

# 8 DAYS NORTH ARI LOCAL ISLAND HOPPING

**VALID TILL: 30 APRIL 2016**

Our North Ari island hopping tour is designed to allow guests more flexibility and choice. Part of the excitement of travelling is arriving at a new destination and exploring. We are also aware that on some days you may wake up and decide today I fancy doing nothing. With this tour we will do the groundwork for you. We will book all accommodation and breakfast, organise and assist with your public ferry transfers and ensure there is always a guide on hand. This leaves you the responsibility of deciding what you want to do and when you want to do it. All of which can be organised during your trip or in advance if you prefer a more scheduled itinerary.

There are plenty of activities for you to select from including but not limited to discover SCUBA diving, diving, sunset cruises, snorkeling, windsurfing, kite surfing, evening fishing trips, sandbank visits, resort day visits and beach BBQs. We are also happy to tailor-make your tour should you wish to shorten or extend your trip.

All of our guesthouse accommodation is handpicked to provide a balance of comfort, good service, local atmosphere and value for money. We have chosen a selection of locally operated guesthouses that provide comfortable clean rooms, friendly service and good food. All rooms have en-suite bathrooms, AC, ceiling fans and complimentary Wi-Fi, whilst water, tea and coffee is always available. Most of the guesthouses are single or double story comprised of a maximum of 10 rooms. Some are set facing out to the ocean with a terrace or balcony. Others are built around a private garden or beach area, but in each you can be assured of a warm welcome.

Note: The Maldives is a Muslim country and therefore alcohol is not available on local islands. Subject to availability day/evening visits to resorts can be arranged. Bikinis are also not allowed to be worn on local island beaches; however most of our guesthouses offer private gardens or private beach areas for guests.

Hulhumale, North Male Atoll, is a suburban island just a 10-minute taxi ride from Male International Airport. This artificial island was reclaimed from the sea to offer alternative living space outside of Male and whilst not a 5\* resort Hulhumale provides the ideal base as a start or finishing point to Maldives holiday.

There are plenty of local coffee shops and restaurants. A small local shopping area, bank and hospital. The beach located along the east side of the island is an endless stretch of sand and provides the ideal location to swim, snorkel or just relax. The capital Male is just a 20 minute ferry journey away and for those who like to end their day with a beer the only hotel serving alcohol on a local island is a short bus journey close to the airport.

The island of Rasdhoo is surrounded by the breathtaking ocean and is approximately 60km from Male. Rasdhoo is an inhabited local island offering a great place to see the culture of Maldivian people with a population of around 600.

Ukulhas is situated in north Ari Atoll an area widely regarded as one of the best diving spots in the world. Ukulhas has an abundance of green vegetation as well as beautiful white sandy beaches and provides the ideal opportunity to discover Maldivian culture.

Mathiveri is a small island. A large part of the community is involved in yellow fin tuna fishing. There are a couple of local restaurants and a handful of souvenir and local shops. In the center of the island is a 500 year old Banyan tree which acts as a landmark from the ocean. The lagoon is large and clear and when the season is right it is possible to snorkel or swim with manta rays on the outside reef. The island has a private tourist beach with sun umbrellas and sun loungers.

## ITINERARY

### DAY ONE:

Upon arrival at Male International Airport you will be greeted and transferred to your guesthouse on Hulhumale. Settle in after your flight before taking your first steps on the sands of this tropical urban paradise. For those arriving early there is an optional walking tour to the island of Vilingili situated on the west side of Male which is often described as the 'quieter side of Male'.

### DAY TWO:

This morning your tour leader will accompany you to Male to transfer by early morning local ferry to the local island of Rasdhoo, North Ari Atoll. Upon arrival you will have time to settle in before taking lunch. Following a briefing on the island and activities available the rest of the day is yours to do as you please. Complimentary island tour for any guests wishing to join. Rasdhoo is close to some of the best dive sites in the Maldives so if you're a diver get yourself signed up at the local dive centre. Divers may wish for an early start tomorrow and opt to join a dive to Hammerhead Point.

### DAY THREE:

Following breakfast the day is yours to do as you please. There are regular snorkeling excursions giving non divers the opportunity to discover the colorful marine life and coral reefs in this area. Alternatively, join the catamaran sailing excursion (subject to availability) and spend the day cruising, sunbathing, snorkeling and swimming.

### DAY FOUR:

Today transfer by public ferry late morning to the next local island destination of Ukulhas. You will arrive just in time for lunch. Following a briefing on the island and activities available, the rest of the day is yours once more to do as you please. Complimentary island tour for any guests wishing to join. Not only does Ukulhas have some beautiful beaches the local community here are particularly friendly and will be delighted to engage in conversation with you and show off their home island.

### DAY FIVE:

Following breakfast the day is yours to do as you please. For the energetic enjoy the many excursions available including diving, snorkeling and a variety of watersports. For those less active perhaps an excursion with a picnic lunch to a nearby sandbank or uninhabited desert island suits.

### DAY SIX:

Today the morning is yours to enjoy as you please. Lunch will be taken before boarding the local ferry to head to our third island destination of Mathiveri. Once again you will be provided with a briefing on the island and activities available. Spend the remainder of the afternoon exploring the island, browse the souvenir shops. Stop for a refreshing drink at a local café or just relax by the ocean listening to the gentle lap of the waves on the shore. Complimentary island tour for any guests wishing to join.

### DAY SEVEN:

Following breakfast the day is yours to do as you please. Perhaps visit Mathiveri Finolhu, a private uninhabited island fringed with a white sandy beach and surrounded by crystal clear water. As this is an uninhabited island, it is possible to wear a bikini.

### DAY EIGHT:

Following an early breakfast join the public ferry for the return journey to Male. Arriving back in Male at 14:00 your tour leader will assist with your transfer onto Male International Airport where your tour ends.

**INCLUDED**

- ✓ 7 Night Standard room 2\* guesthouse accommodation based on double/twin share
- ✓ 7 Breakfasts
- ✓ All guest house facilities including tea/coffee, daily bottle of water and free Wi-Fi
- ✓ Airport and domestic transfer assistance
- ✓ Local Island Return transfer by public ferry
- ✓ Complimentary Local island tours
- ✓ Services of Tour guide
- ✓ Local Tax

<b>2016 RACK RATES</b>		<b>DOUBLE SHARE PER PERSON</b>	
<b>PACKAGE</b>	<b>Nights</b>	<b>Jan/Feb/March/Apr</b>	<b>May/June/July</b>
		11th Jan - 30th Apr 2016	1st May - 31st July 2016
ARI ATOLL HOP	7	775	599

<b>2016 RACK RATES</b>		<b>SINGLE PER PERSON</b>		<b>CHILD 2-12 Years</b>
<b>PACKAGE</b>	<b>Nights</b>	<b>Jan/Feb/March/Apr</b>	<b>May/June/July</b>	<b>All Year</b>
		11th Jan - 30th Apr 2016	1st May - 31st July 2016	
ARI ATOLL HOP	7	1199	925	349

(SP:30/01/16)

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