ECOPRO MARIANA

Best of Maldives

Male to Male | Male, Vaavu, Ari, Meemu and Thaa

The atolls are chosen to suit the monsoon, from the central atolls to Meemu and Thaa.

Whale sharks are seen swimming along the reef in South Ari all year round, and in Thaa a strong stern light draws plankton and whale sharks.

Manta rays visit cleaning stations, and at night a spotlight draws plankton and mantas into the lagoon.

Famous channels with strong current bring sharks, eagle rays and barracuda, and nurse sharks, stingrays and big jacks gather on a night dive.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 days / 10 nights	Male	Male	30+ dives







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

North Male

2 to 3 dives a day

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



DAY 4

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 5

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 6

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.
Meemu is visited in the north-east monsoon season only.



DAY 7

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.
Thaa is visited in the north-east monsoon season only.

DAY 8

South Ari

2 to 3 dives a day

Moofushi Kandu (Manta Point), a drift over a cleaning station at 14 to 25 metres, Kudarah Thila, in a marine protected area with sea fans and soft corals, and Maamigili Beyru, an easy site where whale sharks are seen cruising along the reef all year round.

DAY 9

North Ari and Rasdhoo

2 to 3 dives a day

Rasdhoo Madivaru, a channel with a ridge for grey reef sharks and dogtooth tuna, Maaya Thila, one of the best night dives in the Maldives, Fish Head, with grey reef sharks and snappers, Bathalaamaagaa Kanthila, and a night with mantas at Maayafushi or Fesdhoo Lagoon, where a spotlight attracts plankton and mantas.



DAY 10

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 11

Disembark

Disembarkation after breakfast, between about 07:00 and 08:00, with a transfer to the airport. 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 the 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

- Breakfast, lunch and dinner, buffet style
- Mineral water, coffee, tea and snacks
- Transfers to and from the airport
- Maldivian GST of 17%
- Diving dhoni with 12 litre aluminium tanks and weights
- Island tours and a beach barbecue, depending on the route

NOT INCLUDED

- Green tax, paid on board
- Fuel surcharge, paid on board
- Flights, including domestic flights
- Drinks other than water, coffee and tea
- Dive courses and rental equipment
- Nitrox
- Tips, at your discretion
- 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

Insurance

Dive insurance is mandatory, and travel insurance is recommended

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

Seasonal route

Meemu and Thaa are visited only in the north-east monsoon season