KANDOOMA

MALDIVES

Scuba Diving

1 October 2026 - 31 December 2027

Scuba diving in the Maldives unveils an aquatic wonderland that captivates the senses and leaves an indelible imprint on the soul. With its crystalline waters, vibrant coral reefs, and diverse marine life, this archipelago nation is a paradise for underwater enthusiasts seeking an unparalleled exploration of the deep blue.

KANDOOMA ALL-INCLUSIVE

F E A T U R E S

DIVE FREE*

1 FREE DIVE EVERY DAY

Minimum of four consecutive nights

Certified divers only

*T&Cs apply

Imagine a resort where Scuba Diving is on your doorstep and is complimentary. At Kandooma Maldives, as part of the all-inclusive programme, receive 1 dive per person per day when you stay a minimum of four consecutive nights. This offer includes boat, air/Nitrox, equipment and a guide.

For the detailed terms and conditions, please refer to the second last page.

Best Dive Resort 2023

Maldives' Leading Dive Resort 2025

KANDOOMA DIVE

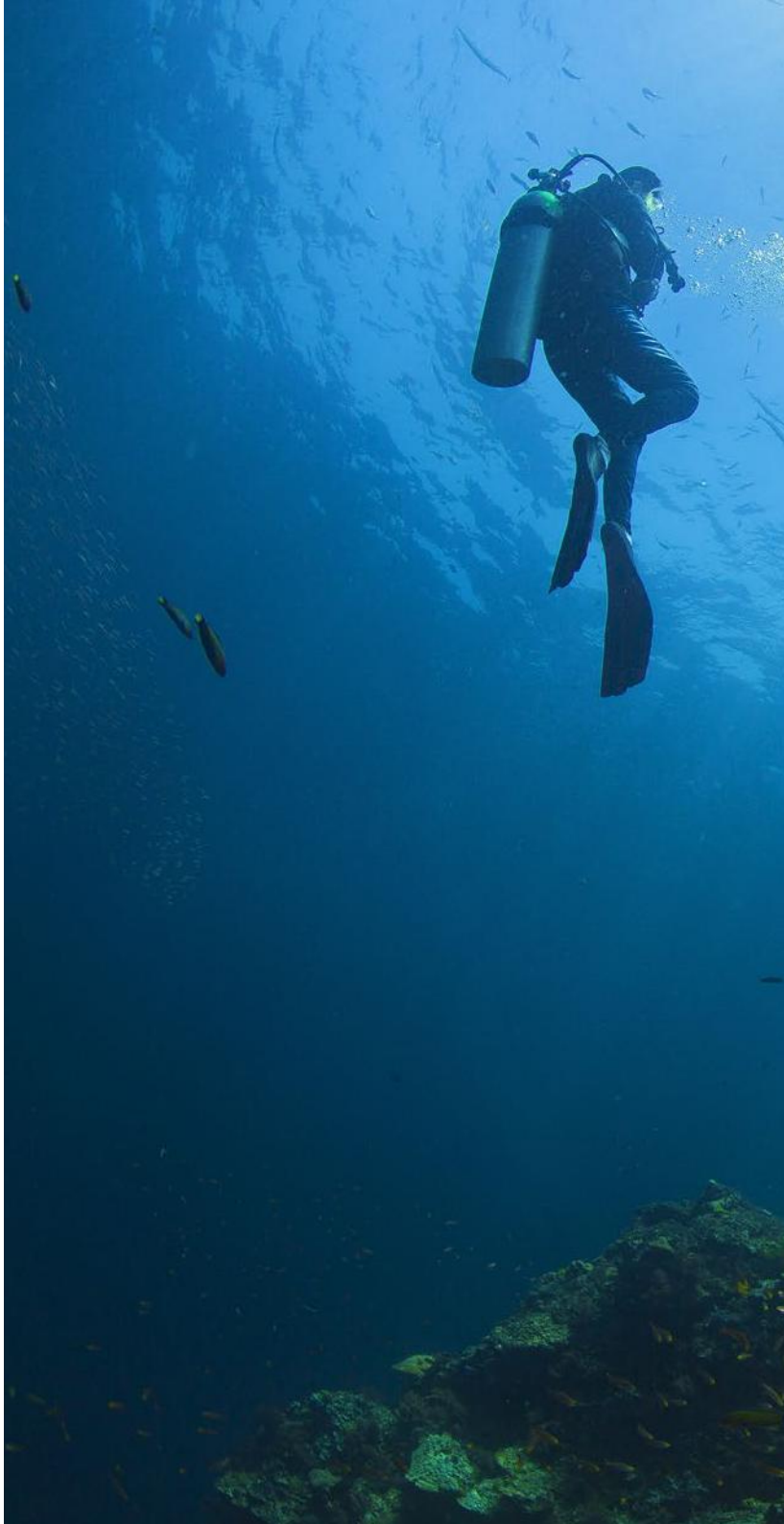
KANDOOMA MALDIVES

Descending beneath the surface, divers are welcomed by a symphony of colours as they immerse themselves in the rich tapestry of the Maldivian coral gardens. These coral formations, teeming with life, serve as a sanctuary for an astonishing array of marine species, from graceful manta rays and majestic whale sharks to playful dolphins and elusive sea turtles.

The Maldives' reputation as a global diving mecca is further accentuated by its numerous underwater topographies, which cater to divers of all levels. From gentle sloping reefs adorned with delicate soft corals to exhilarating drift dives along precipitous drop-offs, each dive site unveils a new facet of the underwater realm.

Night dives in the Maldives are a sensory journey unlike any other, offering an intimate encounter with nocturnal creatures as they emerge from their daytime hideaways. Bioluminescent displays, mesmerisingly vibrant undersea flora, and the possibility of spotting elusive species like the wondrously camouflaged frogfish create an atmosphere of mystique and fascination.

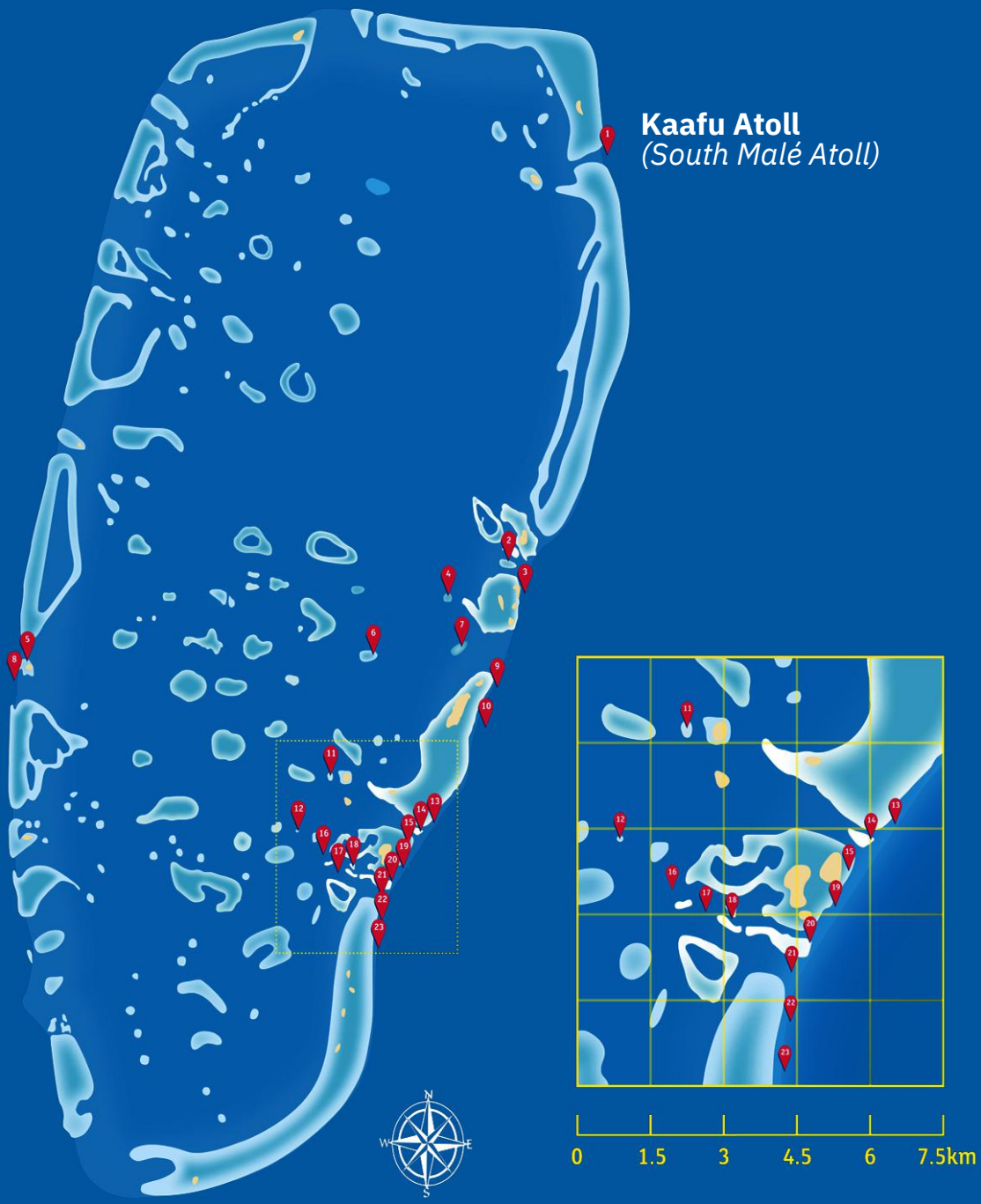
Whether an experienced diver seeking adrenaline-pumping encounters or a novice eager to embark on a new adventure, Kandooma Maldives offers an abundance of opportunities to explore its underwater treasures. With its warm waters, exceptional visibility, and a Five-Star Resort Dive Centre, it's easy to see why Kandooma Maldives was named Travel Trade Maldives Best Dive Resort 2023 and World Travel Awards Maldives Leading Dive Resort 2025. At Kandooma scuba diving is elevated into an immersive experience that forever lingers in the heart and memory.



Dive Sites

Discover the Maldives from a new perspective, where the beauty of the ocean is a testament to nature's artistry and the profound beauty that lies beneath the waves.

1. Embodoo Express
2. Gulhi Thila
3. Bushi Out
4. Kuda Giri
5. Vaagali Caves
6. Bodufushi
7. Maafushi Thila
8. Vaagili Thila
9. Maafushi Corner
10. Back Maafushi
11. Biyaadhoo Giri
12. Waggiri
13. Cocoa Corner
14. Kandooma Thila
15. Kandooma Caves
16. Dhandigiri
17. Sand Dune
18. Back Aquarium
19. Back Kandooma
20. Lhosfushi
21. Medhu Faru
22. Guraidhoo Corner
23. Back Guraidhoo
24. Fish Tank
25. Miyaru Kandu
26. Fotteyo Kandu
27. Devana Kandu
28. Alimatha


Kaafu Atoll
(South Malé Atoll)
N
W
E
S
0
1.5
3
4.5
6
7.5km

Atolls of
the Maldives

Top Ten Dive Sites Near Kandooma

Diving enthusiasts staying at Kandooma Maldives enjoy easy access to a treasure trove of underwater wonders. Here, the top ten dive sites present a symphony of colours, diverse marine life, and unique seascapes that promise to captivate both novice and experienced divers alike.

1. Kandooma Thila: This renowned pinnacle showcases schools of vibrant fish, colourful coral formations, and an abundance of marine life. From white-tip reef sharks to eagle rays, the site is a captivating spectacle of biodiversity.

2. Guraidhoo Corner: Drift along the currents and witness the congregation of gray reef sharks, white-tip sharks, and eagle rays. The site's dramatic underwater structure adds to the allure of this exciting dive.

3. Cocoa Corner: Known for its thrilling currents, this site is a magnet for pelagic species. Divers often spot hammerhead sharks, manta rays, and other large marine inhabitants as they glide through the deep waters.

4. Kuda Giri: The Kuda Giri wreck is an interesting dive site in South Malé in the Maldives, which includes both a small wreck and a pinnacle. They have created a welcoming habitat for a variety of marine life. There is hardly any current around this area making it suitable for less experienced divers.

5. Manta Point: Witness the mesmerising dance of manta rays as they gather to feed and be cleaned by smaller fish. This site promises awe-inspiring interactions with these majestic creatures.

6. Lhosfushi: The channel deepens inside to a sandy bottom to 30 metres. There are plenty of fish and marine life including turtles, schools of snapper, sweet lips, fusilier, tuna, Napoleon and

Kandooma Thila

white-tip reef sharks. There are also large morays, ribbon eels and elegant fire gobies.

7. Medhu faru: This channel dive is good for both incoming and outgoing current. You will be likely to spot Napoleon, the graceful Eagle rays and a wide selection of colourful fish. Medhu Faru is one of the best dive sites to see large numbers of reef sharks at close range.

8. Kandooma Caves: Explore a labyrinth of swim-throughs and underwater caverns adorned with sponges and gorgonians. The site is known for its macro life and the occasional appearance of larger predators.

9. Waggiri: This is a great dive site for every diver, especially those who love to see small life and have long dives. The formation of this giri is very unique and a perfect place to try a night dive. Expect to see anemone fishes, groupers, frogfish, ghost pipe fish, schools of bat fish, stonefish and yellow mouth moray eels.

10. Bodufushi: Discover one of the South Malé Atoll's most exhilarating drift dives, where currents attract grey reef sharks, eagle rays, tuna, barracuda and vast schools of fusiliers around vibrant coral-covered pinnacles and overhangs. Best suited to confident divers with some drift diving experience.

Dive sites near Kandooma in the Maldives provide an unparalleled opportunity to witness the magic of the ocean. With each site offering a unique blend of underwater beauty, marine diversity, and unforgettable encounters, divers are guaranteed a truly remarkable experience that will forever remain etched in memory.

Hot Tips For Scuba Divers

For scuba divers venturing to the mesmerising underwater world of the Maldivian Indian Ocean, a realm of adventure and beauty awaits. Here are some essential tips to enhance your diving experience in this tropical paradise.

1. Dive with Respect: The Maldives boasts delicate ecosystems. Avoid touching or disturbing marine life, and maintain a respectable distance to ensure the health of the underwater environment.

2. Pack Sun Protection: While submerged, you may not feel the sun's intensity, but UV rays penetrate the water. Apply a reef-safe sunscreen and wear a rash guard or wetsuit to protect your skin.

3. Choose the Right Dive Season: The Maldives' diving season corresponds to the dry season (November to April), offering better visibility and calm seas. Plan your trip accordingly for the best underwater encounters.

4. Mind the Currents: Some dive sites have strong currents, ideal for advanced divers. If you're a beginner, stick to sites with gentle currents to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. Or talk to our instructors about upgrading your qualifications.

5. Bring a Dive Computer: Having a dive computer is essential to track your depth and dive time accurately, helping you adhere to safe diving practices and avoid decompression sickness.

6. Watch the Weather: While the dry season is optimal, occasional rain and wind can occur. Stay updated on weather forecasts and be prepared for possible changes in diving conditions.

7. Respect Marine Regulations: Familiarise yourself with local diving regulations and adhere to responsible diving practices. Follow dive briefings carefully and listen to your dive guide's instructions.

8. Night Diving Magic: Experience a different world by embarking on a night dive. Witness nocturnal marine life in action, and be sure to carry a dive light to illuminate your path.

9. Underwater Photography: Capture the beauty of the Maldives' underwater scenery, but avoid using excessive flash as it can startle marine creatures. Embrace the natural light for stunning shots.

10. Reserve in Advance: Kandooma is a popular diving destination. To secure your spot and ensure a smooth diving experience, make advance reservations for dive trips and Accommodation. We also recommend bringing a doctor’s letter confirming your fitness to dive to satisfy local regulations.

With these tips in mind, your scuba diving journey staying at Kandooma Maldives will undoubtedly be a remarkable and unforgettable adventure. Embrace the wonders of the ocean, respect the environment, and relish the beauty that lies beneath the waves.

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers About Scuba Diving In The Maldives

1. Is the Maldives a good destination for scuba diving?
Absolutely. The Maldives is renowned for its stunning coral reefs, diverse marine life, and excellent visibility, making it a prime destination for scuba diving enthusiasts.

2. When is the best time to go diving in the Maldives?
The dry season, from November to April, offers the best conditions for diving, with calm seas, good visibility, and favourable weather.

3. What marine life can I expect to see while diving in the Maldives?
The Maldives offers a wealth of marine life, including manta rays, whale sharks, reef sharks, colourful reef fish, turtles, eagle rays, and a variety of coral species.

4. Are there diving opportunities for all levels of experience?
Yes, the Maldives offers dive sites suitable for beginners to advanced divers. Some sites have gentle currents, while others are more challenging, catering to a wide range of diving skills. The Kandooma Dive Centre is a fully accredited PADI five-star resort dive operation with professional and experienced instructors to guide you.

5. Do I need any special certifications to dive in the Maldives?
You will need a recognised Open Water certification to scuba dive. For more advanced sites, having an Advanced Open Water certification or higher will enhance your experience. The Kandooma Dive Centre offers training courses and refreshers if you need to brush up.

6. What should I pack for a diving trip to the Maldives?
Pack your dive certification cards, dive logbook, appropriate dive gear (you can also rent some on-site), reef-safe sunscreen, rash guard or wetsuit, underwater camera, dive computer if you have one, and any necessary personal items.

7. Are night dives available from Kandooma?
Yes, we offer night dives, providing an opportunity to witness the nocturnal behaviour of marine life, which is a unique and captivating experience.

8. What is the water temperature in the Maldives?
The water temperature in the Maldives ranges from approximately 26°C (79°F) in January to 30°C (86°F) in April, making it comfortable for diving year-round.

9. Are there any diving regulations in the Maldives?
Yes, there are regulations in place to protect the marine environment. Divers are expected to follow responsible diving practices, adhere to dive briefings, and maintain respectful distances from marine life.

10. Should I book diving excursions in advance?
It's recommended to book diving excursions in advance, especially during peak diving seasons, to secure your spot and ensure a smooth diving experience. At Kandooma Maldives, every certified diver receives one Dive Free per day when staying four or more nights. Terms & Conditions apply.

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Scuba diving from Kandooma Maldives offers an unparalleled opportunity to explore the wonders of the underwater world. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced diver, the Maldives promises a captivating and memorable diving adventure.

What can I expect to see on a dive?

Diving in the South Malé Atoll, Maldives, is a gateway to a world of underwater splendour. As you descend into the azure depths, a captivating realm unfolds before your eyes. Here's what you can expect to see on a scuba dive in this magnificent atoll:

1. Vibrant Coral Gardens: The South Malé Atoll is home to stunning coral formations, offering a kaleidoscope of colours and shapes. Marvel at intricate hard and soft corals, creating a vibrant backdrop for marine life.

2. Colourful Reef Fish: Schools of colourful reef fish abound, from playful parrotfish to graceful angelfish. These bustling communities of fish are a delight to observe as they weave through the coral labyrinth.

3. Gentle Reef Sharks: Encounter white-tip and black-tip reef sharks patrolling the reef's edges. These sleek predators are a common sight and add an exhilarating edge to your dive.

4. Eagle Rays: Glide gracefully through the water as you come across these majestic creatures. Their unique wing-like shapes make for an unforgettable sight.

5. Turtles: The South Malé Atoll is frequented by green and hawksbill turtles. Watch in awe as these ancient mariners glide serenely through the water, occasionally coming up for a breath of air.

6. Manta Rays: Depending on the season, you might have the privilege of encountering these gentle giants as they visit cleaning stations.

Witnessing their graceful movements is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

7. Moray Eels: Peek into crevices and overhangs to spot moray eels, their mouths wide open, revealing a mesmerising display of sharp teeth. But don’t get too close!

8. Macro Life: Keep an eye out for smaller marvels like nudibranchs, shrimps, and seahorses. The South Malé Atoll boasts an array of macro life that's a delight for underwater photographers.

9. Cave and Overhang Explorations: Dive sites in this atoll often feature intriguing underwater caves and overhangs. Navigate through these formations and discover hidden corners teeming with marine life.

10. Night Diving Magic: Embark on a night dive to witness a different cast of characters emerge. Encounter octopuses, lobsters, and other nocturnal creatures in action.

Diving in the South Malé Atoll is a sensory feast, where each dive offers a chance to encounter a rich diversity of marine life amidst breathtaking underwater landscapes. Prepare to be enchanted by the symphony of colours, the dance of creatures, and the sheer beauty that lies beneath the waves on the Kandooma Maldives doorstep.

Benefits Of Kandooma's Own PADI five-star Dive Centre

Having a PADI five-star Dive Centre at your resort in the Maldives brings a plethora of advantages that enhance the overall diving experience for both novice and experienced divers. Here's why staying at Kandooma Maldives with our own PADI Dive Centre is a significant benefit:

Expertise and Safety Standards: PADI is globally recognised for its rigorous training and safety standards. A PADI Dive Centre such as Kandooma Dive ensures that all diving activities are conducted following strict safety protocols, giving divers peace of mind and confidence in their underwater adventures.

Comprehensive Training: Whether you're a beginner or seeking to advance your diving skills, our Kandooma Dive Centre offers a range of PADI courses suitable for various levels. From Open Water Diver certification to speciality courses, you'll have the opportunity to learn from experienced instructors.

Quality Equipment: Kandooma Maldives and our PADI accredited Dive Centre prioritise quality equipment maintenance and provide divers with well-maintained gear for a safe and comfortable diving experience. This eliminates the need for divers to bring their own equipment, making travel arrangements more convenient.

Local Knowledge: Our staff are intimately familiar with the local dive sites. They can offer insights into the best times to dive, marine life to watch for, and the unique characteristics of each site.

Guided Dive Excursions: Having a PADI Dive Centre on-site means access to guided dive excursions. Experienced dive guides can lead you to the best dive sites, enhancing the chance of encountering remarkable marine life and unique underwater features.

Dive Planning and Logistics: Kandooma Dive will take care of the logistics, including transportation to dive sites, dive briefing, and gear setup. This allows you to focus on enjoying the dive without worrying about the finer details.

Environmental Awareness: PADI and Kandooma Maldives promote eco-friendly diving practices and conservation efforts. Kandooma Dive Centre and PADI incorporates these principles into their operations, contributing to the preservation of the fragile marine ecosystems in the Maldives.

Networking and Community: A PADI Dive Centre often fosters a sense of community among divers. This gives you the opportunity to connect with fellow divers, share experiences, and possibly make lifelong friends who share your passion for diving.

Certification Recognition*: PADI certifications are recognised globally. Completing a course at a PADI Dive Centre in the Maldives ensures that your certification will be respected and accepted at dive destinations around the world.

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Kandooma Maldives was awarded the 2023 Best Dive Resort in the Maldives and 2025 World Travel Awards Maldives Leading Dive Resort. The purpose-built Kandooma Dive Centre is a fully accredited PADI Dive Centre offering a well-rounded, safe and enjoyable scuba diving experience. From professional training to exceptional safety standards and memorable guided dives, having our own exclusive dive centre elevates your dive holiday to an extraordinary level.

Learning to Dive with PADI

Learning to dive with the PADI Dive Centre at Kandooma Maldives is an immersive journey into the mesmerising underwater realm. With experienced instructors and a commitment to safety, novices can embark on a transformational adventure. The PADI-certified courses cater to various skill levels, allowing you to take your first breaths underwater or progress to advanced levels. As you navigate the crystal-clear waters, the instructors' expertise and patience will guide you through the intricacies of diving techniques. The captivating marine life and vibrant coral gardens of the Maldives become your classroom, while the PADI curriculum ensures comprehensive and structured learning. From your first confined water session to your exhilarating open-water dives, the PADI Dive Centre at Kandooma fosters confidence, respect for the environment, and a lifelong passion for the breathtaking world beneath the waves.

PADI Bubblemaker

The PADI Bubblemaker programme at Kandooma Maldives is an enchanting experience designed to introduce young adventurers, aged 8 and above, to the wonders of scuba diving. Under the guidance of skilled PADI instructors, children can take their first breaths underwater in a safe and controlled environment. With specially designed equipment and a shallow pool, kids get to explore the underwater world, interact with marine life, and discover the joy of weightlessness. The PADI

Bubblemaker programme not only nurtures a love for the ocean but also instils confidence, respect for marine ecosystems, and basic diving skills. As children embark on this aquatic adventure, they create lasting memories that lay the foundation for a lifelong connection to the beauty of the underwater realm.

Benefits of Nitrox for Scuba Diving

Nitrox dives, also known as enriched air dives, offer divers extended bottom times and shorter surface intervals by breathing a blend of nitrogen and oxygen with a higher oxygen content than regular air. This reduced nitrogen exposure reduces the risk of decompression sickness. Nitrox diving is especially popular in the Maldives due to its intricate reefs and diverse marine life. Divers can enjoy longer exploration without compromising safety. However, proper training is crucial to understand the gas mixture and its effects. Nitrox dives are a game-changer for avid divers, maximising underwater enjoyment while adhering to responsible dive practices. Learn how to dive with Nitrox at Kandooma Maldives.

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Marine Sustainability

Marine sustainability at Kandooma Maldives is not just a concept. It's a way of life. The Maldives, an archipelago nation known for its stunning coral reefs, pristine waters, and vibrant marine life, understands the urgency of preserving its underwater treasures for future generations which we wholeheartedly support.

Efforts in marine sustainability encompass several key areas. First, strict regulations and protected marine areas are established to safeguard critical habitats and prevent overfishing. Local communities are also involved in sustainable fishing practices, promoting responsible harvesting and ensuring the delicate balance of marine ecosystems.

The Maldives has embraced eco-friendly tourism practices, with resorts and dive operators taking initiatives to minimise their carbon footprint. Innovative waste management systems, recycling initiatives, and renewable energy sources contribute to reducing the impact on the environment.

Coral reef conservation is at the heart of marine sustainability efforts. With bleaching events threatening these delicate ecosystems, the Maldives is committed to coral restoration projects. By cultivating and transplanting coral fragments, damaged reefs are rehabilitated, providing marine life with essential habitats and maintaining biodiversity.

Education and awareness campaigns play a vital role. Through outreach programmes, the Maldives empowers local communities and visitors alike to appreciate the value of marine ecosystems. Snorkelling, diving, and other

marine activities are conducted responsibly, ensuring minimal disturbance to marine life.

Kandooma Maldives proudly advocates for global action against climate change. The Maldives' vulnerability to rising sea levels underscores the urgency of protecting marine environments. Through initiatives like the Maldives' pledge to become carbon-neutral, it sets an inspiring example for sustainable practices that resonate on a global scale.

In the face of environmental challenges, marine sustainability remains an unwavering commitment in the Maldives and for us at Kandooma Maldives. By integrating conservation, community involvement, and responsible tourism, we are writing a remarkable narrative of how a deep love for the ocean translates into actions that secure its vitality for generations to come.

Collaborations & Partnerships

Manta Trust

Kandooma Maldives, nestled in a tropical paradise, offers an idyllic escape. With beachfront villas and azure waters, it's a haven for relaxation and adventure. The resort is proud to fundraise through the sale of Manta themed jewellery to raise awareness of the work of the Manta Trust, a conservation organisation dedicated to protecting manta rays and their habitats. This collaboration allows guests to engage in meaningful experiences such as manta ray snorkelling excursions and presentations by Manta Trust experts. By supporting the Manta Trust's research and conservation efforts, the resort enables visitors to contribute to the preservation of these majestic creatures while enjoying a luxurious Maldivian retreat.

Parley for the Oceans

Kandooma Maldives proudly joins forces with Parley for the Oceans Maldives, a dynamic collaboration dedicated to combatting plastic pollution. This partnership reflects the resort's commitment to environmental responsibility. Through beach clean-ups, educational programmes, and innovative initiatives, guests actively contribute to reducing plastic waste and raising awareness about ocean conservation. By integrating Parley's expertise and sustainable practices, The resort not only offers an active, ocean-led island escape, but also invites guests to help care for the ocean around it, fostering a collective effort to protect the fragile marine ecosystem for future generations.

Kandooma Dive Centre Price List

Diving Rates - Per Dive	Equipment Included (US$)	Tank & Weights Only (US$)
1 – 4 Dives (per dive)	97	80
5 Dive Package	425	375
6 – 9 Dives (per dive)	85	75
10 Dive Package	800	700
11+ Dives Package (per dive)	80	70
Night Dive Surcharge (Incl. Torch)	15	15
Private Guide Surcharge	250	250
15 litre Tank Surcharge	15	15

Diving Prices are inclusive of boat fee. Equipment included is mask, snorkel, fins, BCD, regulator, octopus, pressure gauge, computer, surface marker, signal device, wetsuit, weights & weight belt and tank.

Equipment Rental Prices (Per Dive)	(US$)
BCD	8
Regulator	8
Wetsuit	8
Computer	6
Torch	15
GoPro Camera	50

Diving Day Trip by Speedboat
This can be arranged on a private or request basis (minimum numbers required), please ask the diving staff, for more information.

Course Rate - Per Dive	Equipment Included	Tank & Weights Only (US$)
Bubblemaker	100	-
Discover Scuba Diving (DSD)	180	-
Subsequent DSD	150	-
Refresher Dive	150	-
Scuba Diver Course	490	-
Scuba Diver to Open Water Diver	515	-
Scuba Review	275	255
Open Water Diver	770	-
Open Water Referral	605	-
Adventure Diver	485	460
Advanced Open Water Diver	735	710
Rescue Diver	945	895
Deep OR Night Adventure Dive	130	-

***Equipment included:** mask, snorkel, fins, BCD, regulator set, computer, SMB, signal device and wetsuit.

Speciality Courses	Equipment Included
Enriched Air (1 dive)	255
Wreck Diver (4 dives)	570
Deep Diver (4 dives)	570
Night Diver (3 dives)	400
Drift Diver or PPB (2 dives)	295
Emergency First Responder (EFR) (no dives)	275

Settlement
For your convenience, any charges relating to these activities will be charged to your room account under the heading of "Dive" and can be settled on your departure from the resort. All prices are in US Dollars and will be subject to a 10% Service Charge and a Goods & Services Tax of 17%.
We hope you enjoy your time underwater.

Terms & Conditions

- The Kandooma All-inclusive Dive Free programme allows one (1) dive per certified diver, per day, when staying a minimum of four (4) consecutive paid nights.

- No diving on day of departure and a 24-hour no-fly time is strictly enforced.

- As per the Diving Regulations of Maldives, a diver must be able to provide evidence of diving within the prior 3 months. In the absence of any such evidence, the diver will be required to join an orientation dive to successfully demonstrate the skills and abilities of a certified diver.
  If the diver is unable to pass this orientation dive or fails to demonstrate safe diving practices at any time, then the diver will be required to firstly undergo a Refresher Programme where charges apply as per the schedule of rates listed in this brochure.

- In the event a stay comprises 4+ fully paid consecutive nights plus any extension on complimentary or special-promotion nights, diving is granted only for the qualifying fully paid days of stay, not the full stay.

- Unused dives can only be rolled over to other days at the absolute discretion of the Dive Centre Manager.

- Unused dives are not exchangeable for cash, credit or any other services.

- Diver groups cannot exceed 6 divers per instructor; however group size may be less than this based on the skills, experience, site selection or prevailing conditions at the time.

- As part of Kandooma's All-Inclusive stays, scuba dives cannot be substituted for any other activity or service.

- All scuba diving is subject to prevailing weather conditions, operational requirements, equipment availability and the Resort's safety policies.

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Contact Us

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For more information or to obtain a quotation please email reservations@kandooma-maldives.com