EMPEROR SERENITY

Hanifaru and North

Male to Male | Baa, North Male, Lhaviyani and Raa atolls

This itinerary is timed with the new and full moon phases from July to October, for the best chances of manta action.

Greater tidal ranges bring a greater flow of plankton into world-famous Hanifaru Bay, where the massive, majestic mantas gather for a plankton feeding frenzy.

Diving is not permitted in Hanifaru Bay, part of the Baa Atoll UNESCO World Heritage site, but you can go in and snorkel with these gentle giants in the lagoon.

After a manta has fed it needs to get cleaned, so the dives visit known manta cleaning stations in North Male and Baa atolls.

The route takes in the northern atolls of Lhaviyani, Baa and Raa and renowned sites such as Kuredu Express, Labyrinth and Shipyard.

As well as mantas, you can get close to turtles, grey reef sharks and whitetip reef sharks.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
7 nights	Male	Male	All levels







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Boarding in Male

Free airport transfers run at 12:00 and 16:00, and you can usually board from around 13:00.
Meet the crew, join the safety briefing, complete your dive paperwork and settle into your cabin.
The boat stays in port tonight.

DAY 2

Check dive and sail

Up to 3 dives

Your first dive is a check dive near port to settle your kit and buoyancy.
The boat then heads north from Male.

DAY 3

North Male Atoll

Up to 3 dives

Visit known manta cleaning stations, where a manta that has fed needs to be cleaned.
Turtles and reef sharks are also common.

DAY 4

Lhaviyani Atoll

Up to 3 dives

Dive the renowned Kuredu Express and Kuredu Caves, with grey reef sharks, whitetip reef sharks and turtles.

DAY 5

Raa and Baa Atolls

Up to 3 dives

More northern hotspots, including Labyrinth and Shipyard.
Currents bring plankton into the shallow lagoons, and the mantas follow.

DAY 6

Hanifaru Bay

Snorkel + dives

Diving is not allowed in this UNESCO World Heritage site, but the boat can go in for a snorkel among feeding mantas.
Manta cleaning stations in Baa Atoll are dived too.

DAY 7

Last diving day

One dive

One morning dive, keeping to the no-flying rule.
The boat is back in Male around 13:00 and stays moored overnight.
You can take an optional land visit, then pack your gear and settle your bill.

DAY 8

Check out in Male

Check out is at 07:00, with transfers to Male airport arriving by 07:30.
There is no diving today.

GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Hanifaru Bay

Snorkel with feeding mantas in this protected lagoon. Sightings cannot be guaranteed, but the timing around the new moon makes them likely.

Snorkelling

Snorkel gear and a snorkelling guide are included, so non-divers and snorkellers are welcome.

Port visit

On the last afternoon, in port, you can stretch your legs with an optional land visit.

Check in

Free transfers leave Male airport at 12:00 and 16:00. You can usually board from around 13:00.

Check out

Check out is at 07:00 on the last morning, with transfers to arrive at Male airport by 07:30.

Last dive

One morning dive on the last diving day. The boat is back in port around 13:00.







INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Full board meals, snacks and a special dinner
- Water, tea and coffee
- Guided diving from a dhoni, with a dive guide
- Nitrox up to 32% for certified divers
- Snorkel gear and a snorkelling guide
- Land excursions
- Cabin and deck towels
- Free airport transfers from Male or Gan on arrival and departure days
- Environment (green) tax, fuel surcharge and port fees

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights
- Soft drinks, juices and alcoholic drinks
- Dive equipment rental
- Dive courses
- Wi-Fi data packages
- Local purchases and souvenirs
- Crew tips, which are customary
- Travel and dive insurance (mandatory)

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook
- Dive computer, surface marker buoy and reef hook (needed on every dive)
- Torch for night dives
- Reef-safe sunscreen
- Swimwear, hat and sunglasses

AND ALSO

- Light clothing and sandals
- Personal medication and toiletries
- UK 3-pin travel adaptor (220V)
- Passport
- Copy of your travel and dive insurance

WORTH KNOWING

Key notes

Insurance

Travel and dive insurance covering dive injury, medical evacuation and travel is mandatory

Good to know

Everyone is welcome, with no minimum number of dives. You should be comfortable in currents, as they can be strong, and many dives go below 18 m

Good to know

Diving is from a dhoni, usually 2 to 3 dives a day and up to 17 dives in a week, to a maximum depth of 30 m

Good to know

You need a dive computer, surface marker buoy and reef hook on every dive

Respect the reef

Please do not touch or collect marine life. Emperor does not bait or feed sharks

Good to know

If you have a condition on Emperor's medical list, bring a medical form signed by a doctor within the last 12 months

Flying

There is no diving for 24 hours before a flight





