

BULGARI BALI

On a secluded cliffside on the southern tip of Jimbaran Peninsula, not far from the 1000-year-old Temple of Uluwatu, lies a splendid jewel in Bali's crown.

The open-air bar, characterised by a spectacular terraced lounge, overlooks the most enchanting shore on the island.

The Balinese skyline and uninterrupted ocean view from the resort's Sangkar restaurant.



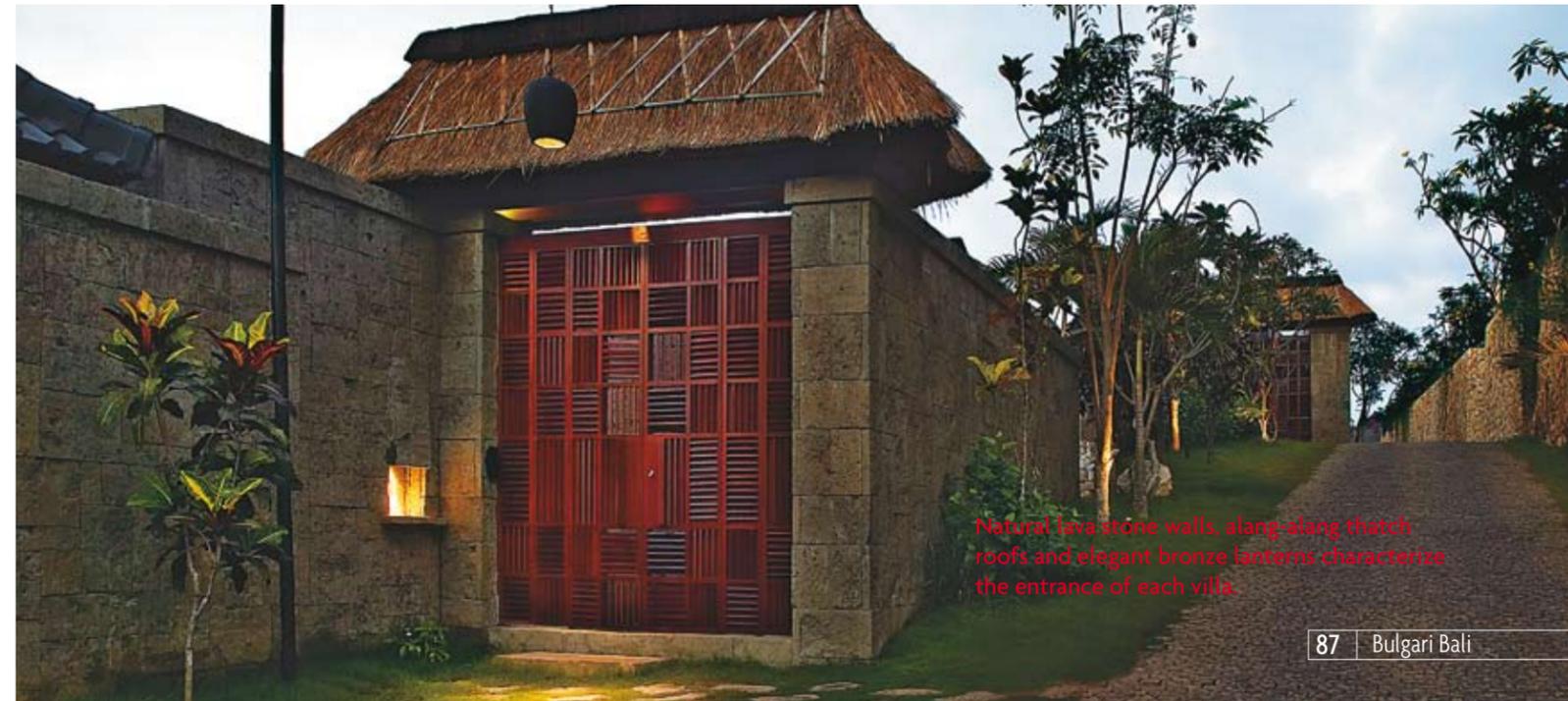
With nearly 200 stores in 38 countries, Bulgari has been setting the highest standard for Italian-style jewellery, watches, and gifts for more than 100 years. Only recently has it turned its attention to hospitality with the opening of a new, supremely elegant hotel in Milan in 2004. Now, perched high on a cliff overlooking the Indian Ocean is the new Bulgari Bali Resort.

Once the hunting grounds of Balinese royal families, the Bukit Peninsula is now the site of many of Bali's most exclusive villas and resorts. In many ways, the nature of this cliffside locale, resembles the Mediterranean more than a verdant tropical Indonesian landscape, so perhaps that's why one of Italy's most luxurious brands chose it for its resort, which opened in September last year.

As with all its products, Bulgari takes particular interest in streamlined elegance and beauty and, with that in mind the company hired the Italian architectural firm of Antonio Citterio and Partners to create this stunning resort in one of the world's most exotic destinations.

The nine-hectare property combines three key elements: its unique, clifftop coastal location, a blend of traditional Balinese style with dramatic, contemporary Italian design, and a menu of services, each created with Bulgari's famous attention to detail.

Bulgari Bali Resort is on the southwestern tip of the island near the village of Pecatu and the Pura Luhur Uluwatu Temple, about a 40-minute drive from Jimbaran Bay and the international airport and 20 kilometres from the tourist hub of Kuta.



Natural lava stone walls, along with thatch roofs and elegant bronze lanterns characterize the entrance of each villa.



Top: Il Ristorante shelters under two roofs, with candle lanterns providing a romantic ambience.



Top right: The Bulgari Villa

Bottom right: Twin plunge pools overlook the Indian Ocean.

From its position 160 metres above the sea, Bulgari Bali has unrivalled views across the Indian Ocean. A 1.5 km beach below the cliff is accessible only by the resort's exclusive lift. This uniquely secluded beach is protected from the sea by a reef.

The hotel was built and furnished using hand-cut volcanic stones, rich, exotic woods and refined fabrics. Natural lava and palimanan stone were used for the garden and interior walls. Refined bangkiray hardwood has been used, with natural green subakumi stone, to clad the outdoor showers and plunge pools that belong to each villa.

Interiors utilise exquisite Balinese antiques and art pieces. Furniture and other decorative details, including ceramics and woven fabrics, were designed and produced in Bali by a team of local

artisans in collaboration with the architects.

The 59 ocean-view villas include three two-bedroom units and the 1300 sq m Bulgari Villa. All rooms have a plunge pool and patio leading into a private, seductive tropical garden. All the construction and stone work was carried out using local techniques with respect for the environment. Materials were sourced from certified suppliers observing local and international codes.

The bedrooms and bathrooms in each villa have locally handcrafted doors and windows of mahogany and glass. Bangkiray, a tawny mahogany from Java, is used throughout to give a rich hue to fittings and floors. The three two-bedroom villas feature larger pools and separate kitchens and studios.

Consistent with Bulgari's tradition, special attention has been paid to the dining experience.





The Sangkar is an Indonesian restaurant serving authentic Balinese dishes with a selection of international specialties. Il Ristorante, as you might guess, is the resort's homage to Italy. This is a more formal setting which is open for dinner only. The Sangkar, with its more casual ambience, sits at the edge of the cliff and is open all day.

The resort bar, meanwhile, with its spectacular terraced lounge and panoramic sea views, features an elliptical counter that recalls the black resin bar of its sister hotel in Milan. The bar features a massive, one-tonne stone sculptural centrepiece, an objet d'art thrown up by an earthquake in North Sulawesi province some years ago.

The spa at Bulgari Bali promotes a philosophy of wellbeing based on traditional Asian techniques. Its antique teak Joglo House comes from Java and the same precious woods used throughout the resort are found here too. The spa offers a host of exotic, relaxing and rejuvenating treatments but its signature one might be the Hot Stone Therapy which uses heated volcanic stone placed on specific energy points.

This special resort is a joint venture between Bulgari and Ritz Carlton's Luxury Group. Together these companies have created a unique high-end retreat, influenced by – and respecting – the history, religion, and artistic traditions of Bali. 

The infinity pool is overlooked by the dining and bar area and features wide decking and oversized sofas for relaxation and sunbathing.

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