



# Maldives

## YOUR DREAM DIVE DESTINATION

The beauty of the Maldives lie both above and below the water. Situated on the equator, the idyllic archipelago is 99% water and 1% land, boasting some of the most beautiful dive sites in the world. Coral reefs, rock pinnacles, channels, cleaning stations, caverns and overhangs are home to an incredible diversity of life underwater with over 2,000 diverse marine species. Accessible with perfect weather all year around, the Maldives is a paradise for beginner and seasoned divers.



SPOTS OF PHENOMENAL  
LESSER-KNOWN  
DOZENS OF



**>100s**  
*Dive sites*



**1,192**  
*Islands*

Hundreds of dive sites are scattered across the 1,192 isles of Maldives. The dive facilities situated in resorts, guest-house islands, hotels, and liveaboards are all equipped with modern diving gear, equipment, professional divemasters and certified instructors to make your diving dreams come true.



# Favourite Dive Spots

It is impossible to pinpoint the best dive spots. The dive sites in Maldives are abundant and scattered across the atolls. Ari Atoll, Baa Atoll, Vaavu Atoll, Kaafu Atoll, Fuvahmulah and Addu boast some of the most popular dive spots. Some of the notable dive spots include Banana Reef, Maaya Thila, Nassimo Thila, Kandooma Thila, Rainbow Reef, Cocoa Thila, Alimatha Jetty, Manta Point, Kuda Giri Wreck and Victory Wreck. However, there are dozens of phenomenal lesser-known spots across the entire archipelago.

Ask your accommodation for recommendations on which dive spots are accessible both in location and in comfort based on your capabilities. If you want to visit as many dive spots as possible, stay on a liveaboard and voyage across the Maldivian isles.

# Make it Extra Special

Diving in the Maldives is amazingly enchanting. You can immerse yourself in ancient underwater ecosystems that rival rainforests in biodiversity. You can encounter manta rays, turtles, whalesharks, and an incredible diversity of marine life during your dives in the Maldives. There are special spots in the Maldives. Hanifaru Bay, now protected from diving but open for snorkelling, is among them. When the conditions are right, huge schools of plankton congregate in the moon-shaped coral reef. When the tide leaves, the planktons get caught and then the real magic begins. The humble bay turns into a frenetic feeding ground for majestic manta rays. This is just one of the many magical spots in the Maldives.



# The Maldives Underwater

**Channel:** A pass where the atoll meets the ocean. A channel dive is also sometimes called a drift dive as you will drift with the incoming or outgoing current. Large pelagic fish such as sharks and manta rays may join the drift.



## Faru

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The Dhivehi name for reef. Both the outer reef of atolls and the house reef of islands can be called faru.

## Giri

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Ideal for novice divers, giri is a circular reef in which the top often reaches the surface.

## Thila

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Thila is essentially an underwater pinnacle that rises from the seafloor. They are home to soft corals, an abundance of marine life, colourful gorgonians and more.

## Lagoon

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Ideal for beginner scuba divers completing one of the beginner diving certificates.

## Best Times to Dive

The Maldives is perfect for diving all year round, but some seasons are more ideal than others for sighting some rare occurrences and marine animals. The waters of the Maldives are calm, warm, and ideal for diving, snorkelling and swimming.

### Jan - April

The ideal months for the best scuba diving. Visibility is very good, and it is the driest and warmest period.

### May - July

Considered the rainy season and can bring unstable weather. The abundance of plankton in the water can reduce visibility, but also brings plankton feeders like Manta Rays and Whale Sharks.

### Aug - Nov

The time to go for the best chance to gentle marine giants, with some reduced visibility approaching December. "Feeding season" for the whale sharks and manta rays is considered to be from May to November.



# Diving for All

The Maldives offers crystal clear waters and shallow dives for beginners looking for a taste of what diving is all about. Complete beginners can go on a discovery dive to begin their diving journey, accompanied by seasoned, trained and professional dive instructors. Safety is always a priority for us as we help you explore the beauty of the Maldives underwater. Remember, you don't need to dive deep to explore the beauty that lies beneath.

Geometric coral reefs and multicoloured marine life can be just a few metres below. Once you have a few dives under your belt and have completed a course such as an Open Water diving certificate, you can dive a bit deeper and begin to explore the many underwater environments of the Maldivian isles. Experienced divers can even go on exciting wreck dives and night dives.







## Checklist of Diving Experiences to add to your bucket list.

- Get your Open Water Licence in the Maldives.
- Take a dive tour across the Maldives Isles on a liveaboard, pick your favourite atolls and go!
- Go diving at Fish Head (aka Shark Point and Mushimasmingili Thila), and see if you can spot the elusive black corals or a secret underwater cave.
- Go Snorkelling in Hanifaru Bay and see the Manta's Cyclone Feeding cycle from up close; you will never forget this.
- Explore some of the most iconic shipwrecks in the Maldives: Victory Wreck, Vaavu Shipwreck, British Loyalty Wreck etc
- Try and spot the most unique marine life in the Maldives underwater; the Nudibranch, the Whale Shark, the Oriental Sweetlips, or a Ghost Pipefish.

Take a guided reef tour or night dive and learn about the reefs of the Maldives.



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Dive Map



Dive Locations