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# What's new... **ESTravel**



**Splendid isolation:** Ariara is a new private island retreat in the secluded Calamian islands

## YOUR PRIVATE PARADISE

### DESTINATION THE PHILIPPINES

FOR the ultimate large group trip enter a new private island in the Philippines. Ariara is one of the partially jungle-covered Calamian Islands in Palawan, surrounded by white sand and coral reefs.

British couple Charles and Carrie

McCulloch have spent the past six years creating this 125-acre private island retreat, now ready for guests. It's designed by Filipino architect Jorge Yulo using local materials – huge marble baths carved from single blocks of Romblon marble, wood and rattan; cushions made from tribal fabrics; and intricate wooden chests carved by indigenous Palawan woodcarvers. Wind and

solar power energy sources are also in operation.

The lodge is the main hub for eating Euro-Asian cuisine and socialising. It features high vaulted ceilings, floor to ceiling glass doors and a cinema-style projector complete with extensive DVD library. There is even a masseuse.

Eight villas and suites, sleeping up to 17, are set along the beach, all with

private terraces, gardens and hammocks. Many have vaulted ceilings, four-poster beds and open-air showers.

■ **E186pp per night full-board with two dives, use of all watersports equipment (100ft tri-maran, 33ft speedboat, two high power jet skis, dive boat, a RIB, kayaks, windsurfers, waterskis, wakeboards, fishing and snorkeling equipment).** [ariarastrand.com](http://ariarastrand.com)