



SPLASH



DIVE CENTER

Maldives Live-aboard: August 2011 11 days in the Indian Ocean (plus travel)

On
Board
August
4-14

Logistics....

- ❑ Leave DC Aug 1 (Mon), arrive Male Aug 3 (Wed): fly through Doha, Dubai, London, Paris, Frankfurt, Singapore, Sri Lanka, etc. Flights NOT included. Or, leave early, visit the world!
- ❑ Overnight Aug 3 (Wed) in Hulhule Island hotel, near Male airport; price NOT included, but we will make the arrangements for you if you request.
- ❑ Aug 4 (Th) and 14 (Sun) transfers to/from airport.
- ❑ Aug 4-14 on board the 125 foot Explorer Ventures *Carpe Vita*; brand new!
- ❑ All inclusive on board: private bath/shower in each cabin; three meals plus snacks and beverages; tanks/air/weights, **and free Nitrox**
- ❑ Leave Male Aug 14 (Sun), arrive DC Aug 15 (Mon)



- Two experienced and professional trip leaders and instructors, Mel and Ellie Briscoe, will ensure that everyone is taken care of and gets to dive their hearts out: expect 30+ dives on the trip! This is a perfect opportunity to dive day and night, and take training in almost any dive topic.
- Almost every specialty offered by PADI is available. Work on or complete Master Scuba Diver! Improve your underwater photography!
- Whale sharks and Manta rays possible, but not guaranteed....
- All dives in the Maldives are less than 100 feet in depth. A number of the dives are on sea mounts which rise from a bottom to a coral-encrusted, somewhat flat top which is usually between 10 and 50 feet.
- Deposits of \$1000 required. Interim Payments of an additional \$1000 due by February 1, 2011. Final Payments of \$2895/3095/3295 total due by May 1, 2011.
- Not included: air transportation, pre- or post-hotels, daily "hotel" tax (\$8/day), final-night dinner in Male, crew gratuities.
- **DAN Dive Insurance is required, Trip Insurance is strongly recommended.**

\$2895/3095
(2 cabin choices)
Airfare not included

Space is Limited! Sign up now!

- Trip and room availability and prices are subject to change without notice.
- Prices are per person based on double occupancy and availability.
- Deposits are 95% refundable until Jan 15, 2011.
- Deposits: \$1000; Interim Payment: +\$1000 by Feb 1, 2011
- Final Payments due May 1, 2011.

Questions? Call Mel Briscoe, 703-405-5800

For more information, contact:

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The Carpe Vita Explorer (see <http://explorerverventures.com/maldexp/>)

- ❑ The Carpe Vita Explorer accommodates 20 guests in 10 air-conditioned private staterooms. Six staterooms are on the lower deck and accommodate either a couple or singles easily (one queen & one twin bed in each), all have desk/chair, dresser, TV, hanging closet and private ensuite bathroom & shower.
- ❑ There are 2 staterooms on the main deck, again will accommodate either a couple or singles (either a queen or twin beds), both have desk/chair, dresser, TV, hanging closet, large windows and private ensuite bathroom & shower. There are 2 suites on the upper deck (either a king beds or twins), both have desk/chair, dresser, TV, large wardrobe, sitting area, large windows and private ensuite bathroom with dual sinks & shower/tub.
- ❑ The scheduled areas for diving are N. Male, Baa, Raa, N. Ari. Water temperatures 82-86 degrees. All diving from a 61 foot custom-built tender.
- ❑ Sample itinerary:
 - Thursday:** Male. Guests board vessel around 12 noon; lunch will be served around 1 pm; Captain's briefing, documents; check out dive. Cross to North Male from port approximately 2 ½ hr. 1 dive. Nighttime crossing to Baa Atoll, approximately 4 hr (as weather permits).
 - Friday-Saturday:** Baa, 4 dives daily, Nights spent anchored.
 - Sunday:** Baa, 1 dive; Raa, 3 dives. Night spent anchored.
 - Monday:** Raa, 1 dive; Baa, 3 dives. Night spent anchored.
 - Tuesday:** Raa, 2 dive; North Ari, 2 dives. Approximately 3 ½ hr crossing from Raa to North Ari after second dive. Night spent anchored.
 - Wednesday-Thursday:** North Ari. 4 dives daily. Nights spent anchored.
 - Friday:** North Ari, 2 dives; South Ari, 1 dive; North Ari, 1 dive. Approximately 3 ½ hr crossing from North Ari to South Male. Night spent anchored.
 - Saturday:** North Male, 1 dive. May have additional dives based on guest flight schedules and the 24 hour requirement before flying. Dinner ashore.
 - Sunday:** Depart the vessel by 8 am. Due to the necessity of readying the vessel for our next cruise, we must strictly enforce the 8 am departure.

Maldives in general

- More than 7,000 low lying coral islands in a 1,200 mile chain southeast of India, the Maldives is an amazingly beautiful dive destination. About 200 islands are inhabited and several are devoted entirely to small resorts that offer average to excellent tropical reef diving with big fish action. Year-round daily temperature is roughly 85°F (30°C) and there is abundant rainfall distributed evenly from May through December.
- The biggest attraction are the schools of fish that patrol the reefs in colorful packs: Humpback and Black and White Snappers, Trevally Jacks, Barracuda, Batfish, Unicornfish, Yellowback Fusiliers and Harlequin Sweetlips. This incredible marine life combines with exquisite coral covered backdrops to create many extraordinary dives.
- Some of the larger liveaboards operating in the Maldives may travel to the far north, to Baa Atoll, which offers completely unspoiled and adventurous diving. To add to your Maldivian experience, Baa Atoll has many large uninhabited islands to explore, there's nothing quite like the feel of walking along a palm fringed sandy beach with not a soul in sight.
- Alternatively, some boats may head south to Felidhu Atoll or west to Ari Atoll where you can enjoy some excellent shark and manta ray diving.
- There are three distinctly different types of diving in the Maldives: inside the atolls, outside the atolls and inside the channels or passes, where the currents are strongest and you'll find the greatest congregation of fish life. Most intriguing are the cleaning stations, found around every corner and under every ledge. Groupers, Snappers, Surgeonfish, Eels, Parrotfish, even Giant Napoleon Wrasse park casually in corners while armies of wrasse, shrimp and other assorted cleaners pick at debris in their open gills and cavernous mouths.