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# SOUTH ROUTE 14 NIGHTS

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Hulhumalé



Dune staff will pick you up at Malé International Airport and bring you to the main boat. Enjoy a drink while listening to our Cruise Director welcome briefing. Dinner will be served in the evening and you will spend the first night at Hulhumalé marina.

### Day 2 North Malé Atoll > South Malé Atoll > Vaavu Atoll



The trip will start by discovering the dazzling long reefs of North Malé Atoll. Corals are abundant here, giving home to plenty of reef fish and macro species. After the dive, we will cruise to Vaavu Atoll for an unmissable night dive. There's nothing as exciting as watching nurse sharks, sting rays, and jacks in their feeding frenzy.

### Day 3 Vaavu Atoll > Meemu Atoll



The excellent pristine channels of Meemu offer steep walls and overhangs coated with healthy hard and soft corals. You will have a chance of looking for hammerhead sharks and to observe grey reef sharks, white tip reef sharks, eagle rays, napoleon wrasses, and hawksbill turtles.

### Day 4 Meemu Atoll > Thaa Atoll > Laamu Atoll



Travelling deeper towards South, discover a an impressive topography of submerged pinnacles, channels, corals gardens, overhangs, and swim throughs. You will also encounter white tip reef sharks, eagle rays, tunas, schools of jacks...

📍 Day 5 **Laamu Atoll > North Gaafu Atoll**



Laamu Atoll offers drift dives and deep channels that attract sharks, rays, jacks, and tunas. Moreover you will dive in caves and swim throughs along colorful drop-off walls. The pristine central lagoon is also home to large schools of parrotfish, butterflyfish as well as turtles and triggerfishes.

📍 Day 6 **North Gaafu Atoll > South Gaafu Atoll**



The largest atoll in the Maldives is made of vibrant reefs and untouched lagoons. Stingrays, turtles and a variety of sharks including black tip reef sharks, white tip reef sharks, and nurse sharks are frequent visitors here. Occasionally you will also find hammerhead sharks and tiger sharks hunting.

📍 Day 7 **South Gaafu Atoll > Fuvamulah Atoll**



At the most southern point of the trip, you will discover an impressive topography counting sloping reefs, drop-off walls and deep channels. There are only few named dive sites here as this part of Maldives is still relatively unknown. Get a chance to see spinner dolphins, manta rays, thresher sharks, and tiger sharks ...

📍 Day 8 **Fuvamulah Atoll > Gaafu Atoll**



Back from the deep South, we will make a few more dives in the splendid region of Gaafu. Besides the stunning underwater landscape, the untouched dive sites will also offer chances of meeting the spectacular thresher sharks, hammerhead sharks, eagle rays, napoleon wrasses, and schools of reef fish.

📍 Day 9 Gaafu Atoll > Laamu Atoll



After night crossing, we generally arrive in Laamu at dawn, ready to dive colorful sloping reefs which often offer nice surprising encounters.

📍 Day 10 Laamu Atoll > Thaa Atoll



When back in Thaa Atoll, the boat will moor in a location well known for the nocturnal encounters with the whale shark; during the day divers explore the rich channels of this atoll.

📍 Day 11 Thaa Atoll > Meemu Atoll



Dive again in this pristine atoll to explore different sites and take a chance for another manta session while having a look for ghost pipe fish! The scenery is astonishing: white and shiny sandbanks and gorgeous untouched islands.

📍 Day 12 Meemu Atoll > Vaavu Atoll



Stop in Fotteyo, one of the most famous and rich dive sites of the Maldives with its stunning and colorful caves and swim throughs where we dive again the next morning in the blue to look for hammerhead sharks.

Enjoy the amazing sunset and scenery from the sandbank.

📍 Day 13 **Vaavu Atoll > South Malé Atoll**



Back in Guraidhoo, visit the fisherman island and dive two of the mythic and unmissable channels of this atoll.

📍 Day 14 **South Malé Atoll > North Malé Atoll**



We are back at the starting point but the adventure is not finished yet! Take a chance to dive among stingrays, giant morays and even sight the majestic guitar shark. Time to wash the equipment, then to enjoy the sunset while the crew prepares a special dinner for your last night onboard.

📍 Day 15 **Hulhumalé**



The trip is arriving at the end. Our crew will arrange the transfer to the airport according to your flight schedule once you have had your breakfast on board. We are also glad to help you plan for the day if you have a late flight. Various options are available ranging from snorkeling excursions and bookings for days use or overnight stays. Time to go back home with fantastic and unforgettable memories!

*The peculiarity of Dune Maldives is to build the trip according to your expectations. The itinerary and dive sites are therefore defined depending on your preferences, while also considering the weather conditions and*

tides.

## DATES & PRICES

### Departures for French-speaking groups:

From	To	Price / pers.	Boat	Places	Options	Booking
02/05/2020	16/05/2020	€4,028		6 / 18		

### Departures for English-speaking groups:

No departure for now

### Departures for Chinese-speaking groups:

No departure for now

**Trip code: 170**

### Included

Cruise services begin on Saturday at the evening meal at 7pm. The marina departure takes place on Sunday morning. Boats return to the marina the following Friday during the early afternoon. Disembarking from the boat can be done between Friday evening and Saturday morning at 8am.

- Transfers from the airport to the boat and to and from the marina.
- Double shared cabin accommodation.
- 2 to 4 on-board guides (a dive master and instructors) accredited by government authorities.
- 12 liter aluminum cylinders + DIN/Int, and diving weights.
- 8 to 10 professional and experienced crew members on-board
- Three meals a day.
- Sheets and blanket (depending on the boat).
- Bath towels are changed at least once during the trip, depending on the duration of the cruise.
- One evening dedicated to celebrating birthdays, newlyweds or dive anniversaries.
- The selected sea route will take into consideration the passengers' wishes.
- A map to note down the route taken.
- Soft drinks during the meal (Coke and Sprite) (on Theia boat only)
- Nitrox - package and fillings per unit. Nitrox is a service offered by Dune and can't be subject of a refund in the eventuality the compressor is malfunctioning (on Theia boat only)
- Maldivian Government Tourist Tax.
- Green Tax (on Theia boat only)

### Please note:

- The dive package will be adjusted according to the number of days in case of a staggered departure

and arrival.

- If the diver does not take part in all the proposed dives for whatever reason - weather, air, or personal reasons, no refund will be made by DUNE France or DUNE Maldives.
- According to logistical possibilities or passenger wishes, it may be possible to make more dives than those proposed in the planned package. Optional additional dives cost extra.

### ***14-night cruises (15 days on board)***

- 15 days of cruise with full board, including unlimited tea, coffee and water.
- 14 nights on board in a shared twin cabin - single cabins cost extra.
- Package includes 31 dives spread from Sunday to Friday of the second week, along with a night dive.

### ***Not included***

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- International flights to and from Malé.
- The supplement for a superior or sea view cabin.
- The supplement for a single cabin.
- Cancellation and repatriation insurance.
- Soft drinks such as Coke, Sprite, etc. outside meals.
- Drinks such as beer, wine, etc., see the bar prices in the annex.
- Transfers by speed boat, airplane or seaplane depending on special routes or unscheduled arrivals and departures. (If a passenger wants to take a particular international flight, any extra cost related to the latter will be at the customer's expense). □ Training, optional dives, rentals and on-board services
- Tips for the crew, recommended at \$12 per person per day spent on board, could be given at the end of the stay before leaving.

### ***Notes***

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#### ***Recommendations and diving legislation in the Maldives***

In keeping with the idea of "safe leisure", Maldives regulation limits the dive profile to 30 meters in depth, 60 minutes and within the safety curve (diving without decompression stops).

#### **Required documents :**

A medical certificate dated less than 1 year authorizing the practice of scuba diving.

A dive log.

A diving qualification card (including Nitrox if certified).

An insurance certificate for the current year.

### ***Terms and conditions***

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#### ***Cancellation Policy***

Cancellation fees apply to transfers, diving services and hotel reservations.

All cancellations must be sent in writing by mail, fax or email. The reception date of your cancellation will determine the amount of charges.

The following cancellations will be invoiced.

### **Cancellation policy for individual registrations**

- Cancellations from 60 to 31 days before the date of the boat's departure: 30% of the total cost of the cruise.
- Cancellations from 30 to 15 days before the date of the boat's departure: 50% of the total cost of the cruise.
- Cancellations 14 days before the date of the boat's departure: 100% of the total cost of the cruise.

### **Cancellation policy for group registrations (from 10 participants) and for charters**

- Cancellations from 90 to 61 days before the date of the boat's departure: 30% of the total cost of the cruise.
- Cancellations from 60 to 31 days before the date of the boat's departure: 50% of the total cost of the cruise.
- Cancellations 30 days before the date of the boat's departure: 100% of the total cost of the cruise.

The minimum number of participants required to ensure the departure of a cruise depends on the total capacity of the vessel:

- Boats from 16 to 20 seats: Minimum of 12 participants
- Boats from 20 to 22 seats: Minimum of 14 participants
- Boat with 22 places and more: Minimum of 16 participants

At over 30 days from departure, Dune reserves the right to cancel a cruise without compensation if the number of participants is insufficient.

Reservations can still be made up to 4 days before departure. •

At the latest, clients must arrive at the airport the afternoon before their cruise departs. The cruise departure cannot be deferred due to a flight delay, except in the case of a charter. In this case, the return date of the cruise will remain as originally planned. The dive package will be adjusted to reflect the number of days on board. Customers should be covered thereafter by their agency or by the airline.

### ***Payment - Reimbursement - Litigation***

- A minimum 30% deposit must be paid by the customer in order to confirm his reservation.
- The balance is due 30 days prior to departure for an individual booking and 60 days before departure for groups and charters.
- On-board payments must be made in cash or check (except tips). • Failure to follow a route does not result in compensation or reimbursement of taxes.
- Failure to follow the program does not result in compensation (e.g.: not completing 15 dives due

to poor weather or insufficient diving level...)

- Changes made to the boat or selected marinas do not give rise to compensation.
- A possible Nitrox malfunction does not give rise to compensation.
- Customers are individually responsible for all their personal effects. Damage to personal belongings due to negligence or omission shall not give rise to any claim against Dune.
- No refunds will be provided if a customer fails to make all the proposed dives, either on his own accord or due to a temporary restriction from the dive instructor in charge of the boat.
- Flight delays: DUNE France and DUNE Maldives cannot be responsible for flight delays. DUNE does not provide meals or extra nights caused by delays or schedule advances made by charters or scheduled airlines.

### ***Cruise Cancellations and Force Majeure***

Dune reserves the right to cancel a stay or cruise for reasons of force majeure such as natural disasters, epidemics, war, strikes, and riots, etc ...

Dune declines all responsibility during these events such as injuries, death or destruction of personal property due to acts of war, insurrection, military action, revolution or exceptional meteorological or seismic events that are beyond its control. Any unforeseeable insurmountable event beyond Dune's control is considered a case of force majeure. If a force majeure event occurs, the customer will be notified as soon as possible. If the trip or stay is canceled or shortened due to natural disasters, revolutions, wars, or governmental decisions, the customer cannot claim any compensation. This also goes for anything that may limit benefiting from certain services.

The closing of roads, airports, railway stations, marinas or the suspension or removal of a train, plane, or boat... due to carrier or administrative decision... are not covered by Dune and do not give rise to compensation.

## **PRACTICAL INFO**

### ***Staff***

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Each dive is guided. Groups can be from 6 to 8 divers per guide.

### ***Level***

Level 2 or Advanced Open Water Diver (AOWD) with a minimum of 50 dives is required. An Open Water Diver (OWD) level with over 80 dives is acceptable provided an AOWD is obtained at the beginning of the stay to remain compliant with local regulations required for safari trips.

The diver without an adequate level for his own safety and that of the group (evaluated by one of the guides) may be excluded from some technically difficult dives (without compensation) or a private guide will be imposed at a cost of \$160 per dive day.

All routes and the number of dives outside of the package will depend on passenger wishes, weather, local regulations and are subject to the discretion of the primary instructor on board.



## Food

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On board, both local cuisine and international menus will be served.

## Accommodation

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Accommodation is based on double shared cabin .

Beds in superior cabins can be moved to form a double bed or 2 single beds.

A supplement is charged for a single cabin.

## Transportation

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### Airport pick up

Passengers are greeted at the airport by a DUNE Maldives representative, holding a "DUNE" sign.

The meeting point will generally be just outside the arrival hall after the baggage claim and customs clearance area.

### Transfers

For cruises arriving and departing from Malé, passengers are transferred to the DUNE Maldives chartered boats via the diving Dhoni leaving from the marina of Malé International Airport (duration: approximately 20 minutes). The first transfer including in the service is at 15h00 from Malé airport. The return transfer from the last day will be organized right after the breakfast.

Thus:

- Those arriving before 15h00 on Saturday morning should book an "Early Check-In" at \$45 per person. If the boat is available upon arrival on Saturday morning, they can be transferred earlier (until 11.00 am) from the airport to the boat. The rate covers the costs of the half-day on board, lunch and private transfer.
- On the way back and depending on return flight schedules, guests can book a "Late Checkout" at \$45 per person. If the boat is available upon departure on Saturday afternoon, guests can be transferred later (until 14.00pm) from the boat to the airport. The rate covers the costs of the half-day on board, lunch and private transfer.
- Depending on return flight schedules, guests should also reserve a "Day-Use". Two options are available:
  1. Snorkeling Trip with Dune Maldives' team, including the lunch and the transfer to the airport at the end of the day (price : 60 USD). Subject to availability.
  2. Guest house : access to a room and hotel services. Lunch not included and transfer to the airport included. Charge will be paid directly on place. Price starting from 60 USD. Subject to availability.

IMPORTANT "Early check-in" and "late check-out" are subject to boat availability. During these days, the boat is in transition between two liveboards. Cabins are not available due to cleaning. Guests will be free to use common areas. Therefore guests from the ending liveboard could meet guests from the departing liveboard.

## Tips

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Tips for the crew, recommended at \$12 per person per day on board, to be distributed cash at the end of the stay.

## ***Vital equipment***

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### **Compulsory equipment (per diver)**

- A dive computer.
- A surface marker buoy, SMB.
- An emergency sound or visual signaling system.

You can also rent you equipment onsite (prior booking).

## ***Helpful equipment***

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### **Highly recommended :**

- A torch or flashlight.
- A second emergency torch.
- A reef hook.
- A weight belt or weight pockets.

## ***Passport***

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### **Information and documents required for customer registration :**

- A passport with a minimum of six months validity after the return date is mandatory and must be shown when passing through customs.
- The full name of each passenger.
- The passport number.
- The diver's level and his number of dives.
- Details of flight arrivals and departures.
- A passport photocopy for booking domestic flights.
- Any special instructions involving reserving cabins, courses, Nitrox, or the rental of diving equipment...

### **NON-DIVER ACCOMPANYING PERSONS**

Activities for non-divers accompanying the diving and snorkeling cruises such as initial dives, courses, snorkeling (PMT) or island visits and other activities are subject to the availability of the guides, logistical constraints and the diving activities.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS FOR PASSENGERS AND NON-DIVERS**

Participants in swimming, snorkeling or first dives should make sure they are in good physical condition and able to participate in such water activities and swimming. A swimming test is mandatory at the beginning of the stay. If necessary, the guides may require specific snorkeling training and/or the wearing of a snorkel vest or a shorty to ensure participant safety (minimum age of 8 yrs old is recommended). Guided snorkeling activities not included in the program cost an extra \$20 per 45- minute session. A private guide may be imposed by decision of the monitors on board on

any participant whose technical level is not sufficient for his own safety. For the same reasons, the monitors on board can prohibit certain activities they deem too difficult (without compensation).

## ***Health information & recommendations***

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A first-aid medical kit is available on the boats. However, it is strongly recommended that passengers bring along their own first-aid kits, with reef safe sunscreen, seasickness pills, mosquito repellent, antihistamine cream and other medication according to your doctor's prescription and those for the destination.

## ***Weather***

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Water temperature is around 28°C all year round.

## ***Electricity***

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220V with international adaptors in living room and cabins.

## ***Sustainable tourism***

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Dune Maldives is a member of the Longitude 181 Association.

Beach Clean Ups are organized on desert islands.

A personalized water flask to be used during the trip is provided on board.