



## Vital Statistics: COMO Laucala Island, Fiji

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**Address:** COMO Laucala Island, Fiji  
Cakaudrove, Fiji Islands

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**Website:** [comohotels.com/laucalaisland](http://comohotels.com/laucalaisland)

**Opening Year:** 2021

**Owning Company:** COMO Hotels and Resorts

**General Manager:** Gary A. Henden

**Interior Design Firm:** Lynne Hunt London

**Location:** Fiji

**Getting There:** COMO Laucala Island, Fiji, is a 12 square kilometre private island in a remote corner of Melanesia, accessed by a 55-minute private air charter from the country's Nadi International Airport.

COMO Laucala Island has its own airstrip for private planes, and can arrange 55-minute connecting flights from Nadi International Airport on resort-owned planes.

At Nadi International Airport, the resort owns a private lounge for guest assistance, where guests can wait with refreshments, fully taken care of by our team.

International arrivals may land at Laucala Airport at additional cost. The cost will cover customs, immigration and quarantine clearance, to be arranged in direct liaison with the COMO Laucala Island reservations team.



**Accommodations:** 25 Residences spread out on private beaches, above lagoons, atop hills and amidst jungle.

### **Plantation Residences**

Plantation Residences are located on their own stretches of white-sand beach, with spacious, open-plan living areas and spectacular sea views.

- 6 One-bedroom Plantation Residences (From 2,000sqm / Up to 2 guests)
- 4 Two-bedroom Plantation Residences (From 3,000sqm / Up to 4 guests)
- 1 Three-bedroom Plantation Residence (8,000sqm / Up to 6 guests)

### **Seagrass Residences**

Seagrass Residences are nestled in lush vegetation, with wood and rock finishes that connect the interior spaces to the bay coastline they overlook.

- 4 One-bedroom Seagrass Residences (From 2,000sqm / Up to 2 guests)
- 2 Two-bedroom Seagrass Residences (From 3,000sqm / Up to 4 guests)
- 1 Three-bedroom Seagrass Residence (8,000sqm / Up to 6 guests)

### **Plateau Residences**

Plateau Residences sit on a hilltop ridge, the tropical architecture blurring the boundary between the homes and the lush greenery.

- 3 One-bedroom Plateau Residences (From 1,500sqm / Up to 2 guests)
- 1 Two-bedroom Plateau Residence (2,000sqm / Up to 4 guests)

### **The Wai Residence**

This overwater, split-level two-bedroom villa floats above an emerald lagoon with unobstructed ocean views and a private pool carved into rock.

- 1 Two-bedroom Wai Residence (2,000sqm / Up to 4 guests)



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### **The Udu Residence**

This peninsula Residence is surrounded by green hills and turquoise ocean on its rocky perch – with access to a private beach set within a cove.

- 1 Peninsula Residence (800sqm / Up to 2 guests)

### **The Delana Residence**

Our Delana Residence sits high on the island with endless ocean views, a landscaped garden and two connected villas, a dining room, library and lap pool — the jewel of the resort's accommodation and only available upon request.

- 1 Hilltop Residence (11,000sqm / Up to 6 guests)

### **Residence Features:**

Private swimming pool with sundeck  
Daybeds and sun loungers  
Outdoor dining 'bures' (huts) and lounges  
Indoor and outdoor bathtubs  
A private golf buggy or two  
Bluetooth home entertainment system  
Residence refreshments including a fully stocked bar and light bites (replenished daily)  
Yoga platform

### **Guest Services**

Private COMO lounge access at Nadi Airport  
A 'Tau' (Fijian for 'friend') for every Residence  
24-hour concierge services  
In-Residence Dining from 6.00am to 10.00pm  
Laundry, pressing and housekeeping services  
Resort-wide Wi-Fi access  
Babysitting services  
24-hour medical services (clinic and doctor)



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**Resort Facilities:**

Fitness Centre with state-of-the-art equipment and personal training services upon request  
Leisure Centre to hold meetings  
Chapel  
Kids Club

**Restaurants:**

Not just flavour, but health, wellbeing and self-sustainability are core values to the COMO Laucala Island dining experience. Menus include COMO Shambhala options, which are high in taste and nutrition, low in fats and refined sugars. We grow fruits and vegetables, breed poultry and cattle, and bottle our own honey and volcanic mineral water. This produce then goes into all our restaurant and bar menus, from farm to table. Every stay includes all dining and beverages (aside from special vintages from the resort's first-class wine cellar).

**Plantation House**

A restaurant located in a classic plantation home offering fine dining and specialty wines, including older vintages and 'New World' options.

**Seagrass Lounge and Restaurant**

A treetop dining area with Pan-Asian culinary influences, panoramic views and a lively atmosphere – accessible by land and sea.

**Rock Lounge**

A laid-back bar overlooking Seagrass Bay with spectacular sunset views and exceptional cocktails.

**Pool Bar**

A relaxed poolside hang-out that serves tropical drinks and light bites.

**Beach Bar**

A spot on the shore to enjoy fragrant barbecues of freshly caught fish.



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**Other Dining:** In-villa dining available 6.00am to 10.00pm  
COMO Shambhala menu available  
Children and infants menu

**Executive Chef:** Daniel Boller

**Guest Wellbeing:** The resort's COMO Shambhala Retreat — located in the forested heart of COMO Laucala Island, among the tropical flowers and fruit trees — immerses guests in a wellness path that reconnects them to the circadian rhythms of nature. The Fijian staff are full of soul and experience, with an intuitive healing philosophy handed down through the generations.

Treatments make use of COMO Shambhala's signature products, as well as the island's herbs, spices, flowers, and fruits. Body treatments use the island's river stones, mineral crystals and rich volcanic soils.

Facilities include:

- Four couples' treatment villas, each with:
  - A private treatment room
  - Hot stone relaxation room
  - Outdoor bathtub
  - Private changing room
- Two wet treatment rooms (Vichy showers and steam facilities)
- Beauty salon, including manicure and pedicure rooms



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**Outdoor Activities**

COMO Laucala Island offers a range of extraordinary activities that you can rarely find in a single island location, including an 18-hole golf course flanked by sea and mountains, world-class sailing, game fishing, horseback riding and surf.

- A David McLay Kidd-designed 18-hole championship course
- Diving and snorkelling through thriving inner reef marine life
- Game fishing from the resort's yacht
- Horseback riding along the beach, through plantations and coconut groves
- Catamaran and charter sailing through:
  - Hobie cat
  - Laser sailing boats
  - Amanda – A Dragon class sailing boat that qualified in the 1948 Olympics
  - Rere Ahi – An elegant teak-finished boat from 1970; its name means 'Flying Fire' in Maori
  - Riviera – A Riviera 41 Flybridge yacht with two cabins, designed by naval architect Frank Mulder
- Watersports: kite-surfing, jet skiing, wakeboarding, underwater scootering, kayaking, paddleboarding, surfing and more
- Tennis
- Mountain biking
- Nature walks and scenic hikes

**Climate:**

Fiji is a tropical paradise year-round, with average temperatures of 25 to 30°C (77 to 86°F) in any given month. December to April is the warmer, wet season (22° to 33°C) and May to November (19° to 29°C) is the cooler, dry season.

**Room Rates:**

To view full rates, as well as COMO Laucala Island's resort offerings, current packages and promotions, please visit [comohotels.com/laucalaisland](http://comohotels.com/laucalaisland).

**GDS Access Codes:**

Private label chain CV  
Sabre13741  
Amadeus NAN850  
Worldspan 2850  
Galileo/Apollo 63193



## Hotel Synopsis: COMO Laucala Island

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COMO Laucala Island is a Fijian private island encircled by a dramatic reef with exceptional diving and snorkeling, rich with forest, flowers and healing natural plants. Every day, guests will encounter ruby-red land crabs, butterflies, and birds dipping their wings mid-flight into the island's numerous private swimming pools.

The resort has 25 Residences occupying a 22km-long walking trail, threaded around the island's edge. Each home is designed to reflect the Fijian soul. All the Residences are sea-facing — some on the beaches, some peeking out from the forest canopy behind. The architecture combines soft curves and free-flowing shapes, thatch roofs made from the leaves of sago palms, dogo timber, balabala fern stems and traditional coconut husk weave known as magimagi.

The resort also features five restaurants that include healthy COMO Shambhala options. Flavour, health, wellbeing and self-sustainability are core values to the dining experience, which is reflected in the island's own cattle and poultry farm, hydroponics, herb garden and fruit orchards. The resort also works with local growers on nearby Taveuni Island (popularly known as 'The Garden Isle').

Given so much space, the range of resort activities on offer always exceed the length of a guest's stay, including hiking, mountain biking and swimming Laucala's horses on an ocean bareback ride. The walking trails wind among giant banyans and rare Fijian hardwoods threaded with pink hibiscus, orchids, and flamboyant wild gingers. The inshore marine environment at Laucala is equally thriving, with seagrass forests, mangroves and sunken calderas for wall diving. There are up to 50 dive sites within a five-to 20-minute boat ride of the main resort. And boats of every kind: for fishing, sailing, and sunset cruising.

The resort's spa, COMO Shambhala Retreat, is located in the forested heart of the island, among the tropical flowers and fruit trees. Body treatments use the island's river stones, mineral crystals and rich volcanic soils. The Fijian therapists are full of soul and experience, with an intuitive healing philosophy handed down through the generations.



## About the COMO Group and COMO Hotels and Resorts

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COMO Hotels and Resorts, part of the Como Group, is a multi-award-winning, family-owned business with 15 hotels and resorts worldwide — each one different to the other but sharing the same core values: a deep commitment to holistic wellness, exceptional nutrition-rich cuisine, and inspiring destinations that honour the spirit of place.

Our city hotels include COMO Metropolitan London and COMO The Halkin in London, COMO The Treasury in Perth, Australia, and COMO Metropolitan Bangkok in Thailand. Our country resorts include COMO Uma Paro and COMO Uma Punakha in Bhutan, COMO Uma Ubud and COMO Shambhala Estate in Bali, and COMO Castello Del Nero in Tuscany. COMO's beach and island portfolio encompasses COMO Parrot Cay in the Turks and Caicos, COMO Cocoa Island and COMO Maalifushi in the Maldives, COMO Point Yamu in Phuket, and COMO Uma Canggu on the Bali shore. COMO Laucala Island is the Group's newest addition: a private island resort in Fiji.

The Singapore-based COMO Group of lifestyle companies is home to businesses that seek to make a meaningful difference to customers' lives with products and services focused on quality and authenticity. Founded by Mrs Christina Ong, the COMO Group encompasses the international luxury fashion retailer Club 21, the award-winning wellness brand COMO Shambhala, our food concepts, COMO Cuisine and COMO Dempsey, the philanthropic COMO Foundation, and COMO Club. This new initiative for 2022 is a one-stop digital platform that connects customers to the different experiences in the COMO Group, as well as partner brands who share our values.

For more information on COMO Hotels and Resorts, visit our website [comohotels.com](https://comohotels.com), follow our adventures on [Instagram](#) @comohotels, or chat to us on our [Facebook](#) page.



## **Key Biographies: COMO Laucala Island**

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### **Gary A. Henden, General Manager**

Gary Henden has over 20 years of hands-on operational experience in hospitality that includes time at resorts by Six Senses, Jumeirah and more. Hayden is widely travelled with an extensive knowledge of business, He focuses on offering a 'can do' approach to every workplace, with a successful track record in understanding the market, scouting key talent and improving guest satisfaction.

### **Daniel Boller, Executive Chef**

Daniel Boller has 20 years of culinary experience. Born in Sydney, he has lived on a farm with livestock since young, and started cooking at age 10. Boller graduated from culinary college in Newcastle, and worked at Shangri-La in the Maldives from 2016 to 2018, leaving as their Executive Sous Chef. Boller has been on Laucala Island for three years as the Executive Chef across the five restaurants and bars.

### **Lynne Hunt London, Interior Design Firm**

Lynne Hunt London creates a kind of luxury that is contemporary, fresh and full of unexpected twists. Their designs draw inspiration from local environments and cultures to create interiors that range from the chic and urban to the organic and whimsical. Lynne Hunt London has designed for some of the world's leading destinations and hoteliers, from London to the South Pacific via the Mediterranean and the Middle East.



## Beyond the Resort: Activities at COMO Laucala Island

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COMO Laucala Island is an extraordinary natural playground, with a topographical variety both above and below water that is unique in private island resorts. To start your adventure, we recommend our two-hour scenic farm tour, to gain an understanding of our island's incredible abundance. The tour takes guests through the our herb garden, flower garden, fruit orchard, nursery, farms and stables – with many glimpses of ocean and jungle along the way.

The inshore marine environment includes seagrass forests, healthy mangroves on the south and east coast of the island, and a popular fish breeding area off the northeast shore. This inner reef life is bound by a barrier reef, which encircles both Laucala and the adjacent inhabited island of Qamea. Beyond this edge lie sunken calderas for wall diving. There are more than 50 snorkelling sites in the safe waters of the inner reef, while the world-class Rainbow Reef is a 40-minute boat ride away. From June to October, humpback and sperm whales migrate past Laucala to breed. From November to April, whale sharks gather around Laucala's waters, drawn by the summer plankton. Through November and December, you can see the corals bloom and spawn.

We offer PADI-certified dive instruction for all levels, including Bubblemaker for children (ages eight+), Open Water and Night Dive certifications. Please note no dives can take place within 24 hours of air travel. Guests can also jetski around the island with a Fijian guide, learning about local legends along the way.

Our Riviera Open Flybridge can be chartered for deep sea game fishing excursions. Whether you're a beginner looking for expert-led coaching or an experienced fisher hoping to land one of Fiji's famous yellowfin tuna, the waters beyond the lagoons offer an abundance of blue marlin, black marlin, wahoo, Pacific sailfish, giant trevally and dolphin fish.

Laucala's forested interior, with its dramatic vine and fern-covered basaltic peaks, is a birders' dream: home to the endemic orange dove, the brilliant blue kingfisher, and the striking red and green-collared lory. It is like walking through a tropical arboretum, the forest hiking and mountain-biking paths snaking along the cliffs and into the interior, through giant banyans and rare Fijian hardwoods threaded with pink hibiscus, orchids, and flamboyant wild gingers.

We have three hikes on marked paths, which you can do with or without a guide: our advanced Summit Hike (two hours), which loops up to the highest point on a marked path, our intermediate Tower Hike (one hour), with spectacular westward views, and our intermediate Round-the-Island Hike (four hours) which follows the coastal path, with the sea nearly always in sight. There are multiple lookout points for rest stops and picnics. We can also provide guides to teach you more about the local greenery – including their use as medicinal herbs – on your trail.

For an off-site adventure, take a 30-minute boat ride to the nearby Taveuni island. Go on an exhilarating three-and-a-half hour hike with rope-guided river crossings in the Bouma National Park



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to the Tavoro Falls: a series of three spectacular waterfalls with natural pools to swim in. This is a full-day excursion and we can prepare a picnic lunch for the group.

One of our most unique land activities is horseriding on the 'Long Beach' or through coconut plantations. Our horses are crossbreeds of Australian Thoroughbreds (bred for the Melbourne race track) and British Clydesdales (used for the plantations). Equestrians can go out on hacks around the island, canter 'Long Beach' at low tide, and swim bareback in the ocean. Our resident 'Horse Whisperer' looks after the stables and provides classes in an enclosed riding arena. Closed-toe shoes are required, and the minimum guest age is eight.

We also have a 18-hole Championship Course carefully set in the old plantation, surrounded by Laucala's dramatic mountains. Designed by Scotsman David McLay Kidd, this par-72 course is challenging for experienced players, but with a variety of tee box options, is also inviting to those new to the game. The par-5 12th hole is the signature hole: the green extends on to the beach. Any number of games is complimentary.



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## Media Contact

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