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## MOONLIGHT SURFING

Run out of daylight hours to surf? Then hit the floodlit waters of the Keramas in Bali. *Toni Krasicki reports.*

There aren't any people eating sharks in Bali,' says Tony De Leede, co-owner of Komune Beach Club and Resort, Bali. I visibly relax at hearing this, and feel much more comfortable for the surfers hitting the waves when the sun goes down. In Bali, night surfing is the new black, and Komune Beach Club is wearing it proudly.

Built on former rice paddies, sprawling Komune Beach Club sits smack bang in front of one of the world's best right-hand surf breaks. Generating some heavenly deep tube rides breaking over reef and a rock bottom, it's not for the faint-hearted and definitely for experienced surfers only. Keramas hosted its first ever Oakley Pro Surf Bali in June 2013, attracting top surfers who all agree that Keramas is

one of the best breaks that they've surfed.

Tony says that they've secured a verbal agreement from the Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP) that the competition will become a permanent fixture on the Pro Tour. That's good news for Komune, who opened stage one of their extensive development in late 2012, which includes 33 resort rooms and a beach club that acts as the main hub for the resort. A small resort pool sits adjacent to the black sand beach and guests can cool off and watch the action on the water at the same time. Another 33 rooms are set to open in early 2014, and there are plans for a 'country club'; fitness centre, yoga pavilion, kids club and spa extension. The final stage will see the addition of luxury villas all with



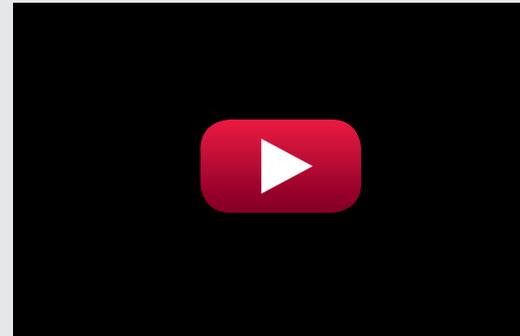
private plunge pools and a bird-eye view of the break.

The name Komune itself implies that the place is more community than resort, attracting those who love the beach lifestyle and of course surfing. A resort for everyone; families, singles, couples, young and old, it's far from the madding Kuta crowd and a stones throw from Sanur along the coast to the west and Ubud to the northwest. Built with a sense of eco-sensitivity, the surf resort sources water from their own bores, recycles sewerage in their own treatment plant and uses a lot of recyclable materials such as bamboo in the buildings, but the produce from the organic garden is the real winner with the guests.

It's not unheard of for surfers to ride

the silver waves under a full moon but Komune has gone a step further and in March 2013 launched night surfing. Investing in some powerful stadium lighting, two pylons have been set up at either end of the beach in front of the resort allowing surfers to extend their surfing days on 10 to 15 days a month, depending on the tide and conditions.

'We were standing on the beach and a suggestion came up that we should do something that's never been done before - let's light it up and do night surfing,' Tony explains on how it came about. During the two to three hour evening sessions, guests can either catch surfing displays by the local Bali Boardriders Clubs or be lucky enough to see a feature show by some of the world's best surfers.



<http://youtu.be/TQMZVNhhQFw>



The public can also book a 'night surf session', sharing the break with only six others in the water.

With a promise of only six surfers on Keramas and no people-eating sharks, night surfing sounds even better! **OH!**

Night Surfing is available at a reduced rate to in-house guests, and about \$20 for non-guests for an hour. For full details visit [www.komuneresorts.com](http://www.komuneresorts.com)