BLUE FORCE THREE

Hanifaru and Extended North

Male to Male | North Male, Kaashidhoo, Baa, Raa, Lhaviyani, Noonu and North Ari

August to October is the best season for the North Atolls, and this route is a manta expedition to Baa Atoll and Hanifaru Bay.

A northern route out of Male through the atolls of North Male, Kaashidhoo, Baa, Raa, Lhaviyani and Noonu, with time for some of the least visited reefs in the north.

The highlights are manta cleaning stations and, where mantas are present and the park rules allow, snorkelling in Hanifaru Bay.

There are also channels of grey reef and silvertip sharks, colourful thilas and the chance of whale sharks by day or night.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
10 nights	Male	Male	Certified divers







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Embarkation

No diving today

Arrival at Male airport and immigration, then the dhoni transfer to the boat.
You board, settle into your cabin, attend the cruise briefing and spend the afternoon sailing, with dinner on board.

DAY 2-10

Hanifaru and Extended North route

Daily dives

Diving through North Male, Kaashidhoo, Baa, Raa, Lhaviyani and Noonu atolls, with more time at each stop than on the seven night route and, depending on conditions, a visit to the North Ari area and Rasdhoo.
The dives take in manta cleaning stations, channels with grey reef and silvertip sharks, thilas covered in soft and hard corals and colourful walls, with the chance of guitar sharks, leopard sharks, eagle rays and whale sharks by day or night.
Where mantas are present and the park rules allow, there is snorkelling in Hanifaru Bay.
There is a special night dive, and the extras include barbecues on desert islands, stand up paddle boarding, kayaking, sunset relaxing and visits to local islands.
The dive order changes daily with the weather, the currents and the wildlife.

DAY 11

Disembark

Breakfast, then disembarkation at 7:00 am and the transfer to Male airport.
A day hotel in Male is possible if your flight is later.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Hanifaru Bay

The route looks for a manta cleaning station in North Male, then sails north to Baa Atoll, where you snorkel with mantas in the Hanifaru Bay Biosphere Reserve; watching them open their mouths to filter the water and feed on plankton is something very special.

Night dives

Night dives and snorkelling are part of the weekly programme, depending on conditions.

On board

Kayaks and paddle boards, a beach barbecue on a desert island and a visit to a fishing village when the weather and logistics allow.

Check in

You are met at Male airport, complete immigration and take the dhoni to the boat. After boarding there is the cruise briefing, then dinner on board.

Check out

Breakfast, then disembarkation at 7:00 am and the transfer to the airport. A day hotel in Male is possible if your flight is later.

Last dive

Allow at least 24 hours between your last dive and flying.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Airport, boat and airport transfers
- Double cabin shared, full board
- Water, tea and coffee
- Dives, with tanks, weights, guides and the dive dhoni
- Travel, diving and cancellation insurance

NOT INCLUDED

- Flights to Male
- Maldives tax, green tax and service tax, paid on board on arrival
- Fuel supplement, charged per person per night
- Internet, soft drinks and alcohol
- Rental equipment, which must be booked before departure
- Nitrox, charged per person per week
- Hanifaru Bay fee, charged per snorkeller
- Day hotel in Male, if you use it

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

The route can be modified by the cruise management to suit the weather, currents and sightings

Good to know

Snorkellers and non-divers are welcome, with kayaks and paddle boards on board

Good to know

The Hanifaru Bay fee is charged per snorkeller, and diving is not allowed in the bay

Good to know

Mantas and whale sharks cannot be promised

Good to know

The dive order and the atolls visited depend on the weather, the currents, the wildlife and the park rules