

READ BEFORE YOU LEAVE

Emperor Maldives - Resorts

Contacting Emperor Maldives in resort: Country Code is 00960 + local number dropping the 1st 0.

Emperor Divers Laamu: 00960 745 3301

Reveries Airport Representative: 00960 799 0107

Emperor Maldives Manager: 00960 799 6657

In the event of an emergency, family and friends can contact our staff can be contacted on any of the Emperor numbers listed above.

Passports & Visas: All guests must have a passport valid for at least six more months after arrival. 30-day tourist visas are issued on arrival at the immigration desk at Maldives International airport for all nationalities and are free of charge. All visitors must be in possession of a return/onward flight ticket.

Insurance: We recommend purchasing cancellation insurance, in the event of unexpected changes in your travel plans. Baggage/Dive Equipment Insurance is also recommended. We do require every diver to have valid accident and medical insurance. Should Diving Insurance not be obtained prior to your visit, this can be arranged in resort with INDEPTH Insurance at; 1 day = €5, 7 days = €20 and 14 days = €28. US and Canadian guests are required to sign a waiver which will be supplied at the time of booking or before departure. Please contact reservations@emperordivers.com for a copy.

Information about Male (Velana International) Airport: If you have to wait for a transfer on arrival or for a connecting domestic flight, the airport is reasonably comfortable and has a shop for local SIM cards, a post office, money changer, and a few decent coffee shops / restaurants Inc. Thai Express, Burger King, KFC, Pizza Hut and a New Noodle.

Domestic Flights: Check in will commence 2 hrs prior to departure and will close 1 hr prior departure. Each diver has 25kgs free baggage allowance (standard 20kgs). Size of hand luggage is much smaller than most other airlines, i.e. size of a standard ruck sack.

Names detailed on your flight e-ticket must match your passport.

Transfers to and from your resort: These are arranged by your hotel or resort.

On arrival at the airport: After collecting your baggage and clearing customs a driver will be waiting for you outside the arrival hall and will be visible to you by carrying a sign with your name or resort/hotel name on. Contact telephone number is detailed at the top of this document.

Departing for the airport: The pickup time for your departure flight will be confirmed 24 hours prior to departure. Please contact the hotel reception or ask at the dive centre who will be happy to advise you of the details.

Diving in Maldives: The maximum depth for diving in the Maldives is 30 metres with an equally qualified buddy. Your maximum diving depth will be dependent on your level of training and experience. It is your responsibility to check what depths your insurance policy covers you for before your arrival.

Unpredictable and strong currents are to be expected anytime, but especially in periods of new and full moons.

We recommend that you are certified to 30 metres and are comfortable with drift dives.

Decompression diving, solo diving and technical diving is strictly prohibited.

Diving for Qualified Divers: As qualified divers you are expected to be able to dive to a standard as per the certification and experience requirements outlined. You are responsible for your own and your buddy's safety during the dive and to plan your dive and dive your plan by using a personal dive computer. You must begin, execute and end the dive with your dive buddy. Should you be a single diver a buddy will be allocated in resort.

Experienced Divers can dive in a buddy pair unguided. **Inexperienced and beginner divers** may find some dives challenging, a Private Guide can be arranged to help build up your diving confidence and experience.

Check in at the diving centre: Please check in at the diving centre the afternoon before your first day's diving, best time would be around 5pm.

Essential paperwork; remember to bring to the diving centre on your first day:

- Logbook with your most recent dives in
- Valid diving association certification proof
- Valid travel insurance
- A copy of valid diving insurance details per person (translated in English by your insurance company if not already) stating the start and ending date of the diving cover with the exact diving insurance covered by the policy. Without this document, you will be required to purchase diving insurance locally before you may begin diving.
- Booking voucher and holiday details (from your travel agency if not booked direct with Emperor Maldives).

Scuba Review & Check Dive: Many agencies recommend a Scuba Review if it has been longer than six months since your last dive. Emperor Maldives advises divers to follow the agency recommendation for safety reasons. The Scuba Review should be booked in advance and takes place on your first day or alternatively, should be completed prior to your arrival in resort and signed by an instructor in your diving logbook.

Every diver, regardless of their qualification or experience will be scheduled to dive their first dive at local/sheltered dive site. This dive allows you to orientate yourself in your diving environment and acquaint yourself with your equipment. In the interests of safety, Emperor Maldives reserves the right to insist on a Scuba Review or to restrict diving activities if the instructor has any concerns regarding diver safety.

The Dive Guides: For all diving sites visited our dive guides will give you a detailed and comprehensive dive briefing before you enter the water. When the guide is in the water they will remain with the group to navigate the site and to look out for any interesting marine life to show you. The dive guide will not provide any dive training during the dive and you and buddy dive together at your own risk. The guides may decide upon seeing each diver's ability not to enter the water for every dive and will remain onboard providing surface support only.

Courses: We offer a range of courses in resort, from beginner to a wide range of speciality and advanced training courses. Courses are subject to availability. Prices can be found here: [Emperor Divers Laamu Price List](#) and include course materials, where required and certification fee. If arranged locally a 12% sales tax and service charge is included.

For the Open Water Referral Course, you will need to bring with you your referral form (signed and completed by your instructor dated within 12 months) as evidence that you have completed the theory and confined dives. Course paperwork needs to be signed by a parent or guardian for students under the age of 18.

If you are taking part in any course, you are required to sign a [PADI medical form](#) prior to starting the course. If you have, or think you have, any of the medical conditions listed you will need signed clearance from a doctor valid within 12 months of starting your course. Where doctor's clearance is needed, we ask you to arrange this before arrival where possible and to bring it with you to avoid any delays, additional costs or cancellation.

Snorkelling/Non-divers: Both snorkelers and non-divers joining a daily boat trip will be required to complete a liability form at the time of check in. Snorkelling can be taken from the dhoni when an Instructor/Guide is onboard to observe or unless the snorkeler is accompanied in the water by a certified diver. We ask all snorkelers to wear a floatation aid at all times. Whilst every effort will be made for non-diving guests wishing to snorkel or guests wanting to try scuba diving, some itineraries or dive locations may not be permitted for safety reasons.

The Captain: An important man! He will decide, along with the dive guides, where you go and when. Often dive sites can look like a millpond on the surface and to the uninitiated seems perfectly acceptable to dive. However, if the captain and guides say no, please accept their decision. Safety is the foremost concern of our knowledgeable captain and dive guides. The sea is a dangerous place when not respected, so please accept the alternative plan as best you can.

Dive Sites: All dive sites are subject to various unpredictable changes including weather conditions and changes in Maldivian Government approval. Whilst Emperor Maldives make every effort we cannot guarantee diving at specific sites. In adverse weather conditions the guides and captain of the boat will have the final decision about which dive sites to visit to ensure that the guests, staff and boats safety is not compromised in any way. If in the unfortunate event that dives are missed or dive sites are not reached due to weather conditions or other unforeseeable changes, Emperor Maldives will not offer a refund or compensation.

Daily Diving: What's included - Two morning dives per day with guide, 12L air tanks, weights and belt.

Guests are required to meet at the diving centre for 8am, returning back to the diving centre for around 13:00, depending on the sites visited. An additional afternoon dive is offered, subject to availability, leaving at approximately 13:30. Full day and special trips to sites further afield are arranged in resort. For more information, please click here: [Laamu Daily Diving](#)

All Emperor guests are required to sign a [self-declaration medical](#) before commencing any diving, snorkelling or swimming activities.

Optional Extras: To ensure that you have the flexibility to build a dive package to suit your needs, you can choose from the following extras, please enquire at the time of booking:

15L tanks	Full day trips & third dives	Nitrox	Equipment hire
Night dives	Special trips	Lunch onboard the boat	

Any services or items purchased in resort will be charged in US Dollars and subject to 12% sales tax.

Dive equipment: A full range of rental equipment is available, prices can be found here: [Emperor Divers Laamu Price List](#). You can pre-book your equipment in your preferred currency at any time prior to arrival in resort. If arranged locally you will be charged in US Dollars and a 12% sales tax and service charge is included.

The diving centre and dhonis have ample storage space for your equipment and there is a spares box onboard. Diving equipment will be transferred back to the diving centre, washed and stored each day.

All divers are required to use a dive computer, SMB (with a minimum of 5 metres of line to deploy during the safety stop) and reef hooks for every dive and a torch each for night dives. We also suggest that you bring the following:

- Mask, snorkel, fins, boots, wetsuit, regulator, BCD, spare batteries for dive computer & torch.
- The average water temperature is 29°C and we recommend a 3mm shortie or wetsuit.

Nitrox and tanks: Emperor Maldives are equipped with Nitrox facilities and Nitrox fills (normally 32%) are against charge. For your convenience and to avoid disappointment, we ask for you to let us know any tank or gas requirements needed for your first diving day either prior to arrival in resort or at least 24 hours before diving. Tanks are prepared the day before the next diving day.

You can pre-book your Nitrox or tanks in your preferred currency and at any point prior to your arrival in resort. If arranged locally you will be charged in US Dollars and a 12% sales tax will be added.

Nitrox, gases and tanks are subject to demand and availability.

Photo & Video equipment: Rinse facilities are available onboard, charging is possible at the diving centre however, you are asked not to charge items unattended for safety reasons.

Tanks adapters: We have DIN tanks and INT adapters available. We strongly advise divers with M26 regulators and have adapters to fit to DIN tanks to please remember to [bring your own adapter with you](#).

Food & Drink: Drinking water is available on the diving dhoni free of charge. Fresh fruit (usually coconut) is served after the first dive, with a packed lunch available after the second dive. The packed lunch is prepared by the Reveries Diving Lodge, for your convenience and to avoid disappointment, we ask for you to let us know if you would like lunch for your first diving day either prior to arrival in resort or at least 24 hours before diving. The packed lunch is normally fresh fruit and a choice of either a rice or pasta dish or sandwich. The lunch is included if you are a Reveries Diving Lodge guest on a full board or all-inclusive basis. **For any special dietary requests, such as vegetarian or any allergies, please inform us prior to arrival.** All foods are sourced locally, therefore items such as, but not limited to; wholemeal pastas or flour, gluten free products or soya substitutes are not typically available.

We do advise you to take with you rehydration salts that you can add and mix in with your drinking water.

Shopping: There is a selection of T-shirts, merchandise and diving accessories available to purchase at the diving centre.

Currency accepted: All local prices are in US dollars however, we accept in cash Euros, Sterling and US dollars. Visa and Mastercard are accepted, charged in USD and a 4% surcharge will be added. Please check with your bank any international charges and exchange rates.

Taxes: All environmental and bed taxes and port fees are included in the price of your diving package. Any services or items purchased in resort will be charged in US Dollars and a 12% sales tax and service charge is included..

Storage: Whilst you may be advised where to store your belongings, you leave them at your own risk.

Children: Children aged 12 years or younger must be accompanied by a parent or designated responsible adult at all times whilst on board an Emperor Maldives boat or participating in a course. Emperor Maldives cannot provide a legal chaperon service.

Alcohol: Importing of alcoholic beverages is prohibited by law. Bottles containing alcoholic beverages will be confiscated at Customs upon arrival and returned to you at departure.

Please be aware of the risks associated with such activities which are enhanced with the consumption of alcohol or under the influence of a hangover can impair your judgment and when scuba diving can increase the risk of decompression sickness. Please drink responsibly, within your own limits and act with respect for others and your own safety at all times. Emperor Indonesia and its associated staff and agents reserve the right to refuse entry to the water if we/they believe you are no longer safely in control of your own actions and safety. If the guides deem that you are unfit to dive you will be asked to sit out the dive. Your safety and well-being are paramount so this request by the dive guides will only be made to avoid accidents.

Behaviour: Anti-social or aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated and individuals who cause a disturbance to other guests may be removed from the liveaboard or diving centre.

Language: The national language is Dhivehi. English and other languages are widely spoken within tourist areas.

Health: Check with your local doctor for recommended vaccinations. And remember to bring any prescribed medicines.

Time: 5 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight savings time is not observed in the Maldives.

Packing; remember to bring:

- Personal clothing & toiletries
- Small medical first aid box & prescription medicines
- Ear plugs are recommended if you are a light sleeper
- Water-proof bags to store electronic items (land camera, passports) in case of water damage whilst on board
- Note: Hard suitcases are hard to store onboard so please use roll up/collapsible style bags where possible

Nice to bring but not essential: Media portable drives, tablet/laptop, mobile phone, video/photo camera and chargers.

Electricity: 3 pin UK electrical sockets using 220 volts AC 50Hz.

Communications: VHF & CB radios, satellite telephone and personal mobiles.

Liability Release: All diving guests are required to produce a valid certification/qualification and sign a completed registration form/waiver prior to the commencing diving activities. A sample can be sent on request.

And finally: If you experience any problems during your stay, please ensure that these are raised with the dive guides or at the diving centre as soon as is practically possible. The guides and dive centre staff can remedy many issues or concerns on-site majority of the time. However, if something remains unresolved make sure you raise it with the Dive Centre Manager before you leave. With all the will in the world, problems cannot be resolved unless you highlight them. If you have any concerns, please raise them. For more details on Emperor Divers, please email reservations@emperordivers.com or via our website <http://maldives.emperordivers.com/>