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£693pp. For packages try Turquoise Holidays (turquoiseholidays.co.uk).

Gili Lankanfushi

Gili invented 'No news, no shoes', and they actually bag up your footwear on arrival because here it's barefoot informality all the way. Fine, since these are some of the softest sands in the Maldives and, with every villa overwater, there's plenty of beach to stroll on. The look matches up: dreamy pale-wood villas are open to the breeze, and each has its **own rooftop terrace (ask your butler to make it up for sleeping under the stars)** and hidden slice of sea for skinny-dipping. There's a lot of seaplane traffic overhead, but relaaax — the island's pandanus jungle swallows most of the noise.

Details: gili-lankanfushi.com; doubles from £1,050, B&B, including speedboat transfers. For packages try Inspiring Travel Company (inspiringtravelcompany.co.uk).

Hurawalhi

Turquoise and zesty lemon tones brighten the decor at this youthful-

minded resort. **Hurawalhi has bombshell beaches, a colourful - house reef** (healthier than most) and a fantastic all-inclusive offering (more generous than most, including round-the-clock drinks and a free sunset dolphin-spotting tour). Not included — but worth the splurge — is a seven-course dinner at Hurawalhi's spectacular 5.8 undersea restaurant (£213pp). Book the 6pm seating to see the ocean transform from day to night. **Details:** hurawalhi.com; doubles from £835, all-inclusive; seaplane transfers £350pp. For packages try Tropical Sky (tropicalsky.co.uk).

Huvafen Fushi

Label-loving couples snap selfies at its underwater spa, draping themselves on oversized daybeds to watch fish go by. The sex appeal pervades in minimalist rooms, and yet more Insta opportunities await at its mindblowing Lonu Veyo flotation pool, so salty it's like zero gravity. The magic is cranked up further with dinner in romantic **Vinum, a wine cellar adorned with suspended sculptures**. It's dressy, so pack heels,

but not wetsuits — nearby dive sites have suffered a lot of coral bleaching. **Details:** huvafenfushi.com; doubles from £501, room only; speedboat transfers from £281pp. For packages try Abercrombie & Kent (abercrombiekent.co.uk).

Joali

Not many 15-month-olds boast such sophistication, but this toddler is smart way beyond its years. Conceptual art dotted round the island, curated book collections in the bedrooms, **Art Deco interiors and inventive architectural lines everywhere** — Joali is an island for aesthetes. Its natural beauty is just as impressive — the lush greenery and curving sandbank are the envy of its high-end rivals — and it attracts some accordingly beautiful guests, so you'll want to pack your poshest kaftan and suck your tummy in. Until, of course, you retreat to the privacy of your vast, but elegant, villa and private pool...

Details: joali.com; doubles from £1,520, B&B; seaplane transfers £900pp. For packages try Kuoni (kuoni.com).>

Sea through: clockwise from top left, the 5.8 undersea restaurant at Hurawalhi; a bedroom at Joali; Huvafen Fushi