MALDIVES MASTER

Central Atolls

Male to Male | Male, Vaavu and Ari atolls

The central atolls of the Maldives are shark and manta country, with grey and white-tip reef sharks gathering in large numbers in the channels.

Nurse sharks circle the house reef, spinner sharks and several types of stingray patrol the shallows, and mantas can be seen at cleaning stations throughout the year.

Teardrop-shaped reefs are renowned for their soft corals and turtles, and schools of eagle rays sweep through the channels.

Evenings can bring mantas gathering under lights that attract plankton.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
10 nights	Male	Male	30 dives, Deep training







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Embarkation

No diving today

The crew meets you at Male airport and a dhoni takes you to Maldives Master. Once everyone is on board there is a boat orientation and safety briefing, followed by dinner. There is no diving on embarkation day.

DAY 2

North Male

Up to 3 dives

Hulhumale Beyru (Shark Tank), for spinner sharks and several types of stingray, H.P. Reef, a marine protected area with soft corals, caves and a chimney swim-through, Lankan Manta Point, a cleaning station where mantas can be seen throughout the year, Lankan Caves and Rasfari North Corner.

DAY 3

North Male

Up to 3 dives

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



DAY 4

South Male

Up to 3 dives

Cocoa Corner, a sloping reef and wall with caves and overhangs, Kandooma Thila, a teardrop shaped thila renowned for its soft corals and turtles, Guraidhoo Kandu, for sharks and schools of eagle rays, and Lhosfushi and Medhu Faru, with overhangs covered in sea fans and soft corals.

DAY 5

South Male

Up to 3 dives

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

DAY 6

Vaavu

Up to 3 dives

Fotteyo Kandu, considered by many divers one of the best sites in the Maldives, Miyaru Kandu, for grey and white-tip reef sharks, Alimathaa, where nurse sharks circle the house reef, Golden Wall and Rakeedhoo Corner.

DAY 7

Vaavu

Up to 3 dives

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

DAY 8

South Ari

Up to 3 dives

Kudarah Thila, one of the most colourful dives in Ari Atoll, the Kudima Wreck, a 52 metre cargo ship sitting upright at 30 metres, Angaga Thila, and the manta cleaning stations at Mahibadhoo Rock and Lily Manta Point.

DAY 9

North Ari and Rasdhoo

Up to 3 dives

Fish Head, known as one of the best places for grey reef shark encounters, Maaya Thila, with white-tip reef sharks, Rasdhoo Madivaru, a marine protected area channel, and Fesdhoo Lagoon, where mantas gather in the evening and the crew attaches lights to the stern to attract plankton and, hopefully, mantas.

DAY 10

Last diving day

Two morning dives

Two morning dives, at about 06:30 and 10:45, before the boat heads back to port after lunch. Check your flight time so there are at least 24 hours between your last dive and flying.

DAY 11

Disembarkation

Early breakfast on board, then disembarkation at 07:30 with a transfer to the airport. There is no diving today.

GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Night dives

A sunset or night dive may be offered. On 7 night trips only one is possible, and it is not guaranteed.

Manta rays

Cleaning stations and feeding areas, depending on the season.

Check in

Meet the representative in front of Burger King in the airport terminal, holding a Master Liveaboards sign. The dhoni leaves at 12:30 or 16:00 only. There are no hotel or resort pick ups, so arrive at the airport in time for the first transfer.

Check out

Disembarkation is at 07:30, with a transfer to the airport.

Last dive

Two morning dives on the last diving day, then the boat returns to port after lunch. Allow at least 24 hours between your last dive and flying.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE	NOT INCLUDED
Full board accommodation	Green tax, paid in advance
Water, tea and coffee	Alcoholic and soft drinks
All diving offered in the itinerary	Rental equipment
Tank, weights and air fills	Nitrox
Transfers between the airport and the boat, by dhoni	Dive courses
	Crew tips, which are customary
	Internet
	A fuel surcharge, if it applies
	Domestic flights, where needed
	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

Divers need at least 30 logged dives, open water with deep (30 metres) training, and advanced open water is strongly recommended, and experience of currents and drift dives

Respect the reef

Dive sites we visit can change from one trip to the next, depending on the weather, tides, currents and marine life. The route is not fixed

Good to know

All divers must use a dive computer and carry a surface marker buoy and reel on every dive





