

## *Maldives Aggressor II*

### **Itineraries:**

*Best of the Maldives (7 nights)*

*Best of the Maldives - Meemu (10 nights)*

*Best of Northern Maldives – Lhaviyani (10 nights)*

Important: Your Address in the Maldives is onboard the M/Y Maldives Aggressor II which is known locally as the *Mistral*. It is #108 on the list of approved vessels by the Maldives government.

### **Reservations Office Contact Information**

Office Hours are Eastern Time:

Monday-Friday: 8 am – 5 pm EDT      Saturday/Sunday 9 am – 5 pm EDT

Office (USA): 800-348-2628      +1-706-993-2531

[Maldives@aggressor.com](mailto:Maldives@aggressor.com)      [www.aggressor.com](http://www.aggressor.com)

After Hours Cell Phone: **(Delay in travel and emergency only)** +1-706-664-0111

**Maldives Land Office:** Cell +960-723-5836 +960.339.0037

Boat Cell: +960-796-6050

*Updated 09/05/2023*

### **ARRIVAL & BOARDING**

Guests will embark and disembark from Malé and be met at the airport (those arrive on charter start date) by a staff of the Maldives Aggressor II wearing a white Aggressor polo shirt and hat at 3:30 pm and then transferred by water taxi to the yacht at 4 pm.

We strongly recommend arriving at least one day prior to the charter start date and to stay in either a hotel or resort in the Malé area or, our Aggressor Adventure department has many other wonderful choices of places to stay on other islands for extended stays.

All guests must be onboard by 5 pm so the yacht can depart for its first night anchorage with the first dive the following morning.

**Malé International Airport :** If you arrive early in the morning, you are encouraged to either get a day room at one of the local hotels. If arriving at the Malé International Airport, staff will greet you in front of Burger King, located just outside the arrival hall. Pickup is at 3:30 pm and at 4 pm, you will be transported by water taxi to the yacht. When the itinerary departs from Malé, the Maldives Aggressor II anchors in the Hulhumale Lagoon, which is a 15-minute boat ride from the airport.

**All airport transfers from Malé will be met at 3:30 pm with a 4 pm transfer to the Maldives Aggressor II.**

**Best of Maldives Itineraries:**

- Malé/Malé (7 nights)
- Malé/Malé + Meemu (10 nights)
- Male/Male+ Lhaviyani (10 nights northern itinerary)

**AIRPORT CODE**

(MLE) Male International Airport in Hulhule Island, North Atolls

**FEES & TAXES**

Each guest must pay the following USD fee:

- Port Fee of \$340 (7-nights) or \$425 (10-nights)

All fees are paid at the end of the charter when settling your bill. This fee includes the Green Tax, GST, park, and other local usage fees. All items purchased on board are subject to a 22% Maldives tax. (Visa, MasterCard, US Dollars, Euros or Rufiyaa are accepted). There is a 3.5% fee on payments made using credit cards.

If paying in cash, all bills (1's, 5's, 10's, 20's etc) must not have any rips and the larger bills must have the security stripe in/on them, otherwise, Dubai, Malé, (and surrounding areas) and the Maldives Aggressor II cannot accept them. Many countries that accept USD cash require the bills to be in exceptionally good condition. Any that have excessive wrinkles, tears, wear marks and are old-style bills are not normally accepted. 100-dollar bills must have the security strip to be accepted.

**MALDIVES AGGRESSOR II INCLUDES:**

All staterooms are air-conditioned and include a private bathroom, shower, sink, hair dryer and robes. Your chef prepares breakfast, lunch, and an elegant meal at dinner with tableside service in addition to fresh mid-morning and afternoon snacks. Beverages included are fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, tea, coffee, and beer and wine. Fresh towels are placed in each stateroom as needed. Tanks, air tanks, weights and weight belts are included. Island transfers from the airport to and from the Maldives Aggressor II are included in your charter if it starts to/from on the charter start/departure date.

**SAMPLE ITINERARY**

- Day 1 – Arrival and boarding are between 3:30 – 4 pm. Departure for night anchorage 5 pm.
- Day 2 - 6 (7, 8 if on 10-night charters) - Eat, Sleep, Dive, Repeat.
- Day 7 (9 if on 10-night charter) – Diving in the morning and return to port after lunch followed by a Malé city walking tour (1 hour), dinner ashore and farewell cocktail party. Dinner is the only meal not included in your trip.
- Day 8 (if on 10-night charter) - Departure 8:00 a.m. to airport

When in Malé, the city walking tour includes the President's Office and Residence, the Old Mosque, the New Mosque, Vegetable and Spice Market, Fish Market, and small gift shop. Dinner is held at a nice

rooftop restaurant with a beautiful waterfront view. It is approximately \$35 USD per person plus beverages. Dinner is offered onboard if guests do not want to participate in the walking tour/dinner outside.

## **RECOMMENDED HOTELS, EXTENDED TOURS, AND TRAVEL**

For a list of recommended hotels in the Maldives, please visit Aggressor Detours Travel Department on our website. They specialize in airlines, tours, hotels and add on packages and offer preferential rates: [travel@aggressor.com](mailto:travel@aggressor.com).

## **WELCOME**

In an emergency, family and friends may contact you at the numbers listed on the front page.

We recommend you pack a mask, swimsuit, wetsuit, change of clothes and medication in your carry-on bag. Having these few items with you can make no luggage during your entire trip more bearable. When packing, please watch the weight and size of your bags. You will need to check with the airline for more information on weight restrictions.

## **PASSPORTS & DOCUMENTATION**

Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your period of stay and you must have a return airline ticket to travel to the Maldives. US citizens require a passport that must be valid for 6 months from the date of entry. It is the travelers' responsibility to ensure they have the proper documentation to travel into each country on their itinerary and for re-entry and return to their country. Please check with the appropriate consulate to ensure you have the proper documentation. Always check your passport and visa requirements. US citizens may go to the US Department of State website at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for more information. The website also has information for consulates by country to assist with requirements. ***The Reservation Office and Staff cannot assume responsibility for passengers not having correct documentation.***

## **COMMUNICATIONS/INTERNET/EMAIL**

There is an onboard satellite phone for emergencies only. The yacht is in cellular range occasionally. Cellular based Wi-Fi (3G or higher) will be available in the salon (based on availability). Internet packages are available for purchase during the cruise, your cruise director will explain how it works during the briefing. Speed will vary based on location and is not available for downloading large amounts of data. Check with your cell phone carrier prior to traveling for voice and data options.

## **C-CARDS**

Remember to bring your c-card or proof of certification. If you are a repeat guest, you are automatically enrolled to receive a 10% discount for onboard services, courses and boutique items which will be indicated on the Captain's rooming list.

## **GUEST INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)**

The Reservations Office and the Maldives Aggressor II require each guest to complete a Cruise Application and Waiver form, prior to departure and diving. The GIS (Guest Information System) allows guests to interactively complete all required paperwork that includes the application/waiver, special requests, and travel information. If you have not received a link to access the GIS, please contact an Aggressor Liveboards agent. Passengers who fail to complete the GIS online will be denied boarding.

## **INSURANCE**

We strongly recommend each guest purchase a CFAR (cancel for any reason) insurance policy and

Liveaboard Rider. To learn more about these policies, visit [www.aggressor.com](http://www.aggressor.com) and go to 'insurance.'

## **HEALTH**

The Maldives Aggressor II has a comprehensive first aid kit onboard, including oxygen and an AED. We suggest you bring over-the-counter motion sickness medication or consult your doctor about prescription brands, such as the trans-dermal patch or Scopace tablets if you feel you will need it. Currents and winds may cause moderate movement of the yacht at times. We recommend a complete physical before your trip. The nearest recompression chambers are located on Bandos Island (15 minutes by speedboat from Male) is Kuramathi covering Ari Atoll, Kuredhu covering north trips, and Viligili covering southern trips.

The Maldives Aggressor II staff are unable to accept any medication brought onboard for safe keeping including those that require refrigeration. Should a guest have a medication requiring temperature control, they will need to travel with a travel cooling case or small storage cooler with several blue ice packets. The yachts will be happy to store and recharge the blue ice but are unable to accept possession or responsibility for the proper care and storage of medication. This should be kept in your stateroom. There is no smoking allowed inside the yacht or on the dive deck. Smoking is only permitted on the rear of the sun deck.

## **THE YACHT**

The yacht has 110 volt and 220 volts at the camera charging and computer stations. For use of 110 in other areas, we suggest guests bring USA 110 to 220 twin pin socket adaptors. The cruise director has a safe to keep valuables such as passports, cash, credit cards or anything else you would like to store. We highly recommend extreme caution and care be taken if you plan to travel onboard with electronic equipment. This equipment should always be stowed after use to avoid the risk of damage.



## **FOOD**

The menu onboard is varied and plentiful, with a variety of options and local cuisine. If you have any special dietary restrictions, please be sure to include these when completing your GIS online paperwork. You will wake up to fresh fruits, hot entrees, cereals, and juices. Lunches feature hot soups, a choice of main dishes, salads, and fresh fruit. Dinners are chef prepared and a three-course meal is served each evening accompanied by local wine or beer. Once onboard, please speak to the chef about any special needs. Certain special dietary and beverage requests may not be available due to the remote nature of this location.

## **BEVERAGES**

The Maldives Aggressor II selection of beverages includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, tea, coffee, and a small selection of beer and wine, which are complimentary. Guests who consume alcohol during the day will become a sunbather until the next day.

## **ALCOHOL**

Local beer and wine are included during the charter. Guests are not permitted to bring alcohol into the country from other airport gateways when arriving at the airport.

## **CLOTHING**

Clothing should be lightweight, comfortable sportswear and swimsuits and sunscreen are necessary. A light sweater or jacket is ideal for evenings. The dress is always casual and informal. Additional items you may want to bring are a hat and sunglasses. Please keep in mind you are traveling in a Muslim country. Everyone should be respectful of the Maldives tradition and culture when going ashore. It is customary to wear conservative attire when going ashore.

## ENTERTAINMENT

There is a variety of nightly entertainment, including power point presentations, movies, games and more. If you have a favorite movie to share, we encourage you to bring it along.

## CELEBRATING A SPECIAL OCCASION

Whether it is your anniversary, birthday, honeymoon, wedding, or you are celebrating a 100<sup>th</sup> dive, please let us know so the crew can celebrate your occasion. Kindly advise the Reservations Office prior to traveling so the crew is notified in advance.

## MALDIVES DIVING CONDITIONS

You will be diving in water that averages 80-84°F. Most guests make as many as 3-4 dives each day, so some sort of protection is needed. A 3mm wetsuit is recommended year-round. All diving is from the 60 ft Dhoni. The climate is warm year-round and determined by the monsoons. The monsoons are mild and not as defined as in neighboring countries. The northeast monsoon starts in January and goes through to the end of April. In January and February, the currents can be very strong, but the big animal activity can be fantastic. The beginning of January brings clear water to most of the area, which can be over 150 feet visibility. Underwater visibility in the Maldives is determined by the tidal movements with incoming and outgoing tides. The monsoon patterns have a significant impact on the diving.

From May to October, the southwest monsoon brings more rain, wind, and big animal action. Mantas and Whale Sharks can be seen year-round. There are no cyclones in the Maldives because of being located at the Equator level.

Diving is carried out from a "diving dhoni" that will not anchor but will follow the divers from the surface. This is the safest and most comfortable way to dive in the Maldives due to the wind and current. Every diver will have his own seat and his own basket where he will store his diving gear, which will always remain on the diving dhoni. The system leaves the main boat free to handle accommodations, meals, and social activities in a quiet atmosphere.

There will also be night dives. Due to the currents in the Maldives, it is **mandatory** everyone brings safety device(s) to dive with such as an emergency safety sausage, Dive Alert air horn, personal mini strobe, whistle and/or signaling mirror. We suggest you bring any other safety items you feel will be necessary. A limited supply is available onboard. **Dive computers are mandatory for each diver.** There is a law in the Maldives that the depth limit is 98 feet. The Maldives Aggressor II supports and follows the local regulations.

## DIVING

The staff of the Maldives Aggressor II with their unique combination of talents offers the ultimate service. While on board all diving is with a diving buddy. There is personal storage space for your diving equipment onboard the Dhoni. Tanks and equipment will stay on the dhoni (dive tenders) and there is space to keep masks, fins, and other dive items under your seat if you wish to leave them on the dhoni. The Maldives Aggressor II provides 80 cubic ft tanks, weight belts and weights. All tanks have K-valves (American type); with DIN (European) adaptors. By Maldives law, there is a depth limit of 30 meters maximum and 21 meters if not advanced certified. Nitrox is available for an additional fee, see our website for details. The Maldives Aggressor has four 100 cu ft tanks available. Tanks must be reserved on a first come first serve basis and there may be a fee.

## DIVING SUPERVISION

You have chosen a liveaboard vacation for the diving freedom that it offers. While in the water, you and your buddy are in charge. Every dive starts with a dive briefing from the yacht staff. However, as a certified diver, you and your buddy are responsible for planning and conducting your own dives

within the limitations set forth by the briefing. The staff will be on the dive deck providing surface support for divers. They will also have staff in the water offering support, photography and videography, and critter spotting services. On some dive sites a staff member will offer to lead a group and assist them in locating specific points of interest. However, the yacht does not offer direct supervision of dives. If you start out with a group, as long as you and your buddy remain in contact with each other and are ok – you may follow your own dive plan. Dive buddies who are not comfortable following their own dive plan can take one of the many advanced courses available during the charter.

## **GREEN THE FLEET**

Contribute to our **Green The Fleet** sustainability initiatives. Here are a few reminders:

- Avoid traveling with single-use plastics.
- Remove packaging from any new purchases before traveling.
- Travel with a refillable water bottle for hydration.
- Use rechargeable batteries.
- Use an environmentally safe sunscreen.
- Conserve and responsibly use fresh water when at your adventure destination.
- Be environmentally conscious in everything you do.

## **CONSERVATION LAWS**

The yacht does not permit spear guns or Hawaiian slings on any of the yachts.

## **DIVE GEAR SUGGESTIONS**

We suggest you pack the following: wetsuit, hood/hooded vest, booties, fins, mask, snorkel, regulator with visible pressure gauge, depth gauge, dive computer and buoyancy compensator. Strongly recommended: Spare mask if you have prescription lenses, safety sausage, whistle, Dive Alert, mirror, reef hook, and/or other safety devices. Dive computers are mandatory. Each piece of gear should be marked with waterproof paint or tape. Please see our “Adventure Log” on our website for current diving conditions. A full line of rental gear is available onboard. To reserve any equipment or courses, please add to your personalized GIS profile in advance.

## **CERTIFICATION & SPECIALTY COURSES**

Divers can further their education while onboard an Aggressor yacht. The following courses are offered onboard: SSI Adventurer Course or the PADI equivalent Advanced Open Water Diver Course, and SSI or PADI Enriched Air / Nitrox Courses. Course fees are payable once onboard and the instructor confirms the course. The training agency utilized to provide your course will vary based on your instructor's affiliations. Other specialty courses may be available onboard and will be presented to you after your arrival as part of your initial briefings.

## **PHOTO/VIDEO**

The yacht offers support for digital photographers, including a PC for downloading photos. The Photo pro teaches the digital U/W Photography specialty course and is available for coaching or tips to improve your shooting in this environment. The yacht has a charging station and a large camera table available for your camera and video equipment.

A Video Professional can capture your diving adventure onboard to share with family and friends. The video for the week (including all guests and staff) is \$65 US.

## **SHIPS BOUTIQUE & CREDIT CARDS**

There is a mini boutique onboard with assorted t-shirts and miscellaneous items. Your bill for onboard services and boutique items is settled on the last diving day.

## **GRATUITIES**

Staff gratuities are not included in the charter. We believe gratuities should be voluntary and based upon the quality of service the crew has provided. When settling your account at the end of your stay, the Captain will have an envelope for gratuities that will be divided equally among the staff. Payment may be made by cash, or credit card.

## **LAST DAY**

The Maldives Aggressor II returns to port in Malé after lunch and an optional tour is offered followed by a cocktail party onboard then dinner ashore. This is the only meal that is not included.

## **CHECKOUT**

Checkout time is at 8 a.m. Transportation is provided to the Malé International Airport after breakfast. If you are traveling later in the day from Malé, you may consider a day room pass at a local hotel, there are several close to the airport and can be booked in advance by our travel department.

Normal day rooms/passes are for 8 hours and include use of the swimming pool, shower, towels, luggage storage etc., depending on which hotel you choose. You are welcome to contact our travel department at [travel@aggressor.com](mailto:travel@aggressor.com) assistance with hotel stay.

## **ADVENTURE LOGS**

Each week we post the Adventure logs of the previous charter on the Aggressor Liveboards website and Facebook. Please feel free to visit our Facebook or [www.aggressor.com](http://www.aggressor.com) and go to the Adventure Log to find out water temperature, visibility, and see photos and sightings.

**Thank you for choosing the Maldives Aggressor II!**