



DAY 1 (Monday)

Welcome to the Maldives. Atoll Explorer is anchored just off of Kurumba Maldives, a convenient 15 minutes from Male International Airport. A representative will greet you on arrival and assist you to the boat's private tender for your transfer.

This afternoon we will help get you checked into your cabin and complete a welcome briefing and introduction to your Atoll Explorer experience. This is an informal session where you will meet other guests, the dive team and the crew members who will assist you throughout your cruising holiday.

It is always pleasant to have a pre-dinner cocktail on the top deck and watch the sunset over the Indian Ocean. Dinner is served in the main dining room, and is always a social experience.

DAY 2 (Tuesday)

Maadhoo Picnic Island

In the morning, we leave our anchorage at Kurumba Maldives for a light cruise over to Maadhoo in the South Male Atoll. This uninhabited Picnic Island is approximately 1 km long and 150 meters wide with a picture perfect sand bar. Maadhoo has pleasant walking tracks and is well-vegetated. The white sandy beaches are idyllic, with a beautiful lagoon for a swim in the crystal clear water. There is good snorkelling around the island and the crew will point out our favourite sites. There are two transfers by Dhoni boats at 10.00-12.30 hrs and 1400-1630 hrs. for your convenience.

Diving : Loshfushi Canyon & Kandoomaa Thila

This morning we will complete our orientation dive at Loshfushi Canyon. This is a steep wall dive and is an amazing dive for white tip reef sharks, groupers, morays, lion fish, napoleon fish and many other species. In the afternoon, we will dive Kandoomaa Thila, a submerged reef shaped like a teardrop. Expect to see schools of big-eye trivally, eagle rays, sharks, blue fin jacks - this dive offers a full array of interesting marine life.

Underwater Marine Slide Show

The ocean is full of uncharted territory and of breathtaking natural wonders. This evening, our Dive Team from Euro Divers will present an introduction to marine life of the Maldives. They will reveal the vast variety of fish species, corals and vertebrates that make these turquoise waters home, and explain about the fragile ecosystem and co-existence of the underwater world.

DAY 3 (Wednesday)

Thelueligaa Island

Depart from Maadoo and cruise through to Thelueligaa Island. This Island is only 300 meters long and 150 meters wide. It has plenty of shade and is ideal for some more sunbathing, swimming or snorkelling. There are two transfer Dhonis being at 10.00-12.30 hrs and 1400-1630 hrs.

Diving : Kudimaa Wreck & Bat Fish Thila

This morning we will jump in at Kudimaa Wreck. This wreck is 57 meters long and is an old cargo boat sunk in 1997. The Kudimaa is still in good condition and is an interesting dive. Expect to see big school of fusiliers, lion fish, nurse shark and stingrays. In the afternoon, we will dive Bat Fish Thila. It is a submerged reef with interesting sea life. We should be looking out for scorpion fish, lion fish, turtles, white tip reef sharks and much more. The coral is quite spectacular, with both soft and hard corals in good condition.

Night Fishing Excursion

The Maldives offers the fishing enthusiast the opportunity to test their skills against the finest and fastest the Indian Ocean has to offer. Tonight's fishing trip is targeting reef fish with deep sea fishing techniques. Whilst we encourage the practice of "catch and release" and sustainable fishing practices, we are also happy to help out and take back fresh fish for the BBQ.

DAY 4 (Thursday)

Rai Dhigga Island

Depart from Thelueligaa to Rai Dhigga Island. Rai Dhigga is a magical little island with some of the best snorkelling on the cruise. This tends to be a very popular spot as we see many green and hawksbill turtles in these waters. It is well worth grabbing your snorkel gear and getting in the water, as the reef is in pristine condition. There are two transfers Dhonis at 10.00-12.30 hrs and 1400-1630 hrs for your convenience.

Diving : Rai Dhigga Thila & Lhamiyaru Gaa Thila

This morning, we will Dive Raidhiggaa Thila. There is simply an amazing amount of activity on this submerged reef. Expect to see white tip and grey reef sharks, eagle rays, bat fish, turtles, jack fish,. The over hangs are full of interesting marine life. In the afternoon, we will try our luck at Lhamiyaru Gaa Thila. We should keep our eyes open for painted crayfish, lobsters, white tip reef sharks, groupers, lion fish and lots of jacks, barracuda and rays.

We will do a night dive on Lhamiyaru Gaa Thila. Here we will see more lion fish, sea slugs, white tips and a very colour reef.

Local Dance Performance, Boduberu

Bodu Beru evolved among the Maldivians citizens as an alternative to court music. In the early days, the people gathered together to perform Bodu Beru, and it became widely accepted as the music of the Maldivian people. The performing of the music is often referred as "vibrating the island". A notable point about Bodu Beru is its noise and sometimes meaningless lyrics sung because it consists of a mixture of local, neighbouring and some African words. Today, meaningful songs written in the local language Dhivehi are sung to the rhythm of Bodu Beru.



DAY 5 (Friday)

Huruelhi Island

Depart from Rai Dhigga to the uninhabited Island of Huruelhi in the Alif Dhaal Atoll. This Island is 900 meters long and only 100 meters wide. You can walk all the way around the beach if you feel like stretching your legs. It is peaceful and perfect for a snorkel, a relaxing swim or spending some more time working on your tan. We have one transfer in the morning between 0900 hrs - 1100 hrs

Diving : Manta Point, Maamigili Reef & Kudadhoo Beyru

Today's dive just should not be missed. This morning we will be diving on Manta Point. On this steep wall dive, expect to see mantas, sharks, napoleon fish and all the other usual suspects. In the afternoon, we will be diving on Maamigili Reef. This is a sloping reef with a sandy bottom. We will be looking for whale shark, turtles, mantas and so much more. In the afternoon, we will dive Kudadhoo Beyru. A steep wall reef, we will be looking for numerous varieties of sharks, groupers, pelagic species and stingrays.

Ariadhoo – Whale Shark Watching Trip

This afternoon we are cruising to Ariadhoo. Whilst here, we will offer a Whale Shark watching trip. This will take us to the top of Maamigili. We are very lucky and have a better than 50% chance of seeing whale sharks in this area. Whilst in this area, we will stop off at Maamigili a local fishing village for some sightseeing and shopping for local arts and crafts. This tour is between 1330 – 1645 hrs.

BBQ Beach Dinner On Ariadhoo

Tonight at Ariadhoo we will set up for dinner under the stars on the beach. This is probably one of the favourite and most memorable evenings on our cruise. Our chefs will prepare a Maldivian beach BBQ whilst we enjoy the amazing beauty and a spot of stargazing.

Stargazing

During our beach dinner, we offer an informal star gazing session, as we are in one of the best areas in the world to view the skies above in all their splendour. As we are so close to the equator, you can see the constellations of both the northern and southern skies at the same time. What's more, with the nearest inhabited island 10 kilometres away, there's no light pollution to dim the celestial panorama. Our telescope will be available for you to enjoy throughout our beach dinner.

DAY 6 (Saturday)

Picnic Day Out On Ariadhoo

Today is a relaxing day on Ariadhoo. The Island's reef has some of the highest amount and variety of fish life and coral species. You will have the opportunity to see Moray eels and there is a strong potential for turtle sightings. The team will serve up a casual beach picnic – simply perfect with a cold beer or two.

Diving : Kudarah Thila & Maamigili Reef / Long Reef

The morning dive is on Kudarah Thila. This reef is a protected marine area. Expect to see large sea fans, the elusive squirrel fish, schooling banner fish and so much more. In the afternoon, we will dive Maamigili Reef or Long Reef. We are looking for the "Big Four" - whale sharks, manta rays, turtles and sharks - and yet there is so much more to this exciting dive.

Captain's Dinner & Presentation of New Fish Club Members

The Captain's dinner is held near the end of the week. If you are celebrating a special occasion, we will invite you to join the captain at his table. The dress code is informal, but most people make a special effort tonight or dress in traditional Maldivian attire. You can purchase a selection of Maldivian clothing from our retail shop. We do present our team as well as any new Fish Club members on this wonderful evening.

DAY 7 (Sunday)

Kurumba Island Resorts

We will make it back to Kurumba today, where you will be able to enjoy a bit of resort life after so many days of tropical island cruising. Go for a swim and relax by the pool, or have another snorkel at Kurumba's fantastic house reef. Perhaps the perfect end to the week would be to enjoy a treatment at The Spa at Kurumba. Alternately, you can use the gym and tennis courts if you are feeling energized. Kurumba offers a 20% discount to Atoll Explorer guests on F&B and Spa treatments and the gym and tennis courts are complimentary.

Malé Excursion

The capital city of Malé will be the final excursion of the cruise and this city offers you the opportunity to experience the history and culture of this humble island nation. Apart from observing interesting monuments and museums, you will also have an enjoyable shopping experience in the craft shops, local bazaar and markets as you pick up souvenirs to strengthen the memories of the previous week.

Live Band Entertainment On Board

Join us on the top deck and be entertained by our Maldivian live cover band on the last night of your cruise. This is a fun night to dance under the stars to the best of the 70's and 80's and celebrate the week that was, with our new friends.

DAY 8 (Monday)

The End Of A Cruise Week

A nice relaxing breakfast overlooking the Indian Ocean before we arrange your departure, whether to the airport or onward to another Island. For those staying on board for a second week, a day of pure relaxation awaits. Kurumba Resort beckons for an enjoyable day of spa, sports, sand and snorkelling.