AMBA

Best of Central Maldives, south tour

Malé to Malé | Ari, Vaavu, Meemu and Malé atolls

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
12 days / 11 nights	Malé	Malé	30+ dives, AOWD

Discover the highlights of the Maldives on an eleven night liveaboard cruise that starts and ends in Malé and sails through the central south of the country. You dive the Ari, Vaavu and Meemu atolls and finish in the Malé atolls, with vibrant coral reefs, iconic dive sites and plenty of big fish action.

Ari Atoll is famous for whale sharks, manta rays and pinnacles teeming with life. Meemu is known for dramatic channels, overhangs and colourful soft corals, with superb drift diving and frequent grey reef sharks. Vaavu has thrilling channels, called kandus, and night dives with nurse sharks, and the Malé atolls add colourful reefs and wreck dives.







Your route

STOP 1

Arrival day

The crew greet guests at the airport from 12:00, and for guests who arrive later the transfer is arranged about one to two hours after the flight lands.
To be in time for the boat and safety briefing, arrive at the airport by 16:00.

STOP 1

Arrival day (continued)

On board there is a welcome drink, a lime-scented towel and cakes while the tour guide introduces the boat and the plan for the day, and then time to settle into your cabin.
Check in documents are checked at 17:00 and the dive equipment is set up on the dhoni with help from the dive crew.
Dinner is at 18:00, followed by the introduction of the crew and a full safety briefing.
There is no diving on the arrival day.

STOP 2

Days 2 to 11

Two or three dives a day, usually three, from the dhoni, including a night dive on every trip.
Dives are made in self-reliant buddy teams with experienced guides, and the guides brief every dive in English, German, Italian and Spanish.

STOP 11

Last diving day

The final dive is at 07:30 on the day before disembarkation.
Equipment is rinsed in the freshwater tanks and left to dry before packing.
In the afternoon you can explore Malé, and the evening is for the farewell and dinner.

STOP 12

Departure day

A light breakfast is served and check out at Malé is between 06:30 and 08:30, with earlier check out available on request.
Late check out is not possible.
Guests with late flights can store luggage at the airport.

THE ROUTE

Where the boat dives

The route depends on the weather, and the sample itineraries and sites are shown for illustration only. The exact route and dive sites are at the captain's discretion and can change with regulations, weather and logistics.

ARI ATOLL

Famous for whale sharks, manta rays and beautiful pinnacles teeming with life.

VAAVU ATOLL

Thrilling channels, called kandus, and night dives with nurse sharks.

MEEMU ATOLL

Dramatic channels, overhangs and colourful soft corals, with superb drift diving and frequent grey reef sharks and other big animals.

MALÉ ATOLL

A mix of colourful reefs and wreck dives.







THE DIVING

Diving and snorkelling

DIVING EXPERIENCE

Divers need at least 30 logged dives, Advanced Open Water or an equivalent certification, and Nitrox certification. Divers who have not dived for more than two years, or who are unsure of their skills, should take a refresher course before the trip, and less experienced divers may be kept from the more challenging sites.

HOW THE DIVING WORKS

All dives are guided by experienced dive professionals, and all the diving is on Nitrox. Dives are made in self-reliant buddy teams with experienced guides, and divers must be able to make independent ascents, using a surface marker buoy when necessary. Briefings are in English, German, Italian and Spanish.

Dives start from the dhoni, the dive boat. There is no diving on the arrival or departure days, and divers make two or three dives a day, usually three, with a night dive on every trip. The last dive is on the day before disembarkation, and divers should wait 24 hours after the last dive before flying.

DIVING EQUIPMENT

Each diver needs a mask, BCD and fins, a surface marker buoy, a signal whistle, a reef hook, a Nitrox-capable dive computer, a regulator with an alternate air source, a cutting tool and a torch, and all of it is used on every dive. A hood, snorkel, boots and compass are recommended. Spare and rental equipment is available on board, but wetsuits cannot be rented. The minimum age for divers is 18. Because tiger sharks and bull sharks can come very close, black equipment, black fins, a black hood and a black full-length wetsuit are recommended, and bright colours are best avoided.

SNORKELLING

The boat welcomes snorkellers.

ON BOARD

Food, service and the team

CUISINE

Three freshly prepared meals are served each day, with afternoon snacks, cakes and fruit, and drinking water, tea, coffee and juice throughout the day. German and Maldivian chefs bake fresh bread every morning, and the menu mixes Asian dishes with international and Western food, with vegetarian and vegan options. Beer and wine are available.

SERVICE AND THE TEAM

A tour guide, dive guides and a dive crew look after the guests, and the multilingual crew, local and international, speaks English, German and Italian and is trained in first aid. Daily room cleaning, towels and toiletries are included, and the welcome on board includes a drink and a lime-scented towel. Wi-Fi is available on board.

DECK PLAN

The upper deck has an outdoor lounge for relaxing between dives, and the partly covered sun deck has sun loungers. Inside there is a saloon and a dining room, and the boat also has a leisure deck, an observation deck and outside showers. The shaded dive deck has rinse hoses, and a 16 metre dive dhoni with a freshwater shower and a toilet takes the divers to the sites, with smaller speedboats for nearby islands.

INCLUDED

What is included

- Accommodation in the booked cabin category
- Up to three dives a day with a dive guide
- Weights and weight belts
- Nitrox fills
- Airport transfers to and from the boat
- Breakfast, lunch, snacks, fruit and dinner
- Drinking water, tea, instant coffee and juice
- Daily cabin cleaning and towel service
- Shower gel, soap and shampoo
- 17% tourism sales tax

Not included are 15 litre tanks, rental equipment, soft and alcoholic drinks and dive courses. A tip is paid in cash.

EXTRA CHARGES

The green tax is paid in advance.





