

BULA! (Greetings) and Welcome to the Bula News Electronic Newsletter. Produced and distributed by the Fiji Islands Visitors Bureau, the Bula News provides an up to date summary of the latest developments in Fiji's Tourism Industry on a regular basis. If you have any newsworthy items which you would like to be communicated via this newsletter, please forward to bulanews@bulafiji.com. This is a complimentary service provided by the Fiji Islands Visitors Bureau.

In this issue:

- > **OUTRIGGER CHEFS WIN COVETED AWARDS**
- > **BLUE LAGOON GETS MAJOR ACCOLADE**
- > **FIJI MOCAMBO TO BECOME A NOVOTEL**
- > **NAVUTU RESORT OPENS IN YASAWA**
- > **GREEN TURTLE HOLIDAYS OFFERS LOCAL ADVENTURE**
- > **SONAISALI RESORT HAS NEW SALES & MARKETING MANAGER**
- > **EXCELLENCE IN TOURISM AWARDS ANNOUNCE 2005 WINNERS**

OUTRIGGER CHEFS WIN COVETED AWARDS

Outrigger on the Lagoon's chefs dominated the premiere Fiji Chefs Culinary Awards winning seven gold, 13 silver and 9 bronze medals. They also took out the Fiji Chef of the Year award, won by Rukshana Ali; Junior Chef of the Year was won by Veenal Reddy and Sainivalati Tavaga won the Pastry Chef of the Year. For more information contact Mandy Dwyer on tel: 61 2 9590 8008 or email: mandydwyer@optusnet.com.au

[\[Top\]](#)

BLUE LAGOON GETS MAJOR ACCOLADE

Blue Lagoon Cruises were awarded the 'recommended property' status in the 2006 edition of the Conde Naste Johansens Luxury Hotel Guides. The status was awarded to two of Blue Lagoon's programs, the four-day Gold Club cruise aboard the MV Mystique Princess and a seven-day Gold Club option aboard the MV Fiji Princess. Conde Naste, is an American travel magazine. For more information contact Ms Minnie Raddock on tel (679) 6661622 fax (679) 6664098 or email sales@blc.com.fj

[\[Top\]](#)

FIJI MOCAMBO TO BECOME A NOVOTEL

In a joint venture, Fijian Holdings Limited and the Tappoo group have acquired the Fiji Mocambo Hotel. The hotel will undergo major renovations as part of the acquisition process, after which the hotel will be rebranded Novotel Nadi. Fijian Holdings is an investment firm fully owned by indigenous Fijians. For more information contact Ms Susan Ratakele on tel (679) 6722000 fax (679) 6720324 or email susan.ratakele@mocambo.com.fj

[\[Top\]](#)

NAVUTU RESORT OPENS IN YASAWA

Navutu Star Resort on Yaqeta Island in the Yasawa Group is now open for business. The Resort offers nine beachfront bures ranging from \$600 to \$720 per couple per night inclusive of continental breakfast, welcome cocktail plus complimentary massage. Transport to the island can be arranged through Awesome Adventures and Turtle Airways. For more information contact Seini Kitione on tel: 679 664 0553 or email info@navutustarsfiji.com

[\[Top\]](#)

GREEN TURTLE HOLIDAYS OFFERS LOCAL ADVENTURE

Green Turtles Holidays, a tour company and travel agent that recently opened its business in Fiji, is offering visitors a traditional Fijian holiday experience. Green Turtle offers travel passes for tours of Viti Levu on board a 16-seater air-conditioned mini bus. The passes range from day to around the island tours, and includes sleepovers at about 10 villages offering accredited tourist bures. For more information contact Green Turtle Holidays on tel: 679 672 8889; fax: 679 672 8029 or email: steve@greenturtleholidays.com

[\[Top\]](#)

SONAISALI RESORT HAS NEW SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

Louise Frend has been appointed the Sales and Marketing Manager at Sonaisali Island Resort. Ms Frend replaces Patrice Belle, who has been promoted to Director of Sales and Marketing. Originally from England, Ms Frend has worked in Australia for the last 10 years in resorts and luxury charter boats. For more information contact Patrice Belle on tel: 679 670 6011, fax: 679 670 6298 or email dos@sonaisali.com

[\[Top\]](#)

EXCELLENCE IN TOURISM AWARDS ANNOUNCE 2005 WINNERS

The 2005 Fiji Tourism Excellence Awards were held at the Shangri-La Fijian Resort on Friday, December 9. The yearly awards are presented to organizations and individuals who reflect the best in Fiji's tourism industry.

The winners are:

Young Achiever Award - Josephine Smith

Outstanding Contribution by an Individual Tourism Employee - Dixon Seeto

Overnight Cruises - Captain Cook Cruises Ultimate Dateline Cruise on the MV Reef Escape

Day Cruises - South Sea Cruises

Tourist Adventure - Kula Eco Park

Adventure - Tui Tai Adventure Cruises

Shopping - Jack's Handicraft

Transport - Coral Sun Fiji

Inbound Tour Operator - Rosie Tours

Restaurants - Pirahna's Bar and Cafe

Diving - Subsurface Fiji

Environmental Tourism - Raintree Lodge

Cultural Tourism - Arts Village

Accommodation Budget (Urban) - Nomad's Skylodge Hotel

Accommodation Budget (Rural/Island) - Otto & Fanny's

Accommodation Quality - Malolo Island Resort

Accommodation Deluxe - Namale Resort

Accommodation Boutique - Royal Davui

Lifetime Achiever - Mahendra Patel

Visionary Award - the late Ratu Napolioni Dawai

Special Award - Bill Whiting

For more information, contact Fiji Visitors Bureau's Marketing Officer, Ms Ragigia Dawai on tel (679) 6722433 fax (679) 6720141 email rdawai@fjifvb.gov.fj

[\[Top\]](#)

If you wish to update your subscription details, or remove your address from future mailings, please follow [this link](#). For any further information, please contact the Fiji Islands Visitors Bureau: Ms. Josephine Seruvatu, Senior Marketing Officer. Telephone: (679) 672 2433 Facsimile: (679) 672 0141 Email: bulanews@bulafiji.com Website: www.BulaFiji.com

FIJI ISLANDS... The One Truly Relaxing Tropical Getaway