



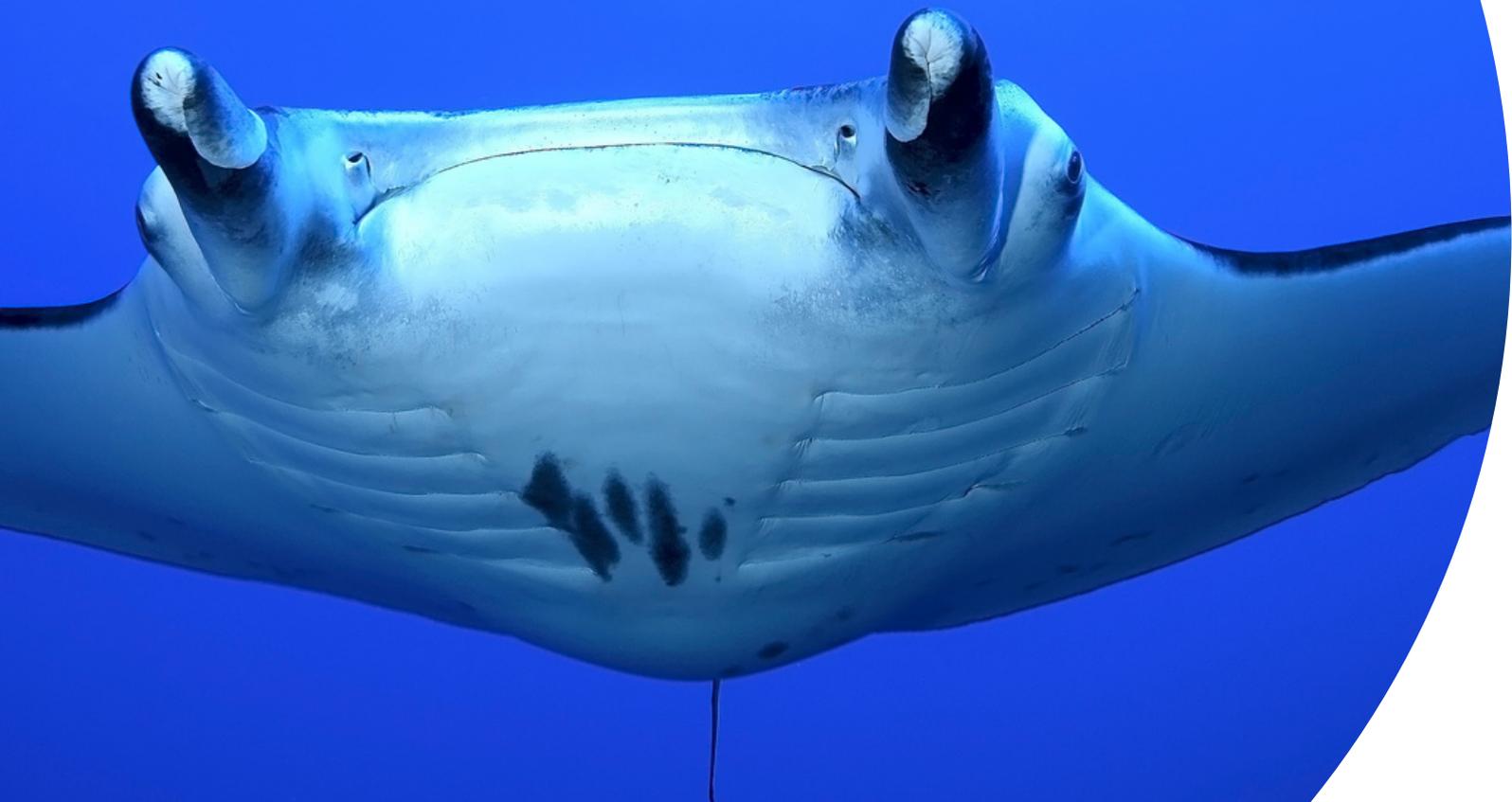
Ocean Dive Travel

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# Maldives

January, February and March 2024



# Maldives

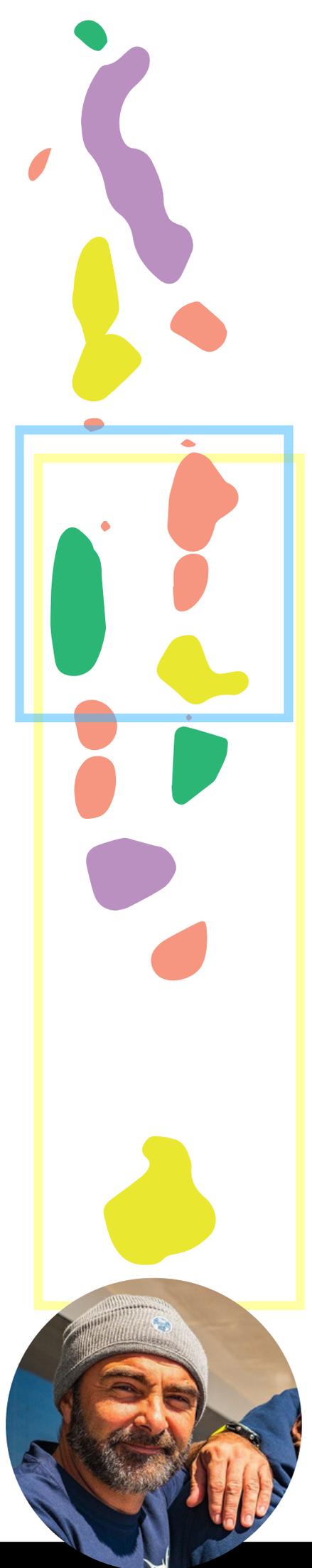
Maldives is undoubtedly one of the most popular scuba diving destinations in the world. With over 1,000 islands grouped into 26 atolls, its volcanic origin, coral formations, and the quality of its waters make it a unique destination that encompasses a biodiversity that every diver dreams of.

For all these reasons, we know that a week-long Liveaboard is always too short, and we have decided to create a new travel format: Longer cruises with more dives, so you can enjoy everything that Maldives has to offer without haste or overcrowding, and for a longer period of time.

We offer you two different routes:

- **Central Route:** the extended version of the Classic Route. **10 days and 9 nights** exploring the Atolls of North Male, South Male, Ari, Vaavu and Rasdhoo. Enjoy the classic route on a larger scale, like never before.
- **8 Atolls Route:** Central and South Maldives departing from Male: **15 days and 14 nights** visiting the main dive sites of North Male, South Male, Ari, and Vaavu atolls, crossing southwards through Meemu, Laamu, Thaa, all the way to Gaafu Atoll. This journey covers the most distinctive dives of the Classic Route, including the wild side of the Southern channels, without the need for internal flights. It's the perfect combination to fully enjoy Maldives.

We guarantee you a unique journey born out of love and passion for diving, specifically for Maldives. Organized, led, and guided firsthand by *David Fernández*, with over 23 years of experience in the diving world, including the last 8 years in Maldives, we want to give you the opportunity to fall in love with this destination that has captivated us. It's a one-of-a-kind opportunity where the quality and safety of diving are paramount in a relaxed and professional atmosphere.



## Central Route

During 10 days and 9 nights we will explore the atolls of Rasdhoo, North Male, South Male, Ari, and Vaavu, visiting the most renowned dive sites in Maldives.



This route stands out for the variety of its dives, exploring channels, walls, extensive reefs, submerged mountains known as '*thilas*', and shipwrecks. You will be amazed by the reefs of Maldives, with their large coral tables, gorgonians, and anemones of various types and colors. You will also enjoy the abundant marine biodiversity that characterizes this region, including macro life (ghost pipefishes, nudibranchs, shrimps...), as well as cephalopods, schools of reef fish (butterflyfish, groupers, triggerfish, surgeonfish...), schools of jacks and tunas, and, of course, large pelagics such as grey reef sharks, blacktips, whitetips, graceful manta rays, spotted eagle rays, green turtles, and with luck, the magnificent whale shark.

The Central Route is ideal for divers of all levels, whether it's your first time in Maldives or if you want to relive it.

We recommend a minimum of 30 logged dives and the use of NITROX for enhanced safety and enjoyment of the diving experience.



## Dates

02 to 11 January 2024

12 to 21 January 2024

22 to 31 January 2024

## Itinerary

**Day 1** - Pick-up at the airport and transfer to the Maldivian Dream Liveboard during the morning until 13:00 pm. Lunch on board. Welcome & boat safety briefing. Dinner and navigation.

**Days 2 to 9** - Diving days. Up to 25 dives, including at least two night dives. On the last day of the cruise, there are two morning dives scheduled. Make sure to leave a 24-hour gap before your flight.

**Day 10** - Breakfast and transfer to Male Airport before 11:00 am.

## 8 Atolls Route

For 15 days and 14 nights, we will explore the main dives of the Classic Route starting from Male and then venture southward until the channels of Gaafu. \*\*

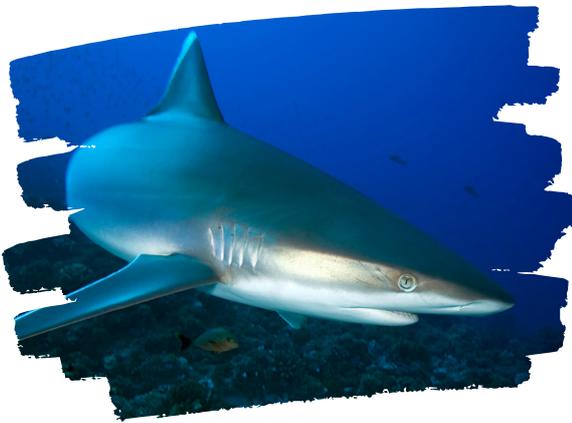


During the *Iruvai monsoon*, which brings great weather and calm seas, it is the perfect time to enjoy both the classic dives of the Central region, with encounters with manta rays, nurse sharks, schools of reef fish, etc., as well as take advantage of the prevailing northeast currents in order to dive into the channels of the southern Atolls. In the South, we will find majestic shark walls, with species such as grey sharks, whitetip sharks, silvertip sharks, blacktip sharks, spinners, guitarfish, and hopefully, the whale shark.

The 8 Atolls Route is a challenging trip even for experienced divers, where strong currents and long bottom times at great depths prevail for encounters with pelagic species. If you do not feel comfortable in such diving conditions, we recommend opting for the Central Route instead.

A minimum of 100 logged dives is mandatory, as well as a minimum dive certification of Advanced Open Water. We also recommend the use of NITROX for enhanced safety and enjoyment of the diving experience.

\*\* *Fuvahmulah* not included.



## Dates

01 to 15 February 2024

16 February to 01 March 2024

02 to 16 March 2024

17 to 31 March 2024

## Itinerary

**Day 1** - Pick-up at the airport and transfer to the Maldivian Dream Liveboard during the morning until 13:00 pm. Lunch on board. Welcome & boat safety briefing. Dinner and navigation.

**Days 2 to 14** - Diving days. Up to 40 dives, including at least two night dives. On the last day of the cruise, there are two morning dives scheduled. Make sure to leave a 24-hour gap before your flight.

**Day 15** - Breakfast and transfer to Male Airport before 11:00 am.

## The boat

The *MV Maldivian Dream* is a tourist-class boat measuring 31 meters in length and 10 meters in beam. It consists of 4 decks and 9 cabins, with 3 cabins on the upper deck featuring a double bed, and 6 cabins on the lower deck, each with two single beds. The boat has a capacity of **18 divers**. All cabins have private bathrooms and individual air conditioning.

On the main deck, you will find a spacious lounge-dining area where buffet-style meals are served. There is also a seating area with sofas and a TV where briefings take place, along with side tables for video and photo equipment and a battery charging area. The staircase leading to the lower deck cabins is located in the lounge area.

On the upper deck, you will find the bar with outdoor sofas, a public bathroom, and towards the bow, the bridge and the 3 upper cabins. From the bar, you can access the rooftop sun deck, which features 16 individual sun loungers.

The *MV Maldivian Dream* is equipped with a spacious 18-meter long Dhoni, fully designed for maximum comfort for the divers when dealing with the diving gear and moving towards the dive sites, which is characteristic of Maldives.



## Prices

	CENTRAL ROUTE 10D / 9N	8 ATOLLS ROUTE 15D / 14N
LOWER DECK	2.290 €	3.790 €
UPPER DECK	2.490€	3.990 €



*\*The price of the combined trip has been calculated based on exchange rates, fuel costs, and applicable taxes and fees at any given time. A substantial variation in the price of these elements could result in a revision of the final trip price.*

## What's included

- Male Airport Assistance.
- Transfers between Male Airport and the boat.
- Accommodation on board the MV Maldivian Dream in a shared double cabin with full board.
- Unlimited water, tea, and coffee.
- One complimentary glass of wine with every dinner.
- Up to **25 dives** on the Central Route and **40 dives** on Route 8 Atolls.
- **FREE Nitrox** (mandatory certification required).
- **Maximum of 18 passengers**, organized into small diving groups.
- Aluminum tanks S80/12L, weight belts.
- All government taxes and fees.
- Basic travel assistance insurance.

### MANDATORY DIVE EQUIPMENT:

1. Dive Computer
2. Surface Marker + Reel
3. Hook

## Not included

- Flights (Inquire for prices).
- Rental diving gear (mandatory to book in advance).
- S100/15L Aluminum Tank (mandatory to book in advance).
- Alcoholic beverages and soft drinks.
- Optional cancellation insurance and/or extended coverage.
- Dive insurance (**mandatory**).
- Tips.
- Anything not mentioned in "what's included".



## Payments

Payments will be made via bank transfer to the Ocean Dive Travel account:

- At the time of booking, a deposit of 25% of the total amount will be required.
- A payment of 40% of the total amount is due 4 months prior to the travel date.
- The full amount must be paid at least 60 days before the travel date.

The deposit payment of 25% of the total amount made for the reservation is NON-REFUNDABLE in case of cancellation by the client. If cancellation insurance has been purchased, the Insurance Company will be responsible for examining and processing the cancellation.

## Cancellation Policy

\* From 12 to 6 months before the trip departure: 25% of the total price + penalty amount established by the airline for the issued flight ticket, if applicable.

\* From 6 to 2 months before the trip departure: 60% of the total price + penalty amount established by the airline for the issued flight ticket, if applicable.

\* Less than 60 days before the trip departure: Cancellation will result in a 100% of the total price of the trip.

## Insurance

The trip includes basic assistance and accident insurance (does not include dive insurance). We recommend expanding the coverage of your insurance and adding cancellation insurance. Please consult us for more information.