





**S**cuba diving in the Maldives unveils an aquatic wonderland that captivates the senses and leaves an indelible imprint on the soul. With its crystalline waters, vibrant coral reefs, and diverse marine life, this archipelago nation is a paradise for underwater enthusiasts seeking an unparalleled exploration of the deep blue.

Descending beneath the surface, divers are welcomed by a symphony of colours as they immerse themselves in the rich tapestry of the Maldivian coral gardens. These coral formations, teeming with life, serve as a sanctuary for an astonishing array of marine species, from graceful manta rays and majestic whale sharks to playful dolphins and elusive sea turtles.

The Maldives' reputation as a global diving mecca is further accentuated by its numerous underwater topographies, which cater to divers of all levels. From gentle sloping reefs adorned with delicate soft corals to exhilarating drift dives along precipitous drop-offs, each dive site unveils a new facet of the underwater realm.





Night dives in the Maldives are a sensory journey unlike any other, offering an intimate encounter with nocturnal creatures as they emerge from their daytime hideaways. Bioluminescent displays, mesmerizingly vibrant undersea flora, and the possibility of spotting elusive species like the wondrously camouflaged frogfish create an atmosphere of mystique and fascination.





Whether an experienced diver seeking adrenaline-pumping encounters or a novice eager to embark on a new adventure, Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives offers an abundance of opportunities to explore its underwater treasures. With its warm waters, exceptional visibility, and a Five-Star Resort Dive Centre, it's easy to see why Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives was named Best Dive Resort 2023. At Kandooma scuba diving is elevated into an immersive experience that forever lingers in the heart and memory.





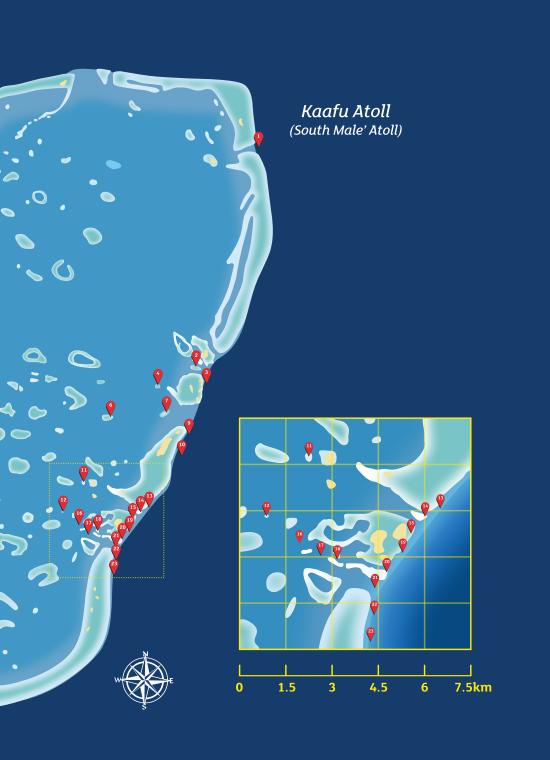
# **Dive Sites**

Discover the Maldives from a new perspective, where the beauty of the ocean is a testament to nature's artistry and the profound beauty that lies beneath the waves.

- 1. Embodoo Express
- 2. Gulhi Thila
- 3. Bushi Out
- 4. Kuda Giri
- 5. Vaagali Caves
- 6. Bodu Fushi
- 7. Maafushi Thila
- 8. Vaagili Thila
- 9. Maafushi Corner
- 10. Back Maafushi
- 11.Biyaadhoo Giri
- 12. Waggiri
- 13. Cocoa Corner
- 14. Kandooma Thila

- 15. Kandooma Caves
- 16.Dhandigiri
- 17. Sand Dune
- 18. Back Aquarium
- 19. Back Kandooma
- 20.Loshfushi
- 21. Medu Faru
- 22. Guraidhoo Corner
- 23.Back Guraidhoo
- 24. Fish Tank
- 25.Miyaru Kandu
- 26. Fotteyo Kandu
- 27. Devana Kandu
- 28. Alimatha





# Atolls of the Maldives





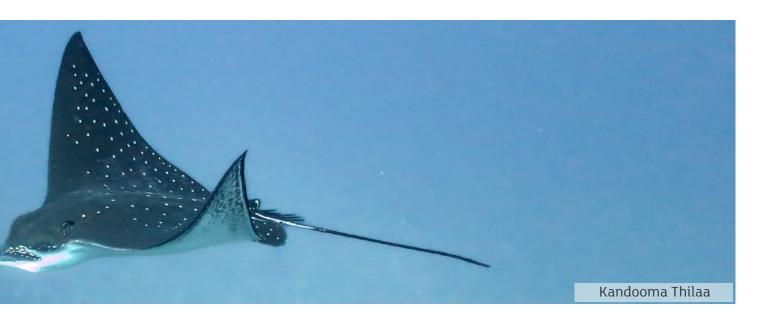
#### TOP TEN DIVE SITES NEAR KANDOOMA

Diving enthusiasts staying at Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives enjoy easy access to a treasure trove of underwater wonders. Here, the top ten dive sites present a symphony of colours, diverse marine life, and unique seascapes that promise to captivate both novice and experienced divers alike.



- **1. Kandooma Thila:** This renowned pinnacle showcases schools of vibrant fish, colourful coral formations, and an abundance of marine life. From white-tip reef sharks to eagle rays, the site is a captivating spectacle of biodiversity.
- **2. Guraidhoo Corner:** Drift along the currents and witness the congregation of gray reef sharks, white-tip sharks, and eagle rays. The site's dramatic underwater structure adds to the allure of this exciting dive.
- **3. Cocoa Corner:** Known for its thrilling currents, this site is a magnet for pelagic species. Divers often spot hammerhead sharks, manta rays, and other large marine inhabitants as they glide through the deep waters.
- **4. Kuda Giri:** The Kuda Giri wreck is an interesting dive site in South Malé in the Maldives, which includes both a small wreck and a pinnacle. They have created a welcoming habitat for a variety of marine life. There is hardly any current around this area making it suitable for less experienced divers.

- **5. Manta Point:** Witness t gather to feed and be clea awe-inspiring interactions
- **6. Lhosfushi:** The channer metres. There are plenty of schools of snapper, sweet sharks. There are also larg
- **7. Medhu faru:** This chan outgoing current. You will rays and a wide selection best dive sites to see large
- **8. Kandooma Caves:** Expl underwater caverns adorn known for its macro life ar predators.



he mesmerising dance of manta rays as they ned by smaller fish. This site promises with these majestic creatures.

l deepens inside to a sandy bottom to 30 f fish and marine life including turtles, lips, fusilier, tuna, Napoleon and white-tip reef e morays, ribbon eels and elegant fire gobies.

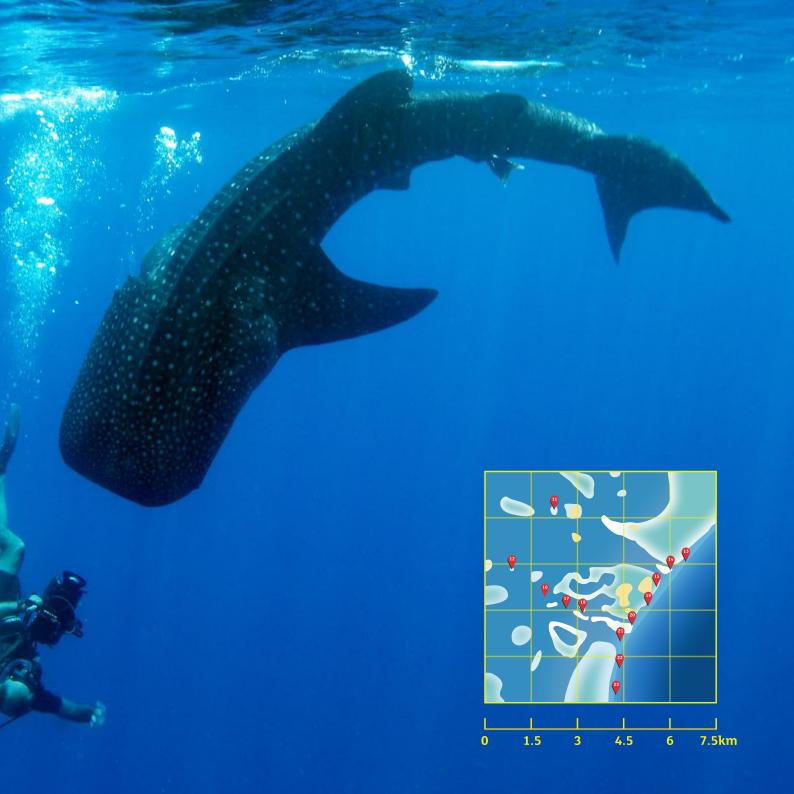
nel dive is good for both incoming and be likely to spot Napoleon, the graceful Eagle of colourful fish. Medhu Faru is one of the numbers of reef sharks at close range.

ore a labyrinth of swim-throughs and ed with sponges and gorgonians. The site is not the occasional appearance of larger

- **9. Waggiri:** This is a great dive site for every diver, especially those who love to see small life and have long dives. The formation of this giri is very unique and a perfect place to try a night dive. Expect to see anemone fishes, groupers, frogfish, ghost pipe fish, schools of bat fish, stonefish and yellow mouth moray eels.
- **10. Miyaru Kandu:** This channel dive features an explosion of marine life, including barracudas, snappers, and reef sharks. The site's coral-encrusted overhangs and vibrant soft corals create a stunning backdrop for underwater exploration.

Dive sites near Kandooma in the Maldives provide an unparalleled opportunity to witness the magic of the ocean. With each site offering a unique blend of underwater beauty, marine diversity, and unforgettable encounters, divers are guaranteed a truly remarkable experience that will forever remain etched in memory.





#### **HOT TIPS FOR SCUBA DIVERS**

For scuba divers venturing to the mesmerising underwater world of the Maldivian Indian Ocean, a realm of adventure and beauty awaits. Here are some essential tips to enhance your diving experience in this tropical paradise.



- **1. Dive with Respect:** The Maldives boasts delicate ecosystems. Avoid touching or disturbing marine life, and maintain a respectable distance to ensure the health of the underwater environment.
- **2. Pack Sun Protection:** While submerged, you may not feel the sun's intensity, but UV rays penetrate the water. Apply a reef-safe sunscreen and wear a rash guard or wetsuit to protect your skin.
- **3. Choose the Right Dive Season:** The Maldives' diving season corresponds to the dry season (November to April), offering better visibility and calm seas. Plan your trip accordingly for the best underwater encounters.
- **4. Mind the Currents:** Some dive sites have strong currents, ideal for advanced divers. If you're a beginner, stick to sites with gentle currents to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. Or talk to our instructors about upgrading your qualifications.

- **5. Bring a Dive Computer:** Having your depth and dive time accuratel practices and avoid decompression
- **6. Watch the Weather:** While the d and wind can occur. Stay updated of for possible changes in diving cond
- **7. Respect Marine Regulations:** Faregulations and adhere to responsible briefings carefully and listen to you
- **8. Night Diving Magic:** Experience night dive. Witness nocturnal marina dive light to illuminate your path.



a dive computer is essential to track y, helping you adhere to safe diving sickness.

ry season is optimal, occasional rain on weather forecasts and be prepared itions.

amiliarize yourself with local diving ole diving practices. Follow dive or dive guide's instructions.

a different world by embarking on a ne life in action, and be sure to carry **9. Underwater Photography:** Capture the beauty of the Maldives' underwater scenery, but avoid using excessive flash as it can startle marine creatures. Embrace the natural light for stunning shots.

**10. Reserve in Advance:** Kandooma is a popular diving destination. To secure your spot and ensure a smooth diving experience, make advance reservations for dive trips and accommodations. We also recommend bringing a doctor's letter confirming your fitness to dive to satisfy local regulations.

With these tips in mind, your scuba diving journey staying at Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives will undoubtedly be a remarkable and unforgettable adventure. Embrace the wonders of the ocean, respect the environment, and relish the beauty that lies beneath the waves.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT SCUBA DIVING IN THE MALDIVES

#### 1. Is the Maldives a good destination for scuba diving?

Absolutely. The Maldives is renowned for its stunning coral reefs, diverse marine life, and excellent visibility, making it a prime destination for scuba diving enthusiasts.

## 2. When is the best time to go diving in the Maldives?

The dry season, from November to April, offers the best conditions for diving, with calm seas, good visibility, and favourable weather.

# 3. What marine life can I expect to see while diving in the Maldives?

The Maldives offers a wealth of marine life, including manta rays, whale sharks, reef sharks, colorful reef fish, turtles, eagle rays, and a variety of coral species.

# 4. Are there diving opportunities for all levels of experience?

Yes, the Maldives offers dive sites suitable for beginners to advanced divers. Some sites have gentle currents, while others are more challenging, catering to a wide range of diving skills. The Kandooma Dive centre is a fully accredited PADI five-star resort dive operation with professional and experienced instructors to guide you.

# 5. Do I need any special certifications to dive in the Maldives?

You will need a recognised Open Water certification to scuba dive. For more advanced sites, having an Advanced Open Water certification or higher will enhance your experience. The Kandooma Dive centre offers training courses and refreshers if you need to brush up.

# 6. What should I pack for a diving trip to

Pack your dive certification cards, dive logb appropriate dive gear (you can also rent sor reef-safe sunscreen, rash guard or wetsuit, camera, dive computer if you have one, and necessary personal items.

# 7. Are night dives available from Kandoo

Yes, we offer night dives, providing an oppo witness the nocturnal behaviour of marine l unique and captivating experience.

# 8. What is the water temperature in the N

The water temperature in the Maldives rang approximately 26°C (79°F) in January to 30 April, making it comfortable for diving year

# 9. Are there any diving regulations in the

Yes, there are regulations in place to protect environment. Divers are expected to follow diving practices, adhere to dive briefings, as respectful distances from marine life.

# 10. Should I book diving excursions in ad

It's recommended to book diving excursions especially during peak diving seasons, to see and ensure a smooth diving experience. At Resort Kandooma Maldives two certified divinceive two Dives Free when staying three of Terms & Conditions apply.

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s in advance, cure your spot Holiday Inn ers per villa r more nights.



Scuba diving from Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives offers an unparalleled opportunity to explore the wonders of the underwater world. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced diver, the Maldives promises a captivating and memorable diving adventure.

# What can I expect to see on a dive?

Diving in the South Male Atoll, Maldives, is a gateway to a world of underwater splendour. As you descend into the azure depths, a captivating realm unfolds before your eyes. Here's what you can expect to see on a scuba dive in this magnificent atoll:



- **1. Vibrant Coral Gardens:** The South Male Atoll is home to stunning coral formations, offering a kaleidoscope of colours and shapes. Marvel at intricate hard and soft corals, creating a vibrant backdrop for marine life.
- **2. Colourful Reef Fish:** Schools of colourful reef fish abound, from playful parrotfish to graceful angelfish. These bustling communities of fish are a delight to observe as they weave through the coral labyrinth.
- **3. Gentle Reef Sharks:** Encounter white-tip and black-tip reef sharks patrolling the reef's edges. These sleek predators are a common sight and add an exhilarating edge to your dive.
- **4. Eagle Rays:** Glide gracefully through the water as you come across these majestic creatures. Their unique wing-like shapes make for an unforgettable sight.

- **5. Turtles:** The South Male Atoll is turtles. Watch in awe as these anciethe water, occasionally coming up
- **6. Manta Rays:** Depending on the soft encountering these gentle giant Witnessing their graceful movement
- **7. Moray Eels:** Peek into crevices a their mouths wide open, revealing a But don't get too close!
- **8. Macro Life:** Keep an eye out for shrimps, and seahorses. The South life that's a delight for underwater



frequented by green and hawksbill ent mariners glide serenely through for a breath of air.

season, you might have the privilege s as they visit cleaning stations.

Its is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

nd overhangs to spot moray eels, a mesmerizing display of sharp teeth.

smaller marvels like nudibranchs, Male Atoll boasts an array of macro photographers. **9. Cave and Overhang Explorations:** Dive sites in this atoll often feature intriguing underwater caves and overhangs. Navigate through these formations and discover hidden corners teeming with marine life.

**10. Night Diving Magic:** Embark on a night dive to witness a different cast of characters emerge. Encounter octopuses, lobsters, and other nocturnal creatures in action.

Diving in the South Male Atoll is a sensory feast, where each dive offers a chance to encounter a rich diversity of marine life amidst breathtaking underwater landscapes. Prepare to be enchanted by the symphony of colours, the dance of creatures, and the sheer beauty that lies beneath the waves on the Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives door step.

#### BENEFITS OF KANDOOMA'S OWN PADI DIVE CENTRE

Having a PADI Dive Centre at your resort in the Maldives brings a plethora of advantages that enhance the overall diving experience for both novice and experienced divers. Here's why staying at Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives with our own PADI Dive Centre is a significant benefit:





**Expertise and Safety Standards:** PADI is globally recognised for its rigorous training and safety standards. A PADI Dive Centre such as Kandooma Dive ensures that all diving activities are conducted following strict safety protocols, giving divers peace of mind and confidence in their underwater adventures.

**Comprehensive Training:** Whether you're a beginner or seeking to advance your diving skills, our Kandooma Dive Centre offers a range of PADI courses suitable for various levels. From Open Water Diver certification to specialty courses, you'll have the opportunity to learn from experienced instructors.

**Quality Equipment:** Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives and our PADI accredited Dive Centres prioritise quality equipment maintenance and provide divers with well-maintained gear for a safe and comfortable diving experience. This eliminates the need for divers to bring their own equipment, making travel arrangements more convenient.

**Local Knowledge:** Our staff are inti sites. They can offer insights into the watch for, and the unique character

**Guided Dive Excursions:** Having a laccess to guided dive excursions. Exto the best dive sites, enhancing the marine life and unique underwater

**Dive Planning and Logistics:** Kandlogistics, including transportation to setup. This allows you to focus on eabout the nitty-gritty details.





mately familiar with the local dive se best times to dive, marine life to istics of each site.

PADI Dive Centre on-site means sperienced dive guides can lead you e chance of encountering remarkable features.

ooma Dive will take care of the odive sites, dive briefing, and gear njoying the dive without worrying

**Environmental Awareness:** PADI and Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives promote eco-friendly diving practices and conservation efforts. Kandooma Dive Centre and PADI incorporates these principles into their operations, contributing to the preservation of the fragile marine ecosystems in the Maldives.

**Networking and Community:** A PADI Dive Centre often fosters a sense of community among divers. This gives you the opportunity to connect with fellow divers, share experiences, and possibly make lifelong friends who share your passion for diving.

**Certification Recognition\*\*:** PADI certifications are recognized globally. Completing a course at a PADI Dive Centre in the Maldives ensures that your certification will be respected and accepted at dive destinations around the world.

#### BENEFITS OF KANDOOMA'S OWN PADI DIVE CENTRE

Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives was awarded the 2023 Best Dive Resort in the Maldives. The purpose built, Kandooma Dive Centre is a fully accredited PADI Dive Centre offering a well-rounded, safe and enjoyable scuba diving experience. From professional training to exceptional safety standards and memorable guided dives, having our own exclusive dive centre elevates your dive vacation to an extraordinary level.



# Learning to Dive with PADI

Learning to dive with the PADI Dive Centre at Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives is an immersive journey into the mesmerizing underwater realm. With experienced instructors and a commitment to safety, novices can embark on a transformational adventure. The PADI-certified courses cater to various skill levels, allowing you to take your first breaths underwater or progress to advanced levels. As you navigate the crystal-clear waters, the instructors' expertise and patience will guide you through the intricacies of diving techniques. The captivating marine life and vibrant coral gardens of the Maldives become your classroom, while the PADI curriculum ensures comprehensive and structured learning. From your first confined water session to your exhilarating open-water dives, the PADI Dive Centre at Kandooma fosters confidence, respect for the environment, and a lifelong passion for the breathtaking world beneath the waves.

### **PADI Bubblemaker**

The PADI Bubblemaker program at Maldives is an enchanting experience adventurers, aged 8 and above, to the guidance of skilled PADI instruction breaths underwater in a safe and condesigned equipment and a shallow underwater world, interact with many weightlessness. The PADI Bubblema love for the ocean but also instills condesigned equipment and a shallow underwater world, interact with many weightlessness. The PADI Bubblema love for the ocean but also instills condesigned equipment and basic diving skills. adventure, they create lasting memilifelong connection to the beauty of





Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma ce designed to introduce young ne wonders of scuba diving. Under stors, children can take their first ntrolled environment. With specially pool, kids get to explore the rine life, and discover the joy of aker program not only nurtures a confidence, respect for marine. As children embark on this aquatic sories that lay the foundation for a fithe underwater realm.

# **Benefits of Nitrox for Scuba Diving**

Nitrox dives, also known as enriched air dives, offer divers extended bottom times and shorter surface intervals by breathing a blend of nitrogen and oxygen with a higher oxygen content than regular air. This reduced nitrogen exposure reduces the risk of decompression sickness. Nitrox diving is especially popular in the Maldives due to its intricate reefs and diverse marine life. Divers can enjoy longer exploration without compromising safety. However, proper training is crucial to understand the gas mixture and its effects. Nitrox dives are a game-changer for avid divers, maximizing underwater enjoyment while adhering to responsible dive practices. Learn how to dive with Nitrox at Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives.

#### MARINE SUSTAINABILITY

Marine sustainability at Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives is not just a concept; it's a way of life. The Maldives - an archipelago nation, known for its stunning coral reefs, pristine waters, and vibrant marine life, understands the urgency of preserving its underwater treasures for future generations which we whole heartedly support.



Efforts in marine sustainability encompass several key areas. First, strict regulations and protected marine areas are established to safeguard critical habitats and prevent overfishing. Local communities are also involved in sustainable fishing practices, promoting responsible harvesting and ensuring the delicate balance of marine ecosystems.

The Maldives has embraced eco-friendly tourism practices, with resorts and dive operators taking initiatives to minimize their carbon footprint. Innovative waste management systems, recycling initiatives, and renewable energy sources contribute to reducing the impact on the environment.

Coral reef conservation is at the heart of marine sustainability efforts. With bleaching events threatening these delicate

ecosystems, the Maldives is commit By cultivating and transplanting correhabilitated, providing marine life maintaining biodiversity. At Holida we make reefscaping accessible for

Education and awareness campaign outreach programs, the Maldives en visitors alike to appreciate the value Snorkeling, diving, and other marin responsibly, ensuring minimal dista

Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Mald Tomorrow advocates for global acti Maldives vulnerability to rising sea





tted to coral restoration projects. ral fragments, damaged reefs are with essential habitats and by Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives our guests.

ns play a vital role. Through mpowers local communities and e of marine ecosystems. e activities are conducted urbance to marine life.

lives and IHG's Journey to ion against climate change. The levels underscores the urgency of protecting marine environments. Through initiatives like the Maldives' pledge to become carbon-neutral, it sets an inspiring example for sustainable practices that resonate on a global scale.

In the face of environmental challenges, marine sustainability remains an unwavering commitment in the Maldives and for us at Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives. By integrating conservation, community involvement, and responsible tourism, we are writing a remarkable narrative of how a deep love for the ocean translates into actions that secure its vitality for generations to come.

#### **COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS**



#### **Manta Trust**

Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives, nestled in a tropical paradise, offers an idyllic escape. With beachfront villas and azure waters, it's a haven for relaxation and adventure. Notably, the resort partners with the Manta Trust, a conservation organization dedicated to protecting manta rays and their habitats. This collaboration allows guests to engage in meaningful experiences such as manta ray snorkeling excursions and presentations by Manta Trust experts. By supporting the Manta Trust's research and conservation efforts, the resort enables visitors to contribute to the preservation of these majestic creatures while enjoying a luxurious Maldivian retreat.



# Parley for the Ocean

Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives proudly joins forces with Parley for the Oceans Maldives, a dynamic collaboration dedicated to combatting plastic pollution. This partnership reflects the resort's commitment to environmental responsibility. Through beach clean-ups, educational programs, and innovative initiatives, guests actively contribute to reducing plastic waste and raising awareness about ocean conservation. By integrating Parley's expertise and sustainable practices, the resort not only offers a luxurious Maldivian getaway but also empowers visitors to be stewards of the oceans, fostering a collective effort to protect the fragile marine ecosystem for future generations

## KANDOOMA DIVE CENTER PRICE LIST

Diving Rates - Per Dive	Equipment Included (US\$)	ank & Weights Only (US\$)
1 – 4 Dives per dive	97	80
5 Dive Package	425	375
6 – 9 Dives per dive	85	75
10 Dive Package	800	700
11+Dives Package (per dive)	80	70
Night dive surcharge (incl. torch)	15	15
Private Guide surcharge	250	250
Enriched air per tank surcharge	Free	Free

Diving Prices are inclusive of boat fee. Equipment included is mask, snorkel, fins, BCD, regulator, octopus, pressure gauge, computer, surface marker, signal device, wetsuit, weights & weight belt and tank.

Equipment Rental - Per Dive	Tanks & Weights Only (US\$)
BCD	8
Regulator	8
Wetsuit	8
Computer	6
Torch	15
Digital Camera or Go Pro	50

#### Diving Day Trip by Speedboat

This can be arranged on a private or request basis (minimum numbers required), please ask the diving staff, for more information.

Course Rate - Per Dive	Equipment Included	Tanks & Weights Only (US\$)
Bubble Maker	100	-
Discover Scuba Diving	180	-
Subsequent DSD	150	-
Scuba Diver	490	-
Upgrade – Scuba Diver to OWD	515	-
Scuba Review	275	255
Open Water Diver	770	-
Open Water Referral	605	-
Adventure Diver	485	460
Advanced Open Water Diver	735	710
Rescue Diver	945	895

Speciality Courses	Equipment Included
Enriched Air (1 dive)	255
Wreck Diver (4 dives)	570
Deep Diver (4 dives)	570
Night Diver (3 dives)	400
Drift Diver or PPB (2 dives)	295
Emergency First Responder (EFR) (no dives)	275

#### Settlement

For your convenience, any charges relating to these activities will be charged to your room account under the heading of "Dive" and can be settled on your departure from the resort. All prices are in US Dollars and will be subject to a 10% Service Charge and a Goods & Service Tax of 16%. We hope you will enjoy your water experiences.







# **Contact Us**

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For more information or to obtain a quotation please email

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