

10 best private islands

THEY'RE THE ONLY RESORT ON
THE ISLAND, SO YOU CAN
GUARANTEE YOU WON'T SEE
YOUR NEIGHBOURS OR HAVE TO
QUEUE FOR THAT SUNLOUNGER

For high-rolling, A-list indulgence **Velaa Private Island** Maldives

VELAA IS ROUND. PERFECTLY ROUND. And perfectly formed. Serving the best gazpacho in the Indian Ocean, this is undoubtedly where the elite come to recharge, dream and repeat. Refreshingly non-naïf, it's the ultimate honeymoon fantasy *sans* twee – think Soho House Maldives. Villas lean just the right side of *outré* with boho-chic Balinese rugs, shimmering walls of mother-of-pearl and sexy Conran-style lighting. Look up and you'll find living orchids dangling from the teak rafters. Rooms are technically accomplished, too. Step out of bed in the middle of the night and the floor gives off a gentle glow leading to the bathroom; every inch is considered. But it's not just Velaa's good looks that impress; there are toys at every turn. There's a nine-hole golf course, and where else can you explore the depths of the ocean in a two-person submarine? For beauty geeks, the 'My Blend by Clarins' spa really delivers. Pipette-wielding facialists concoct bespoke face creams for you to take home, and for added thrills, the resort's owners have installed a Cloud 9 machine (one of only four in the world). It's a cloud-shaped reclining treatment pod that slowly sways and cradles you into deep relaxation – we dare you not to fall asleep. **WOW FACTOR** The spa's 'snow room' with *actual* compacted ice and snow for you to dive into after being in the sauna – like a freezing plunge pool... **GO** Carrier (carrier.co.uk) offers seven nights in a Beach Pool Villa from £6,940 per person, B&B. Includes return flights with Emirates →



10 HOURS

