Matahari Beach Resort & Spa

Its inhabitants know the North West of Bali as “The Garden of Eden”. As you stroll through the lobby and grounds to your bungalow and down to the volcanic beach of the Matahari Beach Resort & Spa, this connotation seems pretty apt.

The resort was born from a romantic story between a man and his wife and their equally strong love for this untouched region. Many of the staff have remained loyal to the resort for over 20 years and were trained in house. Upon arrival we were welcomed by name, with a homemade fruit cocktail served in a coconut shell, garlands a plenty and we immediately felt part of the Matahari family.
As the traditional Balinese doors were opened to our beautiful bungalow, the fresh scent of wood and the fragrance from the many exotic flowers scattered throughout the room greeted us. We were in pure luxury. Our four-poster bed stood tall from the ground, enveloped by a delicate white veil. There was a sense of calm all around and we couldn’t wait to breathe in the fresh air, relax and indulge.
Outside, the flash flood of colors chaperoned us to the beach. The pathways, intertwined amongst the grounds resonate a peaceful ambience before you have even taken up residence on your sun lounger. Beautiful images hand carved into the sandstone walls by local craftsmen, sit proud on the walls in the public areas for all to see.
Matahari prides itself on its ecofriendly philosophy, and this is mirrored on the resorts private beach. In the afternoon, as the tide bids farewell to the shore, a lonely mangrove tree can be found stranded on the reef. As the sun sets in the west, the tree is cast merely as a silhouette, an unusual and yet glorious site to behold.
The volcanic sand, a cauldron of minerals and purity invites you to discover the underwater kingdom of Dewi Danu at the resorts on site dive school. Offering something for all guests, the table coral, whale sharks, turtles and array of fish will mesmerize even the most experienced of divers. For those looking to keep their head above the water though, kayaking offers an alternative exploration of the Java Sea, with unrivalled views of the West Bali National Park.
After a day of rejuvenation, the bungalows provide the perfect hideaway amongst the fresh flowering gardens. Spouting dragons will bathe you, accompanied by the carefully selected bath salts and soaps in your own private outdoor shower, as you prepare for the evening ahead.
If you are lucky enough to reside in the resort on a Wednesday evening, you will be treated to a traditional Balinese performance from the one of the local villages as you enjoy your evening meal. The general manager, Jany-Michel Fourné is a trained chef in haute cuisine. United alongside the Balinese chefs, a masterpiece has been created which compliments both Balinese and Western cuisines to entice every taste bud. The resorts very own herb garden compliments the locally sourced ingredients that are organically farmed in the volcanic highlands.
Unbeknownst to us, whilst we were wining and dining, the Matahari family had still been hard at work to create an elegant atmosphere inside our bungalow. The lights were dimmed. Cake had been served. The bed was prepared for us to rest. It was perfect.

We were up bright and early to blue skies, a magnificent breakfast and the tinkering sound of traditional Balinese instruments, hand played by one of Matahari’s very own. If you are awake before 8am; a complimentary early morning yoga session can be enjoyed by all in the pavilion by the beach. The morning banquet of breads, pastries, cheese, cold meats, fruit, vitality cocktails and smoothies, not to mention the vast selection of traditional Balinese options, perfectly complemented the effortless health conscious image that the resort portrays. As if the selection wasn’t enough to satisfy every palette, an additional menu is offered with an array of fresh egg based dishes for you to choose. Whilst you are savoring every moment, your bed is being dressed, the curtains pulled back to allow the room to breathe in the sunlight from outside and your nightwear neatly arranged ready for your return. Every element of your stay at this outstanding resort has been carefully thought out and the staff’s efficiency ensures that the resort runs like clockwork, so that guests can fully immerse themselves in everything that Matahari has to offer.
Someone once said, “a person who feels appreciated will always do more than what it expected” and this couldn’t be truer of Matahari. It is evident that all of its family is treated with respect and loyalty. We learnt during our stay, that even the staff who work behind the scenes receive their fair share of rewards from satisfied customers, thus further igniting the family spirit.

Peace and tranquility resound throughout the resort, not a mobile phone or television insight. From the outset, many may doubt that they can live without these modern age necessities, but once you enter the Matahari bubble, it’s easy to disregard the world outside of the gardens and life becomes ever more distant.

Acting as a blue beacon for guests, the 23 meter swimming pool shimmers in the center of the resort. It’s water originating from a spring at the foot of the nearby mountains, that are lucky enough to peer over the resort.
Just a few steps from the pool, lies Matahari’s pinnacle. Many hotels market themselves as a “resort and spa”, although very few can successfully execute this title as Matahari does. Priding itself on providing the perfect atmosphere to de-stress, the spa transports guests to a calming water palace metropolis. The treatments bring calm and balance to the mind through traditional Balinese techniques and Indian spirituality.
Set in a secluded space amongst the grounds of the spa lays a romantic retreat for lovebirds to hideaway, for a night under the Balinese sky, inspired by traditional local wedding preparations. Here, a seven-course dinner can be enjoyed, champagne can flow and the only sounds that can be heard are the melodies of the fountains, which echo throughout the gardens and sing it’s inhabitants to sleep.

On first entering the resort, we were immediately drawn to the plethora of awards cast on the walls of the lobby. Our expectations were incredibly high and Matahari and its family certainly didn't disappoint. Every minute detail had been carefully crafted in design and execution and the resort resonates ecological, responsible and social commitments to the North West of Bali. We were greeted with a warm smile, which never faded throughout our stay. The staff; genuine, passionate and helpful from the outset. A hidden gem in the unspoilt region, it’s clear to see why guests from across the globe return year upon year for their Bali bliss.