

Charleston Scuba

Maldives Trip, Oct. 7-21, 2012



Hi Everyone,

Finally, here is an itinerary for the trip to the Maldives October 7-22, 2012! The dates for the *Orion* live-aboard will be Monday to Monday October 8-15, 2012, followed by land-based diving on Komandoo Resort for 4 days. We've assembled a trip that will cover as much of the Maldives as we can in a two week period of time!

We are recommending taking the Delta flight departing Atlanta on Saturday October 7th, 2012 arriving in Dubai October 7th with a long lay-over in Dubai. We'll then connect to Emirates Air, arriving in Male the morning of October 8th to board the boat. Our travel agent, Amy Garrow, with Caradonna Dive Adventures has put together an air schedule below as an example:

DL 5054 07 OCT 7 CHSATL HK2 325P 446P CRJ

2 DL 008 07 OCT 6 ATLDXB HK2 S 940P 740P+1 77L E0D arrive October 07th (We will reserve day rooms to rest before setting out very early the next morning.)

3 EK 550 08 OCT 1 DXBMLE HK1 3 325A 835A 773 E0M arrive in Male - (We may be able to get on the liveaboard at that time. We will work that out.)

M/V ORION will be October 08-15,2012, The itinerary will be Manta Madness : check out their



website @ <http://www.mvorian.com/>

August - October, "Manta Madness":

- **Baa Atoll**, Hanifaru Bay Manta Feeding Frenzy
- **Rasdhoo Atoll**, Hammerhead Dive, Beautiful Reef with Pelagics
- **North Ari Atoll**, Whalesharks, Grey Reef Sharks, Maaya Thila Night Dive
- **South Male Atoll**, Grey Reef Sharks, Beautiful Macro Wreck
- **North Male Atoll**, Paradise Manta Point Cleaning Station

We've arranged seven nights in the cabin of your choice (cabins are first come, first served) as well as including the below : Free Nitrox

- 17 Dives per week
- Tanks, weights and dive guides service
- 3 meals per day
- 24-hr tea, coffee, drinking water and fresh fruit
- Local style night fishing and trawling upon request
- Desert island dinner under the stars
- Bed tax and GST 3.5% (GST 3.5% applies only to all onboard services)
- Male City tour (Capital of Maldives)
- Traditional drums and dance by the crew
- Airport transfers



#1 Upper Deck state room - we have 2 of these ; cabin #'s 202 and 203

Double Diver – \$2695.00 per person

#2 Junior Suite (only one) located on the lower deck

Double Diver – \$2940.00 per person

#3 Standard state room we have three of these to offer on the lower deck.

Double Diver – \$2450.00 per person

October 15th We leave the *M/V Orion*, transfer to the Male Sea Plane base to fly to Komandoo Resort located on the Lhaviyani Atoll. This is approximately a one hour Sea Plane ride north of Male. We've chosen Komandoo because these sites will not have been dived from aboard the *M/V Orion*. Please take a look at the resort via their website, www.komandoo.com The on-site dive operation is called Pro Divers. They do a wonderful job and have everything at your finger tips. Our agent was very impressed with their



operation when she dived with them this past May. The resort is small, quaint and quiet.

Komandoo has three different types of rooms to choose from with all-inclusive meal plans. The room choices are Beach Villas, Jacuzzi Beach Villas and Jacuzzi Water Villas.



For the diving and rooms: Beach Villas package:

Four nights based on double diver in Beach Villas, round trip sea plane transfers from Male, diving(10 dives total made up of six boat dives and four shore dives on the house reef), nitrox, meal plan and all tax and service charges.

With All Inclusive – \$1981.00 per person

Jacuzzi Beach Villas package:

Four nights based on double in Jacuzzi Beach Villa, round trip sea plane transfers from Male, diving(10 dives total made up of six boat dives and four shore dives on the house reef), nitrox, meal plan and all tax and service charges.

With All Inclusive – \$2081.00 per person

Jacuzzi Water Villas package:

Four nights based on double in Jacuzzi Water Villa, round trip sea plane transfers from Male, diving(10 dives total made up of six boat dives and four shore dives on the house reef), nitrox, meal plan and all tax and service charges.

With All Inclusive – \$2529.00 per person

The following is included in the all-inclusive package:

- Breakfast, lunch and dinner in Falhu, our Main Restaurant
- During meals in the restaurant: Mineral water, soft drinks, red and white table wine, canned or draught beer, selected fruit juices, tomato juice, tea and coffee
- Kandu Bar (8 am to 1 am) Mineral water, soft drinks, red and white table wine, canned or draught beer, selected fruit juices, tomato juice, tea and coffee, Campari, House Whiskey, House Gin, House Vodka, House Rum, House Brandy (all served by the glass only)
- Two 1.5 l bottle of water per room in the room daily
- 20% discount on all Food & Beverage products in the Aqua Restaurant.
- 50% discount on bottles of water purchased in the restaurant or bar

- Free use of windsurfing equipment and canoe
- One free Sunset Cruise
- Daily boat trips to the nearby deserted island, Kudadu

Please note that for our internal purposes you will be asked to sign a bill for all-inclusive items.

NOT included in the all-inclusive package:

- Liquors, champagnes and wines other than stated above
- Mini Bar
- Room Service
- Espresso or cappuccino, fresh fruit juices and a la carte menu
- Excursions other than above
- Diving, catamaran sailing, shop purchases, fax, telephone, internet

On check in to the resort you will be issued with an all-inclusive card. Please show this card to the relevant resort staff for the dispensing of any item or activity included in the all-inclusive package. Please guard your card carefully.

Should you wish to invite guests or staff for drinks or any other item included in your all-inclusive package, the purchase of the drink or service will be at the standard rate. Drinks are not allowed to be taken outside the bar for health and safety reasons.

This itinerary has our group staying four nights after we get off the *M/V Orion*. From October 15 to October 18th we stay at the resort, starting our journey home on October 19th.

We arrive in Dubai October 19th after a four hour flight. There is a really nice overnight hotel at the Dubai airport called the Holiday Inn Express that is not more than two minutes from the airport with a free shuttle, breakfast included and a full service restaurant on site. We will reserve rooms so we can rest or if you are interested we can also do a city tour in Dubai. We also have plenty of details on things like camel rides, other tours, etc. ...

Our recommended flights home:

EK	653	20OCT 3	MLEDXB	HK2	1155P	300A+1	773	E0M
DL	007	21OCT 4	DXBATL	HK2	1	1000P	545A+1	77L
E0D								
	6	DL	1828	22OCT 5	CHSSAV	HK2	S	825A 937A M88
E0								

It is difficult to say right now what the round trip airfare will come to. The Delta portion will run

close to \$1700.00 round trip, from what we've seen. The Emirates portion will run close to \$1500.00 round trip. Amy Garrow can help all of us with airfare if that is needed; lower pricing may be available with a group. Some of you folks might also have frequent flyer points to use for the Delta portion. With that in mind, we can estimate the airfare between \$2500.00 and \$3000.00. We will know for certain airfare costs 330 days prior to departure. This is when we can book airfare.

We hope that this is the type of trip you are all interested in. Tom and I have wanted to dive the Maldives for years, but didn't really trust anyone to help us put a trip together. To date, Caradonna Dive Adventures has helped us dive several areas in the South Pacific and Indonesia and we feel they are the best at exotic dive travel.

We would love to have you travel with us next year for some serious dive adventure. We'll be glad to talk with you about the package you want for accommodations and meals. We're also available for airfare if you wish. Deposits are due for the 2012 Maldives trip by Sept 10th with a payment plan for the balance starting 60 days from that date.

Hope to hear from you soon – we appreciate your patience while we've researched this trip of a lifetime!

Sincerely,

Tom and Sally Robinson

Charleston Scuba

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