



Investing in the Future of Marine Conservation *Six Senses Laamu launches Junior Marine Biology program*

LAAMU, Maldives – May 16, 2019 – Everyone can be a marine conservationist. That’s the message Maldives Underwater Initiative (MUI), the marine team at [Six Senses Laamu](http://SixSensesLaamu.com), wants to share with the next generation of marine stewards.

For this summer holiday, MUI is launching the *Junior Marine Biology* program for budding conservationists aged 6 to 16. The first of its kind in the Maldives, the program pairs one-on-one mentoring from the 10 MUI marine biologists with a “choose your own adventure” structure that allows the junior marine biologists to design their own personalized program.

Marteyne van Well, Six Senses Laamu general manager, says, “This program is truly unique. Unlike anything I’ve seen in the Maldives, it’s more than just a “be a marine biologist for a day’ experience. This is multiple sessions over the length of a guest’s stay that will help foster deeper engagement and understanding of marine biology.”

One of the largest marine teams in the Maldives, MUI’s 10 regular marine biologists have expertise in fields such as coral restoration, turtles, manta rays, seagrass and fisheries management. Young conservationists have the opportunity to be involved in ongoing research projects such as expanding the resort’s turtle database of 420 individuals, or joining the coral biologist in restoring the reef with the mid-water rope coral nursery.

The only resort in the southern Maldives’ Laamu Atoll, Six Senses Laamu has pristine coral reefs, abundant seagrass beds, and mangrove forests right on its doorstep. Rich in marine life, these environments provide the perfect opportunity to see first-hand the importance of conserving the oceans.

Shelley Turnbull, Junior Marine Biology program coordinator, says the program will tap into the passion of future ocean stewards and encourage them to protect these habitats in Laamu and across the globe.

“We want our Junior Marine Biologists to have the tools they need and be empowered to create change back at home. Every action and every person, no matter how small, can have a positive impact on ocean conservation. We have already seen today’s youth coming up with innovative solutions to the problems past generations have created, such as plastic pollution. Take BioCollection for example; what began as an idea following a field trip to the local waste facility by high school seniors is now an enterprise turning plastics in landfill into chemicals to be used again.”

Young guests who are interested in becoming a Junior Marine Biologist can register their interest at the time of their booking and be greeted on arrival by the MUI team, ready to begin their adventure.

For more information contact reservations-laamu@sixsenses.com.



Junior Marine Biologists get out of the classroom and into the field collecting data.

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As part of their personal project, a Junior Marine Biologist is conducting a turtle survey at Six Senses Laamu house reef.

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About Six Senses Laamu

Six Senses Laamu is the only resort in the Laamu Atoll, deep in the Indian Ocean, surrounded by a beautiful coral house reef. Most of the villas and facilities are built overwater, however beach villas and on-land dining is an option. All villas offer a sense of privacy and seclusion, with an amazing view to the Ocean and Maldivian nature.

Six Senses Laamu offers a wide range of dining options, with cuisines from around the world, an ice cream parlor, an overwater wine cellar and a signature Chill bar. Many activities, excursions and options are available for everyone to enjoy, both over water and underwater, in addition to the Six Senses Spa.

About Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas

Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas is one of the world's leading operators of luxury hotels, resorts and spas, managing 19 hotels and resorts across 14 countries, plus 37 spas under the brand names Six Senses, Evason, Six Senses Spas and Raison d'Etre. There are a further 18 hotels and resorts signed into its development pipeline. In February 2019, Six Senses became part of the [IHG®](#) (InterContinental Hotels Group) family of hotel brands.

Six Senses properties share a leadership commitment to community, sustainability, wellness and design, infused with a touch of quirkiness. Whether an exquisite island resort, mountain retreat or urban hotel, the enduring purpose is to help people reconnect with themselves, others and the world around them.

Six Senses Spas offers a wide range of holistic wellness, rejuvenation and beauty treatments administered under the guidance of expert therapists in all resorts as well as at 16 additional standalone spas. The high-tech and high-touch approach guides guests on their personal path to well-being, taking them as deep as they want to go.

Six Senses Residences provides the best life has to offer. From beautifully-appointed villas on the beach, rustic chalets in the mountains and spacious urban hideaways, Six Senses features a variety of residential choices in stand-alone buildings or attached to a resort or hotel. No matter the location, the promise remains the same and the commitment to create a community where every day revolves around learning and growing, great food and drink, innovative wellness programming, sustainable living – all mixed in with a lot fun.

Evason follows the Six Senses philosophy of uncompromised responsibility to sustainability and the community. Its two unique resorts provide a strong value focus, while offering a vast array of personal guest experiences that the whole family will love.

For further information, please contact:

Ali Rifhaan
Marketing Communications Officer
Six Senses Laamu
T +960 6800 800
M +960 791 6897
E rifhaan.ali@sixsenses.com

Benjawan Sudhikam (Ms.)
Director of Public Relations
Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas
T +66 2 631 9781
M +66 8 181 38234
E ben@sixsenses.com

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