blueventure
away to sea

Big Blue Divers, Rasdhoo, Maldives

Learn to dive in 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 give the impression of swimming around in a perfect aquarium. It is rather amazing really.

Together with your instructor, you will start slowly from the beach, learning the skills in water that is shallow and clear, and slowly progressing through the course and out on to the reef. It does not get much more unspoiled and we consider it quite an extraordinary place to get your license to dive.

Area name / Island name
Rasdhoo, Alif Alif, Maldives

Nearest airport
Male (MLE)

Season
All year round

Center type
PADI Dive Centre

Experience level
None
Students must be able to swim 200 meters and thread water for 10 minutes

Minimum age for participation
10 Years

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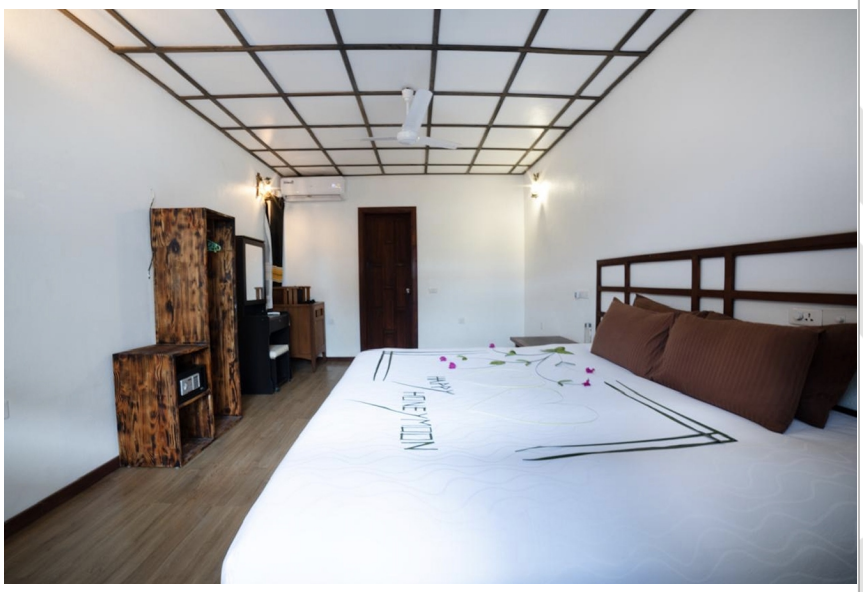
Location
Rasdhoo is a fine little atoll 32 miles west of the capital Male. Consisting of only four islands and a deserted sandbank, the numbers of visitors to this atoll is charmingly low, and Rasdhoo Island still enjoys a largely undiscovered status. Staying on a local inhabited island provides a very 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 Open Water Diver course is the most popular diving certificate worldwide. After completing this 3-4 day course you are certified to dive to 18 m independently with a buddy. The course consists of five modules of learning. You study via self-study workbook and complete a knowledge review. This process is assisted by videos accompanying each chapter to reinforce what you have learned.

The instructor reviews everything with you to ensure that everything are confidently understood. The practical learning consists of pool sessions and four open water dives. Dive one and two are conducted at a depth of max 12 meters and dive three and four are conducted at max 18 meters.

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 pool and the open water part successfully passed.

WHEN TAKING THE COURSE

Diving is a very safe sport. It is open to anyone in good health but a medical form must be filled out before starting the course. Students must also be able to swim at least 200 meters and float for 10 minutes.

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 will need
PADI Open Water Crew Pack, Log Book (Not included in your package, but is obtained at dive center for USD 70)

Equipment you will 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 - Open Water Diver Course

Day 1:
Arrive Male. If you have cleverly booked your flight to arrive in time to catch a transfer to Rasdhoo, you won't need to overnight in Male. Take speedboat transfer to Rasdhoo, check in to your guesthouse and enjoy a coffeé from one of the local hangouts of Alimente, Mahalo or Gabbiano - beach café or watch the sunset from bikini beach. If you arrived by morning ferry you have half a day left to snorkel the house reef, chill on the beach and discover the island. Check in with the Dive Centre to get your activity planner and plan your activities with the dive instructor.

Day 2 - 5:
The Dive Center runs the dive courses and fun dives on a system where you can determine your own agenda. Every day has time slots for different training modules and training dives, and you choose your preferred times to work through the modules.

Your included excursions are on the activity planner too, just check the box of which sunset champagne trip, night fishing, sandbank, picnic island or snorkeling trip you want to join.

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

Extra trips
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 extra excursions are not included in the package. They can easily be arranged for a fee paid locally to the dive center.

Activity starts
Courses are run on a daily basis
start dates vary by request.

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

Activity starts 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 pr. Instructor

Language
Guaranteed: English
On request: 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.

LEARN TO DIVE W. PRIVATE ROOM	
Days / Nights	6/5
Amount of dives	4
Price (incl. accommodation)	909 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
PADI Open Water Course
All Course materials
Accommodation
Breakfast
Snacks, on dive trips
Equipment
Dive instructor and certification fee

Not included
Dinner
Lunch
Transfer to/from Male

Additionally, a Green Tax of $6 per night is charged for both adults and children.

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

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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.