

# Sea Queen & Sea Spirit

## ON BOARD

### **The Saloon and Ship Shop**

Welcome aboard!! Please relax and make yourself at home - any activity resembling work is prohibited!

In the saloon area you will find a TV and DVD, which can be used to watch our small selection of DVDs or to playback any of your own video footage. Please don't hesitate to ask if you would like to make use of any of these facilities. In addition there is a CD player, so lets hear some of your easy listening!

There are storage and charging points for videos, cameras and lights. All power outlets are standard UK three pin with 220V output. If you need adaptors or extra outlets please let us know.

Complimentary tea, coffee, soft drinks and water from the cooler are available at any time; just help yourself. We have an honour system for beer, wine, spirits and bottled mineral water. Feel free to help yourself, please just mark down what you have taken on the sheet kept by the bar.

The interior of the boat is a dry area and so we do ask that you dry off before coming inside.

There is no smoking inside the vessel. We also ask that you do not smoke at meal tables or on the dive support boat. If you wish to smoke please do so at the stern or upstairs on the sun roof.

There is also a book exchange you are very welcome to use. Any donations of your own reading material, be it books, newspapers or magazines, are highly prized.

There are several marine life ID books, which we ask are kept on the boat and only used in the saloon, out of the wind and spray. But please use them at any time.

T-shirts, polo shirts, reef hooks, a DVD of your safari and other souvenirs may be purchased from the ship shop at any time. Any items purchased throughout your trip will be added to the bar sheet and payment taken at the end of the safari.

Payment of your bill can be made in US dollars cash or credit/debit card. Sorry, but we are unable to take switch/solo/maestro cards.

### **Cabins**

All cabins are air-conditioned. To ensure that your cabin remains cool, please keep all doors and portholes closed. Alternatively, if you find that your cabin is too cold, leave the portholes or the bathroom door open. Please do remember to make sure that all portholes are closed securely when the boat is travelling. In rough sea or weather, water can drench your bed which is very uncomfortable - please avoid this by making sure that you close your portholes when not in the cabin.

The hot and cold showers are fresh water and are activated by pushing the disc. The water will flow for approximately a minute before it cuts out automatically. We do have a very efficient water maker on board, however please assist us by using fresh water conservatively! To adjust the water temperature, twist the disc, moving the red dot towards the top to increase the water temperature.

We recommend that guests bring soft bags rather than hard suitcases. All cabins have hanging wardrobe and under-bed storage space. The guest cabins are totally separate from the working sections of the boat and are cleaned each day while guests are diving. Bed sheets and bath towels are provided and changed once a week (guests should bring their own beach towels).

The toilets are flush toilets and use seawater. All the waste goes into a holding tank. All paper waste (including sanitary towels, etc) must be placed in the bins provided. If you haven't eaten it - don't flush it!

There are lifejackets and blankets in your cupboards and space underneath the beds for your luggage. As with anything else, if you do require additional storage or have any questions or difficulties whatsoever, please approach your Cruise Directors.

### **Foredeck, Stern and Sun Decks**

Weather permitting, lunch and dinner will be served outside on the main table on the foredeck. As this area generally faces into the wind and we also ask that the foredeck is a no smoking area. Smoking on all other deck areas is fine but please remember to use ashtrays!

Along both port and starboard sides of the boat are railings that you can use to hang wet clothing and towels. Be sure to secure any loose articles, even when the weather appears calm. You will find deckchairs and sun mats stored on the sundeck. We do ask that these are replaced after use to prevent them flying away!

The stern area contains rinse tubs for camera and video equipment and also fresh and salt water showers for people. If you do want to go for a swim to cool off, this is just the place to do it - just let us know so that we don't leave without you!

Crew cabins and the engine room at the stern are off limits.

## **ACTIVITIES ON BOARD**

### **Diving**

In order to make the most of the weather, sea and diving conditions, the boat does not have a fixed route - our itinerary is left flexible. The boat does not travel during the night due to the difficulty of navigating the many reefs, so usually anchors late in the afternoon, moving between dives.

The dive sites are chosen to ensure you experience a range of diving and sites with regard to the experience levels within the group, strength and direction of the wind and currents, seasonal influences and which sites are 'working'. It is always our aim to show you the best of the Maldives! A typical day on board would run along the following lines although timings may be flexible:

06:30 Wake up call; coffee, tea and biscuits  
06:50 Dive Briefing  
07:00 Depart for Dive 1  
09:00 Breakfast  
10:50 Dive Briefing  
11:00 Depart for Dive 2  
13:00 Lunch  
14:50 Dive Briefing  
15:00 Depart for Dive 3  
16:30 Afternoon Tea  
19:30 Dinner

We aim to provide three dives per day. However occasionally, due to bad weather or ocean crossings, this may not be possible. Night dives are usually arranged for those areas that can provide good and safe night diving. Where these are arranged they are generally done as the third dive of the day.

Snorkelling in the Maldives can be fantastic, so jump in whenever you get the urge to do so. Just remember to let one of us know so that we are still here on your return. Be careful of sunburn!

### **Going Ashore**

Local islands can be visited to see something of the way the people of the Maldives live. Please remember that all Maldivians are Muslim and so we would ask that you dress modestly when

visiting local islands: a minimum of long shorts and T-shirts covering the shoulders for both men and women. Take a few US dollars if you wish to browse through the souvenir shops. Most resorts do not allow liveaboards to use their facilities - however one or two do let us go ashore for drinks, which we may do during the safari. Dress is casual, no shoes, and take some US dollars to pay for drinks. Depending on your schedule and flight departure time, a visit to Male, the capital of the Maldives, is usually made at the end of your safari. Again, please dress modestly.

### **Dolphin Spotting**

Keep an eye out for dolphins and whales when we cross between atolls or cruise the ocean side. Spinner and Common Dolphins are often seen but just about anything can show up in these waters - we've seen many species of whales including Killer Whales, Pilot Whales and Sperm Whales.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Special Requests**

If you have any special requests, or even a simple query, please see your cruise directors. Please let them know immediately of any problems so we can remedy them quickly. Please feel free to give us your thoughts on how we can make your trip even better.

### **Tipping**

As elsewhere in the world, it is customary to tip on liveaboards in the Maldives and both the local crew and the Cruise Directors work very hard to ensure your stay is comfortable and enjoyable. As a guide, an average tip for the local crew is a minimum of US\$60 per guest for a 7 day trip/US\$100 per guest for a 12 day trip. Any tip for the Cruise Directors is at your own discretion. It is customary for this to be collected and presented by the guests to the Captain. Envelopes will be provided for tips at the end of the safari.

### **Disembarkation**

If your departing flight leaves in the early hours of the morning, you will normally have dinner on board and then transfer to the airport for a late night check-in. For those guests remaining on board for the last night, we serve a light breakfast and transfer you back to the airport at around 08:30am. If your departing flight is later in the day, you may choose to pre-book a day room at the airport hotel or pay a small fee locally to use their facilities.

### **Safari & Island Combinations**

If you have booked a stay on an island after your liveaboard trip, you will need to return to the airport for your transfer to the island. At the end of your liveaboard trip, the Cruise Director will liaise with our Maldives Agent to establish what time you should be taken to the airport for your transfer. Please understand that we have no control over the transfer arrangements to the islands - the transfer can take time, so be relaxed and remember you're on holiday!

## **DIVING SAFETY ABOARD MALDIVES SCUBA TOURS LIVEBOARDS**

### **Solo Diving**

As a responsible dive center we cannot sanction the practice of "Solo Diving". It is each divers responsibility to dive with a buddy and to adhere to the accepted buddy diving practice. We do respect that experienced divers and photographers often linger. Our Dive Staff will do their best to make sure you are seen at all times during the dives - in effect providing buddy support. However, the dive staff will assess the conditions and demands on them, and let you know if they can or cannot offer you adequate support. You must dive as per the instruction of the Dive Staff.

### **Dive Qualifications**

You must take proof of your diving qualifications with you. Due to the advanced nature of liveaboard diving, you should hold a full PADI Advanced Open Water qualification or equivalent. If you hold only an Open Water certificate or equivalent, you can still enjoy a holiday on our liveaboards on the understanding that you agree to upgrade your certificate while on board. If you do not, you may not be able to undertake all the planned diving and you will be restricted in your

depth (18m). Our on board dive staff are fully qualified instructors and they will be happy to offer further training and a full range of specialty courses, including nitrox. Training cannot be guaranteed as it is subject to the prevailing conditions or the availability of dive instructors. Some courses need to be pre-booked - see "Sales & Services" section.

### **Depth Limit**

You are advised that the Maldives authorities have a local restriction that no one should dive below 30m. It is your responsibility to monitor your depth and dive within the level of your qualifications. You should never dive below 40m which is the recognized international maximum depth for recreational scuba diving.

### **Monitor your Air**

It your responsibility to always monitor your own air supply and make sure that you do not run out of air. The accepted minimum air pressure at which a dive should be ended and ascent made is 50 Bar. You should never surface with less than 30 Bar. Always make sure you have enough air to conduct a proper, slow ascent and allow for a 3 minute shallow water safety stop.

### **Decompression Diving**

It is not allowed to plan any dive knowing you are going to have to make decompression stops. You should also avoid going into decompression during any dive. Please always make at least a 3 minute safety stop on every dive. The only exception to this is if you have lost contact with the reef, the group or your buddy. In this instance you should make your normal ascent, observing any forced decompression stops, and get on the surface as quickly as possible to avoid drifting away from the surface cover boat.

### **Use of Diving Computers**

It is essential that each diver has their own computer and they dive with the same computer at all times. A proper record of all your dives should be kept and a record sheet is provided for you to complete after each dive. It is your responsibility to complete this record accurately. If you do not have your own computer, the boat has them for hire. If you have to change computers and a safety period is deemed necessary by the dive staff, please respect this - it is for your own safety. You should inform the dive staff if your computer fails or if you have to change your computer during the trip. If you miss a decompression stop or you make a rapid ascent or your computer show an error, you should make the dive staff aware of this as soon as possible and definitely before diving again. If you feel unwell after any dive or at any time thought your trip, for whatever reason, please inform the dive staff as soon as possible and definitely before you go diving.

### **Nitrox/Rebreather Diving**

If you are qualified to dive using an enriched air gas (nitrox or rebreather), it is your responsibility to check the contents of your cylinder prior to any dive. You must sign the nitrox log book for every dive that you undertake using a mixed gas.

### **Surface Flags**

Every diver is given a safety flag as a means of attracting attention to themselves should they feel unseen while on the surface. It is not always easy for the cover boat to see a diver in the water, so always extend this flag if you feel the cover boat has not seen you. It is important to do this as soon as you reach the surface - in particular if you have unexpectedly surfaced early from a dive or you have become separated from the main group, your buddy or the reef. Please always make sure you have a flag on your tank before every dive. If you have alternative means of attracting attention, please also use this.

### **Currents / Drift Diving**

While we want you to enjoy your diving with as much freedom as possible, you must be aware that the Maldives is a place of strong currents and tidal flow. It is very important to respect the strength of the current and remember that you must follow the instruction of the dive brief (eg. "please keep the reef on the right, or left"). If you don't, you may find yourself swept into dangerous shallow water where breaking waves may occur and the cover boat is not able to pick you up. Or you may be swept out to sea, the cover boat will be expecting to find you on the reef and you may get lost!

Please always attend the dive briefs, pay attention to the instruction given and obey them. If you become separated from the main group, your buddy or lose sight of the reef, please surface and abort the dive. Please remember the Maldives has only 12 hours of daylight per day and we do not get long twilight evenings - at 6:30 pm it is dark and navigation is very dangerous, so when diving at anytime please don't take the currents for granted.

### **Night diving**

You must always make sure you have a suitable torch and preferably a back up light with you. Should either torch fail during a dive you should always surface and abort the dive. Please listen to the briefing very carefully, there will be special instructions concerning night diving (eg. "do not shine torches into the eyes of the boat captains as it will hamper their night vision"). Please advise the dive staff if you have not done a night dive before. Night dives are always planned by the dive staff in conjunction with the captain and with consideration for the conditions. It is their final decision if the conditions or any other factors at the time mean that it is not suitable to night dive. Please respect this.

## **GENERAL SAFETY ON BOARD**

### **Hot Drinks**

Be careful when moving around with hot drinks!

### **Out of Bounds**

Please note that the kitchen and crew areas are out of bounds. Passengers should not go onto the stern platform when the boat is underway or use the sundeck in rough conditions. Please act as directed by the crew.

### **Alcohol**

It is well known that you should not dive under the influence of alcohol. We ask that you respect this but, while we want you to enjoy your holiday and have a beer or a glass of wine at the end of the diving day, please note if our dive staff feel you have had too much alcohol then they will ask you to refrain from diving. It is their duty to do this and it is for your own safety. If you want to dive then you should avoid drinking any alcohol during the day.

### **Flooding**

If you go to your cabin and find water lapping at your feet, please go and tell the captain or a member of crew immediately. Do not go back down into your cabin. Alert other passengers that may be below at the time and assemble on the foredeck or as instructed by the staff. You may be asked to put on a life jacket - please act as instructed by the crew.

### **Fire**

If you suspect a fire or find a fire, please shut the door (if the fire is in a cabin), raise the alarm and tell the crew immediately. Do not try to put it out. Do not go back down into your cabin. Move to the foredeck area (assembly point). If you see other passengers please alert them to the danger. If a fire occurs in the saloon and it is not possible to use the main stair well, please use the emergency foredeck escape hatch in the main companion way. An access ladder is located on the wall, remove it, place it against the hatch, open the hatch, get out as quickly as possible and assist others if necessary. Do not block this hatch way or remove the ladder at anytime other than for use in an emergency.

### **Man Overboard**

If you see someone fall off the boat please shout for attention to any member of the crew or guests on the boat. Please keep your eye on the man overboard and point to them. Only leave your station if you can't get anyone's immediate attention. If the boat is underway, it is important that it stops as quickly as possible, but try your very best not to lose sight of the man overboard whilst raising the alarm. Throw a life ring into the water as soon as possible - it might not reach them but it will help mark the place where they fell overboard.

### **Stairwells**

Boats can move unexpectedly! Always face the stairs when going up and down and hold the hand rails. Please don't walk up and down stairs loaded down with kit and always have a free hand to hang on. Please note - boat stairs are often of much great pitch than domestic stairs so please be careful!

### **Swimming**

Please do not jump off the boat or go swimming without seeking permission from the captain or one of the dive staff. We need to know who is on board at all times and we don't want passengers swimming when the boat is maneuvering.

### **Transferring Between Boats**

When transferring from the main vessel to the dive boat please take great care, act as instructed by the crew and never jump between boats. Pass any camera or equipment to the crew first and always have both hands free to steady or support yourself. Never try to fend off the boats. Never put your hands/arms between the boats when they are coming along side.

### **Personal Belongings**

Do not leave electrical items or books laying around the boat - please take them into the saloon or into your cabin. It can rain unexpectedly and things left on deck may get wet or be blown away!

### **Summary**

It is understood by all divers and passengers who dive with Maldives Scuba Tours, that you are ultimately responsible for your own conduct with regard to your personal safety and the safety of other passengers - either above or below the water. Our staff will always carry out a risk assessment of every situation (a dive, a snorkel, a visit ashore, etc) and advise you of the conditions by way of briefing. It is up to your personal judgment as to whether you are properly qualified to conduct the dive or activity in question. You should never attempt to dive or join in any activity without first attending a "briefing". Our staff are there to act as "dive guides" and make your holiday as diverse and as enjoyable as possible, they will do their utmost to maintain the highest levels of safety as they see fit to any given situation. They cannot do this without your co-operation and understanding of the conditions and respect for their decision. It is only correct that their decision is final and you must abide by their assessment.

### **Recreational Drugs**

It is illegal to take any kind of recreational drugs in the Maldives. If you are found to be breaking this law, you will be banned from diving and referred to the national police. We cannot accept any compensation claims from you or any member of your party.

## **CONSERVATION**

### **Handling of Wildlife**

We ask all divers/snorkellers not to touch the fish, coral or flora life. It might be tempting to ride the whale shark, manta or turtle but, if you do, they will swim away and your fellow divers will be very upset with you!

### **Gloves**

Maldives Scuba Tours has the highest regard for the underwater world and we do not want to see bad diving practice. Therefore we ask wherever possible NOT to wear gloves. The waters of the Maldives are very warm and the need to wear gloves cannot be justified for thermal protection. If passengers choose to wear gloves we must insist that they refrain from handling wildlife or touching the reefs/corals. We would greatly encourage the use of "reef hooks" and "steady stick / pointers" which are available on board for hire or purchase and instruction in their use will be given willingly by the on board dive staff.

If divers are seen NOT to be taking due care and are damaging the reefs, then the guides can insist that they only continue to dive without gloves. These rules are there to respect your wishes

as divers and also the reefs of the Maldives which we all want to enjoy for many years to come.

### **Rubbish**

Please note we are committed to keeping our oceans clean. All the non bio-degradable waste from our boats is placed in bags and taken to the government land fill sites. We would ask that you do your best to reduce the amount of rubbish you personally make during any trip. Please do not throw any non bio-degradable items into the sea - place them in the rubbish bins provided. Please support us by taking home your bottles of shampoo, sun-cream, etc - even if they are empty! These are very difficult items to dispose of in the Maldives.

### **Whale Shark Alley, Southern Ari Atoll**

- If a whale shark is spotted the boat will be positioned no less than 25 meters away from the shark.
- Snorkellers must get into the water as quietly and as orderly as possible following the guide to the whale shark.
- For your own safety, never find yourself alone, always stay with the group or at least with one other snorkeller.
- Once passengers are clear of the boat, the boat must carefully move away from the area, keeping a good distance from the shark and snorkellers but still in contact so as to offer safety cover for the snorkellers. The boat crew must keep constant observation of its party at all times.
- Once in the water and near a shark, stay at least 3 meters away from the shark and a strict "no touching" policy is enforced. Anyone found touching the shark will be told to leave the water.
- It is to your advantage never to swim directly in front of the shark as this behavior invokes it to dive and finish the encounter. Also do not swim over the top of the shark as this has the same effect.
- Keep your body position flat on the surface and try not to tread water close to a shark. Be mindful of your fins not only towards the shark but also toward the other people in the water with you - a knock on the head from a vigorous fin stroke can hurt a lot.
- If a shark swims towards you and you cannot easily move away, lie flat on the surface like a starfish, arms and legs spread, and do not fin or move until the shark has passed you. Please do not duck dive or free dive, stay on the surface.
- Photographers, please remember that you have zoom facility if you want a close up. Please respect these guide lines and do not get too close. Remember life exists outside your view finder.
- It is important to note that you will be swimming in the open ocean and there is no convenient reef to hang on to. Should you get tired or exhausted, stop swimming and rest, it is hard work swimming alongside an 8 meter whale shark moving at 2 knots! Don't over stress yourself.
- You should be confident in the water and at snorkelling, always assess the condition of the weather and sea state and enter only if you feel comfortable with the conditions and your own ability.
- If you want or need to exit the water move at least 30 meters away from the shark and other snorkellers and signal to the boat with one arm held high, then the cover boat will approach you. It is very important when the boat approaches that you always stay on the surface, never duck dive in front of the boat or swim towards the boat - the boat will come to you. Stay as close together as possible so the boat has just one point to approach.

### **Hanifaru Lagoon, Baa Atoll**

The amazing Hanifaru Lagoon has officially been made a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve; The UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves covers internationally-designated protected areas, known as Biosphere Reserves, which strive to demonstrate a balance between humans and nature and encourages sustainable development. This is good news for the conservation of Hanifaru and the Manta and Whale Sharks that feed there, however, the inclusion of the lagoon into the world of UNESCO isn't such good news for us as scuba divers. But all is not bad news...

Currently the situation, as we understand, is that from 1st Jan 2012 scuba diving in the lagoon will no longer be permitted and visitors will only be allowed to snorkel. For the rest of this year, 2011, we are still allowed to dive in the lagoon but there are a number of Marine Park rules which must be obeyed. The main rules are that there are to be no more than 5 boats allowed to enter the lagoon at any one time. Entrance is via a dedicated channel and a place of anchor, divers will have

to swim back and forth from the anchored boat into the lagoon, as the boats are not allowed to move into the lagoon for safety reasons, unless in an emergency. Entry is on a first-come-first-served basis and if there are more than five boats wanting access, then boats are only allowed to stay for one hour, giving 45 minutes dive time. The lagoon will be monitored by official Park Rangers, who will be there to ensure boats and divers behave. They will have the power to fine boats and divers as well as refuse entry. To ease congestion, resort based clients are allowed access to the lagoon on even days of the month and safari boat based clients on odd days. Obviously, there is a strict no touch policy being introduced. Starting from the 01st January 2012 the Park Rangers will officially adopt the lagoon and only snorkeling will be allowed. We understand that all access will only be by an official Park Ranger vessel, which will operate from the local island of Daravandhoo, and there will be a Marine Park Fee of approx \$35 per person. We understand that Baa Atoll resorts have voluntarily already agreed to introduce the Park Fee and only allow snorkeling for this year.

As the Marine Park Authority release further information we will keep you updated. While Hanifaru lagoon has been the place of many great encounters over the years for our clients of Whale Shark and Mantas, please remember it's not the only place to see them. Fortunately for us the Maldives is, and remains, a fantastic place to dive and snorkel and throughout the 700 km of 26 atolls there are many places where one can regularly encounter Mantas and Whale Sharks. So, don't think its Hanfaru or nothing!

## **SALES AND SERVICES ON BOARD**

### **Bar**

Coffee, tea and soft drinks and drinking water (from the cooler) are complimentary. Beer, spirits, wines and bottled water can be marked down on the bar sheet and paid for at the end of your safari. Please mark down all drinks that you take from the fridge on the sheet provided, this also includes soft drinks to assist us with stock control. Wine is also available on request, just ask one of your Cruise Directors.

Beer	\$4	
Spirits	\$5	
Wine from	\$27	
Water	\$2	(1.5ltr bottle)
Water	Free	(from water dispenser)

### **Dive Equipment Hire**

If you need to hire any equipment (BCD, regulator, dive computer or mask/fins/snorkel), please let us know prior to your departure from the UK - otherwise we cannot guarantee that equipment will be available for you on arrival to the Maldives. Please note that wetsuits are not available for hire so please make sure you have your own.

On arrival to the boat you will be asked to complete and sign a hire agreement confirming that you accept responsibility for any loss or damage. You will be supplied with a 12ltr tank and weights/weight-belt as part of your package. We have adaptors on board for DIN and International fittings.

	<u>Hire prices:-</u>
BCD	\$8 per day
Regulator	\$8 per day
Computer	\$8 per day
Mask, Fins, Snorkell	\$8 per day
Torch (including batteries)	\$6 per day (\$11/week, extra batteries \$6)
15ltr tank*	\$11 per day

*\* please request in advance of your arrival and note that availability cannot be guaranteed.*

Nitrox fills (32%)	\$8 per fill
3ltr 100% O2, 130 Bar	\$17 per fill
Scrubber material	Price on application

#### Ship Shop:-

Poloshirt	\$34
T-Shirt	\$27
Baseball Cap	\$17
Reef Hook	\$33
Steady Stick	\$22
DVD of your trip	\$80
Book/Maps	Please ask

#### **Dive Courses**

If you wish to upgrade your diving qualifications or learn something new, a range of PADI dive courses are available on board and can be completed during the course of the safari. Course materials/manuals are provided at relevant cost on board or you can bring your own. The PADI certification card is an additional \$39 per course. Upon successful completion, the course PIC will be submitted to PADI and you will receive your formal qualification via mail.

#### **PADI Advanced Open Water Diver - \$258 + \$39 Cert (Must be pre-arranged via MST office)**

A practical introduction to new and exciting areas of diving. The course involves 5 open water dives, with a deep dive and a navigation dive and 3 elective dives in areas that are of interest to you. The elective dives can be chosen from the following:

- o Wreck diver
- o Drift diver
- o Multi-level diver
- o Underwater naturalist
- o Fish ID

#### **PADI Underwater Videographer - \$193 + \$39 Cert**

An introduction to the use of video underwater. Practical sessions will guide you through techniques that can help capture amazing footage to help remember your trip and inspire others to take the plunge. You will also learn how to care for your camera and housing to ensure a long and fruitful relationship. After completing the dives a brief look at editing will give you an insight into how to turn raw footage into a slick movie. The course involves 2 open water dives and the cost includes use of video equipment.

#### **PADI Underwater Photographer - \$193 + \$39 Cert**

A similar structure to the Underwater Videographer course, but with the emphasis on capturing still images. This course also involves 2 dives and the cost includes use of camera equipment and a disc containing the images you have taken.

#### **PADI Deep Diver - \$161 + \$39 Cert**

Take the plunge and learn some additional techniques for those deep dives. You will spend time looking at how to safely plan and make no-decompression dives to a depth of up to 40m. The course involves 4 open water dives completed over at least 2 days. You must be qualified as a PADI Advanced Open Water Diver or equivalent to take this course

#### **PADI Drift Diver - \$107 + \$39 Cert**

One of the big attractions of diving in the Maldives is the currents. If you are unfamiliar with the techniques involved, why not take the Drift Diver specialty and learn about them in detail. The course involves a theory session during which all aspects of drift diving are explored. Following this we will complete 2 open water dives where we will put the theory into practice. In addition to the standard course material, we will also spend time looking at how to use a reef hook.

#### **PADI AWARE Fish Identification - \$107 + \$39 Cert**

Ever wondered just how many of those fish you see on a dive you can actually identify? This course will introduce you to the most common families and species of fish found in temperate and tropical waters around the world. We then complete 2 open water dives in which we will look at

fish families and species found in the Maldives and look at how to identify them.

**PADI Nitrox - \$172 + \$39 Cert**

Trains you in the ability to use nitrox (enriched air) up to 40% O2 mix. Nitrox is recognised as a aid to minimizing your decompression and maximizing your safety.

**PADI Underwater Navigator Course - US\$139 + US\$39 Cert**

Underwater navigation can be challenging, but in the PADI Underwater Navigator Speciality course, you master the challenge. You learn navigation patterns, natural navigation, compass navigation, how to 'mark' or relocate a submerged object or position from the surface, underwater map making, how to follow irregular courses with the nav-finder, dive site relocation and how to estimate distance underwater.

**PADI Underwater Naturalist Course - US\$107 + US\$39 Cert**

Look closer to see more on your next dive. Look for symbioses, predator/prey and other relationships between aquatic plant and animal life. Learn not just what fish and animals are, but how they interact with each other and the environment. Learn the major aquatic life groupings, factual information that dispels negative myths, the role of aquatic plants, food chains, responsible interactions with aquatic life and the underwater naturalists view of organisms and their roles in the environment.

**PADI Project AWARE - US\$85 + US\$39 Cert**

Project AWARE Foundation is the scuba diving industry's leading non-profit environmental organisation dedicated to conserving the aquatic environment through education, advocacy and action. Learn about the ocean commons and coastal zone issues, fisheries challenges, sustainability, coral environment overview and inhabitants, and the role of the scuba diver in protecting aquatic environments.

**PADI Night Diver Course - US\$139 + US\$39 Cert**

Introduce yourself to a whole new world and see your favourite dive sites from a whole new perspective at night. You learn night dive planning, organisation, procedures, techniques, potential problems, how to control your bouyancy at night, entries, exits, underwater navigation at night and you will find out about different nocturnal aquatic life.

**PADI AWARE Coral Reef Conservation Course - US\$139 + US\$39 Cert**

This course teaches you about the vital role of coral reefs in the marine environment. Learn about the Project AWARE Foundation, the current state of the world's coral reefs, how coral reefs function, why they are so important, why many reefs are in serious trouble and what you can do to prevent further decline.

**ALL THE ABOVE ADVANCED DIVER TRAINING COURSES CAN BE BOOKED ON BOARD WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE PADI ADVANCED WHICH MUST BE PRE-BOOKED.**

All prices and availability are subject to change without notice.