

PRINCESS SARA

Central Atolls

Male to Male | South Male, Felidhoo, South Ari, North Ari and North Male

The central atolls of the Maldives are the place for sharks, manta rays and whale sharks.

Silvertip, whitetip reef and grey reef sharks patrol the channels in the right current, and in South Ari the hunt for a whale shark can end with snorkelling beside it and then diving with it.

After dark, lights at the stern attract plankton and, with luck, feeding whale sharks, and later the lights bring in manta rays so that you can enter the water for the show.

There are beautiful shoals with soft corals, reef sharks and lots of fish, and a wreck to end a day of diving.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 days / 10 nights	Male	Male	Open Water, certified







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Embarkation

1 dive

The crew welcomes you at Velana International Airport and takes you to the boat by 12 noon for refreshments, check in and a welcome briefing.
The check dive follows in the early afternoon, and then the boat sails to South Male for the night.

DAY 2

South Male to Felidhoo

3 dives

The first dive is at Velassaru and the second near Guraidhoo.
The boat then sails to Felidhoo, where you can go down on a sandbank, or take an extra dive for a surcharge, before the night dive at the Alimatha jetty.

DAY 3

Felidhoo to Ari Atoll

3 dives

At first light there is a dive in a channel (kandu) near Alimatha, with silvertip, whitetip reef and grey reef sharks in the right current and visibility.
It is a fairly easy dive, and a hook is recommended.
The boat then sails to south-east Ari for the second and third dives, with a stop on a sandbank.
In the evening there is a visit to Dhangethi and a barbecue dinner on the beach.

DAY 4

South Ari Atoll

3 dives

The day begins with a dive on a shoal near Dhangethi, and then the search for a whale shark, with a chance to snorkel beside it and then dive.
Whale sharks are sometimes seen on the Maamigili or Dhigurah dives.
The last dive is near Rangali, at a manta point.
The boat spends the night near Mirihi, where lights at the stern attract plankton and, with luck, feeding whale sharks.



DAY 5-6

South Ari to Central Ari

6 dives

Two days of diving between South Ari and Central Ari.
They include a manta point reached by dhoni, a shoal full of coral, reef fish and pelagics, and Panettone, one of the most beautiful shoals in Ari, with soft corals, reef sharks and lots of fish.

DAY 7-8

Central Ari to North Ari

6 dives

Two days of diving, starting in West Ari and then sailing north to Fesdhoo to end a day of diving on a wreck.
After dinner the lights at the stern are switched on to attract manta rays, so that you can enter the water for the show.

DAY 9-10

North Ari to North Male

4 dives

Two days ending at Bathala Maagau, with schools of grey reef sharks, snappers, jacks, fusiliers, barracudas and tuna.
The boat then moves to Hulhumale, where you can go ashore and see the capital.
The last night is anchored near Kurumba.

DAY 11

Disembark

After breakfast you complete the check out, and by 10:00 the crew takes you to the airport for your flight home.

GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Typical day

Wake up at 06:30. Briefing and first dive at 07:00, breakfast at 09:00, second dive at 11:00, lunch at 13:00 and a third dive at 15:30 where the day allows it. Snack and an island visit at 17:00, aperitif at 19:00 and dinner at 20:00.

Non-divers

Non-divers can join in every day with two of these guaranteed: snorkelling, a sandbank landing, visits to deserted and inhabited islands, and bottom fishing or trolling.

On board

A jet ski, a slide and an inflatable pool, and a jacuzzi on the main deck. Aperitifs and barbecues are held on deserted islands.

Check in

The crew meets you at Velana International Airport and takes you to the boat by 12 noon for refreshments, check in and a welcome briefing. Late afternoon arrivals are subject to a transfer surcharge.

Check out

After breakfast you complete the check out and the crew takes you to the airport by 10:00.

Last dive

Diving stops at least 24 hours before your departure flight.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Cabin share (double) and full board, with three meals a day
- Transfers between the airport and the boat
- Accompanied dives for certified divers, with cylinders and weights
- Snorkelling with a guide for non-divers, and a diving test
- Unlimited mineral water, tea and coffee
- Excursions to deserted and inhabited islands, and a beach barbecue dinner
- Dive instructors and local guides, about one guide to eight divers, speaking Italian, English and Spanish
- GST
- Snorkel gear, stand-up paddleboard, towels and toiletries
- 24 hour emergency line

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Mandatory service charge
- Green tax
- Nitrox or 15 litre cylinders
- Dive equipment rental, on request
- Dive insurance (mandatory)
- Island entrance fees where required
- Optional excursions and extra dives
- Alcoholic and soft drinks
- Jet ski, laundry and Wi-Fi
- Tips for the dive guides (optional)
- Cabin supplements for suites and deluxe cabins

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 itinerary is set on board by the captain and the boat manager and can change with the weather, and diving at a specific site is not guaranteed

Insurance

Dive insurance is mandatory, and travel insurance is recommended