BLACK MANTA

North Discovery, Manta Madness

Male to Male | North Male, Baa, Raa, Shaviyani, Noonu and Lhaviyani

Set off on an unforgettable expedition through the northern atolls of the Maldives, where pristine coral reefs and abundant marine life are waiting.

You will dive the crystal clear water of North Male, Rasdhoo and Baa Atolls and meet manta rays, whale sharks and shoals of colourful reef fish, in some of the most stunning dive sites in the region.

In North Male Atoll the diving is full of excitement, with famous sites, dramatic drop offs, colourful coral gardens and the occasional reef shark.

Rasdhoo Atoll is known for its pelagic encounters, and Baa Atoll, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, is where manta rays gather in huge numbers in the season, a breathtaking spectacle underwater.

World class diving, relaxation and culture come together on a trip you will not forget.

Highlights of the ten nights include manta rays in Baa Atoll, wall dives and current swept channels in Lhaviyani.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
10 nights	Male	Male	30+ dives, AOWD







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Embarkation

No diving today

A representative picks you up at Male airport and takes you to the boat.
You are welcomed with a drink and the cruise manager's briefing, dinner is served in the evening, and the first night is spent at Hulhumale marina.

DAY 2

North Male to Baa Atolls

Up to 3 dives

The trip starts by discovering the dazzling long reefs or a manta point (May to Nov only) in North Malé Atoll.
At only 15 m depth, you can have a chance to start the trip watching mantas looping on their cleaning stations.
Corals are also abundant here, giving home to plenty of reef fish and macro species.
Baa Atoll was declared a UNESCO World Biosphere back in June 2011.
Its amazing reefs of Baa offer a wide variety of marine life ranging from small fishes and turtles to the giant filter feeders, mantas and whale sharks.
Walls and thilas full of hard and soft corals, plateaus, overhangs, pinnacles and swim throughs are all yours to explore.
The famous Hanifaru Bay, located on the eastern side of Baa Atoll, is one of the marine protected areas.
From August to November, both whale sharks and manta rays aggregate here to devour the zooplankton blooms brought by the southwest monsoon.
By regulation, only snorkeling is allowed here, but there are many fascinating dive sites for your delight just nearby.

DAY 3

North Male to Baa Atolls

Up to 3 dives

A second day around North Male to Baa Atolls, with the sites chosen by the captain and dive team to suit the conditions.

DAY 4

Raa Atoll

Up to 3 dives

The cruise will move up to the Raa Atoll.
More thilas and giri will be the place to be to discover an exceptional variety of parrotfish, unicorn fish, gobies, basslets, and fusiliers along with jacks, tunas, stingrays, and napoleon wrasses.
Cruising north to explore the relatively unknown and vibrant reefs.
Here you will encounter more pelagic fish such as eagle rays, marble rays, grey reef sharks, white tip reef sharks, silvertip sharks, and even guitar sharks.

DAY 5

Shaviyani Atoll

Up to 3 dives

Back from the far North, you will dive in the beautiful Shaviyani Atoll.
Take a closer look at the dazzling reefs and encounter guitar sharks, eagle rays, and schools of batfish.
When night falls, you will be invited to go ashore and indulge yourself in the barbecue dinner prepared by our crew on a nearby desert island.
Flourishing soft corals and anemone gardens are famous here.
The water is filled with nutrients and allows the presence and growth of rich marine life which in turn attracts its predators as well.
Black tip reef sharks, white tip reef sharks, leopard sharks, and guitar sharks can be found feeding on smaller fish.

DAY 6

Noonu Atoll

Up to 3 dives

You will dive at Christmas Tree Rock, a pinnacle shaped like a Christmas tree.
Its layered ledges and plateaus, covered in vibrant soft corals—especially in shades of pink—create a breathtaking underwater landscape.

DAY 7

Lhaviyani

Up to 3 dives

Here you will not only find wall dives, but also current swept channels full of sharks, including grey reef sharks, white tip reef sharks, and black tip reef sharks.
Keep looking in the blue and you will often see tunas, barracudas as well as eagle rays.
Going back in time to the 80's, you will dive on two ships.
One of them dramatically protrudes through the surface.
Both wrecks are covered in hard and soft corals and full of fish life.
Exploring Maldives is also setting foot in paradise.
Our crew will lead a visit to a nearby local island just before dinner.

DAY 8

Lhaviyani

Up to 3 dives

A second day around Lhaviyani, with the sites chosen by the captain and dive team to suit the conditions.

DAY 9

North Male

Up to 3 dives

In North Male Atoll you will find stunning long reefs, small caves, colourful corals with prolific marine and reef life once again.
Take a closer look at the squirrelfish, bannerfish, oriental sweetlips, frogfish, and nudibranchs.
In the afternoon you will come back to Hulhumale marina to spend your last night on board and look back on the encounters with mantas.

DAY 10

North Male

Up to 3 dives

A second day around North Male, with the sites chosen by the captain and dive team to suit the conditions.

DAY 11

Disembark

After breakfast on board, the crew arranges your transfer to the airport.
Guests disembark between 08:00 and 08:30.
There is no diving today.







ROUTE MAP

North Discovery, Manta Madness route



GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Night dives

Scheduled night dives, often with nurse sharks, and manta night dives where the area allows.

Island visits

Visits to local islands and beach evenings, when the schedule and weather allow.

Check in

A representative holding a sign meets you outside the arrival hall at Male airport. The first transfer to the boat, by dhoni from the airport marina and taking about 20 minutes, is at about 2 pm, and check in is from 3 pm. There are no hotel pick ups. Early check in, with a pick up at 10 am, is possible for an extra charge.

Check out

Guests disembark between 08:00 and 08:30 after breakfast, and the crew arranges the transfer to the airport.

Last dive

Allow at least 24 hours between your last dive and flying. The dive team can limit the number of dives for weather, diver level or physical condition, with no refund.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Airport transfers to the boat, by dhoni from the airport marina, and back at the end
- Shared double or twin cabin
- Dive guides
- 12 litre aluminium cylinders with DIN or international fittings, and weights
- Meals and all soft drinks on board
- Bath towels, changed at least once
- Maldivian government tourist tax and service charge
- Jacuzzi on board
- Wi-Fi, limited to emails and messaging apps

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights to and from Male
- Supplement for a superior or premium cabin
- Supplement for single use of a cabin
- Beer, wine, spirits and espresso coffee
- Diving courses and rental equipment
- Dive insurance (mandatory) and travel insurance
- Massage service
- Speedboat, plane or seaplane transfers on special routes or unscheduled arrivals and departures
- Nitrox package

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook
- Completed diver medical questionnaire
- Details of your dive and travel insurance
- Dive computer and surface marker buoy with reel
- Reef-safe sunscreen

AND ALSO

- Swimwear, hat and sunglasses
- Light clothing and sandals
- Personal medication and toiletries
- Travel adaptor
- Passport

WORTH KNOWING

Key notes

Good to know

A surcharge may be applied if exchange rates or fuel prices change materially. At least 14 days notice is given, none is applied within 28 days of departure, and a full refund is allowed if the surcharge is 10% or more of the price

Good to know

The minimum level is Advanced Open Water or CMAS 2 star, and Open Water divers must complete Advanced Open Water at the start of the cruise

Good to know

The route is an example and can change to suit the weather and sea conditions

Good to know

Snorkellers are welcome on board

Good to know

Hanifaru snorkelling is only possible in the manta season