

SOLITUDE GAIA
MALDIVES

Know Before You Go

Get ready to travel to the Maldives.

SOLITUDE WORLD



Contact Us

address: Solitude Gaia Maldives
whatsapp: +65 8243 4548
email: emailus@solitude-liveaboards.com



Time Zone

Time Zone: GMT +5



Climate

The Maldives has a tropical climate with an average temperature of 27°C (81°F). Expect calm seas and sunshine year-round, with wetter months from May to October.



Water Temperature

Ocean temperatures range from 27°C to 30°C (81°F – 86°F), throughout the year.



Language

The official language is **Dhivehi (Maldivian)**; English is widely spoken.



Currency

The official currency is Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR), though USD is widely accepted. Solitude Gaia Maldives accepts Visa and Mastercard; a facility fee applies. Please confirm your payment method the night before disembarkation.

Maldives with Solitude

We appreciate that you have selected Solitude Liveaboards and Resorts for your getaway, and we trust that this pre-departure guide will assist you in preparing for your vacation with us.

Pre-Departure Information



Destination Location

Arrival Airport

Velana International Airport (MLE), unless another arrival airport is stated in your booking confirmation and itinerary.

Solitude Compulsory Forms

[Form A, Registration Form](#) and [General Liability Release Form](#).

Please read, complete and send to us prior to your departure.

Dive Insurance

This is compulsory for those that will be diving with us. If you have not already provided your details, please do so on arrival. You will need the following: the name of your insurer, the policy number, the emergency contact number and any disclosed medical conditions you may have.

We also need your own personal emergency contact person back home – a friend or family member and their contact details.

VISA

When filling out the Maldives Immigration arrival form, list:

Address: Solitude Gaia Maldives

Contact Number:

Whatsapp: +65 8243 4548

Each traveller must complete an individual IMUGA Traveller Declaration in English **within 96 hours before arriving in the Maldives**.

Please retain the confirmation or QR code for presentation upon arrival.

For more information, please visit <https://imuga.immigration.gov.mv>

Maldives Immigration Requirements

When travelling to the Maldives, you may be required to present the following at check-in or on arrival:

- **Passport validity:** Valid for at least one month from arrival, together with any greater validity required by your airline or onward destination
- **Onward/return ticket:** Proof of departure from the Maldives.
- **Accommodation proof:** A prepaid confirmed booking at a registered hotel/resort/liveaboard; or be ready to show proof of sufficient funds to support your stay. (No fixed amount is stated by Maldives Immigration; officers assess admissibility at the port of entry.)

- **Traveller Declaration (IMUGA):** Submit online within 96 hours before your flight time; keep the QR code for arrival.

Failure to meet these requirements can lead to delays or denied boarding. These policies are set by Maldives Immigration and enforced by airlines/ground staff. For clarification, see [Maldives Immigration](#) and the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) pages.

- <https://imuga.immigration.gov.mv>
- <https://foreign.gov.mv/index.php/en/consular/for-foreigners-visiting-maldives/maldives-visa>

Drones / AUVs / ROUVs

All drone operations require prior approval from the Maldives Civil Aviation Authority. Depending on the location, approval from the Maldives National Defence Force may be required first, together with permission from relevant resorts, councils or airport authorities. Drone flights must remain below 400 feet.

Guests planning to bring or operate an AUV or ROUV must contact us in advance so that any required permissions can be confirmed.

For current requirements and applications, visit: <https://caa.gov.mv/operations/flying-remotely-piloted-aircraft-%28drones%29-in-the-maldives>

Currency Exchange

Please note that currency exchange services are not available on board and we are unable to accept foreign currencies other than USD cash or major credit cards (Visa and Mastercard).

For your convenience, currency exchange and ATMs are available at Velana International Airport and in Malé. You may also use international debit or credit cards to withdraw USD cash before boarding Solitude Gaia Maldives.



Wi-Fi

Stay connected onboard with pre-purchase data packages. Contact our Reservations team or Cruise Director for current options and pricing.



Electricity

Universal power outlets are available onboard. On land, electricity is 230V/50Hz, using Type G (UK-style) sockets.



Lithium Battery Safety

Rechargeable lithium batteries used for diving, photography and recreational equipment must be charged in designated charging areas. Power banks must be declared to the crew upon embarkation and stored in battery safety containers until disembarkation.

For more information:

www.solitude.world/battery-safety-policy



Duty Free

Duty-free allowances apply to limited tobacco and personal goods. Alcohol and vaping products may not be brought into the Maldives.



Quick Travel Checklist

- Passport validity (minimum 1 month)
- Traveller Declaration completed
- Dive insurance arranged
- Restricted items declared
- Drone requirements reviewed

Arriving in Malé



Welcome!

Location

Malé, Maldives

Airport Transfers

If you arrive before the scheduled embarkation day or have additional holiday plans, you may arrange transfers through our Reservations Team with a third-party provider at your own cost. Alternatively, you are welcome to organise transfers independently.

If you are staying at a hotel in Malé or Hulhumalé, our crew will coordinate directly with your hotel's front desk to confirm your pick-up time. Guests who are not arriving by air on embarkation day must arrange their meeting point and time in advance by emailing emailus@solitude-liveaboards.com. Meetings will be scheduled between 12:00 and 17:00.

Airport Meeting Point

After collecting your luggage and exiting the arrivals area at Velana International Airport (MLE), please look for our team member holding a SOLITUDE LIVEABOARDS paging board. Our staff will greet and assist you with your transfer to Solitude Gaia Maldives. (We do not employ third-party agents.)

If you are unable to locate our crew, please contact our Reservations Team via **WhatsApp on +65 8243 4548**. The direct contact details for your Cruise Director, Assistant Cruise Director and local Maldives contact will be included in your final pre-departure information.

Friendly Reminder

We do not provide currency exchange services or accept foreign currencies other than USD cash. Visa and Mastercard are accepted on board; a facility fee applies.

For your convenience, currency exchange and ATMs are available at Velana International Airport and in Malé. You may also use international debit or credit cards to withdraw USD cash before boarding Solitude Gaia Maldives.

Paging Board

To help identify our friendly airport transfer staff, please look for the SOLITUDE LIVEABOARDS paging board with your name.



Northern Atolls

MALDIVES



HAA ALIFU
HAA DHAALU

SHAVIYANI
NOONU

RAA
BAA
LHAVIYANI

Kaladaya Channel

Central Atolls

RASDHOO

NORTH MALÉ

MALÉ (MLE)

ARI

SOUTH MALÉ

VAAVU

MEEMU

THAA

Veinmandu Channel

LAAMU

Southern Atolls

Hevadho Channel

GAAFU ALIFU
GAAFU DHAALU

Equatorial Channel

FUVAHMULAH

ADDU (SEENU)



GAN (GAN)

Embarkation

Day 1 marks the beginning of your adventure aboard Solitude Gaia Maldives, and we look forward to warmly welcoming you on board.

Embarkation is available between 12:00 and 17:00. Transfers from Velana International Airport (MLE) and nearby hotels in Male and Hulhumale will be arranged during this window. If you are staying locally, our crew will coordinate with your hotel's front desk to confirm your pick-up time.

Guests who are not arriving by air on embarkation day must contact us in advance by email to arrange a meeting point and time between 12:00 and 17:00. Please note that embarkation transfers conclude at 17:00.

Lunch is included for guests embarking between 12:00 and 14:00. For guests embarking after 14:00, lunch is not included, although our team may be able to prepare something where possible. Dinner is included for all guests who embark by 17:00.

Once on board, our crew will extend a warm Solitude welcome and guide you through the check-in process. The Welcome Aboard and safety briefing will take place at 18:00 before your journey through the atolls begins.

Safety

Ensuring safety has been our top priority at Solitude Liveboards and Resorts since the beginning. We recognise the importance of having well-trained crew and being well-equipped to handle any situation, especially given the remote areas we operate in.

Our Top Priority

SAFETY is Solitude's top priority. We take every precaution to ensure the safety of our guests and crew. As we operate in remote areas we ensure that we are well-equipped to handle any emergency scenario.

During your stay onboard, we provide each guest with a complimentary Nautilus Marine Rescue GPS for added peace of mind while diving.

Our safety equipment and Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) include::

- Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)
- Life Rafts
- Emergency Survival Packs
- Semi-Automated Fire Suppression Sprinkler System
- VHF/SB Radios
- Garmin inReach mini II with 2 way satellite text messaging and SOS distress
- Inmarsat-C
- Starlink Internet
- Local Navigation Maps with Furuno GPS Chart Plotter
- Radar (Long/Short)
- Weather Plotter
- Depth Sounder
- 63,086L Water Storage with On-board Water-Makers capable of producing 280L of fresh water per hour.

Additional fire prevention measures, including lithium battery charging and storage procedures, form part of our onboard safety practices. For more information, please visit: www.solitude.world/battery-safety-policy



Safe Diving

We understand that your time and investment in a holiday are valuable, and we aim to provide you with as many dives as possible while ensuring your safety.

In order to prioritize safety, it is important to make sure you maintain proper rest and hydration during your diving adventure.

We recognise that although you have learned about safety during your scuba course/s, the excitement and anticipation of a diving holiday can sometimes cause us to neglect our own readiness for a dive.

Our crew's safety is also important, so we limit the number of dives to four per day, including a night dive, to minimise fatigue and reduce the risk of accidents.

Itineraries are subject to change due to weather and logistics, but our cruise directors will keep you informed.

What to Know On Board

Your trip rate includes TGST and the Maldives Government mandatory 10% service charge. It excludes equipment rental, satellite communications, EANitrox, alcoholic beverages, laundry, applicable marine activity fees and other optional onboard purchases. Some fees collected at **check-in** and the remaining at **check-out**.



Your Cabin

Amenities

In-room amenities consist of air-conditioning, a wardrobe, an electronic in-room safe, an ensuite bathroom with a toilet and shower, a hair dryer with shower amenities.

Daily cabin cleaning is provided, while sheets, bath and face towels are changed every three days of use. Nevertheless, you may request a change at any time if needed.

You can find more about your [cabin type here](#).

Check-Out

Fuel Surcharge, Laundry, Bar, Satellite Usage fees, EANitrox and other incidentals will be paid at check-out.



Payment can be made in USD cash or by Visa or Mastercard. A facility fee applies to card payments.

Required On Board Payments

During check-in, you will be required to settle applicable fees and permits, while other incidentals will be charged at check-out.

Below is a list of onboard payments for Solitude Gaia Maldives. These are subject to change, and final amounts will be confirmed before embarkation.

- **Green Tax:** USD12 per person, per night. Children under two years of age are exempt.
- **Fuel Surcharge:** A fuel surcharge is calculated using the 30-day average Brent Crude price immediately prior to embarkation. No surcharge applies at USD 70 or below. Above USD 70 but below USD 100, the surcharge is USD 30 per person, per night. At USD 100 or above, it is USD 50 per person, per night. Any applicable surcharge is payable on board at embarkation and may be waived at Solitude's discretion.

Reference: <https://www.investing.com/commodities/brent-oil-historical-data>

- **Atoll or Marine Park Fees:**
 - Hanifaru Bay snorkelling fee: USD30 per person, when applicable to the itinerary.
 - Tiger Zoo, Fuvahmulah: USD30 per diver, per dive, when applicable to the itinerary.
- **Nitrox & Equipment Rental:** Optional; see onboard rates
- **Bar, Boutique, and Other Incidentals:** Charged at check-out.

All payments are collected in USD. Visa and Mastercard are accepted on board (a facility fee applies).

Please note: Rates and policies are subject to revision by the Maldives authorities and Solitude World. The most up-to-date information will be provided prior to embarkation.

We wish you a delightful and enjoyable stay with us.

Incidentals

Special Diets

Please inform us in advance of any special dietary requirements. This allows our galley team to prepare accordingly, as sourcing certain ingredients in the Maldives can be challenging. If you have medical dietary needs, we recommend bringing preferred substitutes such as gluten-free items or plant-based milk alternatives.

The Bar

Our bar offers a curated selection of wines, cocktails, spirits, and beers.

Alcoholic Beverages

Alcohol cannot be purchased from shops in Male, Hulhumale or other inhabited islands. A selection of alcoholic beverages is available for purchase from our onboard bar.

Laundry Services

Laundry service is available on board. You will find a laundry bag and item list with fees in your cabin.

Entertainment

Enjoy a selection of multimedia content, books, and board games during your downtime between dives.

Mobile SIM

Pre-paid local SIM cards from Dhiraagu or Ooredoo can be purchased at Velana International Airport upon arrival. Sales staff will assist with registration and setup.

Phone Calls, SMS & Email

If you need to contact the vessel or locate our crew before embarkation:

Direct contact details for the Cruise Director, Assistant Cruise Director and local Maldives contact will be provided in your final pre-departure information.

Wi-Fi Tips

Solitude Gaia Maldives is equipped with Starlink satellite internet.

To optimise performance and manage data efficiently:

- Set the onboard Wi-Fi SSID as "metered".
- Disable auto-updates, cloud sync, and background refresh.
- Keep messages short and avoid large file uploads.

Our crew can assist you with device settings.

Please note that satellite connectivity depends on third-party service providers and weather conditions. Solitude Gaia Maldives and her crew are not responsible for interruptions or data issues arising from these factors.

Social Media

We love seeing your ocean experiences—tag and share your moments with us! #solitudeworld #solitudegaiamaldives

- **Instagram:** [@solitude.world](https://www.instagram.com/solitude.world)
- **Facebook:** [@solitudeliveaboardsandresorts](https://www.facebook.com/solitudeliveaboardsandresorts)



Scuba Diving



Digital Studio

- Amenities**
- Large Rinse Tanks and Towels just for Cameras
 - Pressurised Air for Drying
 - Camera Setup Bench on Dive Deck
 - Universal Power Sockets
 - Power Supply: 230V/50Hz
 - Surge Protection and UPS Sockets, only in Digital Studio
 - Electrical Plug Adapters and Extensions available

Lithium Battery Safety

Rechargeable lithium batteries used for diving, photography and recreational equipment must be charged in designated charging areas. Power banks must be declared to the crew upon embarkation and stored in battery safety containers until disembarkation.

For more information, visit:
www.solitude.world/battery-safety-policy

Dive Days

Solitude Gaia Maldives explores the Maldives year-round, with itineraries tailored to seasonal marine life and current conditions.

The dive schedule is confirmed nightly during the briefing. Solo diving is not permitted. Each dive is limited to 60 minutes, with surface intervals conducted on board.

Water temperatures range from 27C to 30C (81F to 86F), with occasional cooler periods from May to October.

A 3mm full wetsuit is recommended, or 5mm if you prefer extra warmth during multiple dives.

For added peace of mind, each diver is provided with a complimentary Nautilus Marine Rescue GPS.

Guests are responsible for the device while in their care. Lost or damaged units will be charged at the previously agreed replacement price.

Dive Centre

1	EANitrox prices are as follows: USD8 per dive, USD15 per day (maximum of 4 dives per day).	Yes
2	100 cu.ft. / 15L cylinders - additional charge USD10 per cylinder per diving day (pcpdd)	Yes*
3	Sidemount support - additional 12L/80cu.ft. cylinder and twin tank 12L/80cu.ft. available. Air USD10, EANitrox USD25 pcpdd. Whole trip use: 10% discount applies	Yes*
4	DIN valves with option of Yoke (A-clamp)	Yes
5	Rebreather Support*: Oxygen fills are available using the onboard booster pump and are charged at the current market rate. Dive profiles must consider other guests' comfort and safety. Full charters may operate profiles beyond standard recreational limits. Please enquire in advance for details.	Yes
6	Rental gear available	Yes*
7	Private Guide Service is available for USD150 per day.	Yes*

*Subject to availability/change

YES%

Enriched Air Nitrox is available only to certified divers. Our proficient dive team will determine the blend, approximately between 28-32%, considering the MOD, dive site, its profile, and target species, ensuring the best opportunity for a safe and optimised diving experience.

Dive Shop

On board, you can purchase Surface Marker Buoys (OPV, SOLAS Reflector), Nautilus Lifeline GPS/VHF Radio (with Pouch), Spools, Dive Pointers, Drift Hooks, o-rings, Hoses, and other common replaceable spares. We recommend placing an advance order, as quantities are limited.

Prior to diving, it is mandatory to present proof of certification and dive insurance.





Disembarkation

The final day marks the close of your journey aboard Solitude Gaia Maldives—always a little bittersweet as we bid farewell to new friends and shared adventures.

Although this is a no-dive day, we aim to make it relaxed and enjoyable for everyone. A hearty breakfast will be served before check-out.

Disembarkation is scheduled no later than 08:00, after which we will arrange transfers to Velana International Airport or your next accommodation.

During check-out, our crew will assist with settling your account and payment options. We accept USD cash and Visa/Mastercard (a facility fee applies; please advise in advance if you plan to pay by card).

Extended onboard time after 08:00 may be available by prior arrangement, subject to the vessel's schedule and an additional charge. Availability, departure time, inclusions and rates will be confirmed on request.

More Information

whatsapp: +65 8243 4548
emailus@solitude-liveaboards.com

Vessel Data Sheet

[Solitude Gaia Maldives Vessel Data Sheet](#)

For more details about the vessel, cabins, facilities and amenities.



Reference Sheets

[How to Contact Solitude Gaia Maldives](#) [About Our Onboard Internet](#)

For instructions and how to.



Compulsory Forms

[Form A, Registration Form](#) [General Liability Release Form](#)

Compulsory for all guests.



Gratuity / Tips

Throughout your stay, our dedicated staff and crew are committed to ensuring that you have an enjoyable Solitude experience. The Maldives Government mandatory 10% service charge is included in your trip rate. Additional gratuities are neither expected nor required, but are always sincerely appreciated. Should you choose to leave an additional gratuity, it will be shared equally among all crew members, including those working behind the scenes.





www.solitude.world

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