

# **MALDIVES PARADISE ISLANDS WEEKEND TRIP**

## WEEKEND OVERVIEW

Everyone dreams of visiting the Maldives, but for most it is generally too expensive! Well, here is your chance to live the dream and to explore the beautiful Maldives for a long weekend!

There is nowhere else in the world quite like it, with pristine white beaches, tranquil azure seas and amazing tropical coral reefs.

Based on the island of Maafushi, you will spend 4 days and 3 nights where you can soak up the sun, laze around and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere.

For those who are looking for more of an adventure then you can get involved in the many activities on offer close by!

The half and full day snorkelling trips allow you to see the amazing reefs full of lots of colourful fish, swim with sea turtles & dolphins and experience life on an uninhabited island for a spot of lunch!

You will also have the opportunity to go on excursions looking for whale sharks and manta rays as well as all of the normal holiday beach activities, including jet skiing, paragliding and more.

Fancy checking out a luxury resort island? You can spend the day on a nearby island where drinks and food are included all day and you can live the glamorous life.

The Maldives are just an hour's flight from Sri Lanka and you would be crazy to give up visiting these beautiful islands for a once in a lifetime experience.

The TMR team will arrange your transfers, flights and accommodation, but please note that no team member will accompany you. This is an opportunity for some independent travel.

However, the hotel owner of where you will be staying will be there to greet you at the speed boat and also to help arrange any activities and to assist if needs be.

Each weekend trip leaves on a Thursday afternoon and returns on the Sunday evening, costing just **£499 per person**.

The following are included within this fee:

- Private transfer to and from Colombo airport
- Speedboat transfers to and from Maafushi island
- Return flights from Colombo to Male
- Accommodation
- Breakfast

## START DATES

We will be running the Maldives weekend trip on the following dates:

**11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024**  
**20<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**  
**8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
**7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
**11<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
**13<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
**9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024**  
**18<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024**  
**6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024**  
**29<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024**  
**11<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2024**  
**20<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024**  
**25<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> August 2024 – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024**  
**8<sup>th</sup> August 2024 – 11<sup>th</sup> August 2024**  
**17<sup>th</sup> August 2024 – 20<sup>th</sup> August 2024**  
**12<sup>th</sup> September 2024 – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**21<sup>st</sup> September 2024 – 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**10<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024**  
**7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024**  
**12<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024**



**9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**  
**18<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025**  
**6<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025**  
**6<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025**  
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**10<sup>th</sup> July 2025 – 13<sup>th</sup> July 2025**  
**19<sup>th</sup> July 2025 – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> August 2025 – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2025**  
**7<sup>th</sup> August 2025 – 10<sup>th</sup> August 2025**  
**16<sup>th</sup> August 2025 – 19<sup>th</sup> August 2025**  
**11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025**  
**20<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025**  
**9<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025**  
**6<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – 9<sup>th</sup> November 2025**  
**11<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

We can add additional weekend trips if there is enough interest from volunteers. There is a minimum of 5 participants.

## BOOKING YOUR PLACE

You can simply add this weekend trip when applying for any of our programmes in Sri Lanka under 'Optional Extras'.

If you have already signed up for one of our volunteer programmes in Sri Lanka and would like to add this weekend trip, you can simply request this within your My Trip account.

**Places on our weekend trips are non-refundable and non-transferable between volunteers.**

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 – TRAVELLING TO THE MALDIVES

After a full morning of volunteering, everyone will have some lunch at the volunteer accommodation like normal.

Most flights leave Sri Lanka late afternoon or early evening, which generally means leaving for the airport between 1pm and 3pm.

When you land into the capital of the Maldives, Male, we recommend taking advantage of using the ATM or exchanging money at the airport.

Our local co-ordinator will be there to greet you and will take you by speedboat to the island of Maafushi.

### DAYS 2 & 3 – FREE TIME

There is no planned itinerary for the trip, just time to enjoy yourself in the sun in the Maldives!

The Maldives are the perfect place to come and chill out and relax. Spend your days soaking up the sun on the pristine white beaches and having long dinners as the sun sets and time slowly goes by without a worry in the world!

If relaxing is not your thing then there are plenty of activities our local co-ordinator can organise nearby! Some of the things you could get up to include:

- Half day snorkelling - including dolphin watching, swimming with sea turtles, lunch on an uninhabited island and exploring the corals - **\$30.**
- Full day on a luxury resort island – Relax in style at one of the many 5\* resorts! Includes return speed boat transfers, wi-fi, lunch and snacks at the restaurant, drinks - **\$100**
- Sunset night fishing with BBQ dinner - **\$30.**
- Island hopping around the local islands with Nemo point snorkelling - **\$25.**
- Whale shark watching - **\$95**
- Manta ray watching - **\$25.**
- A city tour around the capital island of Male - **\$20.**



## DAY 4 – LAST DAY

The majority of flights return back to Sri Lanka in the late afternoon or evening, so you still have plenty of time to enjoy the Maldives. The hotel owner will ensure you board the correct boat that will take you straight back to the airport.

Upon arriving back into Sri Lanka, our local team will be waiting there to collect you.

## ACCOMMODATION

You will be staying at our partner hotel in Maafushi. Located in the heart of this small island, all beaches, restaurants and activities are within a 5 minute walk!

There will be up to 3 people per bedroom (same sex), with beds being self-allocated by volunteers. All rooms have a modern en-suite bathroom and air-conditioning.

You can make use of the Wi-Fi, although this may be intermittent.

## MEALS

You'll be provided with a buffet breakfast each morning that contains cereal, bread and some more traditional foods.

For lunch and dinner you can dine out at one of the many restaurants located along the beach. You'll be able to choose from a wide choice of local cuisine, Chinese and western food – all reasonably priced.

## TRANSPORT

We will arrange all transport to and from the airport in Sri Lanka and to and from Male Airport and Maafushi.

Your flights are also included within the programme fee and will be organised by us. Please note flight times can depart from as early as 7am and return up until 11pm – so please expect to travel during the night.

## VISA INFORMATION

All United Kingdom nationals will be granted a 30 day visa on arrival when you enter the Maldives – you do not need to do anything in advance.

When you head back to Sri Lanka, everyone that has obtained a 30 day ETA or a 90 day tourist visa will automatically have a multi entry visa

If you have extended your visa while in Sri Lanka then you will need to purchase a new 30 day ETA visa as these do not allow multiple entries.

**If you want to take part on this amazing trip and the dates fall on your last weekend in Sri Lanka then you can still take part! Please arrange your return flight from Sri Lanka for Monday. The accommodation on your last night is not included but we can recommend several hotels either close to our accommodation or to the airport.**

