

# FINE RESTAURANTS & VILLAS – THE ANANDITA

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more tales of buildings and food

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ANANDITA VILLA

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**A MODERN CLASSIC. THE ANANDITA.**  
WRITTEN BY: SARAH D.

100 Fine Restaurants & Villas

The Jungle pool looking back towards the main pavilion.

In parts of Lombok, where the sand is whitest, the sea is the most amazing colour. A pale green, almost milky, where it laps the shore, reminiscent of green glass that has been left in the sea so long that it becomes opaque.

The Anandita private villa in Lombok's north, sits on the edge of such a piece of luminous water. Settled into a mature cocconut grove, manicured lawns separate the house from the sea. It is one of a handful of amazing luxury properties on Lombok, and almost definitely, the largest.

The style of the house is best described as a modern classic. There is nothing complicated about the design, large open spaces, clean lines and surfaces and little to detract from the sweeping views that have been used to full effect from every area of the villa complex.

Laid out in a semi-circle, with two main guest suites on either side of the living pavilion, the design is cohesive in its elements: Wood, glass and pale stone have been used everywhere. The areas are treated individually with feature walls, painted in warm tones and individual décor for each suite. Nothing is overdone; the emphasis is always on the gardens and the views towards the sea.

Laid out over one and a half hectares, The Anandita, was completed in 2004. It is a villa that is made up of a series of soaring pavilions, all of which invite the eye to the view over the lawns, through the cocconut trees and to the horizon, and an uninterrupted view of the sea.

Bali-based architect John Lincoln was briefed by the French owners, who are based in Hong Kong. "They wanted a house that would happily accommodate families, their own and those of friends and relatives," he explained.

Therefore each of the four bedroom suites had to be large enough for children to share

100 Fine Restaurants & Villas

lombokvilla

left: manicured lawns lead the eye towards the serene ocean.  
right: ensuite bathrooms are individually designed to complement the guest rooms.

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the rooms with their parents. Each has its own flavour, colour schemes and en-suite bathrooms that differ from each other.

The villa is run as a boutique hotel with an amazing array of services, a full time executive chef and a charming staff who greet guests warmly when they arrive and then disappear until required. Manager, Amara, offers fresh flowers on arrival, symbolising, he says, "the warmth and kindness we wish you to enjoy during your stay".

This truly is an impressive property. Elegant in its simplicity. The bones of the buildings are large, open, linear spaces. Light and space

are the dominant impression. Living areas are sectioned by varying floor finishes. The central pavilion is laid with white pulleman stone leading the eye out through massive folding doors to a wooden deck and a jungle pool.

On either side of the main entrance two raised areas are laid with polished wood flooring. One is the games area, complete with a pool table, the other an entertainment area with a TV and DVD.

A bridge over a lotus pond leads to the dining areas. A well appointed kitchen with a raised bar for casual sitting looks across to an enormous dining table built from a solid piece

of teak, which seats up to 14 guests. Two large artworks on the walls are the only decoration, leading to an unobstructed view down the length of the property.

Each guest room features the soaring ceilings found throughout the property, yet each has an individual flavour and a sense of privacy despite the floor to ceiling glass sliding doors. Spacious en-suite bathrooms reflect the personal taste of the owners, who shipped in Italian mosaic tiles that reflect the colours of the rooms.

The staff is friendly and eager to help. A full time games man also does odd jobs around the place but is quick to introduce himself

and offer services. "Football, volleyball, fitness, canoe trips, bike rides to the village or around the neighbouring golf course, snorkelling, fishing and badminton," are all on hand.

For parents this is truly paradise as there are endless opportunities for children to be amused, and all that space in the garden. For adults there are also activities beyond those mentioned. The villa is located beside the Hokkaido Country Club, an impressive 18-hole golf course. In addition, The Anandita staff will set up a disco, a formal dinner, with a local band if you request, or a beach barbecue. You really need never go anywhere. One of the highlights of The Anandita is the sense you are on an island of your own.

If you did decide to travel though, perhaps a boat trip to the Gili Islands, of which Gili Air seems close enough to swim to. The proximity of the ocean means that diving and snorkelling aren't far away either. Trips to Mt. Rinjani, local Saak villages and morning markets are also offered to guests.

Of course you can do as we chose to do, very little. Lazing by the pool, wandering down to the pristine beach, reading, sleeping and enjoying meals prepared by Anandita's own executive chef.

The kitchen is the hub of the villa. Centrally located and decorated in warm tones, the smell of freshly baked bread and breakfast pastries

lasts throughout the day. The menu offers Western and Indonesian food, and guests are welcome to cook themselves if they prefer. Our requests for a barbecue and an Indian curry were graciously satisfied.

Despite its proportions, The Anandita feels like a family home. Elegant enough for couples or groups, it is also readily transformed into a family holiday house. There is nothing precious about it. Simple and timeless, the real strength of this villa is that the world and time recede completely when you're here. It is a shining example of classic, modern architecture and Lombok at its best. **5/5**

left: the kitchen is the hub of the villa.

above centre: the beachside kids kiosk in the tranquil beauty of Lombok.

below centre: one of the four master bedrooms.

right: bathroom details are part of the Anandita experience.

**Details The Anandita, Lombok**

Land: 1.5 hectares, beachfront  
Bedrooms: 4  
Bathrooms: 5  
Rates: Low Season: US\$300++ per night - minimum stay of 2 nights  
High Season: US\$1050++ per night - minimum stay of 5 nights  
Peak Season: US\$1270++ per night - minimum stay of 7 nights  
Breakfast included (American breakfast). Car & driver included (Petrol first tank free).  
Above rates subject to 10% VAT and 5% service charge  
Contact: www.theanandita.com



# FRV

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## A MODERN CLASSIC THE ANANDITA

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[www.theanandita.com](http://www.theanandita.com)

[www.elitehavens.com](http://www.elitehavens.com)