

Own a slice of heaven

Naisoso Island, the newest luxury playground in the South Pacific just off the coast of Nadi, is a dream destination says Robin Bayes.

When developer, Bob Lowres, first came to Fiji's Naisoso Island to retire nearly eight years ago, he saw instead the potential to create a luxurious, eco-friendly island resort.

Now his dream is about to become reality with the prestigious half billion dollar Naisoso Island Fiji development set to open its doors early next year – a sanctuary of absolute luxury and privacy where every detail has been meticulously met to offer visitors and investors the ultimate in an idyllic upmarket destination.

Thanks to a new bridge it is now less than 10 minutes by car from Nadi airport. Since Lowres bought the island for FJD\$8 million (around AU\$4.3 million), sealed roads, water, sewerage and

electricity have been put in place. Now property sales on the island have outperformed all others in the South Pacific, with buyers coming from as far afield as China to snap up freehold packages. Freehold is a huge bonus here, as only seven percent of Fiji is under freehold ownership, instead of being under lengthy leases.

Apartments are also being sold at Peppers Naisoso Island Resort which come with a guarantee of six percent net return for the first two years, plus tax-free income for the first eight. Lowres has also negotiated the island properties for short-term letting which is not permitted

elsewhere in Fiji. According to the Fijian Tourism Ministry, the outlook is bright with tourism tipped to add more than 40 percent to the country's GDP by 2021.

When fully completed, Naisoso Island will incorporate one five-star and one four-star hotel including Peppers. There will be a world class day spa and well-being centre; a 50-berth marina complete with an exclusive retail precinct, art gallery, Italian deli, bottle shop and fine dining restaurants; plus more than 100 private beach and riverfront homes available for holiday lease all with their own staff. "The description 'luxury' just doesn't feel enough," says Lowres. ●

Naisoso Island, www.naisosoisland.com; Peppers Naisoso Island Resort, www.peppersfiji.com; Naisoso Island Residential Management, www.naisosoislandrm.com

