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Blink Design Group

ASIA'S LUXURY RESORT DESIGN INNOVATION TAKES ANOTHER LEAP FORWARD WITH JUMEIRAH DHEVANAFUSHI RESORT MALDIVES

Having in May of this year collected one of the world's most prestigious global design awards, the Hospitality Design (HD) Magazine Award for World's Best Luxury Hotel for the Conrad Sanya, and the Silver Award in Hotel Space for Jumeirah Dhevanafushi at the Asia Pacific Interior Design Awards in Hong Kong, Bangkok-based firm Blink Design Group is without doubt the hottest ticket in town.

Founded five years ago by Clint P. Nagata, Blink Design Group (BLINK) has reinvented the traditional service model for hospitality design to now offering clients a fully integrated end-to-end range of services and solutions, including brand identity, master planning, architecture, interior design and computer visualisation, all under one umbrella. BLINK's ability to inspire clients with its bespoke aesthetics has made them the go to design company with a prestigious customer list of luxury

international hotels and resorts, all of whom are seeking uniqueness and long-lasting impressions for their resort, hotel, spa, gaming or restaurant projects.

BLINK's intuitive hospitality design aesthetics are showcased here in the exclusive Jumeirah Dhevanafushi Maldives. This ultra-luxury resort presented BLINK with a unique set of challenges, not least its location on a remote atoll in the pristine and almost uncharted southern waters of the famed chain of islands.

Jumeirah Dhevanafushi, which means "unique island" in Sanskrit, is located on the Gaafu Alifu atoll in the Maldives, 400 km south of the capital city of Malé. It's another short hop by light aircraft then a 15-minute luxury speedboat ride to arrive at the resort that takes the tropical island escape to an intriguing new place. ►



"THE BLINK BRAND IS CENTRED AROUND THE BELIEF THAT EACH PROJECT IS A PLATFORM TO ACHIEVE SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY,"
BLINK FOUNDER AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR CLINT P. NAGATA.

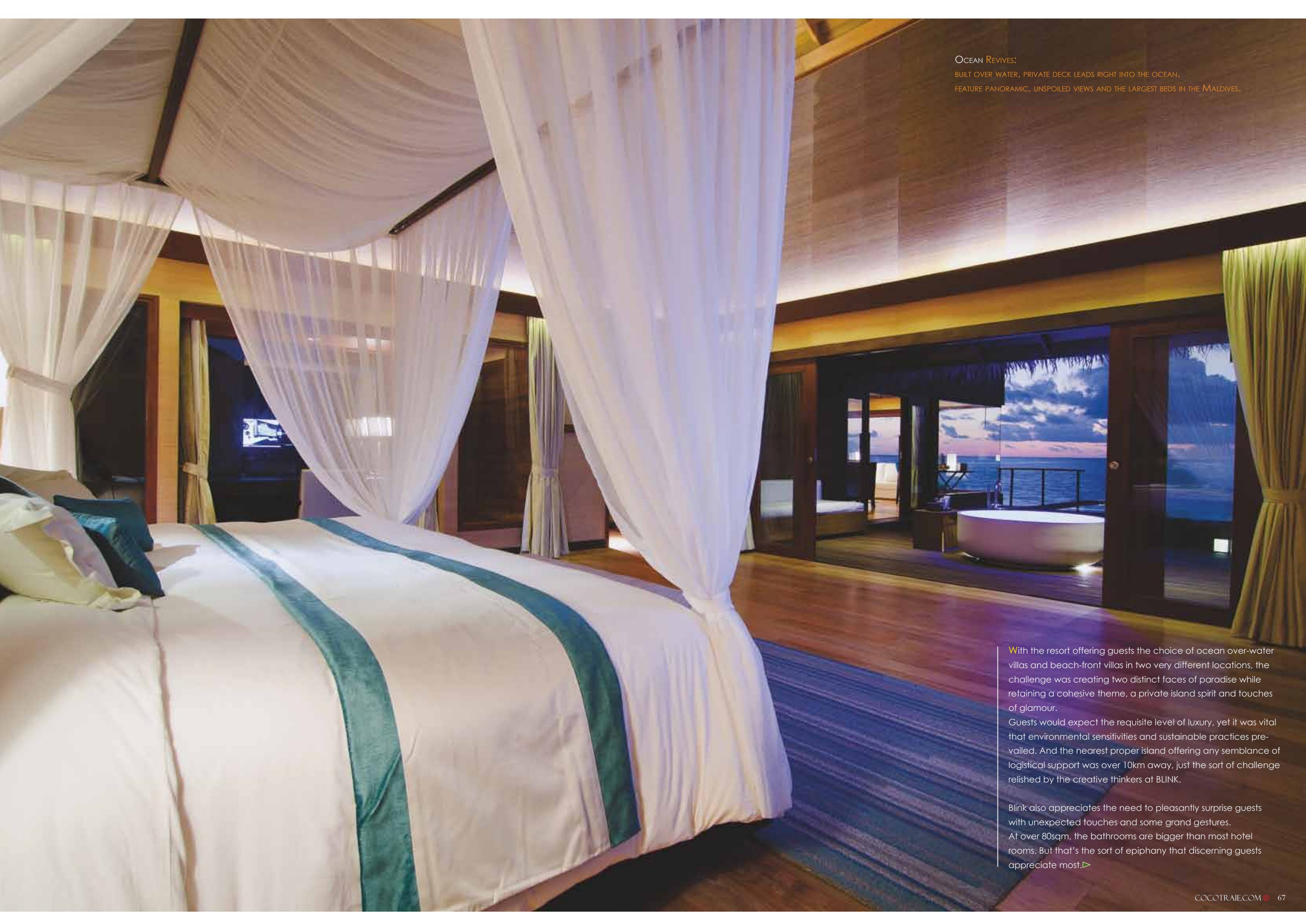
OCEAN SANCTUARY:
PERCHED ON PLATFORMS ABOVE THE MOST IRIDESCENT SEA IN THE WORLD.
WITH STUNNING VIEWS OF DAZZLING MALDIVIAN SUNSETS.

BEACH REVIVES:

FEATURES PRIVATE SWIMMING POOL, INDOOR MARBLE PLUNGE BATH AND OUTDOOR RAIN SHOWERS, BEACH ACCESS AND SALA DAY BEDS.

It took three years to go from the initial drawing boards to the opening of the resort in Spring 2011. Here at the resort, there are two principle residence types, Revive and Sanctuary, each offering a choice of breathtaking views over island or ocean. Nestled within the lush tropical foliage of the atoll, the magnificently designed 206sqm and 306sqm beach and island villas have been fitted out in warm natural earth tones, honey coloured timber flooring and soaring roofs, every abundantly sized room is inspired by traditional Maldivian architectural expressions.

Thirteen beautiful Beach Revives are perfectly positioned by the ocean, while eight Island Revives and a unique Island Sanctuary lie nestled amidst areas of rich flora, creating a distinctive residential feel. Spacious bedrooms with timber flooring and high ceilings include a separate study area, decorated with neutral colour palettes, infusing peace and calm; while a spacious open bathroom and shower create a space of graceful elegance.▶



OCEAN REVIVES:

BUILT OVER WATER, PRIVATE DECK LEADS RIGHT INTO THE OCEAN.
FEATURE PANORAMIC, UNSPOILED VIEWS AND THE LARGEST BEDS IN THE MALDIVES.

With the resort offering guests the choice of ocean over-water villas and beach-front villas in two very different locations, the challenge was creating two distinct faces of paradise while retaining a cohesive theme, a private island spirit and touches of glamour.

Guests would expect the requisite level of luxury, yet it was vital that environmental sensitivities and sustainable practices prevailed. And the nearest proper island offering any semblance of logistical support was over 10km away, just the sort of challenge relished by the creative thinkers at BLINK.

Blink also appreciates the need to pleasantly surprise guests with unexpected touches and some grand gestures.

At over 80sqm, the bathrooms are bigger than most hotel rooms. But that's the sort of epiphany that discerning guests appreciate most.▶

"WE APPROACHED THIS DESIGN WITH THE IDEA OF 'ONE BRAND, TWO RESORTS' WITH ABSOLUTE PRIVACY FOR GUESTS PARAMOUNT. AND WHEN THE RESORT'S NAME MEANS 'UNIQUE', WELL, THAT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF".

OCEAN REVIVE!
PRIVATE DECK WITH OUTDOOR INFINITY POOL (20M2)
MARBLE BATHTUB AND VIEWS OF THE OCEAN.

BLINK'S UNIQUE APPROACH THAT BLENDS BESPOKE QUALITY WITH INTUITIVE EXPERTISE AND INSPIRATION DRAWN FROM THE BEING OPEN TO GOING WITH THEIR INSTINCTS, IS WHAT SETS THEM APART.



"When you have a natural environment this breath-taking luxury isn't about opulence and ostentation. True luxury at this level is about sensitivity to the landscape, or in this case, the seascape, and seamlessly integrating guests into another world", notes Clint. "We've gone for subtle touches, like three-metre-wide beds you can get lost in, an outdoor soaking tub positioned near the vanishing edge pool to play on the idea of horizons, and a glass shower room with floor to ceiling glass that allows endless views of the sky as it melts into the sea."

In contrast to the villas, the main dining room, bar, and library are what Clint describes as "a modern statement in simple luxury" with wood columns, terrazzo floors, and hand laid bamboo ceiling strips help to create warmth while complementing the natural beauty of the island.

The design solution created at this resort goes beyond traditional architecture and interior design, putting Jumeirah Dhevanafushi well and truly ahead of the competition. 🌟

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