

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

RIVER CRUISES · WORLDWIDE LIVEBOARDS · THRILLING SAFARIS



Maldives Aggressor II

7 and 10 Night Itineraries:

*Best of the Maldives
Southern Hemisphere
Far South/Deep South*

It is important to know your embark/disembark location since many of the itineraries operate from different islands.

Reservations Office Contact Information

Office Hours

1530 El Camino Ave Sacramento, CA 95815

Monday-Friday: 9 am – 7 pm

Saturday: 9 am – 4 pm

Office (USA): 800-436-5744 +1-916.929.8188
randy.haight@dolphinscuba.com www.dolphinscuba.com

Emergency/Delay in Travel – After Hours 7 Days a Week
+1-916.929.8188

ARRIVAL& BOARDING

Each itinerary has a different embark/disembark island/port/atoll depending on the itinerary you are traveling on. Domestic flights may be involved prior and post your charter week. You may view your invoice or visit the schedules page for this information.

Guests will be met at the airport (all itineraries) by a crewmember of the Maldives Aggressor II wearing an Aggressor Liveboards polo shirt and hat at 3:30 pm and then transferred by water taxi to the yacht at 4 pm.

We strongly recommend to arrive at least one day prior to the charter start date and to stay in either a hotel or resort in the Malé area or, our Aggressor Adventure department has many other wonderful choices of places to stay on other islands for extended stays.

All guests must be onboard by 5 pm on all itineraries so the yacht can depart for its first night anchorage with the first dive the following morning.

Information subject to change without notice 10/18/2018

Malé International Airport and other Domestic Airports: If you arrive early in the morning, you are encouraged to either get a day room at one of the local hotels or wait at the Coffee Club (if arriving at the Malé International Airport) located just outside the arrivals hall, where the staff will greet you at 3:30 pm and at 4 pm transfer you by water taxi to the yacht. When the itinerary departs from Malé, the Maldives Aggressor II anchors in the Hulhumale Lagoon, which is a 15-minute boat ride from the airport.

All airport transfers from Malé or domestic airports will be met at 3:30 pm with a 4 pm transfer to the Maldives Aggressor II.

Following are the different areas the Maldives Aggressor II offers and the different itineraries. There are multiple maps on our website that describe each of these areas:

Best of Maldives Itineraries:

- Malé/Malé (7 & 10 nights)
- Malé/Malé + Thaa & Meemu (10 nights)
- Malé + Baa/Hanifaru (10 nights)

Southern Hemisphere Itineraries:

- Laamu to Addu (GAN) (7 nights)
- Malé to Addu (GAN) (10 nights)
- Addu (GAN) to Malé (10 nights)

Far South & Deep South Itineraries:

- Far South: Malé to Laamu (7 nights) (2018)
- Deep South: Laamu to Addu (GAN) (7 nights) 2019

AIRPORT CODES AND ATOLL LOCATIONS:

(MLE) Male International Airport in Hulhule Island, North Atolls

(GAN) Gan International Airport in the Addu Atoll

(KDO) Kadhdhoo Airport on Kadhdhoo Island in the Laamu Atoll

(DRV) Dharavandhoo Airport on Dharavandhoo Island in the Baa Atoll

FEES & TAXES

Each guest must pay a **Port & Park Fee of \$290 USD for (7 nights cruise) and \$350 for (10 nights cruise)**, which includes the GREEN tax and other fees at the end of the charter when settling your bill and a 12% GST tax on onboard purchases. These may be paid by Visa, MasterCard, US dollars, or Rufiyaa. There is a 3.5% fee on purchases made onboard when using credit cards. The boat does not accept personal checks or travelers checks.

If paying in cash, all bills (1's, 5's, 10's, 20's etc) must not have any rips and the larger bills must have the security stripe in/on them, otherwise, Dubai, Malé, (and surrounding areas) and the Maldives Aggressor II cannot accept them.

MALDIVES AGGRESSOR II INCLUDES:

All staterooms are air-conditioned and include a private bathroom, shower, sink, hair dryer and robes. Your chef prepares breakfast, lunch and an elegant meal at dinner with tableside service in addition to fresh mid-morning and afternoon snacks. Beverages included are: fruit juices, soft drinks,

iced water, tea, coffee, and local beer and wine. Fresh towels are placed in each stateroom as needed. Tanks, air tanks, weights and weight belts are included. Island transfers from the airport to and from the Maldives Aggressor II are included in your charter if it starts to/from on the charter start/departure date. Domestic air is not included in the cost of the charter.

SAMPLE ITINERARY

- Day 1 – Arrival and boarding is between 3:30 – 4 pm. Departure for night anchorage 5 pm.
- Day 2 - 6 (7, 8 if on 10 night charters) - Eat, Sleep, Dive, Repeat.
- Day 7 (9 if on 10 night charter) – Diving in the morning and return to port after lunch followed by a Malé city walking tour (1 hour), dinner ashore and farewell cocktail party. Dinner is the only meal not included in your trip.
- Day 8 (10 if on 10 night charter) - Departure 8:00 a.m. to airport

When in Malé, the city walking tour includes the Presidents Office and Residence, the Old Mosque, the New Mosque, Vegetable and Spice Market, Fish Market and small gift shop. Dinner is held at a nice rooftop restaurant with a beautiful waterfront view. It is approximately \$35 USD per person plus beverages.

RECOMMENDED HOTELS, EXTENDED TOURS, AND TRAVEL

For a list of recommended hotels in the Maldives, please visit our travel departments website; www.dolphinscuba.com or call or email them direct. They specialize in airline, tours, hotel and add on packages and offers preferential rates: randy.haight@dolphinscuba.com

WELCOME

It is important to notify our office of last minute changes concerning your airline arrival/departure times, changes in your e-mail address and telephone numbers. In the event of an emergency family and friends may contact you at the numbers listed above.

We recommend you pack a mask, swimsuit, wetsuit, change of clothes and medication in your carry on bag. Having these few items with you can make no luggage during your entire trip more bearable. When packing, please watch the weight and size of your bags. You will need to check with the airline for more information on weight restrictions. Don't forget to use your Aggressor luggage tags. They will help the crew identify you and your bags.

PASSPORTS & DOCUMENTATION

Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your period of stay and you must have a return airline ticket to travel to the Maldives. US citizens require a passport that must be valid for 6 months from date of entry. It is the travelers' responsibility to ensure they have the proper documentation to travel into each country on his or her itinerary as well as for re-entry and return to their country. Please check with the appropriate consulate to ensure you have the proper documentation. Always check your passport and visa requirements. US citizens may go to the US Department of State website at www.travel.state.gov for more information. The website also has information for consulates by country to assist with requirements. ***The Reservation Office and Staff cannot assume responsibility for passengers not having correct documentation.***

COMMUNICATIONS/INTERNET/EMAIL

The Aggressor Liveboards Reservations Office and the Maldives Aggressor II are in constant communication; however, please note there is a significant time difference between the Reservations Office and Maldives. In the event of an emergency, family and friends may contact you at the above numbers. If you need to reach the yacht, please call or e-mail them directly.

There is an onboard satellite phone for emergencies only. The yacht is in cellular range occasionally. Cellular based Wi-Fi (3G or higher) will be available in the salon (based on availability). Internet packages are available for purchase during the cruise, your cruise director will explain how it works during the briefing. Speed will vary based on location and is not available for downloading large amounts of data. Check with your cell phone carrier prior to traveling for voice and data options.

C-CARDS & DIVE THE WORLD CLUB

Remember to bring your c-card or proof of certification. If you are a repeat guest, you are automatically enrolled in the Dive the World Club and will receive a 10% discount for onboard services, courses and boutique items. Your membership is indicated on the Captain's rooming list.

GUEST INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)

The Reservations Office and the Maldives Aggressor II require each guest to complete a Cruise Application and Waiver form, prior to departure and diving. The GIS (Guest Information System) allows guests to interactively complete all required paperwork that includes the application/waiver, special requests and travel information. If you haven't received a link to access the GIS, please contact an Aggressor Liveaboards agent. Passengers who fail to complete the GIS online will be denied boarding.

INSURANCE

We strongly recommend each guest purchase comprehensive accident, medical, baggage and trip cancellation and interruption insurance when space is reserved. Trip insurance will protect you from financial disappointment if you are prevented from making your scheduled trip due to illness, family illness or in the event that unforeseen circumstances prevent the airline or yacht from making its scheduled trip. Insurance companies sell different layers of insurance, which you should fully research and decide what is best for you. Visit our website for more information.

HEALTH

The Maldives Aggressor II has a comprehensive first aid kit onboard, including oxygen and an AED. We suggest you bring over-the-counter motion sickness medication or consult your doctor about prescription brands, such as the trans-dermal patch or Scopace tablets if you feel you will need it. Currents and winds may cause moderate movement of the yacht at times. We recommend a complete physical before your trip. The nearest recompression chambers are located on Bandos Island (15 minutes by speedboat from Male) is Kuramathi covering Ari Atoll, Kuredhu covering north trips, and Viligili covering southern trips.

The Maldives Aggressor II staff are unable to accept any medication brought onboard for safekeeping including those that require refrigeration. Should a guest have a medication requiring temperature control, they will need to travel with a travel cooling case or small storage cooler with several blue ice packets. The yachts will be happy to store and recharge the blue ice but are unable to accept possession or responsibility for the proper care and storage of medication. This should be kept in your stateroom. There is no smoking allowed inside the yacht or on the dive deck. Smoking is only permitted on the rear of the sun deck.

THE YACHT

The Maldives Aggressor II is built and powered for comfort, safety and stability. She is diesel powered and cruises at 12 knots, has a beautiful spacious salon, sundeck, chaise lounges, deck chairs, bar, grill, and a complete photo/video center. She accommodates 22 passengers in 11 staterooms; 8 staterooms with a single beds, 2 staterooms with Queen size beds and 1 stateroom with a king size bed. Lower deck staterooms have portholes in the cabin and bathrooms. Upper deck staterooms have picture windows and portholes in bathrooms. Suite stateroom is located on the main deck with panoramic windows. All staterooms have en suite bathrooms with shower, closet, porthole,

hairdryers and individual AC climate control. The yacht has 110 volt and 220 volt at the camera charging and computer stations. For use of 110 in other areas, we suggest guests bring USA 110 to 220 twin pin socket adaptors. The cruise director has a safe to keep valuables such as passports, cash, credit cards or anything else you would like to store. *The yacht is not responsible any lost, damaged or stolen items.* We highly recommend extremely caution and care be taken if you plan to travel onboard with electronic equipment. This equipment should always be stowed after use to avoid the risk of damage.

FOOD

The menu onboard is varied and plentiful, with a variety of options and local cuisine. If you have any special dietary requirements, please advise the US office as soon as possible so the yacht can adequately prepare to meet your needs. You will wake up to fresh fruits, hot entrees, cereals and juices. Lunches feature hot soups, a choice of main dishes, salads and fresh fruit. Dinners are chef prepared and a three-course meal is served each evening accompanied by local wine or beer. Once onboard, please speak to the chef about any special needs. Certain special dietary and beverage requests may not be available due to the remote nature of this location.

BEVERAGES

The Maldives Aggressor II selection of beverages includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, tea, coffee, and a good selection of local beer and wine, which are complimentary. Guests who consume alcohol during the day, you will become a sunbather until the next day.

ALCOHOL

Local beer and wine are included during the charter. Guests are not permitted to bring alcohol into the country from other airport gateways when arriving at the airport.

CLOTHING

We recommend you pack your gear in soft luggage such as a duffel bag with wheels for easy stowage. Clothing should be lightweight, comfortable sportswear and swimsuits and sunscreen are a must. A light sweater or jacket is ideal for evenings. Dress is always casual and informal. Additional items you may want to bring are a hat and sunglasses. Please keep in mind you are traveling in a Muslim country. Everyone should be respectful of the Maldives tradition and culture when going ashore. It is customary to wear conservative attire when going ashore.

ENTERTAINMENT

There is a variety of nightly entertainment, including power point presentations, movies, games and more. If you have a favorite movie to share, we encourage you to bring it along. The crew especially loves new releases recent magazines and books. A small library of books for exchange is maintained onboard as well as fish identification books for reference.

CELEBRATING A SPECIAL OCCASION

Whether it's your anniversary, birthday, honeymoon, wedding or you are celebrating a 100th dive, please let us know so the crew can celebrate your occasion. Kindly advise the Reservations Office prior to traveling so the crew is notified in advance.

MALDIVES DIVING CONDITIONS

You will be diving in water that averages 80-84°F. Most guests make as many as 3-4 dives each day, so some sort of protection is needed. A 3mm wetsuit is recommended year round. All diving is from the 60 ft dhoni.

The climate is warm year round and determined by the monsoons. The monsoons are mild and not as

defined as in neighboring countries. The northeast monsoon starts in January and goes through the end of April. In January and February the currents can be very strong but the big animal activity can be fantastic. The beginning of January brings clear water to most of the area, which can be over 200 feet visibility. Underwater visibility in the Maldives is determined by the tidal movements with incoming and outgoing tides. The monsoon patterns have a significant impact on the diving.

From May to October, the southwest monsoon brings more rain, wind and big animal action. Mantas and Whale Sharks can be seen year round, however are more prevalent in April, May, October and November. There are no cyclones in the Maldives because of being located at the Equator level.

Diving is carried out from a "diving dhoni" that will not anchor but will follow the divers from the surface. This is the safest and most comfortable way to dive in the Maldives due to the wind and current. Every diver will have his own seat and his own basket where he will store his diving gear, which will always remain on the diving dhoni. The system leaves the main boat free to handle accommodations, meals and social activities in a quiet atmosphere.

Most guests make up to 3-4 dives a day, so some sort of protection is needed. There will also be night dives. A 3mm wetsuit should be comfortable and adequate. Due to the currents in the Maldives, it is **mandatory** everyone bring safety device(s) to dive with such as an emergency safety sausage, Dive Alert air horn, personal mini strobe, whistle and/or signaling mirror. We suggest you bring any other safety items you feel will be necessary. A limited supply is available onboard. **Dive computers are mandatory for each diver.** There is a law in the Maldives that the depth limit is 98 feet. The Maldives Aggressor II supports and follows the local regulations.

DIVING

The crew of the Maldives Aggressor II with their unique combination of talents offers the ultimate service. While on board all diving is buddy diving. There is personal storage space for your diving equipment onboard the Dhoni. Tanks and equipment will stay on the dhoni (dive tenders) and there is space to keep masks, fins and other dive items under your seat if you wish to leave them on the dhoni. The Maldives Aggressor II provides 80 cubic ft tanks, weight belts and weights. All tanks have K-valves (American type); with DIN (European) adaptors. By Maldives law, there is a depth limit of 30 meters maximum and 21 meters if not advanced certified. Nitrox is available for an additional fee, see our website for details. The Maldives Aggressor has two 100 cu ft tanks available. Tanks must be reserved on a first come first serve basis and there may be a fee.

DIVING SUPERVISION

You've chosen a LiveAboard vacation for the diving freedom that it offers. While in the water, you and your buddy are in charge. Every dive starts with a dive briefing from our staff. However, as a certified diver, you and your buddy are responsible for planning and conducting your own dives within the limitations set forth by the briefing. The yacht staff will be on the dive deck providing surface support for divers. They will also have staff in the water offering support, u/w photography and videography, and critter spotting services as well. On some dive sites a staff member will offer to lead a group and assist them in locating specific points of interest. However, they do not offer direct supervision of dives. If you start out with a group, as long as you and your buddy remain in contact with each other and are ok – you may follow your own dive plan. Divers who desire more personal attention and structured/supervised dives should consider taking one of their numerous specialty courses. An underlying skill featured in all of specialty training is planning, executing, and debriefing after your dive in order to build a more confident diver.

CONSERVATION LAWS

Aggressor Liveaboards does not permit spear guns or Hawaiian slings on any of the yachts.

COURSES & RENTAL EQUIPMENT

The crew of the Maldives Aggressor II offers a variety of specialty courses such as Advanced Open Water, UW Photography, and Nitrox. A full line of rental gear is available onboard. To reserve any equipment or courses, please in advance add to your personalized GIS profile.

DIVE GEAR SUGGESTIONS

We suggest you pack the following: wetsuit, hood/hooded vest, booties, fins, mask, snorkel, regulator with visible pressure gauge, depth gauge, dive computer and buoyancy compensator. Strongly recommended: Spare mask if you have prescription lenses, safety sausage, whistle, Dive Alert, mirror, reef hook, and/or other safety devices. Dive computers are mandatory. Each piece of gear should be marked with waterproof paint or tape. Please see our "Captain's Log" on our website for current diving conditions.

PHOTO/VIDEO EQUIPMENT

The Maldives Aggressor II offers a complete digital photo facility including a computer dedicated for downloading photos. The Photo pro is available for free coaching with equipment rental. Photo equipment is available to rent separately or as a complete set up. The Maldives Aggressor II has a battery charging station and a large camera table available for your camera and video equipment. Guests should bring their own battery chargers. *Please refer to www.dolphinscuba.com for detile information and costs.*

UNDERWATER VIDEO/DVD

The video professional will capture your diving adventure aboard the Maldives Aggressor II to share with family and friends. The video of the week/DVD (includes all guests and crew) is USD \$65 per person.

SHIPS BOUTIQUE & CREDIT CARDS

There is a mini-boutique onboard with assorted t-shirts and miscellaneous items. Due to the uncertainty of availability of batteries, computer/camera discs etc., we highly recommend you bring extras and any other supplies you may need. Your bill for onboard services and boutique items is settled on the last diving day. The Maldives Aggressor II accepts US cash, Rufiyaa, Visa, & MasterCard. (there is a 3% fee for purchases made onboard when using credit cards and traveler's checks) Sorry, no personal checks or travelers' checks.

GRATUITIES

Crew gratuities are not included in the charter. We believe gratuities should be voluntary and based upon the quality of service the crew has provided. When settling your account at the end of your stay, the Captain will have an envelope for gratuities that will be divided equally among the crew. Payment may be made by cash, or credit card.

LAST DAY

The Maldives Aggressor II returns to port at in the afternoon after lunch and if departing in Malé, an optional tour will be offered, a cocktail party onboard then dinner ashore. This is the only meal that is not included in your charter.

CHECKOUT

Checkout time starts at 8 a.m. Transportation is provided to the airport after breakfast. If you are traveling later in the day from Malé, you may consider a day room/pass at a local hotel , there are several close to the airport and can be booked in advance by our travel department.

Normal day rooms/passes are for 8 hours and include use of the swimming pool, shower, towels, luggage storage etc., depending on which hotel you choose. You are welcome to contact our travel

department at randy.haight@dolphinscuba.com for assistance with hotel stay.

TRAVEL IN MALDIVES

Climate: Air temperatures are constant throughout the year averaging around 90F. The water temperatures range from 82F to 86F.

Time Zone: Maldives is on the Standard Time Zone, GMT+5 hours with no daylight savings time.

Electricity: 240 volts. It is recommended you bring a plug converter and a transformer. Plugs are the type G and 2 pin plugs. Transformers will change the voltage to 50 cycles.

Vaccinations are not necessary.

Crew: there is a mix of Asian and European crewmembers onboard Maldives Aggressor II

Currency: Maldivian currency is in the form of rufiyaa and laree's. American dollars, traveler's checks and major credit card are widely accepted.

Clothing: Casual cotton clothing is best for most occasions. There are no dress requirements aboard, however, when on land modest clothing and covered shoulders are recommended.

Language: The main language is Dhivehi; however, English is widely understood and spoken. The crew will be English speaking.

Food: The food is a well-balanced mixture of Maldivian, Asian and Western influenced cuisine. Special requests can be accommodated with advanced notice.

Mid-week: Guests will have the opportunity to go ashore.

Maldives Law: The Maldives is a quiet, trouble free and highly respected destination. Importation of alcohol is forbidden as well as nudity and topless sunbathing.

CAPTAIN'S REPORTS

Each week we post the Captain's log of the previous charter on the Aggressor Liveboards website and facebook. Please feel free to visit our facebook or www.dolphinscuba.com and go to the Captain's log to find out water temperature, visibility, and see photos and sightings.

Thank you for choosing the Maldives Aggressor II!

