

22 March -  
5 April 2026  
(14 nights)

4,590 USD\*  
per person

# The 500 miles journey

Male

Addu

## THE EXPEDITION

On this manta expedition we will visit 11 of the 26 Maldivian atolls experiencing the best diving the country has to offer on a journey of well over 500 miles! Starting in the southernmost point of the Maldives, we timed this expedition to coincide with the arrival of the [giant oceanic mantas](#) in Fuvahmulah, a small island that acts as a magnet to many other [large pelagic species](#) such as whale sharks, tiger sharks, thresher sharks and more!

The far south of the Maldives is shark territory and here we will have the opportunity to dive in some of the most shark-populated channels where schools of [dozens of grey reef sharks](#) are typical! [Tiger sharks](#), [whale sharks by night](#), the occasional [thresher and hammerhead shark](#), schooling eagle rays and resting turtles are just some of the many other attractions we are likely to encounter on this unique expedition.

As we move north into Huvadhoon atoll we will have the unique opportunity to swim with [whale sharks by night](#), a magical experience that will leave you breathless! Huvadhoon and the other southern atolls are also renowned for their stunning channel dives...where we will encounter large schools of patrolling grey reef sharks, eagle rays, resting turtles and maybe the occasional hammerhead too!

Moving further north into Laamu, Meemu and Ari atolls, we will also get the chance to encounter [cleaning reef manta rays](#) at a number of different sites. Vaavu atoll will offer us some spectacular dives on reefs covered in [colorful soft corals](#), further chances to encounter hammerhead sharks and an amazing night dive with dozens of nurse sharks and stingrays. Ari and South Male atolls will finally provide a more diverse diving experience as we will dive some famous sites with breathtaking landscapes and high fish diversity.

With this 14 nights expedition, we have put together a trip which will offer us the chance of encountering [both species of manta rays](#) and experience some of the most spectacular dive sites the Maldives has to offer, guided by the knowledge of The Manta Trust's experts Guilherme Kodja and Jess Haines.





**MANTA**  
EXPEDITIONS

## MALDIVES

### ON-BOARD MANTA EXPERTS

On this Manta Expedition, two Manta Trust scientist will be onboard for its entire duration, offering everyone the opportunity to interact and learn from a leading manta expert.



The presence of the Manta Trust scientists onboard will enhance your experience in a number of ways:

- motivate and inspire you, by learning about the marine ecosystems you will be exploring
- gain access to an accumulated wealth of knowledge and expertise, providing you the opportunity to become actively involved in cutting-edge scientific research.
- offer you an educational and much more rewarding experience by making your underwater encounters more personal, and by involving you first-hand in marine research and conservation.
- be environmentally aware and proactive and become an active member of an initiative which stands to have strong implications for the on-going persistence for manta rays worldwide.

Collectively the Manta Trust and Manta Expeditions teams possess over two decades of experience working in the Maldives, studying its manta population and marine life and have assembled a vast amount of knowledge and expertise, knowledge you will have access to on this expedition.

A core focus of the expedition is not only to provide close encounters with manta rays but to enthuse and educate divers in marine conservation issues and the environment surrounding them. Through a series of activities and presentations on topics covering local marine species and habitats led by the Manta Trust experts, you are sure to leave with an increased awareness of the threats facing our oceans and, perhaps more importantly, how you can help.

Using the knowledge of the Manta Trust scientists you will gain a brand-new perspective to diving and experiencing the underwater world; by understanding what you see you will gain a better appreciation and love for the ocean and its creatures. Ultimately, with the guidance of the Manta Trust researchers you will have the chance to give something back to the ocean which we believe is fundamental considering how much we take from it!



### CITIZEN SCIENCE - GET INVOLVED!

On this expedition, you'll have the opportunity to experience and participate in [cutting edge conservation](#) research to protect one of the ocean's most majestic animals. Manta Trust scientists will be collecting photographic identification images of all mantas encountered throughout the expedition - a task that guests are welcome and encouraged to participate in. All new manta rays will be added to the database and guests will be invited to name these new mantas.

### THE MANTA TRUST

A UK registered charity, the Trust's mission is to advance the worldwide conservation of manta rays and their habitat through robust science and research, by raising awareness and providing education, influence and action. The Manta Trust was formed in 2011 to coordinate global research and conservation efforts for these amazing animals, their close relatives and their habitat.

**Data Collection:** The Manta Trust has a number of research projects worldwide, incorporating population data, research on manta movements, and genetic analyses - to name a few - in order to better understand the general ecology of manta and mobula rays.



### THE BOAT | M/Y CONTE MAX | LUXURY & WELLBEING

Back in 2004, the Maldives did not offer many boats that boasted the same comfort and standard for non-divers as the country's various island resorts. With the launch of the Conte Max that year, the concept of a cruise that combines the rejuvenating experience of diving in the Maldives, with the wellbeing of an on-board ayurvedic spa, was born.

Since its launch, the Conte Max has become one of the best-known and best-loved boats amongst those that regularly visit the Maldives. At 33m (108 ft) in length, she offers ten elegant and comfortable cabins, each with their own spacious en-suite bathroom and air-conditioning. Scuba diving excursions are delivered by a traditional Maldivian dhoni that accompanies the main vessel. If taking a break from the underwater world, the Conte Max offers three sundecks, a bar, two restaurants, onboard WiFi, and TV + CD/DVD player facilities, with a wide-collection of music and movies on offer to help you relax. And of course, there is the Massage Centre, with an onboard Indian masseur offering Ayurvedic treatments to help you unwind.

### BOOKING

To reserve your place on this Maldives Manta Expedition, please send an email to [Niv Froman](mailto:Niv.Froman@info@mantaexpeditions.com) at [info@mantaexpeditions.com](mailto:info@mantaexpeditions.com)

Trip costs for this 14-nights expedition in full board accommodation and three dives / snorkelling excursions per day includes transfer Male airport/vessel and return, drinking water, coffee and tea and GST tax. **Free NITROX** included!

\* Cost does not include Domestic flight Male-Addu (USD 200), Green Tax (USD 12 per person per day), Service Charge (USD 140 per person per week), rental dive gear and alcoholic beverages. Main and Upper Deck cabin supplement USD 300 per person.