

Is This Lombok's Best Kept Secret



Swimming at all tides, with no coral underfoot, and watching seahorses just off shore are some of the features at Seven Secrets by Hanging Gardens, Lombok.

The 24-room, all-jacuzzi property has four spa treatment rooms, a gym and beachfront restaurant and also offers daily complimentary afternoon tea.

There is also a turtle sanctu-

ary next door and last month guests help release 70 babies.

...Perfect For Kiwis

Agents on the famail were taken back by the attention to detail at the resort. Guests can select their own room fragrance—sandalwood, lemongrass or peppermint—and boats pick up and drop off straight from the beach for gili tours. The family-friendly property can accommodate up to two adults and three children, but the majority of the time it's a couple's resort.

HoT's Crystal Vercoe fsays Kiwis would enjoy the location and facilities. "It's close to beach bars and the tourist area of Senggigi (12km), but still the perfect place to relax," she says. See more [HERE](#).

Getting There

Air New Zealand flies year-round to Bali operating five to seven flights per week between Apr and the end of Oct; three flights per week for travel from Nov to mid-Feb; and two flights per week mid-Feb until the end of Mar.

Services are operated by Air NZ's leased 777 aircraft as well as NZ's 787-9 Dreamliner. The operating aircraft type can be identified in the GDS via their designators of 777 and 78N, adds NZ.

Motorheads Rejoice



The 17-turn Mandalika international Circuit, Lombok had the agents fizzing during a VIP tour of the facilities.

Local racing was on the day's schedule, which doesn't attract a large audience, but that wasn't noticed by enthusiast Scott Eddington from Flight Centre (pictured). "I loved it. The noise, the bikes, being hosted in the Royal Box; what a treat. Then to meet the drivers in the Pits—a once in a lifetime experience," he says. The track is 25 minutes from Lombok Airport and approx. 90 minutes from the Bangsal Ferry Port. For the year-round calendar see [HERE](#).

A Tate Of Italy



The Italian-inspired Kliff Bistro is at Lombok's Katamaran Resort, overlooking the ocean towards Bali. Fishing boat sails dot the horizon and it's popular, of course, at sunset (as pictured). The menu specialises in seafood but also includes grilled meats, pizzas and fresh salads, and diners can see their meal under creation with the open-air kitchen. Open daily 1600-2300. See [HERE](#).

The Girls Of The Gilis



No cars can be found on any of the three gilis (islands), Gili Air, Meno and Trawangan; it's all horse-drawn carts, bikes or walking.

Apart from water sports—snorkeling, scuba and surfing—the shopping is pretty good, says First Travel Group's Toni Paltridge (pictured). Pearl farms are dotted in bays around Lombok and fixed-price shops and street sellers have an abundance of the ocean treasures. "I struggle with bargaining, but the prices are reasonable to start with. If you are happy with the price, that's what matters," she says.

Beachfront Living



Lombok's Living Asia Resort is located a 15-min drive from the tourist hub of Senggigi Beach. The beachfront property features a pool overlooking the ocean, large restaurant and bar area, spa and a dive centre with daily departures to the nearby Gili Islands. Sunset is a big attraction on this part of Lombok and guests can relax at the beach bar to observe the sun setting behind Bali's volcano, Mount Agung. See more [HERE](#).

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