

Fulidhoo Island, Vaavu Atoll, Maldives Learn to Dive + Deep Dive in Fulidhoo

Learning to dive in the Maldives is guaranteed to give you an experience you will never forget. The water is lovely and warm and there is colourful fish and marine life everywhere! Doing your initial course from Fulidhoo will, besides the great marine environment, provide you with a professional education, and a good learning experience. Starting slowly, with the skills in shallow water, you will build up step-by-step, to go diving inside the atoll of Vaavu.

But keep in mind, for most people, the diving in Vaavu Atoll is all about getting out to the channels where the currents are thriving along with the big fish! We're talking blue water and beautiful sharks and rays! You will not be diving here during your regular open water course.

But... with THIS package, you have chosen to upgrade to the "Learn to Dive + Deep Dive," where an extra day is added to your course. On this extra day, you go and do the PADI Adventure Deep dive, from the PADI Advanced course, which should give you the knowledge and skills to safely conduct a dive at one of the big channel dive sites. Giving you that mindblowing dive that will stick in your memory forever!

When you're not diving, staying on an inhabited island is a fantastic experience. There are roughly 200 inhabitants living in Fulidhoo, and they are warm, funny and laid-back. During your stay, you'll mingle with the locals and witness a way of life that has been perfected over the years - slow living, which revolves around family, fishing and food!



Vaavu Atoll / Fulidhoo Island
Maldives

Nearest airport
Male International Airport

Season
All year round.

Center type
PADI 5 star Resort

Experience level
No diving experience required
You need to be able to swim 200m
and float for 10 minutes

Minimum age for participation
12 Years

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Location

Fulidhoo sits on the northern edge of Vaavu Atoll and lies just a few hours away from the equator. At 700m long and 200m wide, it's not much more than a sliver of sand in the vast ocean. Yet thanks to the availability of fresh water, local vegetation and the bountiful sea, its remote community has thrived for centuries. Arriving on the island, you will quickly feel how your pace slows down as you get lulled into island life. There are a few cafés on this small island, and a beautiful bikini beach in a quiet lagoon, but besides that... there is not much else than lots of green vegetation and white sand. Oh, and the cool fruitbats in the trees, the stingrays feeding around the little jetty in the evening, the friendly people living on the island, their drumming nights and of course the ridiculously blue and warm water surrounding the island.

Your Guesthouse

Seena Inn was built in 2017 and is located just next to the local school and of course, the beach. (It's all one big beach). The guesthouse has a kitchen that serves a simple breakfast in the morning (included).

Your room

The lovely rooms all come with double or twin beds. A third bed can be added for families or for groups of 3. The rooms all have A/C, a fan and hot water in the private bathrooms. The rooms are spacious, light and cozy, with a small private balcony.



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Introduction to course

The PADI Open Water Diver course is the most popular diving certificate worldwide. After completing this 3-4 day course you are certified to dive to 18m independently with a buddy. The course consists of five modules of learning. You study via a self-study workbook or offline-app, completing knowledge reviews for each chapter. This process is complemented by videos accompanying each chapter to reinforce what you have learned. The instructor reviews everything with you to ensure that you have fully understood everything. The practical learning consists of confined water lagoon sessions and four open water dives. Dive one and two are conducted at a depth of maximum 12m and dive three and four are conducted at a maximum depth of 18m. The final stage of the PADI Open Water 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 confined water lagoon and the open water sessions 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

5 Confined Water Sessions and 4 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

PADI Open Water Crew Pack, Log Book (included in your package)

Equipment you'll use during the course

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

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Itinerary - 6 days and 5 nights

The PADI Open Water Course is performance based. That means you have to understand and pass the theory and perform the in-water skills correctly and with ease. Therefore, the itinerary can vary slightly from course to course. The course will take 3 to 4 days depending on the students enrolled. To give you an idea of what to expect, see the sample itinerary below:

Day 1 - Arrive with the ferry, walk down to the resort and check in. From there, you will be shown to your room and the dive center. Once you've settled, you'll return to the dive center to fill in all the necessary paperwork, watch the first videos and discuss the course schedule for the coming days.

Day 2 - Theory and confined water sessions

Day 3 - Theory and confined or open water sessions

Day 4 - Exam and open water dives

Day 5 - Depending on how comfortable you are in the water after your Open Water Course, this is the day where you will complete your PADI Adventure Deep Dive. This will either take place in one of the channels or if you are not feeling ready, don't worry, you will just take this extra day of diving inside the atoll, which will also be a good experience.

Day 6 - This is your day to take your foot of the gas. You need to allow 24 hours between your last dive, and flying. If you are not flying within the next 24 hours we highly recommend that you go and use your new certificate, with some fundiving!

Day 7 - Relax & check out. (Or extend your stay and go fun diving some more!)

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

Meet at 0815am in the dive shop
Check with your dive center for changes the day prior to your diving

Activity starts from

The dive center

Group Size

Courses: Max. 4 divers per instructor
Fun diving: Max. 8 per guide

Language

English

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Transfer

Fulidhoo feels remote, but it's actually surprisingly easy to get to. It's a far flung desert island in a convenient location! Situated just south of South Male Atoll, on the northern perimeter of Vaavu Atoll, there are very few resorts in the area, which means that dive sites are often completely deserted and boat traffic is considerably less than in the Male atolls. Despite this, it only takes just over an hour to get here from the capital. There is also a ferry connection between Fulidhoo and Maafushi Island.

Upon booking, the dive center will be notified regarding your arrival date. Please make sure you contact the dive center with your flight information in order for them to arrange your transfer accordingly! You have the option of travelling by public ferry which departs three times a week, or by daily speedboat (except Fridays).

10 days prior to your trip, you and the dive center will receive an e-mail reminder. If you have not contacted the dive center yet, this is a good time to do so!

You can find all the contact details for the dive center on your voucher.



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

LEARN TO DIVE + DEEP DIVE	
Days / Nights	7/6
Amount of dives	6
Price (incl. accommodation)	881 EUR

Supplements	
Extra day of diving (3 dives)	162 EUR
Extra night (after package)	37 EUR
Extra night (before package)	37 EUR
Refresher added to 1st dive (certified divers)	28 EUR
Upgrade to Hathaa Retreat, per night - 3pax shared	36 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 and you might find trouble getting an extra night of accommodation or an extra day of diving. If you are booking a course, it is recommended to book an extra night of accommodation prior your course, to get settled and get up front on the studying.



Included

6 nights of accommodation in deluxe room
PADI Open Water Course
1 extra day of diving (2 dives)
PADI Adventure Deep Dive study materials
All course materials for Open Water Course
Breakfast at guesthouse
Snacks, on dive trips
Dive equipment during course

Not included

Green Tax (\$6 per person per day)
Dinner
Lunch
*Boat transfer to Fulidhoo island

Also available on site

Extra days of diving
Extra nights of accommodation
Snorkeling

Continuing education

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

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>

Medical statements, specifically for courses in Cairns (Australia)

Entry level (E.g. Open Water course)

<https://blueventure.net/files/required/138.pdf>

Continuing education (e.g. advanced course)

<https://blueventure.net/files/required/139.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.