SEAFARI EXPLORER 2

Deep South Tiger Zoo

Kooddoo to Gan | Gaafu Alifu, Dhaalu, Fuvahmulah and Seenu



The far south of the Maldives is big-animal country, with exposed channels, deep drop-offs and sites famous for tiger sharks, hammerheads, threshers and mantas.

Fuvahmulah, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, has direct exposure to the deep blue, which brings oceanic mantas and mola mola as well.

Tiger sharks can be watched at close range.

In the channels the current sets the tone, with grey reef sharks, eagle rays and large schools of fish riding the flow.

A Second World War wreck covered in marine life makes a very different dive.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
7 nights	Kooddoo	Gan	Advanced, 50+ dives







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Embarkation

Fly from Male to Kooddoo on the domestic flight, which is included, and the crew takes you to the boat.
After boarding there is a welcome briefing.

DAY 2-7

Route

16 dives, 6 diving days

The boat sails south from Gaafu Alifu and Dhaalu to Fuvahmulah in Gnaviyani Atoll and on to Seenu, with the sites below chosen by the senior instructor.
There are 16 dives over six diving days, and the emphasis is on big marine life in exposed channels.

DAY 8

Disembarkation

The cruise ends at Gan in Addu Atoll, with the domestic flight back to Male included.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Fuvahmulah in Gnaviyani Atoll

Fuvahmulah is a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in the far south, with a fringing reef, no true inner lagoon and direct exposure to the deep blue, which gives its reputation for tiger sharks, hammerheads, threshers, oceanic mantas and mola mola.

Gaafu Alifu and Dhaalu: Viligilhi Kandu

Advanced, 30 metres. The current sets the tone, with grey reef sharks, eagle rays, jacks and large schools of fish riding the flow along the lips of the channel.

Gaafu Alifu and Dhaalu: Kooddoo Kandu

Advanced, 30 metres. Action concentrated along the channel, with grey reef and blacktip reef sharks, barracuda, jacks and eagle rays.

Gaafu Alifu and Dhaalu: Kooddoo Ethere

Advanced, 30 metres. A short, intense dive where divers come hoping to see the spinner shark and sometimes a bull shark.

Gaafu Alifu and Dhaalu: Nilandhoo Kandu

Advanced, 30 metres. An open, fishy channel with hunting scenes, reef sharks, eagle rays and compact schools of fish.

Gaafu Alifu and Dhaalu: Maareha Kandu

Advanced, 30 metres. An outer wall exposed to the open ocean, with grey reef sharks, eagle rays and schools of fish, and sometimes hammerheads.

Fuvahmulah: South Plateau

Advanced, 30 metres. A wilder, deeper dive focused on big marine life, with hammerheads, tiger sharks, threshers and silvertips, and occasionally oceanic mantas or mola mola.

Fuvahmulah: Thundi

Advanced, 30 metres. An open site where the search for thresher sharks gives every minute a chance of something exceptional.

Fuvahmulah: Tiger Zoo

Intermediate, 20 to 30 metres. An iconic site for observing tiger sharks at close range. Diving at Tiger Zoo is paid on board.

Seenu: Koattey Corner

Intermediate, 30 metres. A reef point reaching out into the ocean, where mantas, grey reef and whitetip reef sharks, large schools of jacks and tuna may be seen.

Seenu: Maa Kandu

Intermediate, 25 metres. A magnificent manta point at the corner of the channel.

Seenu: British Loyalty

Easy, 30 metres. A 140 metre wreck sunk in the Second World War, covered in marine life, a very different kind of dive.

Typical day

The first dive is at sunrise after tea and coffee, with breakfast at 08:30 and some navigation until about 10:30. A second dive follows on some days, then lunch at 12:30. In the afternoon there is more navigation or a second dive, and at 4 pm island hopping or a rest. A night dive is planned once a week, with dinner at 20:00.

Manta snorkelling

Snorkelling sessions with manta rays are planned at secret places, and the senior instructor decides the route and the dive sites with the captain each week, depending on the currents, the tides and the weather.

Diving rules

Every activity is supervised by a qualified CMAS or PADI instructor from the Seafari team, who briefs the site, the currents, the wildlife and the safety rules before each dive. The senior instructor can require in-water supervision, or stop a diver whose level is not enough to dive safely.

Dives

There is normally one dive on the day before disembarking, finishing before lunch.

Check in

Boat transfers from the airport run at 10:00, 12:00 and 15:00, and you meet the crew at the information desk at the airport. The boat dives start the morning after boarding.

Check out

Check out is at 07:00 on the last day, with the airport transfer in the morning.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Return transfers between the airport and the boat, with arrivals at 10:00, 12:00 or 15:00 and departure at 07:00
- Domestic flights from Male to Kooddoo and from Gan to Male
- Cabin share (double or twin), or a single cabin, with full board
- Drinking water, tea and coffee
- A dive package with 12 litre aluminium tanks and weights, with at least one or two night dives
- Free Nitrox for certified divers
- Island visits and a beach barbecue, where available and depending on the route
- Free Wi-Fi on board by Starlink
- GST of 17%

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Service charge package
- Green tax, paid on board
- Diving at Tiger Zoo, paid on board
- 10% service charge on onboard expenses
- Alcoholic drinks
- Dive equipment rental and 15 litre tanks, booked before departure
- Instructor supervision, if the diving level is not enough to dive safely
- Nitrox course and other courses

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 is indicative and changes with the season, the currents and the weather, and the visited atolls and dive sites are not guaranteed

Insurance

Dive insurance is recommended, and the minimum level is Advanced Open Water with 50 logged dives

Good to know

Tiger shark sightings cannot be promised