ECOPRO MARIANA

Deep South Male to Gan

Male to Gan | South Male, Vaavu, Meemu, Thaa, Laamu, Huvadhoo, Fuvahmulah and Addu



Without a doubt the king route in the Maldives.

Almost every trip sees up to 10 different shark species: grey reef, whitetip reef, nurse, tiger, whale, spinner, blacktip reef and silvertip sharks.

From stingrays and mantas near Male to tiger sharks in the far south, this is a long run through the atolls, mostly channel dives with many shark species.

Famous channels in South Male and Vaavu bring strong current, reef sharks, eagle rays, barracuda and napoleons.

Whale sharks come to a stern light in Thaa, and in Huvadhoo a two kilometre coral garden carries turtles.

Fuvahmulah is the climax, where 15 or more tiger sharks sometimes come up from the drop-off, before Addu adds oceanic mantas.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
14 nights	Male	Gan	75+ dives, Advanced







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Embarkation

No diving today

You are met at Male airport by an EcoPro Divers staff member and taken to EcoPro Mariana. The earliest transfer is at about 12 noon, and a second group transfer follows at about 4 pm. There is no diving on embarkation day.

DAY 2

North Male

2 to 3 dives a day

Fish Tank, where large schools of stingrays gather in front of a fish factory and morays hide in the rubble, and Lankan Beyru (Manta Point), an easy outer reef dive with a cleaning station for mantas during the south-west monsoon.

DAY 3

South Male

2 to 3 dives a day

Embudu Kandu, a famous channel with strong current and sharks, eagle rays and barracuda, Kandooma Thila, rated as the best site in South Male atoll, and Guraidhoo Corner, a protected corner for eagle rays and reef sharks.

DAY 4

Vaavu

2 to 3 dives a day

Miyaru Kandu, a channel dive that is a highlight for grey and white-tip reef sharks, eagle rays and napoleons, and the Alimatha house reef, a night dive with nurse sharks, stingrays and big jacks.

DAY 5

Meemu

2 to 3 dives a day

Hakuraa Thila, a protected thila with caves and overhangs, and Muli Corner, with sharks on the incoming current and a manta cleaning station on the outgoing current.

DAY 6

Thaa

2 to 3 dives a day

The whale shark point, where the crew shines a strong light from the stern in the evening to attract plankton, and with it whale sharks, though no sighting can be promised.

DAY 7

Laamu

2 to 3 dives a day

Time in Laamu on the way, with the dive sites chosen by the dive team to suit the conditions.

DAY 8

Laamu

2 to 3 dives a day

More time around Laamu, with the sites picked by the captain and dive team to suit the conditions.

DAY 9

Gaafu Alifu and Huvadhoo

2 to 3 dives a day

Villingili Kandu, a channel with many grey reef sharks, best enjoyed with a reef hook, and Kondey Coral Garden, an easy two kilometre site with dozens of hard coral species and turtles.

DAY 10

Gaafu Alifu and Huvadhoo

2 to 3 dives a day

More time around Gaafu Alifu and Huvadhoo, with the sites picked by the captain and dive team to suit the conditions.

DAY 11

Fuvahmulah

2 to 3 dives a day

The Tiger Zoo, in front of the harbour entrance, where sometimes 15 or more tiger sharks come up from the drop-off, and the south and north plateaus, for pelagics, hammerheads and whale sharks, or intact coral.

DAY 12

Fuvahmulah

2 to 3 dives a day

More time around Fuvahmulah, with the sites picked by the captain and dive team to suit the conditions.

DAY 13

Addu

2 to 3 dives a day

Addu Manta Point, part of Maa Kandu, with a cleaning station at 20 metres and strong currents (reef hook needed), the British Loyalty wreck, a tanker torpedoed in 1944 and lying in 33 metres, and the outer reef, where oceanic mantas are often seen.

DAY 14

Last diving day

One morning dive

One dive in the morning, then the boat returns to the harbour at about 12 noon.
This leaves time for the 24 hours between your last dive and flying.

DAY 15

Disembark

Disembarkation after breakfast, between about 07:00 and 08:00, in Gan (Addu Atoll), where you take your domestic flight.
There is no diving today.

GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Night dives

The route includes sites that are known for night dives, depending on the conditions.

Manta rays

Cleaning stations and night encounters, depending on the season.

Check in

You are met by an EcoPro Divers staff member no earlier than 9 am at the arrival exit after baggage claim, with a sign reading EcoPro Divers and the boat name. The earliest transfer is at about 12 noon and another at about 4 pm. Extra transfers are charged.

Check out

Disembarkation is between about 07:00 and 08:00, with a transfer to Gan airport.

Last dive

One morning dive the day before departure. The boat returns to the harbour at about 12 noon. Allow at least 24 hours between your last dive and flying.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE	NOT INCLUDED
Breakfast, lunch and dinner, buffet style	Green tax, paid on board
Mineral water, coffee, tea and snacks	Fuel surcharge, paid on board
Transfers to and from the airport	Flights, including domestic flights
Maldivian GST of 17%	Drinks other than water, coffee and tea
Diving dhoni with 12 litre aluminium tanks and weights	Dive courses and rental equipment
Island tours and a beach barbecue, depending on the route	Nitrox
	Crew tips, which are customary
	Dive insurance (mandatory) and travel insurance

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

Every diver needs their own dive computer, which can be rented on board

Good to know

The exact routing depends on the weather, the monsoon and the currents

Good to know

Divers must dive in buddy teams, and are responsible for their own safety and that of their buddy

Good to know

Passports must be valid for at least 6 months on the day of entering the Maldives

Good to know

A Tiger Zoo dive fee applies on this route, paid extra

Good to know

Diving is for advanced divers, with experience of drift and channel dives

Flying

Domestic flights are needed to reach or leave Gan





