

STOKE PARK

COUNTRY CLUB
SPA & HOTEL

ISSUE 10
MMXIX



TYRRELL HATTON STOKE PARK MEMBER AND RYDER CUP WINNER
CELEBRATING OUR FABULOUS 10TH ISSUE
TRAVEL - HEALTH & BEAUTY - MOTORING - FOOD - FASHION - INTERIORS - JEWELLERY - STYLE

I have a dear friend named Thierry who sounds like Sacha Distel. Land is better looking than Emmanuel Macron! Couple with this his wavy light-brown hair and bright blue eyes and you could be forgiven for thinking he was born in downtown St Tropez! But alas, he was born and raised in the even more exotically beautiful Mauritius and has spent almost two decades extolling the islands endless virtues to me. Well, it took a while but I finally listened and very recently I was fortunate enough to be invited to visit the Maradiva Villas Resort and Spa, a five-star oasis of tranquillity on an island paradise, and discover its natural beauty for myself. The resort was recently named Indian Ocean's Leading Luxury Villa Resort at the 2018 World Travel Awards. Mauritius is an Indian Ocean

island nation, renowned for its turquoise waters, lagoons and reefs. The mountainous interior includes Black River Gorges National Park which boasts some of nature's most verdant rainforests, cascading waterfalls and breath-taking hiking trails for the more adventurous. Me, I was headed straight for the golden beaches that were 10 metres away from my very own, very private villa – thank you Maradiva! Located east of Madagascar in the Indian Ocean, Mauritius is a small African island nation with a population of just over 1 million residents, which, believe it or not makes it the most populous nation on the continent! The island captures the essence of East meets West. Nowhere is this more evident than in their food and culture which are both heavily influenced by Indian and French cultures.

Mauritius and Maradiva

Azzy Asghan enjoys a slice of heaven on earth – or actually in the Indian Ocean



The Maradiva resort is a byword for ultimate luxury. Upon landing at Mauritius airport we were greeted by a chauffeur and a gleaming Rolls-Royce which was to whisk us to our island escape. The scenic drive to the resort allowed us to get a preview of the stunning beaches, bright turquoise waters and incredible green landscapes that we would be admiring all week.

Upon arrival at Maradiva, the friendly welcoming staff offered freshly squeezed juice and scented cold towels to refresh ourselves after a long day of travelling.

After check-in we were taken by golf cart to our Luxury Villa. All of the villas are secluded and surrounded by their own tropical gardens – each is simply breathtaking.

Between the open air concept, private pool and neutral colour palettes, each villa at Maradiva provides guests with their own personal, luxurious haven within the idyllic resort. Using design influences by Hermès, the natural elegance of the villas is felt throughout. Neutral shades of beige, grey, and orange beautifully compliment the lush green landscapes along the perimeter. Whether you want to sprawl out on a sunbed next to your private pool, take an outdoor garden shower or a short walk to the beach, there are endless options for relaxation.

The world-class dining options that Maradiva has to offer made for a truly epicurean culinary experience during our stay. Quality and freshness are not only a priority at the Maradiva, each restaurant gets their produce from the on-site mini organic farm and fresh food deliveries weekly.

Our first night at Maradiva was spent enjoying an exquisite Indian dinner at Cilantro. With its romantic design, Cilantro serves the finest of modern Indian cuisine. Whether you would like to enjoy dinner, appetizers beforehand or after dinner drinks,

Cilantro's lounge and dining room allows guests to indulge in all phases of their evening.

The resort offers you the chance to just enjoy nature and relax or to be as active as you desire. For those looking for a rush of adrenaline in the midst of their relaxing week there are endless complimentary resort activities including; water-skiing, windsurfing and snorkelling, Maradiva also helps to coordinate activities not affiliated with the resort.

For the real thrill seeker, Seakarting is an absolute must try – a cross between a jet ski and a mini speed boat – the Seakarts can be rented by hour or for a half day tour. Enjoy the array of Mauritius wildlife and breath-taking coastal views while zooming at speeds up to 70 km/hr. For our second adventurous excursion, we ventured a bit deeper, 35 metres to be exact, for a submarine tour. Get a glimpse into life under the sea in Mauritius, with one-of-a-kind views of coral reefs, ocean wildlife and maybe even a shipwreck!

For those looking for a unique rather than a traditional table service option – the resort offers a more interactive dining experience with their Teppan restaurant. Prepared and served Teppanyaki style (hence the fitting title) by renowned Mauritian Chef Kelly, enjoy delectable Japanese, Thai and Indo-Chinese food in a social and convivial atmosphere.

Between the excellent service, delicious food, breathtaking villas and once in a lifetime experience, the Maradiva Villas Resort and Spa should be at the top of your travel bucket list. It is now on mine for a return visit – and what makes it absolutely so is the people – the Mauritians are truly welcoming and gentle souls who genuinely enjoy service and take pride in showing you their beautiful island – touché Thierry! 🇲🇺

www.maradiva.com

