



## IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFORMATION

### Contacting Carpe Diem Cruises:

- Country Code: +960 followed by the local number dropping the 1st 0.
- Carpe Diem Corporate Office: +960 330 0883 (Closed on Fridays)
- Carpe Diem Cruises Operations: +960 795 0883 (Ibbe)
- Carpe Diem Sales & Marketing Director (Emergencies Only): +960 7672655 (Bernie)
- In the event of an emergency, contact our staff on any of the numbers above.

## PRIOR TO TRIP

### Passports & Visas:

- All guests must have a passport valid for at least six months after arrival.
- 30-day tourist visas are issued on arrival at Maldives International Airport for all nationalities and are free of charge.
- All visitors must be in possession of a return/onward flight ticket.

### Insurance:

- All divers must have valid insurance from a reputable company that covers diving accidents/incidents.
- You will need to show proof of insurance to the guides when you check in.
- Carpe Diem Maldives offers coverage with ALLIED INSURANCE, which is available to purchase on board or before arrival.

-40 USD per person for 7 nights

-50 USD per person for 10 nights

As a temporary member, you will be able to gain insured member benefits.

**Currency/ Payment Accepted Onboard:** All prices are in US dollars. We accept cash payments in Euros, Sterling, and US dollars. Please ensure all notes are in good condition, free from tears, stamps, or markings, as damaged bills will not be accepted. US dollar bills from 2009 or earlier are not accepted by Maldivian banks. Local currency is not accepted onboard for any transactions, except for gratuities. Visa, Mastercard and American Express are also accepted on board with a 3% surcharge. Please check with your bank regarding international charges and exchange rates.

### Remember to pack:

- Personal clothing, a dry bag & toiletries (We provide Bodywash & Shampoo in all ensuite bathrooms).
- Small medical first aid box & prescription medicines

**Note:** Hard suitcases take up your cabin space, so please use roll up/collapsible style bags where possible

## Medicals:

- **Self-Declaration Form:** All diving guests and participants on board PADI courses, must complete and sign a self-declaration medical form prior to starting their trip or course.
- **Doctor's Clearance:** If you have, or believe you may have, any listed medical conditions, a doctor's signed clearance (valid within 12 months of your trip) is required; please obtain this before arrival and bring it with you to avoid delays, additional costs, or the risk of missing your trip.

**Paperwork:** Please complete all of the forms required, print them out and hand them to the dive team on the boat.

- Online registration forms provided by agency or directly in full (to be completed 2 weeks prior to trip)
- **Liability release** (additional one in case of American/Canadian nationals)
- **Self-Medical** declaration for all divers and courses
- Copy of dive certification cards
- Dive logbook or online log information (to be shown to dive team in person)
- A copy of diving insurance details per person (translated to English by your insurance company) stating the start and ending date of the diving cover with the exact diving insurance covered by the policy. Without this document, you will be required to purchase diving insurance locally before you may begin diving.



## ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE INFORMATION

**Before boarding:** In accordance with health requirements from the Maldives authorities, all travelers travelling to and from Maldives are required to submit a **traveler declaration** within 24 hours prior to their departure.

- In the accommodation section, simply search for "Carpe Diem, Carpe Vita or Carpe Novo," and it will appear.
- If you're staying elsewhere before boarding, enter the name of your guesthouse or resort instead.

**On arrival:** After passing customs clearance, a representative wearing a Carpe Diem Cruises uniform and holding a Carpe Diem Cruises board will meet guests arriving at Velana International Airport. If guests do not see the representative, please head over to counter #D17 for assistance. A team member will be there to assist. You can contact our Operations Manager on WhatsApp number: +960 795 0883 if nobody is at the counter.

Please note that our airport representatives will be available only on the start day of the trip. If you arrive earlier, kindly contact your resort or accommodation booked for assistance.

### TRANSFERS TO AND FROM THE LIVEBOARD:

#### Check-In Times:

- Carpe Diem: 12:30
- Carpe Vita: 14:00
- Carpe Novo: 14:00

The pickup time is to allow the crew the additional time required to deep clean the boats in between trips so unfortunately, we cannot provide you with an early check-in .

In the case of the late flight timing, we will arrange a transfer for you according to the time. However, please be aware that, depending on the time of your arrival, you may miss the check dive.

**Day Use room:** The Operations Manager, lbbe, can arrange a day-use room with airport transfers, allowing you to return to the meeting point. You can reach him on WhatsApp at +9607950883 for assistance.

**Check Dive:** Depending on arrival timing, a check dive might not be possible on the first day. If not, an extra dive will be scheduled later in the trip.

**Domestic Flight:** If your route starts outside Male and requires a domestic flight, a Carpe Diem representative will assist with check-in for your onward flight. Once you land, our crew members will receive you at the specific domestic airport the trip begins in.

**On Departure:** Departure from the boat is scheduled for 08:00 on the final day, and we will ensure you are dropped off at Velana International Airport. If your international flight departs earlier, don't worry—we will coordinate your transfer to the airport in time. For those extending their stay at a resort, guesthouse, or hotel, rest assured that all onward transfers, including domestic flights, seaplanes, speedboats, or taxis, are conveniently arranged from the airport itself.

## KEY SERVICES VIA (MALE' AIRPORT)

**Local SIM Cards:** Travelers can purchase SIM cards from Dhiraagu and Ooredoo kiosks at the airport, offering data and call packages for easy connectivity during their stay.

**Luggage Storage:** Secure luggage storage is available for short or long-term use, ideal for those with layovers or plans to explore Malé before onward travel.

**Currency Exchange:** Money changers in the arrivals hall offer currency exchange services, allowing travelers to obtain Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR) or other currencies. ATMs are also available.

**Dining Options:** The airport features cafes and restaurants serving local and international cuisine, perfect for quick snacks or full meals.

**Waiting Areas:** Comfortable waiting areas with seating, charging stations, and air conditioning provide a relaxing space for passengers awaiting flights or transfers.

## DIVING INFORMATION

- Maximum diving depth in the Maldives: **30 meters with an equally qualified buddy.**
- Recommended dive depth: generally, below 18 meters; Advanced or Deep Diver training is mandatory.
- Advanced Open Water Divers (AOWD) or higher recommended for participation.
- Open Water Divers (OWD) can join but will need to complete the AOWD course with our dive instructor to enhance trip enjoyment.
- Clients interested in learning can do the OWD course during the trip (advance notice required).
- Diving depth limits depend on your level of training and experience.
- Check your insurance policy for depth coverage for recreational sports and diving, before arrival.
- Inexperienced divers may find some dives challenging and could be advised by the instructor to skip unsuitable dives. It is recommended to hire a private guide for beginners.

**Liability Release:** When checking in all divers are required to produce a valid certification /qualification and hand in their completed registration waiver form prior to commencing diving activities. US and Canadian divers must sign a North American Waiver which can be sent on request.

**Skills Review:** Agencies suggest a Skills Review for divers who haven't dived for over six months. We advise divers to follow the agency recommendations for safety reasons. This review can be completed before or on board, should be signed by an instructor, and should be included in the diving logbook to avoid issues during check-in.

**Check Dive:** Divers, regardless of experience or qualification, must participate in a check-dive before starting normal diving activities. This helps them orientate themselves and familiarize themselves with their equipment and environment. Carpe Diem Maldives reserves the right to restrict diving activities if safety concerns arise.

**Alcohol when diving:** If the consumption of alcohol results in the guides deeming you unfit to dive, you will be asked to sit out the dive.

**Deep South and Southern shark itineraries are not suitable for beginners.** Unpredictable and strong currents are to be expected anytime, especially in periods of new and full moons. All divers are required to dive in a buddy team and be able to complete each dive with your buddy or following your guide. Require divers to have a minimum 100 dives, Advanced Open Water and to be a good swimmer due to mostly medium to strong current and channel dives.

**For 7 Nights:**

- No diving on departure day
- 17/18 dives offered per week on all three boats.
- Minimum 24 hours to be left between last dive and flight departure.
- 1 or 2 dives on the day of departure, depending on route logistics.

**For 10 Nights:**

- No diving on departure day
- 26/27 dives offered per week on all three boats.
- Minimum 24 hours to be left between last dive and flight departure.
- 1 or 2 dives on the day of departure, depending on route logistics.

Unfavorable weather conditions may affect dives during your trip, as the Captain or Dive Team may decide unsafe conditions, but we will make every effort to compensate.

**Guides:**

- Dive guides provide a detailed briefing for each dive site before entering the water.
- Carpe Diem Maldives' dhonis have a minimum of three guides on board.
- Guides stay with the group underwater to navigate and point out marine life.
- Dive guides do not provide training during dives; you and your buddy are responsible for each other.
- As certified divers, you must ensure your own and your buddy's safety.
- Follow the principle "plan your dive, dive your plan" with a personal dive computer.
- Begin, execute, and end each dive with your dive buddy.
- You are expected to dive according to the certification and experience requirements given. The guides may decide upon seeing each diver's ability not to enter the water for every dive and will remain onboard providing surface support only. Decompression diving, solo diving and technical diving are strictly prohibited.

**PADI certified Courses:** We offer several courses on board, from beginner to a wide range of specialty and advanced training courses. Courses are subject to availability and itinerary and include course materials (where required) and certification fees.

**Open Water Referral Course:** You will need to bring your referral form (signed and completed by your instructor dated within 12 months) as evidence that you have completed the theory and confined dives. Course paperwork needs to be signed by a parent or guardian for students under the age of 18.

## DIVE EQUIPMENT / BOAT

**Dive Boat:** The dive dhoni (boat) is equipped with ample storage for your dive gear, along with a spares, tool box and medical oxygen onboard.

**Dive Equipment:** For your dives, we recommend bringing or renting the following:

### Equipment Rentals on board (Chargeable):

- Mask, snorkel, fins
- Wetsuit (3mm shortie or full suit recommended for 28°C water temperature)
- Regulator and BCD
- Dive computer (with spare batteries)
- Torch (for night dives)
- 15L Steel tanks (DIN/INT)

### Equipment on board (Complimentary):

- Surface Marker Buoy (SMB) with at least 5 meters of line for safety stops (one per buddy team)
- Reef hooks
- Weights and weight belts
- Air and Nitrox 11.5 or 13.5 Aluminum tanks (DIN/INT)

**Equipment Rental:** Carpe Diem Maldives offers equipment rental with prior booking required before arrival. Please provide your size and shoe size to ensure proper preparation. (enter link to one website)

This setup ensures you are well-equipped and ready for all diving activities during your trip.

**Nitrox:** Carpe Diem Maldives' vessels are equipped to offer Nitrox facilities and Nitrox fills (normally 32%) for nitrox qualified divers. We also offer the Nitrox Course on board. For nitrox certified divers, we offer **complimentary nitrox**.

**Tanks & Adapters:** We have DIN tanks and INT adapters available on board.

**Photo & Video Equipment:** Recharging facilities and rinse tanks are available on board.

**Snorkeling/Non-divers:** Snorkelers and non-divers must complete a liability form. Snorkeling can be done from the dhoni with an instructor or certified diver. Non-diving guests can snorkel or try scuba diving, but some itineraries or locations may not be permitted due to safety reasons.



## ON BOARD

**The captain:** An important decision-maker, the captain, along with the dive team, will determine where and when you dive. While some dive sites may appear calm on the surface, the captain and guides' local knowledge and experience are crucial. If they say no, please respect their decision. Safety is their top priority, and any changes are made with everyone's well-being in mind.

**Cabins:** All the cabins accommodate two guests, either in a double-bedded cabin or twin berth cabin. Cabins are pre-sold and allocated prior to arrival.

**Bathrooms:** All bathrooms are equipped with a shower, sink and toilet. Please take extra care in the bathrooms not to slip. Placing toilet paper down any toilet on board is acceptable. But please note that waste bins are provided in all bathrooms for everything else and are emptied regularly.

**Air-conditioning:** All Carpe Diem Maldives liveboards have air-conditioned cabins. Air-conditioning uses a lot of power and energy so we ask you to please be kind to the environment by not leaving the aircon on in your cabin when you are elsewhere on board.

**Towels:** You will be provided with a bath towel, hand towel and beach towel for outside use. Beach towels are changed daily.

**WiFi:** Stay connected with onboard Wi-Fi for just US\$40 for 7-night trips or US\$50 for 10-night trips. Repeaters enjoy complimentary Wi-Fi. Please note, Wi-Fi is unavailable while cruising or when anchored far from resorts or local islands with cell towers.

**Behavior:** Anti-social or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated and individuals who cause a disturbance to other guests may be removed from the liveboard.

**Shopping:** There is a selection of Polo/ T-shirts, jewelry and souvenirs available to purchase on board

**Health:** Check with your local doctor for recommended vaccinations and remember to bring any prescribed medicines. If you start to show signs of any illness or fever, please report this immediately to the Team so we can assist and evaluate if a doctor or hospitalization is required.

**Time:** 5 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight savings time is not observed in the Maldives.

**Electricity:** All cabins and public areas of the vessels are fitted with universal electrical sockets using 220 volts AC 50Hz. To avoid disappointment, we recommend that you bring your own transformers if you require one and any additional plug converters to suit your own electrical devices.

**Communications:** All vessels are equipped with VHF & CB radios and satellite telephone. Signal strength can vary, which may result in intermittent and/or sometimes slow connections.

**Gratuities:** Carpe Diem Maldives believes that tips should be on a voluntary basis depending on the quality of your service from the guides and the crew. Tips can be paid at the end of the trip either by cash in the tip box with the accountant or by CC. The general recommendation is \$150 per person per week. Please feel free to leave what you think is acceptable and it will be equally shared between the guides and crew by the captain.

## FOOD & DRINKS ON BOARD

**Food:** The meals on board are buffet style with a variety of local and international dishes to suit everyone's likings. Any special requests or dietary requirements are to be informed in advance so our team can prepare accordingly.

**Drinks:** Water, tea and coffee are complimentary. Upon arrival you will be given an aluminum waterbottle, and you will find water dispensers which desalinate and purify water. Soft drinks, fresh juices, specialty coffee/tea and alcohol (cocktails, liquors, wine and beer) are chargeable.

**Celebratory dates:** Celebratory cakes can be arranged by us. For birthdays or honeymooners, let us know in advance so we can have the chef prepare cake either for yourself or your loved ones. Consider it our gift for you on your special day.

**Alcohol / Tobacco:** Importing of alcoholic beverages or tobacco products above 200 cigarettes, 25 cigars or 250 grams of tobacco, is prohibited by Maldivian law. Bottles containing alcoholic beverages will be confiscated at Customs upon arrival and returned to you at departure. Alcohol is available to purchase on board. Guests will not be permitted to dive after consuming alcohol or under the influence of a hangover as this seriously impairs your judgment and increases your risk of decompression sickness. If the guides deem that you are unfit to dive you will be asked to sit out the dive. Your safety and wellbeing are paramount so this request by the dive guides will only be made to avoid accidents.

## T-GST, SERVICE CHARGE & GREEN TAX

**Green tax (US\$12.00 per person/per night)** - valid for all bookings from 1 January 2025 to be paid onboard

**T-GST 16% + 10% service charge** - valid for all bookings until 30 June 2025 included in pricing

**T-GST 17% + 10% service charge** - valid for all bookings from 1 July 2025 included in pricing

**Please note taxes are subject to change by the government of maldives without prior notice.**

*We dive not to escape life,  
but for life not to escape us!*