

Thulusdhoo Island, North Male Atoll, Maldives Learn to Dive in Thulusdhoo

The diving

Thulusdhoo is a destination that brings together the best of the Maldives: the laid back local island vibe, beautiful beaches, hammocks between palm trees and good diving. What makes Thulusdhoo different from other great destinations, is a strong environmental focus and the work that is being done to re-establish coral on reefs that have been damaged during the coral bleaching event that occurred in 2016 in the Maldives and elsewhere.

Doing your course with our top professional and atmospheric dive center, will give you an experience to remember! Step by step, you will develop your diving skills and expand your knowledge to safely become a certified diver. And in this process, you will most likely see plenty of turtles, smaller sharks (all friendly and very scared of you though!) and if you do your course between June and October, you will most likely also see the magnificent manta rays during your dives!

A unique aspect of Thulusdhoo is that many guesthouses line the beach, all with their hammocks and chillout spaces creating one of the best beach vibes available in the Maldives. Being a surfing destination as well means that Thulusdhoo is a mecca for the young, fit and active crowd, so you will fit right in!



Area name / Island name

Thulusdhoo, Kaafu atoll, Maldives

Nearest airport

Velana International, Male (MLE)

Season

All year round - Best season is November to April for smooth weather

The Manta Ray season is from May to October

The surf season (best swells from May to October)

Center type

PADI/SSI dive centre

Experience level

No experience needed

You need to be able to swim 200m and float for 10 minutes

Minimum age for participation

10 Years

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Location

Thulusdhoo is an island where the surfing and the diving crowds live side by side on the beach. One block away is the real Maldives, the local village with its steady, slow pace of life, white sandy streets and green plants everywhere. It is all very pretty!

There is no alcohol on the island, but often, there is a really cool bar-boat just off the island, where you can quench your thirst with a cold beer, while the sun goes down and the tropical heat makes way for the comfortable evening breeze. From June to October you might even see manta rays feeding on the plankton which is attracted by the lights of the bar-boat! Take a mask and snorkel with you and join them in the warm water for an amazing encounter with these gentle giants.

Your guesthouse – Akiri Surf Grand

Just 20 meters from the bikini-beach you'll find the relaxed guesthouse of Akiri Surf Grand, and a few minutes of walking in the opposite direction will bring you to the dive center.

Your breakfast will be served in the cozy restaurant or outdoors in the lounging garden which is lush and green with endemic vegetation and trees to provide shade. Step out of the garden right onto the Bikini-beach to enjoy the turquoise waters. The guesthouse is very popular with surfers as well as divers which provides a great atmosphere.

Your Room

Each room has A/C, Fan, WIFI, television, refrigerator and a private bathroom with a hot shower. The rooms are cleaned daily.



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Introduction to course

The SSI Open Water Diver course is one of the most popular diving certificates worldwide. After completing this 3-4 day course you are certified to dive to a depth of 18 m independently with a buddy.

The course consists of six modules of learning. You study via self-study online app and complete knowledge reviews of each section online. This process is assisted by videos accompanying each section to reinforce what you have learned. Your instructor reviews everything with you to ensure that everything are confidently understood. The practical learning consists of confined water sessions (also called pool sessions but may be conducted in suitably shallow water off the beach) and four open water dives at suitable dive sites. Dives one and two are conducted at a depth of max 12 meters and dives three and four are conducted at max 18 meters deep. The final stage of the SSI Open Water Diver course is an exam, which is a multiple choice exam covering all that you have learnt. Remember that the course is performance based and not time based. The course generally takes 3 to 4 days, with the theoretical, the pool and the open water parts successfully passed.

WHEN TAKING THE COURSE

Diving is open to anyone in good health, but a medical form must be filled out before arrival. If you answer YES to any questions on the Medical Questionnaire, you will need medical clearance to dive. Students must also be able to swim at least 200 m and float for 10 min.



The course in short

Number of Dives

Five Confined Water Sessions and Four Open Water Dives

Knowledge Development

Five theoretical modules

Prerequisites

10 years for Junior Open Water Diver
15 years for Open Water Diver.
Good health, reasonable fitness and comfort in the water

Materials you'll need

SSI Open Water Crew Pack, Log Book (Not included in your package)

Equipment you'll use during the course

Mask, fins, snorkel, tank, regulator, buoyancy compensator, weightbelt, submersible pressure gauge and a wetsuit (Included in your package)

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Itinerary: 6 days and 5 nights - Open Water Diver Course

Day 1: Arrive Malé and hop on a speed boat to Thulusdhoo. The guesthouse will make your ferry/speedboat booking to Thulusdhoo and provide all details necessary for your transfer on an e-mail prior to your arrival. You will be met at the harbour on Thulusdhoo and taken to your guesthouse. Check in with the dive centre for a general orientation, to sign the papers for your course and to register for the theory materials if you did not do that prior to your arrival. You can receive the course materials prior to arrival if you want. You just need to request the link from the dive centre (you find the dive centre e-mail on your voucher).

Day 2: Spend the day at the beach while working through the theory. Or, if you requested your login to your theory module prior to arrival, and have finished it all, you can spend the day relaxing instead of studying. Depending on the schedule of the dive centre and instructors, you might already start diving today!

Day 3: Confined water training at the beach. Today, you will step by step go through the process of learning and understanding the waterskills necessary to complete your course. Bring sun protection cream!

Day 4: Two open water dives to 12 metres depth on beginner dive sites before lunch. After lunch your instructor may already spend the afternoon first reviewing all the theory that you have completed, after which you complete the exam. Alternatively, the afternoon may be spent with further confined water training. This depends on the judgment of your instructor and is based upon your progress and performance of the waterskills.

Day 5: The final two open water dives to 18 metres, and completion of course.

Day 6: Transfer by speedboat or ferry (your choice, but depending on the ferry schedule) to Malé/Airport. This is where we recommend that you book an extra night or 2, and go fundiving to add some pleasurable time under water and thoroughly enjoy your newly acquired skills...

If you want a longer itinerary, you can add extra days of diving and accommodation upon booking.

Please note

Due to ocean and weather conditions, the itinerary can be subject to change.



Activity starts
on the day after your arrival.

Activity starts from
Dive center

The dive center will contact you two weeks prior to arrival with the details of your speedboat or ferry transfer and meet you on arrival in Thulusdhoo

Group Size
No limit

Language
English

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Transfer Information

Unless you have booked a stay in Male or Hulhumale prior to departing to Thulusdhoo, you only need to walk out from the international terminal to the jetty where the speed launches stop for pick-up. (Just outside the airport).

There are three boat departures daily to Thulusdhoo, except on Fridays. The dive center will book you on the first boat after your arrival and send you all the details on how to find the boat, and what time to get on it by email, prior to your arrival in the Maldives. This will happen automatically 10 to 14 days prior to your arrival. However, you are more than welcome to contact the dive center for this information earlier, you will find the contact details on your voucher.



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Prices below are based on 2 persons sharing accommodation, unless stated otherwise.

LEARN TO DIVE - PRIVATE ACC.

Days / Nights	6/5
Amount of dives	4
Price (incl. accommodation)	842 EUR

Supplements

Extra day diving (2 dives) + 1 night private acc	203 EUR
Extra night in private room (after package)	52 EUR
Extra night in private room (before package)	52 EUR
Refresher dive - added to first dive	11 EUR

Prices for supplementary accommodation are based on 2 persons sharing accommodation, unless stated otherwise.

Supplements

A supplement can be chosen to add on your package. All supplements can also be booked on site. In high season, rooms and boats get filled fast - you might find trouble getting an extra night in your guesthouse or an extra day of diving. If you are booking a course, it is recommended to book an extra night of accommodation prior to your course, to get settled and get up front on the studying.



Included

Accommodation
Continental breakfast
All dive equipment
Dive Instructor fee

Not included

Course materials are paid locally choose between: SSI \$75, PADI \$130
Dinner
Lunch
Snacks and drinks
Transfer to island from Male (\$30 each way, subject to change)
Green Tax (\$3 per person per day)

Also available on site

Extra diving (can't be guaranteed in high season)
Extra accommodation (can't be guaranteed in high season)
Upgrading of room (can't be guaranteed in high season)
Kitesurfing, Surfing, Stand-up paddleboards

Continuing education

Courses are available on request for all levels of continuing education.
The dive center is a PADI and SSI Dive Centre

Cancellation

Please refer to FAQ & Terms on www.blueventure.net

Dive insurance

Basic dive travel insurance required

General terms and conditions

GENERAL CONDITIONS

CHANGES OF BOOKINGS:

You can change your booking request or start date free of charge.

If you need to change your booking you must contact the **dive center** directly by e-mail or phone. You will find the contact details on your voucher. For verification purpose, please remember to mention your name and booking ID.

If you want to change your start date, we recommend that you do so minimum 10 days before the beginning of your dive package. Later than this, might cause the accommodation to be fully booked for alternative dates. During high seasons, 10 days might not be sufficient time, please allow extra time for changes in the high season. As a reminder, you will receive an email with general information and contact information of your dive center 10 days prior to your start date.

CANCELLATION RULES:

Any customer has the right to cancel their booking with Blue Venture Diving. In order to do so, you must contact your selling agent. The cancellation fees and rules of your selling agent will apply for your cancellation.

Blue Venture is not liable for any cancellations done by the customer of personal reason such as/or in the same category as sickness, family, missed flights etc, or other circumstances that is beyond reasonable control such as force majeure.

Blue Venture booking cancellation

In the unlikely event that Blue Venture is forced to cancel a booking, the customer will get direct notice. A cancellation will only happen if Blue Venture finds that the contracted dive center can't perform the needed service of the booked package or if the dive standards can't be fulfilled accordingly. Minor changes in the itinerary will not be defined as a valid cancellation reason, as diving is dictated by the environment and the people enrolled in the activity.

Blue Venture will always do their best to find another operator of same or higher standard, but it is up to the customer to decide whether they want to accept the change or get a refund.

INSURANCE:

A cancellation insurance is not included. It is highly advised recommended that you obtain adequate travel insurance prior to your departure from your home country.

REFUNDS:

Medical Statement

To enroll in an Open Water Course, all students **MUST** fill in the Medical Statement. Please ensure that you have received the medical statement from your travel agent. If any questions are replied with a "Yes", the medical statement must be signed by a doctor. Failing the medical statement at the destination, and therefore not being able to enroll in the diving course, you will not be entitled to a refund.

If you have not received your Medical Statement, please make sure to print it from this link.

<https://blueventure.net/files/information/12.pdf>

Restricted dives

Diving is dictated by the environment and the people enrolled in the activity. All diving is performance based. It is up to the discretion of the dive guide/instructor to restrict divers from entering activities that goes beyond their experience level. All guides strive to reach the expectations of the customers. However, if they find that the safety of the group or an individual is jeopardized or at risk by one or several individuals, it is up to the dive guide/instructor to restrict any divers from entering the water.

In this event the dive center or Blue Venture is not obliged to give a refund.

Dives not completed

There is no refund for dives not carried out.

Refund for dives not done for any reason is up to the discretion of the dive center. Most dive centers do not give refunds for dives not done with personal causes such as seasickness, low on air situations or a failure in mastering the equipment etc. All log books will be checked prior to the dive and the dive sites will be chosen accordingly to the experience level. It is however expected that certified divers keep within their limits and do not cross their comfort zone. Blue Venture and your travel agent is never responsible to pay a refund for dives not done.

Courses not completed

There is no refund for courses not completed! All courses are performance based, but it is up to the instructor to pass the student. If a customer can not complete a course with success they will receive their course documents for an optional referral, but the contracted dive center, your travel agent and Blue Venture is not responsible to pay a refund.

Boats or dives not departing

If boats or dives are cancelled due to bad weather or sea conditions, it is up to the dive center to re-schedule and compensate with a similar dive trip when conditions allow. If the customer does not have adequate time to enroll in another trip/course it is up to the customer to make sure the dive center notify Blue Venture of this in order to secure a refund via the sales agent who completed the sale with the customer. There will only be refund on the diving and not the accommodation.

ACCOMMODATION:

Unless mentioned in the destination information folder the accommodation is always part of the package.

If the dive center by any means can't deliver the agreed accommodation, it is up to their discretion to supply immediate accommodation of the same or higher standard. (the destination information folder is found on the Blue Venture website.)

If the accommodation somehow does not live up to satisfactory standards of the customer, the customer must contact Blue Venture by phone or email as soon as possible (preferably while still on site) in order to solve the problem.

DIVE INSTRUCTORS & DIVE GUIDES:

All contracted dive centers has been handpicked based on their level of professionalism and expertise. Blue Venture ensures that all guides and instructors have the correct education and experience. In the unlikely event that a customer suffers a bad experience with any guide, instructor or dive center facilities, Blue Venture is entitled to know, but can't by any means be held liable.

At the end of you dive experience as questionnaire will be sent out to you, that we would like you to answer. By doing this, you help securing a high level of professionalism towards all customers.

MEDICAL STATEMENT & LOGBOOK:

If you are about to enroll in a dive course (entry level only), you must fill out the RSTC Medical Statement before you leave your home country. Please make sure your agent has provided you with the RSTC Medical Statement. You can also print the medical statement from the link, further up on this page. If you need the medical statement reviewed by a doctor, you have 10 days from the date of the booking with the option of cancelling for free.

If you are already certified as a diver and about to go fundiving, you must remember your current dive certificate and your personal logbook or dive computer.