzi Water Villas and 10 new Jacuzzi Beach Villas. The resort re-opened with a total of 74 rooms, 2 new restaurants: Dhonveli Buffet Restaurant and Madivaru A la carte Restaurant, new kitchen, 2 swimming pools, fitness center, public area shop, dive school and water sports, power house, water plant, laundry area and staff facilities.
- 2010** 2 Jacuzzi Beach Villas were added. Total number of rooms: 76
- 2011** 5 newly constructed rooms were added under the new category: Beach Villa; total number of rooms: 81
- 2014** Additional 6 Beach Villas and 4 Jacuzzi Beach Villas were constructed, giving the resort a total of 91 rooms. The Athiri Bar located at the northern tip of the island opened.
- 2018** Thundi Bar Facilities Upgrade and the Arrival Pavilion was constructed.
- 2019** All rooms were upgraded. A new room category: Sunset Jacuzzi Water Villas was introduced. Madivaru A la Carte Restaurant was upgraded.

2007

2019



# MY VELIGANDU STORY

Mohamed Hussain

It was a sunny Friday in the year 1984 when I arrived in the island of Veligandu. There was no jetty yet and I can still remember that we unloaded our stuff by hands as there were no trolleys yet.

Life was so simple. The rooms weren't constructed yet so we slept in tents. There was no fresh water available for shower, so we used salt water instead and just apply lotion afterwards. And then eventually, we transported water from Rasdhoo, placed it in tanks and distributed it to the rooms.

I started my job as a Mason. I didn't have any idea about masonry at first, however, through hard work, I was able to master my job.

In the first operational year of the resort, there were 17 rooms constructed in the east side of the island, the restaurant was located near reception which is now a staff accommodation; situated behind it was the bar which is now the games center. The guest arrival & departure was scheduled every Monday via dhoni or speed boat and most of the guests that time were Italians.

In my 35 years in Veligandu, I have witnessed a lot of great changes in the island. As the resort have been innovating and improving from time to time, I have grown and developed also to the person that I am today. From being a mason, I moved to housekeeping as a room boy, followed by being in charge of the store for about 20 years, then transferred to POMEK as maintenance supervisor and now the assistant maintenance manger.



# MY VELIGANDU STORY

Mahinda Wijayratna R.G.D

In 1988, I left Sri Lanka and worked in this beautiful country, the Maldives. In my first year, I worked in another CCR property and was then transferred to Veligandu in 1989. Looking back on the past, a lot of changes had happened in Veligandu. When I first arrived in this resort, there were only 55 guest rooms. We only had two big blocks for staff accommodation. These halls were pretty simple: no air conditioners and there were around 30 bunk beds inside. We ate our meals at the old cafeteria which was located near the carpentry. Food variety was less and we only enjoyed chicken dishes every Friday. Since there was no staff shop yet that time, we used to buy items like cigarette, Coca cola and toiletries directly from the store and pay not through salary deduction but in cash. We also enjoyed motivation trips like fishing and shopping in Thoddo.

Things are very different now than it used to be. Guest restaurant was located near IT office. The power house was previously located in the area where we see the mosque. Football ground was near the incinerator. There was no staff gym or even ekuveni; only one table tennis board was available for us at the staff area. And when it comes to transfers, guests and team members travelled in and out of the island through boats instead of seaplane.

For 30 years, I have been working in Veligandu. I love what I do and I am grateful to be part of this team.

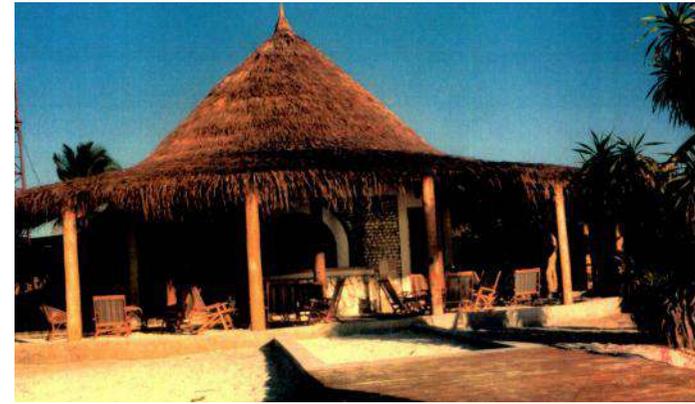


# MAIN JETTY & RECEPTION

Lush Island Escape...



80's & 90's



2000-2006



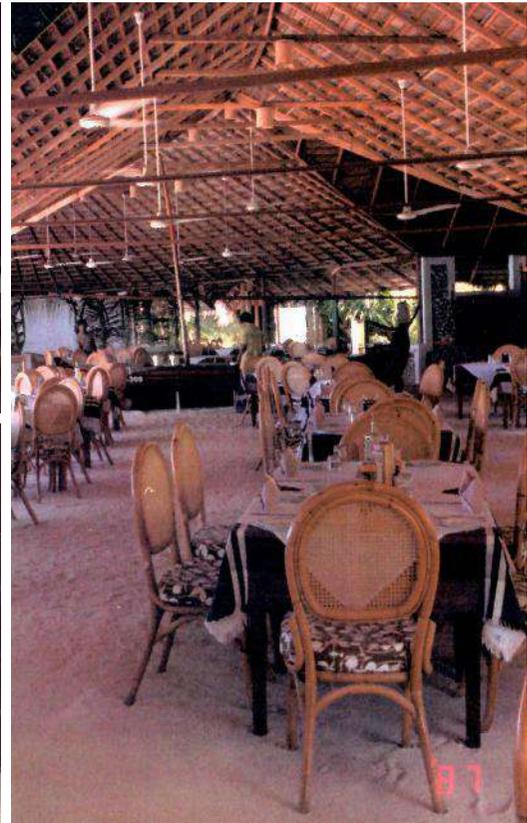
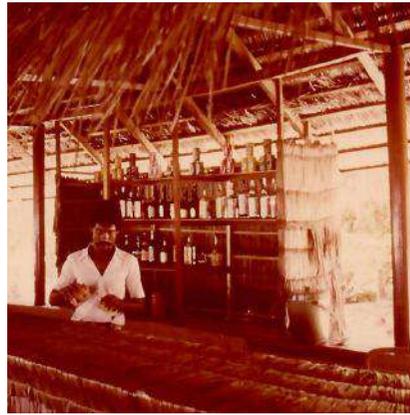
2008 - Present



# RESTAURANTS & BARS

Sweet Pleasures of Paradise...

80's & 90's



2000-2006



2008 - Present

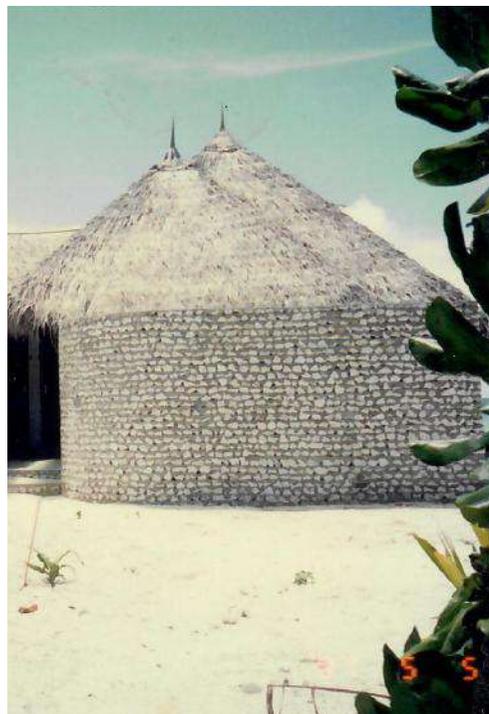




# ROOMS

Retreat into your own private space...

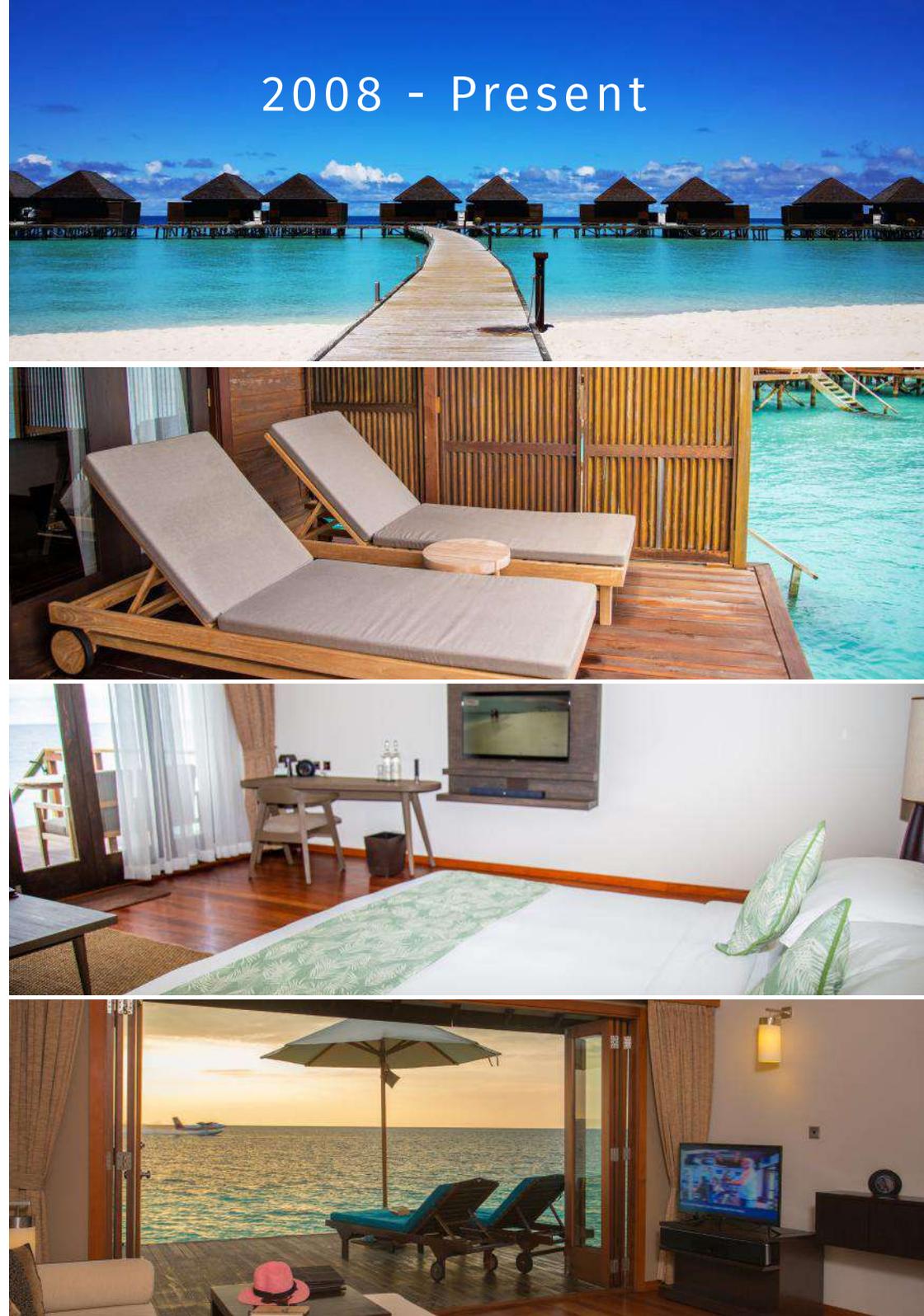
80's & 90's



# 2000-2006

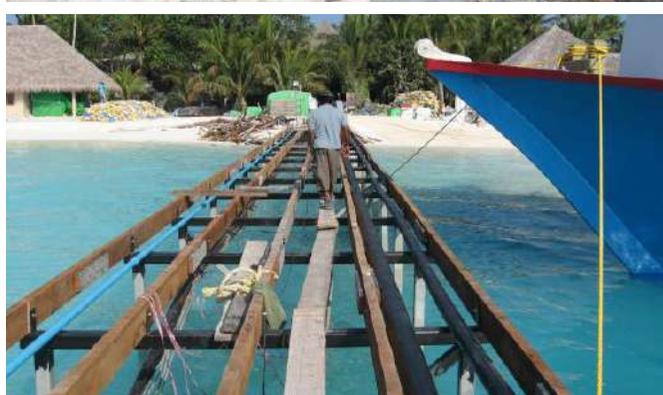
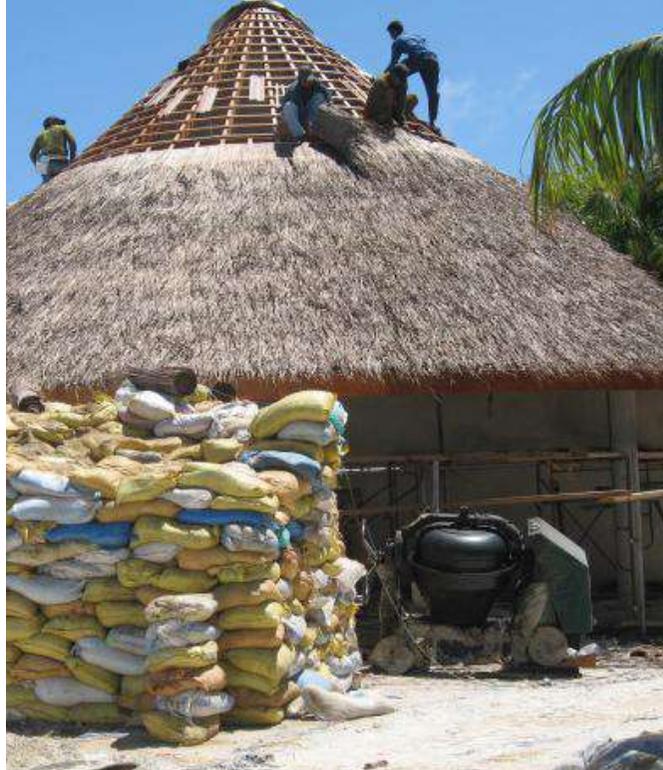


# 2008 - Present

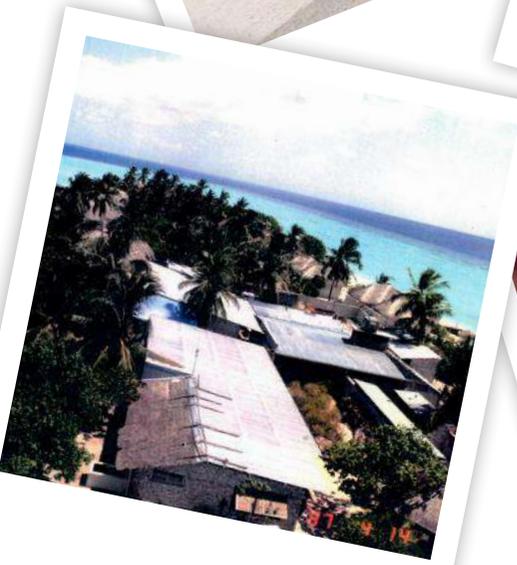


# RESORT RE-CONSTRUCTION 2007





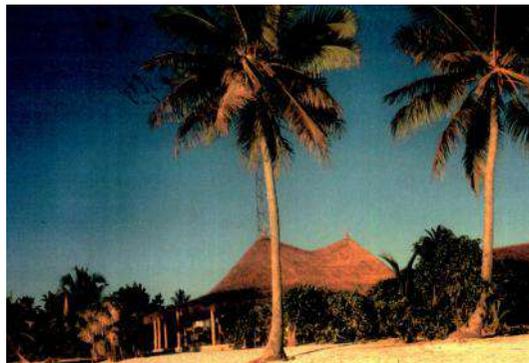
# GOOD OLD MEMORIES







# THE SECLUDED ISLAND





## VELIGANDU FACTS

- Resort opened in 1984
- Connected with one of the largest sandbanks in the Maldives
- Veligandu operates on island time, which is one hour ahead of Male' (the capital city of the Maldives). This means you have more time to enjoy more sunshine and relax on the beach
- Veligandu has been opened for many years; henceforth, the resort facilities are being renovated and upgraded frequently to maintain up to date
  - 2007 the resort closed for major renovation from 1<sup>st</sup> May to 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2017
  - 2013 added more facilities
  - 2018 upgraded Thundi Bar and Arrival Pavilion
  - 2019 upgraded all the rooms furniture, interiors and lightings  
upgraded Madivaru A la cart Restaurant
  - 2020 Resort closed due to the Covid-19 global pandemic from April to 31<sup>st</sup> August
  - 2020 upgraded reception, Dhonveli Restaurant Main Buffet, swimming pool, Fitness Centre, Gift Shop and Landscaping



SINCE 1984



veligandu

Island Resort & Spa  
MALDIVES

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