SUSTAINABLE LUXURY
For just about everyone, waking up to the gentle lapping of the ocean against the sun-drenched beaches of the Maldives is a dream come true. The country’s vivid marine life, plentiful relaxation and romantic occasions lure travellers hungry for outstanding experiences to determine for themselves whether all those ‘picture perfect’ and ‘paradise on earth’ reviews hold water.

To ensure, however, that care for the natural environment doesn’t take a back seat when offering these services, Kuredu is proud of its comprehensive and ever-expanding efforts to reduce its environmental footprint, and its awareness raising campaigns among guests and local communities.

Thanks to its location just north of the Equator, Kuredu receives ample sun throughout the year, so tapping into this infinite reservoir of renewable energy is a logical way of supplementing the resort’s energy needs.

Kuredu’s Team Village has 4,160 solar panels installed on its rooftops. Each panel generates 240 watts of maximum power during a sunny day using the photovoltaic system (converting sunlight into an electric current).

Peak solar power production per day is 900 KW. The total solar panel production is more than 4300 kWh on a sunny day, and they produce 15 - 30% of Kuredu’s total electricity which results in a reduction of carbon emission of about 876,000 Kg per year.
LINE DRYING OF LAUNDRY

Line drying is used to help dry almost 3,100kg of linen per day, further reducing the resort’s use of electricity for machinery, and adding to the mix of eco-friendly practices used at the resort.

HEAT RECOVERY SYSTEM

The resort’s hot water requirements are met through a high-efficiency heat recovery system. Waste heat produced by generators is cleverly converted into sufficient amounts of electrical energy to enable you relaxing, hot showers without a negative impact on the environment. This incredibly simple but effective method allows 804kg of emissions to be saved every day.
**DRINKS BOTTLES**

Kuredu is committed to reducing the amount of plastic water bottles and obtains water that quenches your thirst in glass bottles via its desalination plant. Fresh water is derived from seawater through reverse osmosis, mineralised and chilled, before being bottled in a top-of-the-line facility. The glass bottles used for water are sterilised before being reused. The savings for the environment are not only the obvious reduction in single use plastic bottles, but also include the transportation of the bottles from Malé to the resort. Kuredu has stopped the purchasing of drinks that come in plastic bottles, instead committing to either glass or aluminium canned versions. These can now be found across the resort, including the mini-bar. This action will result in approx 500,000 plastic bottles not being used at Kuredu. Eco bottles are available in all guest rooms, which for a small fee can be refilled and taken on any excursions or activities that guests are undertaking.

**REUSABLE STRAWS**

The wasteful single-use plastic variety have been replaced with reusable straws, and the result is a reduction of over 400,000 plastic straws being used.

**RECYCLING INITIATIVES**

All waste plastic, cardboard and glass bottles from the resort are sorted and collected for recycling. Much of the sorting takes place by team members at the point of contact, including our villa, restaurant and bar attendants. Once segregated, glass bottles are placed into a crusher to make powder, while cardboard and plastic are compacted before being sent to a recycling company in the capital island Male. This recycling initiative has allowed the incinerator requirement to be reduced by 75%. Plastic rubbish bags have eliminated completely from the resort. Environmental bags, placed in all guest rooms, encourage guests to join the initiate and help by taking plastics and other recyclable products home with them. Kuredu’s team have become inventive in their recycling of commonly used items such as empty paint tins, which have been cleverly converted into plant pots and are being used extensively around the resort.
On the last weekend of September each year, Kuredu’s team and guests Maldives join millions of others across the globe for the annual Clean Up the World event. The Prodivers team, together with members from the Marine Centre and guests participate in a house reef snorkel and scuba dive clean up on a local house reef. Whereas Clean Up the World is a big event, and part of a global campaign, we put a lot of emphasis on the environment in our day-to-day operation. Regular island clean ups are scheduled throughout the year.

A partnership we are particularly proud of is that with the Maldives’ branch of Parley for the Oceans that advocate avoiding the use of single-use plastics and encouraging responsible disposal of plastic that would otherwise end up in the ocean. Whenever possible, we follow Parley’s guidelines of avoiding, intercepting, and redesigning the standards for plastic pollution. Recyclable waste as well as any plastic debris washed onto our beaches is regularly collected by Parley to ensure that it is treated as environmentally responsible as possible.

On the last weekend of September each year, Kuredu’s team and guests Maldives join millions of others across the globe for the annual Clean Up the World event. The Prodivers team, together with members from the Marine Centre and guests participate in a house reef snorkel and scuba dive clean up on a local house reef. Whereas Clean Up the World is a big event, and part of a global campaign, we put a lot of emphasis on the environment in our day-to-day operation. Regular island clean ups are scheduled throughout the year.
**GUEST AMENITIES**

Guest amenities are now placed into reusable glass canisters.

**BUILDING MATERIALS**

LED lights are used at the entire resort, and are generating significant savings of approximately 1300kWh per day. This equates to 882kg of emissions saved each and every day. Rainwater is used extensively for irrigation purposes, and the vast 50,000 litre water tank that captures rainwater is responsible for saving 12,532 kgs of emissions last year.

**AIR CONDITIONING & MINI BAR FRIDGES IN VILLAS**

Air-conditioners and mini-bar fridges are now utilising energy friendly gas units, meaning the time to cool has been dramatically reduced.

**BUGGIES & BYCYCLES**

Electrical buggies are in use, and bicycles are available for guests to hire.
Kuredu has partnered with Healing Earth, a leading spa and hotel amenities provider, and developed and launched a bespoke collection of completely green and eco-friendly Healing Ocean products exclusively for our guests.

Thanks to the Healing Earth range that prides itself on carefully selected targeted formulas of spa-quality active ingredients and powerful aromatherapy oils, our guests can now create well-being sanctuaries in the comfort of their villa. Luxurious and effective, natural and environmentally friendly, each product has been thoughtfully developed with the pampering of our guests and the health of Kuredu’s precious natural environment in mind.

Kuredu’s Healing Earth hand and body wash, shampoo and conditioner, after-sun gel, hand and body soother and solid soap are all biodegradable. In a sensitive, vulnerable coral reef ecosystem like Kuredu’s, it is of utmost importance that zero harm is done to the ocean; the Healing Earth range features environment-friendly antimicrobial agents that ensure that no toxic pollutants run off into the sea.

What’s more, several of Duniye Spa’s treatments, including the two popular signature rituals, Sense of Touch and Heaven on Earth, are complemented by Healing Earth products, which are free from petrochemicals, synthetics, colourants preservatives and parabens.
Kuredu's greenhouse and herb garden produces among others a variety of herbs, vegetables and fruits such as cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, bell peppers, bok choy, long beans, eggplants, white radish, spinach, cauliflower, snake gourd, lettuce, watermelon, bananas, papaya, passion fruit and more!

Kuredu regularly organises large scale events for its guests and team members. Palm leaf plates instead of paper ones and palm leaf cutlery is now being used instead of plastic to help reduce unnecessary waste from such events.
MARINE BIOLOGY CENTER

Led by a resident marine biologist and run in close cooperation with Prodivers Maldives, the Kuredu Marine Biology Center is here to share our passion for the ocean with you, and to further study the unique marine environment of which Kuredu is a part. The bustling underwater ecosystem that awaits below the water surface around Kuredu is certainly well worth a visit. Lhaviyani Atoll is made up of a number of narrow and shallow channels that funnel the nutrient-rich water directly into Kuredu’s proximity, resulting in an incredible amount and variety of marine life. Currents, abundant sun and clear water provide aquarium-like conditions for over 2,000 species of fish and more than 200 species of coral. Crustacea and invertebrates are aplenty in the Maldives too. Magic lies in wait in the lagoon on Kuredu’s southern side, with a unique community of sea turtles calling the area their home.

RESIDENT MARINE BIOLOGIST

Our resident marine biologist brings expertise and love of the ocean to Kuredu. A professional of the Olive Ridley Project with a thorough knowledge of the Maldives’ marine environment and a broad understanding of the intrinsic value of coral reefs is on site to make guests realise that Kuredu – and the Maldives in general – is a very special place for aquatic exploration. The ocean-savvy biologist conducts not only research on the Lhaviyani Atoll turtle and manta ray populations (to which guests can contribute by reporting sightings), but also performs studies on reef ecology; Kuredu’s resident marine biologist runs workshops and trips aimed at sharing knowledge and hence increasing awareness of the importance of conserving this fragile ecosystem.
Lhaviyani Atoll, where Kuredu is located, is one of the places in the Maldives that manta rays seem to love! Our resident marine biologists, the resort team and our guests, through photo submissions, have helped to identify almost 400 individual manta rays. Just like our loyal returning guests, many of these gentle giants keep coming back to the area with a whopping 314 that have been sighted more than once!

Manta rays are fascinating and clever fish but are also extremely vulnerable, which is why Kuredu, strictly adheres to Manta Trust’ guidelines on swimming with them. All excursions are run responsibly, with great respect for these sensitive giants. Before snorkelling or diving with manta rays, all guests are provided information on how to ensure that interactions are memorable and sustainable in equal measure.

Estimated reef manta ray population in the Maldives: 5,000-6,000
Identified individuals: 4,160
Dream Island sandbank identified population: 101
Dream Island sandbank manta re-sightings: 49.5%
Most mantas identified around Hurawalhi are up to 2.3 meters in size, with a few giants boasting a wingspan of over 3 meters!
Most frequently seen manta ray in the Lhaviyani: Feng Shui

IN BRIEF: HOW TO SWIM WITH MANTA RAYS

Enter the water quietly
Keep fins under the water to avoid splashing
Do not approach closer than 3 metres – let the manta come to you
Approach from the side – never block its path
Do not chase the manta as it swims past
Never touch a manta ray
When scuba diving at cleaning stations, stay at the side of cleaning stations
Never swim on top of a Manta
Keep low but be careful not to damage the reef when scuba diving
While scuba diving, if a manta swims towards you, stay low and stay still
In addition, follow local guidelines given during the dive or snorkel briefing
Kuredu is committed to a sustainable fishing policy and purchases from a selected range of local suppliers that follow the Maldives’ leading stance on the subject. Fishing techniques in the Maldives follow the centuries old technique of pole and line fishing. Size guides are followed.

**SUSTAINABLE FISHING EXCURSIONS**

Kuredu reports sightings of sea turtles for the purpose of identification and research purposes, and supports the foundation’s ghost net removal efforts. We help with entangled turtles and report these encounters to Olive Ridley Project as well as to Atoll Marine Centre.

**PRODIVERS MALDIVES**

the ‘Maldives’ Best Dive Center’ (2018 Tauchen Awards) has ocean conservation at its heart and adheres to all PADI and Project Aware guidelines on the protection of the environment. They teach the PADI Project AWARE Coral Reef Conservation Specialty courses and Project AWARE Dive Against Debris courses to divers.

**THE OLIVE RIDLEY PROJECT**

Kuredu reports sightings of sea turtles for the purpose of identification and research purposes, and supports the foundation’s ghost net removal efforts.

We help with entangled turtles and report these encounters to Olive Ridley Project as well as to Atoll Marine Centre.
We work together with tourism operators, NGOs, and schools from around Lhaviyani Atoll in order to spread sustainable tourism practices and mitigate manta ray injuries.

EDUCATION

To instil a deeper understanding of the world's environmental issues and to encourage a desire to look after natural resources, Kuredu hosts local school visits. These visits foster the children's environmental awareness through interesting discussions on a variety of topics, such as the importance of healthy coral reefs and oceans, plastic pollution and energy saving. Through nature walks around the resort, school children receive first-hand knowledge from the resident marine biologist and representatives of other departments that are involved in the implementation of Kuredu's green initiatives.

LOCAL SCHOOLS

We work together with tourism operators, NGOs, and schools from around Lhaviyani Atoll in order to spread sustainable tourism practices and mitigate manta ray injuries.
To make sure that awareness and education lead to a positive environmental attitude, sustainability is a topic at the forefront of team members’ trainings. Covering areas of the economic significance of protecting Maldivian biodiversity, actions to protect coral reefs, endangered species (including trainings on how to help turtles entangled in ghost nets) and recycling, among others, Kuredu is proud that its team members understand why nature must lie at the heart of everything we do.

Kuredu’s team participate in many international environmental campaigns such as Earth Hour, Earth Day, World Oceans Day, Wildlife Day.

Kuredu is proud of having received the Travelife Gold Certification for successive years.

TUI Environmental Champion Award 2019 - For having a high awareness of a sustainable environment