

MANTA  
EXPEDITIONS

# MALDIVES

## LOVE MANTAS WEEK

20 - 27  
July 2024  
(7 nights)

2,950 USD\*  
per person

### THE EXPEDITION

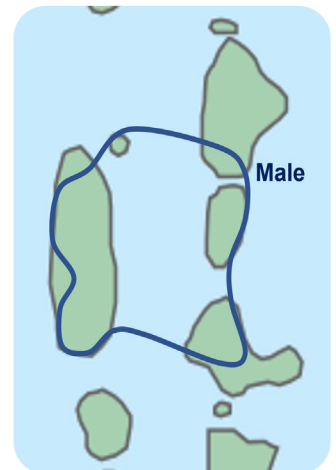
For the third year, we partnererd up with ScubaSpa to offer a “Love Mantas Week”. On this one week journey we will visit manta rays’ cleaning stations and feeding sites for a chance to enjoy close-up encounters with these gentle giants, whilst also learning how you can help protect these highly threatened species.

Alongside the daily dives and explorations of the western side of the atolls, you will enjoy ocean talks from a Manta Trust scientist, PADI Specialty courses, and entertainment. You’ll leave having made a real difference in conserving these fragile yet charismatic creatures that are fundamental to the health of our marine ecosystems.

Starting from Male, this one week expedition will take us to **South and North Ari, South Male and Vaavu Atolls** in search of mantas as well as spectacular dive sites!

This itinerary is planned to maximize our chances of encounters with manta rays while visiting some of the **best dive sites the central Maldivian atolls** have to offer. We will dive around the most **famous manta spots** in the Maldives, as well as some lesser-known cleaning stations. You will see the most breathtaking coral formations the central atolls have to offer, complete with channel dives and a plethora of marine species which share this ecosystem with the graceful mantas. Between dives, you will have a chance to participate in workshops that will help us better appreciate the behavior of these fascinating creatures before jumping in the water with them. You will also be visiting South Ari atoll, a popular hotspot for **whale sharks!**

Furthermore, as for all our expeditions, this trip will be guided by the **expertise of a Manta Trust’s scientist** to educate, inspire and maximise the chances of unforgettable underwater encounters!



© Guy Stevens

MANTA EXPEDITIONS  
© Simon Hoggins

© Guy Stevens | MANTA TRUST



**MANTA**  
EXPEDITIONS

## MALDIVES



### ON-BOARD MANTA EXPERT

As on all Manta Expeditions, a Manta Trust scientist will be onboard for its entire duration, offering everyone the opportunity to interact and learn from a leading manta expert.



The presence of a Manta Trust scientist onboard will enhance your experience in a number of ways:

- motivate and inspire you, by learning about the marine ecosystems you will be exploring
- gain access to an accumulated wealth of knowledge and expertise, providing you the opportunity to become actively involved in cutting-edge scientific research.
- offer you an educational and much more rewarding experience by making your underwater encounters more personal, and by involving you first-hand in marine research and conservation.
- be environmentally aware and proactive and become an active member of an initiative which stands to have strong implications for the ongoing persistence for manta rays worldwide.

Collectively the Manta Trust and Manta Expeditions teams possess over two decades of experience working in the Maldives, studying its manta population and marine life and have assembled a vast amount of knowledge and expertise, knowledge you will have access to on this expedition.

A core focus of the expeditions is not only to provide close encounters with manta rays but to enthuse and educate divers in marine conservation issues and the environment surrounding them. Through a series of activities and presentations on topics covering local marine species and habitats led by the Manta Trust expert, you are sure to leave with an increased awareness of the threats facing our oceans and, perhaps more importantly, how you can help.

Using the knowledge of the Manta Trust scientists you will gain a brand-new perspective to diving and experiencing the underwater world; by understanding what you see you will gain a better appreciation and love for the ocean and its creatures. Ultimately, with the guidance of the Manta Trust researcher you will have the chance to give something back to the ocean which we believe is fundamental considering how much we take from it!

### CITIZEN SCIENCE - GET INVOLVED!

On this expedition, you'll have the opportunity to experience and participate in [cuttingedge conservation](#) research to protect one of the ocean's most majestic animals. Manta Trust scientists will be collecting photographic identification images of all mantas encountered throughout the expedition - a task that guests are welcome and encouraged to participate in. All new manta rays will be added to the database and guests will be invited to name these new mantas.

### THE MANTA TRUST

A UK registered charity, the Trust's mission is to advance the worldwide conservation of manta rays and their habitat through robust science and research, by raising awareness and providing education, influence and action. The Manta Trust was formed in 2011 to co-ordinate global research and conservation efforts for these amazing animals, their close relatives and their habitat.

**Data Collection:** The Manta Trust has a number of research projects worldwide, incorporating population data, research on manta movements, and genetic analyses - to name a few - in order to better understand the general ecology of manta and mobula rays.



### SCUBASPA FLEET

Scubaspa fleet is award-winning and unique concept combining exceptional scuba diving with wide range of unforgettable above-the-water experiences. Designed with divers in mind, those who travel with non-diving partners as well as travelers and adventurers, eager to explore Maldives in a unique way. Our expert team creates striking itineraries, filled with scuba diving, snorkeling, blissful spa sessions, gourmet cuisine experience, yoga classes, water-sports, beach time, and other social activities, allowing to spend quality time with your loved ones and to make new, long-lasting friendships and memories. Four spacious decks offer sleek accommodation range, SPA, small fitness room, jacuzzi, deck hosting sunset cocktails and star gazing outdoor dinners, bar & restaurant and an open-air cinema for evening entertainment. Thanks to our yachts' high staff-to-guest ratio, you can feel confident you'll get unparalleled personal service throughout your stay. A crew of 30, including spa therapists, a yoga master, and highly skilled chefs in addition to the dive crew, cater to your every need at any time.

### BOOKING

To reserve your place on this Maldives Manta Expedition, please send an email to [Niv Froman](mailto:Niv.Froman@mantaexpeditions.com) at [info@mantaexpeditions.com](mailto:info@mantaexpeditions.com)

Trip costs for this 7-nights expedition includes full board accommodation in twin/double cabin and the choice between scuba holiday (up to 17 dives), spa holiday (8 spa treatments) or scuba&spa holiday (6 dives and 4 spa treatments). Price includes transfer Male airport/ vessel and return, drinking water, coffee and tea, yoga classes, snorkelling equipment and deserted island BBQ.

\* Cost does not include 10% Service Charge, 16% GST tax, Green Tax (USD 42), Crew Tip, rental dive gear and alcoholic beverages. Sea Star Suite USD 2950, Cowrie Suite USD 3250, Dolphin Suite USD 3650, Manta Suite USD 3950 per person. Single cabin supplement 25%.