

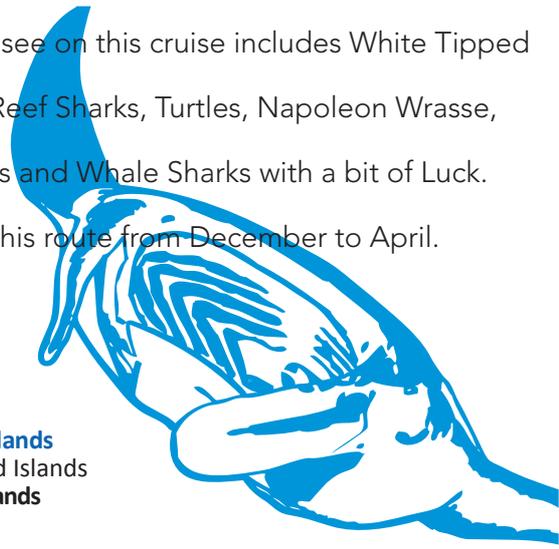
**DIVE SITES**

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Kurumba Faru        | 16. Bodu Finolhu Thila |
| 2. Vellasaru Caves     | 17. Maamagili Beyru    |
| 3. Miyaru Kandu        | 18. Dhigu rah Beyru    |
| 4. Kuda Giri           | 19. Kuda Rah Thila     |
| 5. Cocoa Corner        | 20. Hudhu Thila        |
| 6. Kandooma Thila      |                        |
| 7. Guraidhoo Corner    |                        |
| 8. Rani Kan            |                        |
| 9. Bathalaa Maagaa Kan |                        |
| 10. Maaya Thila        |                        |
| 11. Hafsa Thila        |                        |
| 12. Fish Head          |                        |
| 13. Dhigaa Thila       |                        |
| 14. Kalha handi hura   |                        |
| 15. Rangali Madivaru   |                        |

**Tasmania PRINCESS**  
**Diving Route**  
**(South Male' & Ari Atoll)**

Ari Atoll is the most famous atoll for diving in the Maldives for its variety and Big Fish. South Male' is famous for its channels. Dive sites include mostly Pinnacles (thila's) with good coral growth and abundant fish life, Channel fronts/ Corners for large pelagics and Outside Reefs. Some of the marine life you will see on this cruise includes White Tipped Reef Sharks, Grey Reef Sharks, Turtles, Napoleon Wrasse, Eagle Rays, Manta's and Whale Sharks with a bit of Luck. It is best to follow this route from December to April.

**Giraavaru= Resort Islands**  
**Alikoi rah= Unihibited Islands**  
**Vilingilli= Inhibited Islands**



## DIVE CRUISE ITINERARY

### Route (South Male & Ari Atoll)

#### Day 1

Anchor point: Outside Kurumba

Dive 1: Kurumba Housereef/Back Faru  
(Check Dive)

Remarks: Check dive if arrival not later than  
1300Hrs

#### Day 2

Anchor point: Vellasaru

Dive 1: Vellasaru Caves  
Dive 2: Miyaru Kanduu/Kuda Giru  
Dive 3: Guraidhoo Corner

#### Day 3

Anchor point: Guraidhoo

Dive 1: Kandooma Thila

\*Cross the channel to Ari

Dive 2: Bathalaa Maagaa Kan

Dive 3: Maaya Thila

Dive 4: Maaya Thila (Night)

\*4 dives possible only if the weather allows  
it.

#### Day 4

Anchor point: Maaya fushi Region

Dive 1: Hafsa Thila

Dive 2: Fish Head

Dive 3: Dhigaa Thila

BBQ on Desert Island

#### Day 5

Anchor point: Raiydhigaa

Dive 1: Kalhahandhi Hura

Dive 2: Rangali Madivaru

Dive 3: Bodu Finolhu Thila/Maamagili  
Corner

#### Day 6

Anchor point: Maamagilli

Dive 1: Dhiffushi Beyru

Dive 2: Dhigurah Beyru

Dive 3: Kuda Rah Thila

\*focus will be on to spot whale sharks on  
the surface to snorkel, also dives will be on  
outside reefs with possibility of seeing the  
gentle giants underwater.

#### Day 7

Anchor point: Dhigurah/Dhangethi

Dive 1: Broken Rock/Hudhu Thila

Remarks: Dive only if you have minimum  
pre-flight of 24hrs.

\*Cruise back to Male'

Excursion to the Capital Male'

#### Day 8

Departure...

The above Itinerary is just to give you an idea of the routes we follow and dive sites. The route will be discussed on your arrival, we will consider your preferences, weather and seasons to offer you an unforgettable diving experience.

## Route (South Male' and Ari Atoll)

### *Top Dive sites:*

#### *Guraidhoo Corner*

One of the most famous dive sites in the Maldives has everything to offer what a diver demands.

Pretty flowing inside currents can deliver a variety of pelagic, from white tip, grey reef, thresher and hammerhead sharks, to schools of eagle rays, sailfish, large tunas, barracudas and wahoo. Diving with the current outside the Atoll gives a chance to see large schools of red snappers, jackfish and oriental sweet lips.

At one particular spot where the bottom of the channel makes a dip, large grey reef and white tip reef sharks hover around for easy breathing.

Overhangs at 20m depth with gorgonian fans, spiky and brittle soft corals lead to the corner where curious surgeon fishes play with the bubbles produced by the divers.

On the shallower reefs, schools of orange spine unicorn fishes, together with parrot fishes feed primarily on the leafy brown algae's while large schools of fusiliers move in the fast lane in search for something else edible.

#### *Kandooma Thila*

Is regarded as one of the best dives in the world under any circumstance, whether there is a strong or medium inside, slight or strong outside current or no water movement at all. This thila rises up from the bottom of the channel between Kandooma Island and Cocoa Island.

The top reef, close to the Indian Ocean drop off, starts at 26 meters and elevates after a 200 m stretch inside the channel to 14 m. of depth. Covered with stag horn and large table corals and large builder coral blocks function as cleaning stations for a variety of reef fish. At the shallower part many large green turtles lay comfortably between the rich soft corals.

Grey reef and white tip reef sharks, barracudas, tons of jack fish, large napoleon, sailfish, sting and eagle rays, red snappers, you name it, it is all there in large amounts.

#### *Maaya Thila*

One of the richest and most vibrant reefs in the Maldives, the thila is about 80 meters in diameter. The top of the reef starts at six meters, sloping to 12m, before dropping to beyond 30m. Caves, overhangs and ledges are found all along the reef wall. Millions of anchovies disperse and regroup to form a variation of shapes stealing the show from the Grey sharks and their companions the Rainbow Runners. While schools of Snappers and Batfish hover beneath coral trees.

Maaya Thila is also an excellent site for a night dive. After dark, predators swing into hunting mode. Sharks seem to zoom in from every direction. Their sense of urgency and frantic search for prey are felt in wave after wave of electrifying melee. Moray eels are seen leaving their holes to search for food. Octopuses are sighted in ambush position for a shellfish in passing.

### *Hafsa Thila*

Hafsa Thila is in the middle of the Atoll. You can easily circumnavigate the thila during one dive, but take your time. There are nice overhangs on each side, in which you can find stingrays, morays and scorpion fish. Don't stay too long in the deep area, because the top reef is not very shallow (10 – 12m) and you might run out of time! Save some time for the top reef, there are very nice hard corals! With stronger currents you could have grey reef sharks cruising in the current and can be watched like on TV.

### *Fish Head*

Locate near dhonmigili this site is a protected marine area. The top of the thila starts at 10 meters and drops to over 30 meters. About 80 meters in diameter it can be circumnavigated in one dive if the current is favourable.

On the North west side interesting overhangs with black coral bushes and sea fans can be found at a depth of 15 meters.

The main highlight of this side is big Napoleon wrasse that is very happy to come and pose for your camera!

### *Bathalaa Maagaa Kan Thila*

Is a long extension of the reef which starts at bathala maagaa and extends into a channel. The dive begins with a free descent to around 15 meters and from there you swim into the middle of the channel. Then slowly the reef deepens to between 15 and 25 meters and ends as a plateau, where you can witness grey reef sharks, barracudas and sometimes eagle rays.

### *Hukuru Elhi Faru*

Located in the Rangali and Hukuru Channel this 500 meters long and 50 meters wide reef runs a depth between 12 and 25 meters. This reef is a recent addition to the protected marine areas in the Republic of Maldives and during the season from January until April it is famous for its manta cleaner stations. The mantas come up from the deeper parts of the ocean where they feed and use the shallower waters of the reef to free themselves of unwanted parasites. During the dive these majestic creatures with a wing span of 3 - 4 metres are hovering just above your head. The cleaner stations are also used by giant napoleon wrasse.

### *Maamagili Beyru*

Located outside the local island maamagili on the southern end of Ari atoll. A sloping wall starting at around 8 meters and following down to 22 meters and levels off with a sandy bottom. Few coral blocks standing on the wall and on the bottom where schooling oriental sweetlips can be found. Have a look underneath these coral formations for moray eels, lion fish and lobsters. as this dive site is located on the outside reef of the atoll big pelagic fishes are regular and with a bit of luck whale sharks can be spotted during the season.

### *Kuda Rah Thila*

Located in Dhigurashu Channel this 45 meter in length and 20 meters in width, runs a depth of 13 to 30 meters and is of the most famous dive sites in the South Ari Atoll. A stunning small reef covered in soft corals of all colours. There are two large overhangs with lots of yellow daisy corals on the ceilings and fan corals on the bottom. At one end there is a small archway covered in soft coral. The reef is surrounded by large schools of blue striped snappers.