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November 2017

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Shangri-La Le Touessrok Resort and Spa



Spanning 34 acres of beachfront, the Shangri-La Le Touessrok really packs it in.

There are four restaurants to choose from, three beaches, three bars, a spa (with Mauritian inspired treatments, including a rather brisk sounding sugarcane baton massage) and leisure facilities—a fitness centre, two swimming pools, tennis courts and a kids' club. That's not to mention the resort's private island Îlot Mangénie—with secluded forest, 3.5km of pristine beach, private cabanas and butlers—or the championship golf course on nearby Île aux Cerfs. Guests receive complimentary green fees and you don't have to be a golfer to visit the Clubhouse, which overlooks the 18th hole.

Waiters whiz along the sand on segways, delivering fruit skewers and cocktails to sunbathing guests. Meanwhile, more active souls attempt the array of complimentary non-motorized watersports in the safety of the bay.

Originally the secondary (island) residence of a Mauritian family, Le Touessrok began public life as a restaurant in the 1970s. Under the helm of the owners' granddaughter Jacqueline Dalais, a few rooms were added (handy for diners who'd had a bit too much of the local rum and needed a place to stay overnight). After a few memorable parties, word spread and soon the operation expanded into a fully fledged hotel, taking over the neighbouring sugar plantation.

Shangri-La took over in 2015 with big plans and an even bigger cash injection. Today, the resort has 200 sea-facing guestrooms and suites and three beach villas.



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Mauritian heritage and spectacular surroundings combine with a multi-million dollar makeover and Shangri-La's renowned Asian hospitality to create this popular and entertaining resort

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Three distinct areas of accommodation cater to different groups. The Coral wing, comprises the resort's starting room categories. The Hibiscus wing is designed especially for families and groups, with optional interconnecting rooms and easy access to the main beach and pool. Set on its own tranquil peninsula, the Frangipani wing is great for couples, with an adults-only heated pool, free minibar and cocoon-like bathtub in each room, and champagne on arrival. It is also home to Republik Beach Club & Grill, which offers a complimentary daily happy hour to all Frangipani guests. Republik spills out onto the beach with daybeds, sunken seating, fire pits and beanbags. There is regular live music, theme nights and performances by local and international DJs—don't miss the fireworks display every Sunday from 10pm.

For the most luxurious accommodation on offer, take a look at the beach villas. Separated from the rest of the accommodation (ahem, riffraff), they are designed to feel like homes rather than hotel rooms, benefitting from

24-hour butler service, a private chef, private infinity pool and private beach access. Villa guests can also move around the resort without the need to actually walk thanks to a dedicated electric car.

In addition to guests, three giant tortoises call this place home, the oldest of whom is 108 years old. Take the kids to say hello on the way to the T-Club, where those aged 4 to 11 can take part in activities which encourage them to engage with the surrounding habitat. The Active T-Club hosts social activities for 12-17-year-olds, open until 10:30pm.

Foodwise, all-day dining restaurant Le Bazar offers an astounding array of Asian and international cuisine in a buffet format. For something less crowded, try Japanese restaurant Kushi—which has yakiniku grills at each table—or Safran, which serves Mauritian inspired Indian cuisine. Republik offers Mediterranean cuisine and barbecue grills. After dinner, head to Segá Bar, which houses a collection of Mauritian rums and stages nightly cultural shows featuring local talents, seggae music and a live jazz and blues band. 5

Book your stay

Location: East coast, Trou d'Eau Douce Bay
Nightly rate: Deluxe Ocean View Rooms in the Coral Wing start at \$2,780 for two persons, bed and breakfast (excl. 15% VAT)
Contact: (+230) 402 7400, shangri-la.com/mauritius
 The resort is also available to book via **Charlotte Travel**, an award-winning family-run boutique travel agency based in Hong Kong. Call 2110 6070 or visit charlottetravel.com.hk