blueventure
away to sea

Big Blue Divers, Rasdhoo, Maldives

Advanced Course, Rasdhoo (Private room)

The diving

Dangling like a string of pearls below the Indian subcontinent, the Maldives has always been the picture perfect fantasy of tropical island holidays. With only lush islands in the horizon for hundreds of miles, the crystal clear waters of the Indian Ocean is a paradise for water lovers. What sets the Maldives apart from other destinations is the teeming abundance of marine life. Due to the strict sustainable fishing policies, the ecosystems are intact and the reefs are healthy and BEAUTIFUL!

The location of Rasdhoo is within easy reach of some of the most legendary dive sites where all kinds of amazing sea creatures gives the impression of swimming around in a perfect aquarium. It is rather amazing really.

And when it comes to your course... the Advanced Open Water course is very different from all the other courses. THIS course is all about having fun, while gaining experience and more confidence in the water. Your skills as a diver, will slowly be developed over 5 dives. By the end of this course, you will be certified to dive to a maximum of 30 meters, and have gained a lot more comfort and control in the water. And all of this, at one of the worlds best diving destinations!

Area name / Island name
Rasdhoo, Alif Alif, Maldives

Nearest airport
Male (MLE)

Season
All year round

Center type
PADI Dive Center

Experience level
PADI Open Water Diver or equilavent

Minimum age for participation
15 Years

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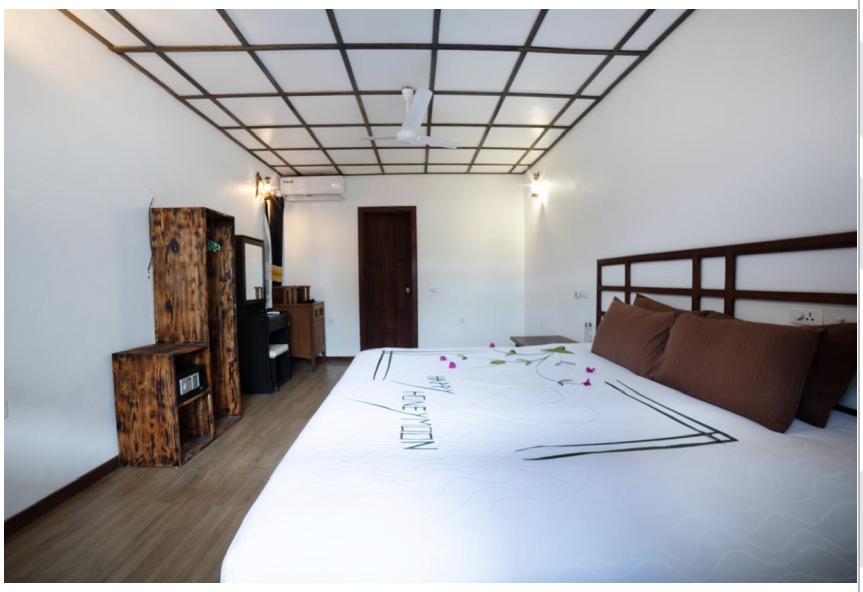
Location
Rasdhoo is a fine little atoll 32 miles west of the capital Male. Consisting of only four islands and a deserted sandbank, the numbers of visitors to this atoll is charmingly low, and Rasdhoo Island still enjoys a largely undiscovered status. Staying on a local inhabited island provides a very different, very REAL Maldivian experience, where the locals are eager to welcome explorers. Rasdhoo has a population of 1200, and is very proud to have a post office and even an ATM.

Your resort
Madivaru Kro is a guesthouse in Rasdhoo on the main street. It has a cozy shared lounge area, and a lovely terrace for relaxation. Guests can enjoy an on-site barbecue if they wish, as well as room service. Free Wi-Fi is also available. Bikini Beach is just a short walk away.

Your Room
All rooms at the guesthouse include a wardrobe, air conditioning, and a safe box. Each room has a private bathroom with a bidet, free toiletries, and a hairdryer. There are six rooms in total—four rooms are quadruple and two of them are double room.



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Introduction to course
The PADI Advanced Open Water course will get you even more comfortable in the water by simply completing five adventure dives under the supervision of a PADI Instructor. If you're looking to build your confidence and gain more experience, this is the natural next step on the ladder.

The course is designed so you can go straight into it after the Open Water Diver course. The Advanced Open Water Diver course helps you increase your confidence and build your diving skills so you can become more comfortable in the water. This is a great way to get more dives under your belt while continuing to learn under the supervision of your PADI instructor. This course builds on what you've learned and develops new capabilities by introducing you to new activities and new ways to have fun diving.

You'll alter your skills by completing 5 adventure dives that introduce you to:

- Underwater navigation
- Deeper water diving (typically anywhere from 18-30 meters)
- A sample of 3 Adventure Dives of your choice.

You you and your instructor choose from 15 types of Adventure Dives to complete your course. You can combine your own course choosing between special dives offered on the location, like for example digital underwater photography, wreck diving, night diving, peak performance buoyancy and much more.

Best part about the Advanced course is: There is NO exam! Just lots of good diving.

WHEN TAKING THE COURSE

The Advanced course is a sure step. To enroll, you need to be certified as PADI Open Water Diver or equivalent. A refresher dive is recommended prior to the course if you've been out of the water for more than 6 months or have little experience. (Yet)

The course in short:

Number of Dives:
5 Open Water Dives

Knowledge Development:
Five theoretical modules

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

Materials you'll need:
PADI Open Water Crew Pack

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 - 5 days and 4 night

Day 1:
Arrive Male and hop on a speed boat to Rasdhoo. Big Blue Divers Centre will make your booking to Rasdhoo and provide all details necessary for your transfer. You will be met at the harbour on arrival and taken to your guesthouse. Take a dip in the ocean or stroll around the island until evening when it is time to check in with the Dive Centre to register for the next day's diving. If you arrive in the morning and want to get in the water right away, step into the dive centre and register for the afternoon dive.

Day 2:
Read the theory for your first adventure dives (can also be done in advance online), practical sessions with your instructor where required, and 2-3 dives.

Day 3:
The remaining course dives to make a total of 5 dives are completed.

Day 4:
A day to get the Nitrogen out of your system, relaxing, or exploring the island. If you have a late flight on your departure day, you can do a few more fun dives.

Day 5:
Check-out and departure.

We highly recommend you book at least one extra night, so you can go fundiving at the end of your course, or relax on the beach.

Your days on the island can also include several excursions, you will receive an activity planner where you can tick the box of which sunset champagne trip, sandbank picnic, island or snorkeling trip you want to join. These excursions are NOT included. They can easily be arranged for a fee paid locally to the dive center.

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

Activity starts
The day after arrival.

Please note that daily start times can vary from course to course. You will be notified upon arrival.

Activity start from
Dive center

Please contact your dive center no later than one week prior arrival - to confirm your arrival and pick-up times at the pier

Group Size
Max. 6 divers per. Instructor

Language
English + Danish

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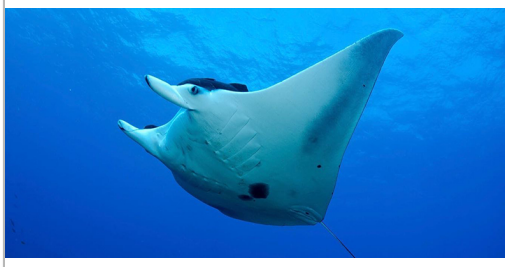
Transfer Information

Please Note:
Friday often has irregular ferry services. It is recommended that you do not arrive or depart on Fridays!

Public ferries depart from Male on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday at 9am from the Vilingili ferry terminal in Male ($3.50 one way). Ferries return from Rasdhoo to Male on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

Speedboats departs from airport/Male to Rasdhoo at 10:30am and 4pm on every day. ($30 one way). Departure times are 07:30 am and 1:30pm every day. Friday 2:30pm.

Private speedboard hire is available for $750 one way, for up to 20 pax. Doing night is available for $950



Important
You need to let the dive center know your arrival at least one week inadvance.

Important Note!
The dive center will help you book the transfer from Male and back. Just contact the dive center minimum 1 week prior to your trip starts. You find the dive center contact information on your voucher.

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

ADVANCED COURSE W. PRIVATE ROOM	
Days / Nights	5/4
Amount of dives	5
Price (incl. accommodation)	714 EUR

Supplements	
2x extra dives incl. equipment	114 EUR
Extra nights of accommodation (after package)	52 EUR
Extra nights of accommodation (pre package)	52 EUR
Refresher dive (added to 1st dive)	98 EUR
Supplemental child (pr. night) (max 10 years old)	52 EUR

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

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

Included
Diving as stated in package
Breakfast at hotel
Accommodation in private room
Snacks, on dive trips
Equipment

Not included
Dinner
Lunch
Transfer to/from Male
$6 Green Tax per person/per night

Also available on site
Extra diving
Extra accommodation
Upgrading of room
Full board packages

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

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

Dive insurance
Basic dive travel insurance required

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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.