

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Anantara Kihavah Maldives, an Astronomer's Paradise, Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Man's First Walk on the Moon**



On July 20, 2019, Anantara Kihavah Villas will commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of man's first walk on the moon with 'The Eagle Has Landed Celebration.' The astronomer's paradise, Baa Atoll in the Maldives, is one of the best places on earth to enjoy moon and stargazing. Its proximity to the equator and its non-polluted skies means both hemisphere's stars are clearly visible from the resort. SKY, the Maldives' first and only overwater observatory featuring a research-grade 16" Meade LX200 telescope. The custom-built Ash-dome observatory sits on the roof deck of the resort's Sky Bar surrounded by nothing but open skies and the ocean waves below.

Fifty years ago, Apollo 11 landed on the moon and Americans Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin stepped down from the lunar module onto the surface of the moon, the first humans in history to do so. Although Armstrong was in the Sea of Tranquility, Anantara offers the Indian Ocean.

The resort's resident Sky Guru, Ali Shameem, is a native Maldivian who grew up on an island without electricity, Shameem spent his childhood mapping the constellations. A protégé of Italian astronomer Dr. Massimo Tarengi, Shameem has spent the last decade observing the stars as a professional astronomer. He shares his passion and expertise of the constellations in weekly star gazing experiences for the resort's guests.

#### **50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF MAN'S FIRST WALK ON THE MOON CELEBRATION: JULY 20, 2019**

##### **4:00 A.M. STAR GAZING BREAKFAST**

Lay back to gaze at the stars that glitter overhead, and be regaled by SKY Guru and resident astronomer, Ali Shameem. Take a look through the powerful telescope at the craters on the moon, Orion nebula and Pleiades, commonly known as seven sisters.

Stargazing Breakfast offers guests a unique chance to see the stars in perfect view and greater clarity as the humidity and light pollution are at its minimum during this time. Indulge in a four-course breakfast of chilled Champagne and lobster benedict to accompany your once-in-a-lifetime experience. The price for the experience including breakfast is USD 450 per person.

##### **THE 'BUZZ' ALDRIN (SIGNATURE COCKTAIL)**

The SKY Bartenders have created a signature cocktail – The 'Buzz' Aldrin -- to celebrate the occasion. All on property guests will receive the *complimentary* cocktail. While it should provide a buzz, we can't guarantee you'll experience weightlessness. Cocktail Image: <https://we.tl/t-vlxZ7paUx5>

### THE SKY BAR

The panorama luxury cocktail lounge perched over the lagoon maximises ocean views from every vantage point. Contemporary yet warm, with raw timber and soft lighting throughout, this is the place to take in Indian Ocean sunsets. A circular bar serves as the centrepiece, with bar tenders busy at work.

### THE SKY OVERWATER OBSERVATORY

The custom-built Ash-dome observatory sits on the roof deck of the Sky Bar surrounded by nothing but open skies and the ocean waves below. The observatory houses a research-grade Meade 16" LX200 telescope mounted on a super-giant field tripod. Digitally controlled with 360° movement, the powerful telescope opens up the night sky.

### STARGAZING WITH SKY GURU, ALI SHAMEEM

Sip champagne and savour Asian tapas whilst Sky Guru Ali Shameem points out Sirius, the brightest star in the night sky, Arcturus, Capella, Spica and Omega Centauri, the brightest and largest known globular cluster in the Milky Way galaxy. Take a look through the powerful telescope at the craters on the moon, the belts of Jupiter and the pale-yellow rings of Saturn.

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**For more information on Anantara Kihavah Maldives Villas please visit**

[www.kihavah-maldives.anantara.com](http://www.kihavah-maldives.anantara.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/anantarakihavahmaldives>

Instagram: @anantarakihavah

### Editor's Note:

Anantara is a luxury hospitality brand for modern travellers, connecting them to genuine places, people and stories through personal experiences, and providing heartfelt hospitality in the world's most exciting destinations. The collection of distinct, thoughtfully designed luxury hotels and resorts provides a window through which to journey into invigorating new territory, curating personal travel experiences.

From cosmopolitan cities to desert sands to lush islands, Anantara connects travellers to the indigenous, grounds them in authentic luxury, and hosts them with passionate expertise. The portfolio currently boasts over 35 stunning hotel and properties located in Thailand, the Maldives, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Mozambique, Zambia, the UAE, Qatar, Oman and Portugal, with a pipeline of future properties across Asia, the Indian Ocean, Middle East, Africa and South America. The brand's premier vacation ownership programme, Anantara Vacation Club, extends the opportunity to own a share in the Anantara experience with a portfolio of 8 luxurious Club Resorts as well as travel privileges at partner resorts and hotels worldwide.

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