



# Manthiri, Maldives Trip Information

## Manthiri Liveaboard

**Telephone:** 011 (960) 332-5634

**Fax:** 011 (960) 332-5633

**Website:** [www.manthiriliveaboard.com](http://www.manthiriliveaboard.com)

**Email:** [manthirimaldives@dhivehinet.net.mv](mailto:manthirimaldives@dhivehinet.net.mv)

**Best Phone Number: Boat Phone (Moosa):** 011-960-790-5081

## Manthiri North America Sales and Marketing Office

**Telephone:** U.S. Toll Free (844) - Maldives (625-3483) or (508) 651-0772 Cell (508) 254-3483

**Fax:** (508) 647-1588

**Email:** [manthirisales@massdiving.com](mailto:manthirisales@massdiving.com)

**U.S. Mail:** 247 W. Central St., Natick, MA 01760

**Website:** [www.massdiving.com](http://www.massdiving.com)

**Emergency Number: Mark Potter Cell: 508-254-3483**

**Manthiri Liveaboard:** The 85 feet long by 25 feet wide Manthiri is custom designed for the optimal dive experience but also for comfort. The vessel's exceptionally wide beam minimizes rocking motion and spacious cabins for twelve guests. Cabin configurations consist of four cabins with two twin beds and two cabins with one queen-size bed.

All cabins have private bathrooms with hot water showers, convenient hair dryers, individually controlled air-conditioning and minibars. There's plenty of storage in every cabin including a locker and drawers for clothes and luggage stowage.

Manthiri's teak paneled salon is one of the largest found on any vessel of its size. This lounge area is furnished with six sofas, a music system, DVD player, and multi-system TV/VCR with video camera viewing capabilities. The camera salon is equipped with a well-lit workstation, spacious tables to store cameras, and ample 230V and 110V power outlets. Manthiri has been outfitted by professionals with underwater photographers in mind.

Manthiri's top deck is arranged to accommodate both sun worshippers and shade seekers. Deck chairs are ideally placed for soaking in the rays, icy drink in hand, or stargazing in the evening. For full details and pictures of the boat visit their website at [www.manthiriliveaboard.com](http://www.manthiriliveaboard.com).

The Manthiri has a separate, specially outfitted dive boat, called a dhoni. The 54-foot dhoni provides a home for the compressors, Nitrox system and dive gear. It also has a full bathroom with shower and one outside shower. Four people can giant stride into the water at one time and there is a very stable ladder to get back on the boat. The dive crew does a great job ensuring a fun and safe dive vacation.

**Overnight Hotels:** It is highly recommended you arrive the day before and stay at an overnight hotel. See our recommended hotels sheet. If you are doing a pre-trip to Dubai, Sri Lanka or another close place you do not have to do an overnight if you do not want to as long as you arrive no later than 8am. Our first dive is the day we board the boat before lunch.

**Food:** Meals are provided on the boat. Water, juices, coffee and tea are included. Alcoholic and soft drinks are for sale. If you need special meals or have allergies, please contact us ahead of time so they can accommodate you. Soft drinks and beer are \$3 + 12% tax; bottle of wine is \$25 + 12% tax.

**Electricity:** British Standard 220VAC outlets requiring rectangular blade plug type G and American Standard 110VAC outlets requiring flat blade plug type A & B. At the hotels you will need an adaptor/converter.

**Money:** Local currency is Rufiyaa. In the Maldives, the U.S. Dollar is accepted as well as credit cards. The boat accepts only MasterCard and Visa 3.5% will be added to all credit card transactions. Tipping needs to be in cash. Everything else you are welcome to put on your credit cards for example in transit meals, nitrox, soda, beer, wine, and personal purchases. **Please bring new clean money. They cannot accept torn, written on, or tattered money.**

**Climate:** Mid 80's to 90 degrees F

**Internet Access:** No internet on the boat unless you purchase a SIM card at the airport. A 15 GB data connection kit valid for 14 days for estimated \$32 can be obtain from Dhiraagu Teleshop at the airport. Go to the right as you walk out of baggage claim.

**Phones on the Boat:** There is a phone available on the boat if you need to make calls to the U.S. Cost is \$0.35 per minute and you can settle up with them at the end of the trip. Note price subject to change.

**Time Zone:** 9 to 10 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time depending on Daylight Savings Time.

**Laundry Service:** Daily laundry service provide on the boat free of charge.

**Dress:** Casual light cotton clothes, polo shirts, t-shirts and shorts. A sweatshirt or light jacket if you are one to get cold. Climate tends to be hot. Ladies this is a Muslim country so covering your shoulders and thighs is recommended when traveling on land. You will not need a lot of clothes on the boat, mostly bathing suits and t-shirts. There is laundry service on the boat so you can pack light.

**You cannot bring:** Liqueur, narcotics, firearms, idols of worship, and porn to the Maldives. You can purchase liqueur in the Maldives and on the boat.

**Departure Tax:** Included in ticket.

**Proof of Citizenship:** Must have valid Passport with at least 6 months remaining before expiration. Bring a copy of your passport with you. You will get a 30-day Visa at the airport. Make sure your first and last names are the same on your tickets and Passport.

**Medicine:** If you need medication, bring it. Make your own first aid kit: aspirins, decongestants, cough drops, Band-Aids, motion sickness pills, suntan lotion, Pepto-Bismol, Imodium AD, contact lens solutions, and anything else you will need. Do not expect to find it on the boat.

**Travel Clinic Information:** No malaria, yellow or dengue fever or any other plague. Check the CDC's website for recommended shots at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

**Flight Information:** Check your tickets for your flight information and baggage allowances.

**For those passengers flying on Emirates:**

**Dubai Connect:** For passengers with layover in Dubai longer than 8 hours and less than 24 hours Emirates will provide accommodation, meals, ground transportation, and visa costs. Must be done when tickets are booked. Visit this website for more information:

[http://www.emirates.com/us/english/plan\\_book/essential\\_information/dubai-connect/dubai-connect.aspx](http://www.emirates.com/us/english/plan_book/essential_information/dubai-connect/dubai-connect.aspx)

**Marhaba Lounge Locations in Dubai** – This is a great place to hang out during your long layover. Price is around \$50 and comes with food buffet, all drinks, free Wifi, lounge area, TV, and clean bathrooms. For a small

fee you can take a shower or rent a tent to sleep. Here are the locations depending on what terminal in Dubai you fly into:

- Dubai International Airport, Emirates Terminal 3, Concourse A  
Level 5 between Gates A3 and A2. The entrance to the Lounge is via a dedicated elevator from duty free.
- Dubai International Airport, Emirates Terminal 3, Concourse B  
Level 4 near Gate B21. The entrance to the Lounge is via a dedicated elevator from Level 3 departures.
- Dubai International Airport, Terminal 1, Concourse C  
Between Gates C23 and C25 at the east end of the terminal
- Dubai International Airport, Terminal 2  
After immigration counters and opposite duty free

**Arriving in Male:** When you get off the plane in Male, you will need to clear customs and get your luggage. Head outside and look for the Manthiri representative and/or your hotel representatives. They will meet you and help you transfer to the hotel. Have your resort transfer you to the airport at 9am. A Manthiri representative will meet you at the airport at 9am where the bus drops you off and will escort you to the boat. Make sure the Manthiri has your flight and hotel information. See forms on our website at [www.massdiving.com/manthiri.htm](http://www.massdiving.com/manthiri.htm).

**Lost Luggage:** In case your luggage gets lost or delayed and you are bringing more than one suit case, I would pack some clothes and dive gear in both, so you at least have some clothes and gear on the boat in case only one bag makes it.

**Certification Card:** A must to dive!!! **Need Nitrox Card for Nitrox Tanks**

**Water Temperature:** 82 to 86 degrees F

**Water Visibility:** Averages 60 to 100 + feet

**Water Movements:** Currents will vary; most dives will have current. Strong currents = more fish!  
**Everyone needs to bring a reef hook.**

**Dive Site Location by Month:**

**December to May, possible August and December depending on currents:** Southern Area

**June to November:** Northern Area

**Diving:** Whale Sharks are seen 90% of time. Mantas are very abundant. Also, there are large varieties of fish and pristine coral formations.

**Dive Package:** Average 3 to 4 dives per day. Night diving is also available on certain nights. Tanks/Weights are supplied. They offer both DIN and Yoke connections.

**Nitrox Tanks:** Nitrox is available for an additional \$10 for 32% per tank or 9 nights \$185.00 for the trip. 10 nights trip is \$205.00. Note prices subject to change.

**Tipping:** Bring money for tipping the dive staff, excursion guides, luggage handlers and hotel staff. Note: Tipping is a personal preference, not a requirement. Usual tipping for a live-aboard is 10% to 15% of charter fee. Please pay the tips in clean cash. Keep in mind the crew works 24 hours a day for us, they feed us, dive with us, clean our rooms and more. You are welcome to tip more or less depending on your evaluation of the level of service.

**Trip and DAN Insurance:** Highly recommended.

**Recompression Chambers:** Three chambers exist in the Maldives; DAN affiliated chamber is on Bandos Island.

**Pick up and drop off times:** A staff member from the Manthiri will greet you at the international airport around 9am where the hotel buses pick up and drop off. At the end of your dream vacation we will depart the boat for the airport around 9am. Note times may vary. If you have an early return flight, we will get you to the airport on time.

**Recommended things to bring:**

Regulator with octopus and dive computer  
Exposure Suit: Rash Guard, Dive Skin, Shorty or 3mm Full  
Lightweight Gloves (not recommended)  
Buoyancy Compensator  
Mask, Snorkel, Fins, and Boots (if needed for fins)  
Tank Light (for night diving)  
Dive Light with extra batteries and bulb  
Movies/DVDs, games  
Electric adaptor/converter, power strip  
Camera Equipment and Film/SD Card

**Safety Sausage\*\***  
**Surface Sound - Dive Alert, Whistle\*\***  
**Reef Hook\*\***  
Knife (not required)  
Logbook  
Spare Parts Kit  
Sunglasses  
Plus, any other personal gear  
**\*\*Required**

**Recommended Wetsuit:** All depends on your tolerance for coldness. Divers have worn dive skins, rash guards, shorty or 3mm to 5mm full suit. You are better off bringing multiple combinations so if you need it, you have it.

**Rental Reservations:** Rent from your local dive shop or contact us ahead of time to reserve your equipment on the boat. Rental prices are on our website.



**Manthiri, Maldives**

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247 West Central Street, Natick MA 01760

**Toll Free (844) - Maldives (625-3483) 508-651-0772 Fax 508-647-1588**

**manthirisales@massdiving.com**

**www.massdiving.com/manthiri.htm**



# Maldives

## Recommended Overnight Hotels



**Paralian Hotel, Hulhumale:** [www.paralian.mv](http://www.paralian.mv) Very clean and modern inside. Rooms are really nice. Restaurant on location. No alcohol served on island. Offer different level of rooms. Priced very reasonably. Breakfast included. Beach across the street. Airport pickups can be arranged. for a small fee. Great value. Hotel is very close to the Manthiri. More details on their website.



**Hotel Jen, Male:** [www.hoteljen.com/male/maldives/about](http://www.hoteljen.com/male/maldives/about) Outside of the hotel is very congested, but inside is beautiful and modern offering a variety of amenities. Multiple restaurants, roof top pool and restaurant, full service spa, mini gym. 4 room categories: Deluxe, Deluxe Ocean View, Executive, and Deluxe Suite. No alcohol served on island. Airport transfers with their own speed boat, only 7 minute ride. Offer guided walks of Male. Medium priced, good value. More details on their website.



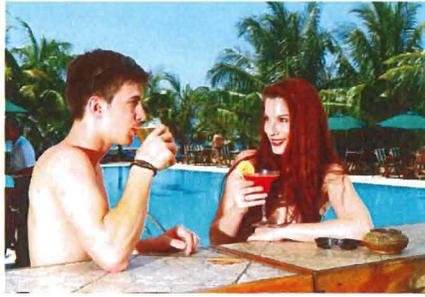
### **Bandos Island Resort:** [www.bandosmaldives.com](http://www.bandosmaldives.com)

Nice resort located only 10 minute speed boat ride from the airport. This is a great resort for people that want to spend a few days in the Maldives to relax in a resort atmosphere. The resort offers a lot of amenities. For activities they offer night fishing, island hopping, diving and snorkel trips, sunset dolphin cruise, glass bottom boat, sand bank picnic, whale shark expedition, male tour, water skiing, parasailing, banana boat riding, wake board, knee board, tubing, and canoeing. They offer a full service spa and gym. They offer multiple restaurants with an all inclusive option. Alcohol is served on island. Dive shop and recompression chamber and in house medical clinic on location. The island is beautiful has a very tropical look to it. Spend some time on their website.



### **Hotel Ocean Grand, Hulhumale:** [www.oceangrandmaldives.com](http://www.oceangrandmaldives.com) Located in

Hulhumale, a short distant from the Manthiri. This is an inexpensive simple hotel great for an overnight. Hotel offers multiple reasonably priced categories of rooms and restaurant on location. They can arrange activities: morning and night fishing, snorkeling, sunset cruise, private picnic, island hopping, dolphin safari, Male excursion, local island tour, and big game fishing. Nice inexpensive hotel for an overnight. No alcohol on island. Check out their website, great value.



**Hulhule Island Hotel:** [www.hih.com.mv](http://www.hih.com.mv) This hotel is on the airport island only a 10 minute walk or few minute free shuttle from the hotel. This resort is very convenient and rich in amenities. They offer multiple categories of rooms – Superior, Deluxe Sea View, Deluxe Garden View, and Super Deluxe with Jacuzzi. They have a beautiful pool, open air restaurant, beach with good snorkeling, two restaurants, nice sundeck to watch the sunset, star gazing, or watch the boats pass by, Champs Bar, fitness center, full spa, and free shuttles to town. For the return trip they offer a day pass with different packages. Day guests will have access to lockers, showers, pool, spa, and restaurants. They serve alcohol at this resort. Other activities at the resort: pool table, basketball, badminton, golf putting, tennis court, and beach volleyball. Check out their website for full details.

