Overwater Bungalows: 10 of the best beds on water | Skyscanner Australia

Check out some of the best overwater bungalows and villas from across the globe including cheap water bungalows in Maldives, Sofitel luxury hotel and the famous New Caledonia overwater bungalows- L'escapade island resort.

For water babies who prefer holidays surrounded by ocean there are few more romantic places to sleep than in an overwater bungalow. In no particular order, check out our <u>Skyscanner</u> list of the best overwater beds from around the globe.

1. Conrad Maldives Rangali Island, Maldives

Photo courtesy of Conrad Rangali Island Maldives

The Maldives are the undisputed leader in overwater accommodation with over 80 private island resorts, most of which have bungalows tottering above the sea. Some, like Conrad Maldives Rangali Island offer extreme indulgence. Like a 24 hour Butler Service, glass floors, outdoor spa, private infinity pool and ocean view bathtub for example. How about a circular bed that rotates through 270 degrees to follow the sun as it sinks into an endless Maldivian sea? Sure, why not.

If all that overwater action gets a little too tedious, drop down below sea level for an underwater dining experience at all-glass Ithaa Undersea Restaurant. But Conrad Maldives Rangali Island is not just a pretty face. The resort (which is actually 3 resorts in one) makes regular red carpet appearances, picking up awards for its outstanding accommodation, cuisine and hospitality.

Compare flights to Maldives

2. <u>Likuliku Lagoon Resort,</u> Fiji

Photo courtesy of Likuliku Lagoon Resort

Fiji has plenty of dreamy beachfront accommodation but there are only two Fijian resorts with overwater bures. Islands magazine rates Likuliku Lagoon Resort at No. 3 in their Top 10 Most Romantic Resorts globally, most likely because of their stunning overwater offering. Teetering atop the reef at the northern headland of a crescent shaped cove, 10 bungalows are styled on a traditional Fijian village.

A luxurious adults only retreat, Likuliku means calm water and perfectly describes its location in the Mamanuca Islands. Glass panels in the floor as well as the bathroom vanity top bring the ocean indoors providing a sort of personal 'Marine Life TV'. Timber decks with sun lounges, outdoor showers and ladders

dropping into the sea allow full immersion for water babies. Charming Fijian hospitality is extraordinarily welcoming, right down to Coco the resort dog who greets guests with an enthusiastic tail wag!

Compare flights to Fiji

3. Sofitel Bora Bora Private Island, French Polynesia

Photo courtesy of Sofitel Bora Bora

Bora Bora is synonymous with turquoise water bathed in balmy tropical warmth. It's also rather well known for a proliferation of hotels perched above calm lagoons. Few are as plush as those found on the lush private island known as Motu Piti U'u Uta. Arrive in James Bond speedboat style, zipping across the lagoon after touching down at Bora Bora Airport. Once ensconced in your Island Luxury Overwater Bungalow, enjoy views of the craggy peaks of Mt Otemanu. That is if you can drag your eyes away from the mesmerising ocean vista that dominates the foreground.

Naturally, the elegant French-based Sofitel luxury hotel brand is at their most stylish in French Polynesia. Expect understated perfection. Accor's sustainable development Planet 21 program includes such practises as serving nonendangered seafood and sourcing local produce in the restaurant and capturing that Tahitian sun to heat bungalow showers.

Compare flights to Bora Bora

4. Royal Huahine Resort, French Polynesia

Photo courtesy of Royal Huahine Resort

Royal Huahine Resort is worthy of inclusion firstly because these Tahitian overwater bungalows are not located at Bora Bora. Not that there is anything wrong with Bora Bora, quite the opposite in fact. Making few red carpet appearances for the paparazzi, Huahine Island gets a gong thanks to its far-flung location on the 'Isle of Gardens'. Moderately priced, small and intimate,

Royal Huahine is for those who like to indulge in nature and can get by without an endless menu of scheduled activities or tours. 11 overwater bungalows face west to capture the sun setting over the watery horizon. Shaded sun decks and a swim platform at water level make it easy for diving into the deep blue sea.

Compare flights to French Polynesia

5. <u>Warwick Le Lagon Resort</u>, Vanuatu

Photo courtesy of Warwick Le Lagon

Positioned on Erakor Lagoon in the heart of Port Vila, there are just 4 much-sought after overwater villas at Warwick Le Lagon. Unlike more traditional South Pacific overwater complexes that are linked to the land by elevated boardwalks, the villas at Le Lagoon are partially built onshore on a peninsula jutting out into the lagoon. They're a little like a hotel room with the added advantage of tranquil lapping water viewed from a private patio on the seaward side.

All-inclusive meal plans keep things affordable while Ni-Vanutua people rival

Fijians for their warmth and friendly hospitality. Don't miss Port Villa Markets for a fascinating insight into how the locals live, eat and play. Pop into the maze of craft stalls for some souvenirs to take home.

Compare flights to Vanuatu

6. <u>L'Escapade Island Resort</u>, New Caledonia

Photo courtesy of L'Escapade Island Resort

New Caledonia's only overwater bungalows can be found at L'Escapade Island Resort, a short boat ride from downtown Noumea. 25 overwater bungalows are spacious, styled on functionality rather than luxury while being well appointed. Wide staircase-like steps reach the sea where it's likely you'll see turtles foraging in the shallows.

As L'Escapre Island Resort is located on a private island, activities are limited and dining options outside the resort are non-existent. Go here for far-flung, tranquil relaxation with a stylish dash of French Melanesian culture.

Compare flights to New Caledonia

7. Coconuts Beach Club, Samoa

Photo courtesy of Coconuts Beach Club

Bungalows in Samoa are known as fales and are mostly simple affairs consisting of little more than a raised timber platform with thatched roof. They're just about always plonked on the beach beneath shady coconut palms. Bedding down in a fale, as the locals do, is definitely one of those highly recommended 'when in Rome' holiday experiences.

The six overwater fales at Coconuts Beach Club on Upulo Island raise the comfort factor significantly. Walls of glass maximise panoramic views, particularly for those who prefer to crank up the air-conditioning yet still enjoy dreamy ocean vistas. Bathrooms are divine with opaque ceilings bathing the room in light creating an outdoors feel – slide back the glass doors onto the sundeck and bathe with the scent of sea air wafting through.

Compare flights to Samoa

8. Aitutaki Lagoon Resort and Spa, Cook Islands

Photo courtesy of Aitutaki Lagoon Resort

The Cook Islands are every bit as beautiful in real life as those enticing holiday brochures depict. Ticking all the boxes for white sand and palm trees lining a tranquil lagoon teeming with marinelife, Aitutaki takes the crown for the most picturesque atoll on the planet.

Throw in overwater bungalows lined with woven pandanus, lofty thatched roofs, outdoor bathrooms on the edge of that lagoon and you've a holiday made in heaven. Polynesian culture and genuine warmth and friendliness will ensure you never want to leave. Countless loved up couples get married here, returning regularly to rejuvenate early married bliss.

Compare flights to Cook Islands

9. 4 Rivers Floating Lodge, Cambodia

Photo courtesy of 4 Rivers Floating Lodge

Unlike most overwater bungalows which are perched atop coral reefs, 4 Rivers Floating Lodge is located inland surrounded by virgin jungle. In southern Cambodia at Tatai, the lodge is near the Thai border midway between Bangkok and Phnom Penh. The location is serene and green: nature dominates the view while forest walks and wildlife spotting forays occupy guests.

12 tented villas, which are influenced by the safari veldt of Africa's game parks, are connected by floating boardwalks. Canvas walls have floor to ceiling mesh windows with drawn drapes for privacy. The ceiling is more akin to the Big Top tent in a circus with its lofty central peak. Octagonal shaped tents have king or twin beds, ensuite along with a sitting area. Outside a sundeck with sun lounges and pivoting market umbrella provide shade while taking in jungle and river views.

Compare flights to Cambodia

10. Flamingo Bay Water Lodge, Mozambique

Photo courtesy of Flamingo Bay Water Lodge

A tidal mangrove-lined lagoon in Mozambique is an unlikely location for an overwater bungalow holiday. But it really should be on your list! An adults-only eco-chic retreat almost 500km north of Mozambique's capital Maputo, the resort derives its name from the flocks of pink flamingos that inhabit the lagoon.

20 chalets perch atop stilts that are connected by boardwalks, which ultimately connect to a strip of beachfront sand that abuts the Indian Ocean. Chalets are all crisp linen, ensuite bathrooms with indoor and outdoor showers with glass doors that open onto west-facing decks. Sunsets are rarely less than spectacular. Inhambane Lagoon offers swimming and snorkelling direct from chalets at high tide or rock-pooling explorations at low tide. There's also a swimming pool adjacent to the main lodge.

Compare flights to Mozambique

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