AMBA

Best of Central Maldives, south tour

Malé to Malé | Ari, Vaavu, Meemu and Malé atolls

Discover the highlights of the Maldives on an eleven night liveaboard cruise that starts and ends in Malé and sails through the central south of the country.

You dive the Ari, Vaavu and Meemu atolls and finish in the Malé atolls, with vibrant coral reefs, iconic dive sites and plenty of big fish action.

Ari Atoll is famous for whale sharks, manta rays and pinnacles teeming with life.

Meemu is known for dramatic channels, overhangs and colourful soft corals, with superb drift diving and frequent grey reef sharks.

Vaavu has thrilling channels, called kandus, and night dives with nurse sharks, and the Malé atolls add colourful reefs and wreck dives.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 nights	Malé	Malé	30+ dives, AOWD







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Arrival day

The crew greet guests at the airport from 12:00, and for guests who arrive later the transfer is arranged about one to two hours after the flight lands.
To be in time for the boat and safety briefing, arrive at the airport by 16:00.
On board there is a welcome drink, a lime-scented towel and cakes while the tour guide introduces the boat and the plan for the day, and then time to settle into your cabin.
Check in documents are checked at 17:00 and the dive equipment is set up on the dhoni with help from the dive crew.
Dinner is at 18:00, followed by the introduction of the crew and a full safety briefing.
There is no diving on the arrival day.

DAY 2

Days 2 to 11

Two or three dives a day, usually three, from the dhoni, including a night dive on every trip.
Dives are made in self-reliant buddy teams with experienced guides, and the guides brief every dive in English, German, Italian and Spanish.

DAY 11

Last diving day

The final dive is at 07:30 on the day before disembarkation.
Equipment is rinsed in the freshwater tanks and left to dry before packing.
In the afternoon you can explore Malé, and the evening is for the farewell and dinner.

DAY 12

Departure day

A light breakfast is served and check out at Malé is between 06:30 and 08:30, with earlier check out available on request.
Late check out is not possible.
Guests with late flights can store luggage at the airport.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Ari Atoll

Famous for whale sharks, manta rays and beautiful pinnacles teeming with life.

Vaavu Atoll

Thrilling channels, called kandus, and night dives with nurse sharks.

Meemu Atoll

Dramatic channels, overhangs and colourful soft corals, with superb drift diving and frequent grey reef sharks and other big animals.

Malé Atoll

A mix of colourful reefs and wreck dives.

Diving experience

Divers need at least 30 logged dives, Advanced Open Water or an equivalent certification, and Nitrox certification. Divers who have not dived for more than two years, or who are unsure of their skills, should take a refresher course before the trip, and less experienced divers may be kept from the more challenging sites.

How the diving works

All dives are guided by experienced dive professionals, and all the diving is on Nitrox. Dives are made in self-reliant buddy teams with experienced guides, and divers must be able to make independent ascents, using a surface marker buoy when necessary. Briefings are in English, German, Italian and Spanish. Dives start from the dhoni, the dive boat. There is no diving on the arrival or departure days, and divers make two or three dives a day, usually three, with a night dive on every trip. The last dive is on the day before disembarkation, and divers should wait 24 hours after the last dive before flying.

Snorkelling

The boat welcomes snorkellers.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Accommodation in the booked cabin category
- Up to three dives a day with a dive guide
- Weights and weight belts
- Nitrox fills
- Airport transfers to and from the boat
- Breakfast, lunch, snacks, fruit and dinner
- Drinking water, tea, instant coffee and juice
- Daily cabin cleaning and towel service
- Shower gel, soap and shampoo
- 17% tourism sales tax

NOT INCLUDED

- 15 litre tanks
- Rental equipment
- Soft and alcoholic drinks
- Dive courses
- Green tax, paid in advance
- Crew tips, which are customary and paid in cash

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Mask, BCD and fins
- Surface marker buoy
- Signal whistle
- Reef hook
- Nitrox-capable dive computer

AND ALSO

- Regulator with an alternate air source
- Cutting tool
- Torch
- Hood, snorkel, boots and compass (recommended)
- Your own wetsuit, as wetsuits cannot be rented

WORTH KNOWING

Key notes

Good to know

The route depends on the weather, and the sample itineraries and sites are shown for illustration only. The exact route and dive sites are at the captain's discretion and can change with regulations, weather and logistics.

Good to know

Spare and rental equipment is available on board. The minimum age for divers is 18.

Good to know

Because tiger sharks and bull sharks can come very close, black equipment, black fins, a black hood and a black full-length wetsuit are recommended, and bright colours are best avoided.