

# 11 DAYS NORTH MALE LOCAL ISLAND HOPPING

VALID TILL: 30 APRIL 2016

Looking for a longer Maldives adventure? Our North Male island hopping tour over 10 days provides the opportunity to combine local island life with activities and relaxation. Learn and practice some of the crafts traditional to the Maldives. Put your cooking skills to the test in a family kitchen as you learn to prepare a typical Maldivian lunch. There is plenty of time to allow the energetic to enjoy optional activities that include snorkeling, diving and surfing. North Male Atoll has been popular with surfers for some time thanks to a variety of breaks that stay fairly consistent. For those who are looking to enjoy some time on the world's famous white sandy beaches we spend a lazy couple of days at the end of the tour enjoying a picture perfect postcard beach.

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.

Himmafushi, located 17 km north of the capital Male is a typical fishing island with about 750 inhabitants, sandy roads and palm trees. You can walk around the island in approx. 40min and watch the locals going after their daily routine. Visit the local boat building yard to see the carpenters at work. It doesn't matter if you just want to relax, snorkel around or catch waves - all possibilities are available on this island.

Huraa is located between the resorts of Club Med and Four Seasons. It is a very traditional island with a close knit community that will take you in to their lives and shows you typical Maldives local life. Huraa has a brackish water mangrove to the North of the island and the island as a whole has plenty of vegetation. With a small tourist beach, a handful of local and souvenir shops and local cafes, Huraa provides an ideal base for an insight into the real Maldives.

Thulusdhoo is the capital of Kaafu Atoll of Maldives. Primarily famous as a surfing destination because the island allows access to one of the most popular surf breaks in the country, Cokes. Most of the guesthouses in the island cater to surfers who only require basic facilities and don't demand a lot of superior amenities that the higher-end guesthouses offer, but more and more guesthouses designed to attract a wider variety of travelers are opening up in the island.

Dhiffushi, is surrounded by a turquoise lagoon and pristine white sandy beaches; a typical postcard tropical island which can be unusual for a local island. Dhiffushi is a very typical Maldivian local island currently with 5 guesthouses. Dhiffushi is located in North Male Atoll and has been inhabited for a very long time. It is a well-known fishing island. There is a lovely white sand tourist beach with sun loungers and bikinis can be worn and you can see the ocean from almost any spot on the island. There are a few local cafes and a population of circa 1500. Day visits to nearby resorts are available subject to availability and there are snorkeling excursions and sunset cruises on offer.

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 WiFi, 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.

## 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 Vilingilli situated on the west side of Male and is often described as the 'quieter side of Male'.

### DAY TWO:

This morning your tour leader will accompany you on a tour of the capital city before transferring by local ferry to the local island of Himmufushi, North Male. In Male visit the fish market and local market and heritage sites including Presidents Palace, Sultan Park and Friday Mosque. Stop for lunch at one of the many restaurants overlooking the water front before boarding the afternoon ferry. Upon arrival you will have time to settle in before and perhaps take either a relaxing walk or a swim. Dinner this evening is taken in the home of a local family with your first opportunity to sample traditional Maldives cuisine.

### DAY THREE:

Following breakfast explore Himmufushi accompanied by your tour leader. You will have the opportunity to learn about the local way of life including a visit to the Mosque. At the boatyard learn how the common wooden boat known locally as a 'dhoni' is built. If the season is right you could pick your own fresh mango! For the energetic there are optional activities which include surfing, snorkeling and diving. Mid-afternoon depart by public ferry to the island of Huraa. Once settled into your guesthouse it will be time for Maldives evening tea, 'hedika' - Maldivian savoury and sweet snacks served with black tea at a local café. Sit at the harbor and enjoy the beauty of a Maldives sunset.

### DAY FOUR:

Breakfast this morning is taken with a local family allowing you true access to Maldivian local life. The morning will be spent exploring the island. Learn about the mangroves and their importance to the Maldives eco system and visit the local 'Rihaakura' producing business. Following lunch you will visit the local wood turning business and under the supervision and guidance of the craftsman assist in the production of souvenir products such as trinket boxes or jewelry. This evening you will be taken out on a fishing boat to learn the art of traditional Maldivian line fishing. Your catch will be BBQ'd in the traditional way on the beach for dinner.

### DAY FIVE:

Following breakfast this morning some of the ladies of the village will share with you traditional crafts. Learn to weave palm fronds, create sweeping brushes from palm and perhaps make coir rope, while the men will teach you how to knot the seat of the traditional chair the 'joali'. Then it is in to the kitchen to learn how to cook a traditional Maldives lunch which you will share with the family in their home. The afternoon is yours to do as you please. Relax on the beach or for the more energetic participate in the many watersports available. Dinner this evening served at your guesthouse.

### DAY SIX:

As part of our commitment to supporting local communities and giving something back, a 2 hour beach clean will be arranged this morning. Involvement is optional, however, should you choose to join your efforts will be rewarded with fresh coconut water! Otherwise you can choose to relax on the beach or for those feeling energetic participate in the various optional watersport activities on offer including diving surf trips to the close by surf break..... We leave Huraa late afternoon and take the public ferry to our next island destination of Thulusdhoo. Dinner this evening served at

your guesthouse.

#### **DAY SEVEN:**

Today is spent on an uninhabited picnic island, imagine white sandy beaches and aqua marine water. Here you will have the opportunity to swim, snorkel or just lie back and relax. A picnic lunch will be provided. Dinner this evening served at your guesthouse.

#### **DAY EIGHT:**

Following breakfast there will be the opportunity to explore Thulusdhoo accompanied by your tour leader. Thulusdhoo is home to the world's only desalinated Coca Cola production plant and a tour will take you behind the scenes of this facility. There are optional excursions to the nearby surf break of Chickens. Late afternoon transfer by public ferry to our final destination, the local island of Dhiffushi. Dinner served at guesthouse.

#### **DAY NINE:**

Following breakfast at the guesthouse you will be taken on a morning snorkeling trip in search of Nemo and the many beautiful multi coloured coral and marine life in the Maldives. On return to Dhiffushi the rest of the day is free for you to relax on the beach and do as you please. Dinner will be taken on the roof of the guesthouse under the stars.

#### **DAY TEN:**

Today is a completely free day to enjoy the white sandy beach on Dhiffushi. There are optional excursions and watersport activities for those feeling more energetic. A day visit to a resort can also be arranged for those wishing to experience the luxury style of life in the Maldives. Dinner this evening will be served on the beach.

#### **DAY ELEVEN:**

Following an early breakfast join the public ferry for the return journey to Male. Arriving back in Male at 09:45 your tour leader will assist with your transfer onto Male International Airport where your tour ends.

#### **INCLUDED**

- ✓ 10 Night Standard room 2\* guesthouse accommodation based on double/twin share
- ✓ 8 Dinners including local dinner and BBQ
- ✓ 1 Local Lunch
- ✓ 1 Picnic Lunch
- ✓ Airport and domestic transfer assistance
- ✓ Local Island Return transfer by public ferry
- ✓ Cultural activities as detailed in itinerary
- ✓ Hedika Experience
- ✓ Evening Fishing trip
- ✓ Snorkeling Trip
- ✓ Picnic Island visit
- ✓ Male Tour and Local island tour
- ✓ Services of Tour guide
- ✓ Local Tax

2016 RACK RATES		DOUBLE SHARE PER PERSON	
PACKAGE	Nights	Jan/Feb/March/Apr	May/June/July
		11th Jan - 30th Apr 2016	1st May - 31st July 2016
NORTH MALE HOP	10	1499	1349

2016 RACK RATES		SINGLE PER PERSON		CHILD 2-12 Years
PACKAGE	Nights	Jan/Feb/March/Apr	May/June/July	All Year
		11th Jan - 30th Apr 2016	1st May - 31st July 2016	
NORTH MALE HOP	10	NA	NA	899

(SP:30/01/16)

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