SEAFARI EXPLORER 2

Mantas Hanifaru

Male to Male | North Male, Baa, Rasdhoo and North Ari

Some of the best manta ray encounters in the Indian Ocean are found here, from the protected waters of Hanifaru Bay to the cleaning stations of Rasdhoo, North Male and North Ari.

Hanifaru Bay is known for feeding aggregations of manta rays and, depending on conditions, whale sharks.

At night manta rays feed in the light beams of a lagoon.

A famous thila holds a high concentration of grey reef sharks, eagle rays and napoleon wrasse.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
8 days / 7 nights	Male	Male	Advanced Open Water, 50+ dives







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Embarkation

Boat transfers from Velana International Airport in Male run at 10:00, 12:00 and 15:00, and the crew meets you at the information desk.
After boarding there is a welcome briefing, and the first dive is the next morning.

DAY 2-7

Route

16 dives, 6 diving days

The boat cruises from North Male to Baa Atoll for Hanifaru Bay, then to Rasdhoo and North Ari, with the dives chosen by the senior instructor from the sites below.
There are 16 dives over six diving days.

DAY 8

Disembark

The cruise ends in Male, with check out at 07:00 and a transfer to the airport for your flight home.

GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

North Male: Lankan Manta Point

Easy, 20 metres. One of the best known manta sites in North Male, with cleaning stations on a shallow reef slope, moray eels, napoleon wrasse and sometimes whitetip reef sharks.

North Male: Hulhumale Shark Point

Easy, 20 metres. Settled on the bottom off Hulhumale, waiting for large predators, including stingrays, spinner, bull, tiger and lemon sharks and hammerheads.

Baa: Hanifaru Bay

Good swimmers. An iconic snorkelling site in the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, with feeding aggregations of manta rays and, depending on conditions, whale sharks. Entry to the reserve is paid on board.

Baa: Dharavandhoo House Reef

Easy, 20 to 30 metres. A pleasant outer reef known for manta sightings in the season and the occasional whale shark.

Baa: Dhonfanu Thila

Easy, 20 to 30 metres. A popular thila with a shallow top and overhangs, grey reef sharks, eagle rays and, in season, passing mantas.

Baa: Kiyadu Ridge

Night dive. Relief and overhangs, with reef life that comes alive after sunset. Night snorkelling with whale sharks is possible between Dhonfanu and Kiyadu.

Rasdhoo: Rasdhoo Manta Point

Easy, 20 to 30 metres. A cleaning station visited by manta rays, where divers watch quietly above the reef.

Rasdhoo: Madivaru Kandu

Easy, 20 to 30 metres. A flagship dive of Rasdhoo, with current, eagle rays, napoleon wrasse, whitetip and grey reef sharks and schools of trevally.

North Ari: Fesdu Lagoon

Easy, 20 metres. A night dive with manta rays in the lagoon, in the light beams.

North Ari: Ohola Thila

Easy, 20 to 30 metres. A colourful thila, known for soft corals, overhangs and dense reef life.

North Ari: Fish Head

Medium, 20 to 30 metres. A famous thila with a high concentration of grey reef sharks, eagle rays and napoleon wrasse, on a protected site.

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.

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.

Dives

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





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
- 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 in the Hanifaru Bay reserve, 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

Experience needed

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