

Fiji



I was lucky enough to join Marriott Hotels on their family to Fiji. Although I have been to Fiji many times I had not yet experienced their newer properties in Fiji - Sheraton Tokoriki and Marriott Momi Bay. Our time started in Denarau at the Westin Hotel & Spa. The oldest property on Denarau and still a favourite - traditional and inviting. The new rooms built next to the Westin Spa are stunning and who can resist some time in that heavenly spa! The Sheraton Fiji and Resort has opened fabulous new conference space, definitely the premier meeting space on the island. This property is closing late

2019 for up to a year for a full and stunning refurbishment. Being an ex Sheraton team member, I have fond memories of this resort and cannot wait to see what changes are coming.

We were fortunate to enjoy some land based activities whilst staying in Denarau. Quad biking was a highlight especially being escorted through Nadi town - a great way to be spotted! Arriving at the marina covered head to toe in dust was fun and simply meant we were keen to jump in the ocean as soon as we arrived at Malamala. This gorgeous private island is the perfect spot to chill out on for the day. Groups can enjoy exclusive use of the entire island (numbers allowing) or smaller spaces can be booked for your guests. The food and beverage offering is superb and this venue is a must for any group travelling to Fiji.

Another day was spent ziplining - quite an experience with the local guides - they were hilarious and entertaining and the scenery was stunning. That afternoon saw our group engage in some DIY with a local village school - building picnic tables for their lunch area. CSR is important in Fiji with a number of operators able to assist groups engage in some helpful and well needed work at local villages and schools.

Sheraton Tokoriki Resort is only an hour or so by boat from Denarau - their villas are spacious and contemporary. Our time was short on Tokoriki but we did take the time to check out the snorkelling on the reef which was excellent.

Our final night was at Marriott Momi Bay - pure decadence and the adult-only infinity pool is gorgeous!

It was all over too soon however this brief trip reminded me of what a perfect short haul destination Fiji is for groups from NZ. Within a few hours you have flown to the destination, have cocktail in hand, get your meetings underway and have plenty of time to partake in the many activities on offer.

Bula Vinaka!

Nicky - May 2019