



LUX*

SOUTH ARI ATOLL
MALDIVES

UNDERWATE FESTIVAL

16-22 SEPTEMBER 2018

THE PROGRAM
THE EXPERTS



UNDERWATER FESTIVAL

THE PROGRAM

SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

17:30 UNDERWATER FESTIVAL OPENING
Cocktail reception and Welcome at the West Point

MONDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

09:00 – 10:00
CORAL ID INTRODUCTION -whilst amongst the most spectacular ecosystem in the world, why not learn how to identify different coral and fish species. Taught by PADI and our LUX* marine biology team, these dives will help you understand the extraordinary diversity of the Maldivian marine environment.
Meet at Diving Center

10:00- 12:00 USD98++/person
MORNING CORAL ID DIVE
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at the Diving Center

13:00- 14:00
UNDERWATER PAINTING
Join us to watch the talented local Maldivian artist, Hussain Ihfal, paint underwater a beautiful sketch of the local marine life
Snorkel alongside or watch from the arrival jetty

14:00- 16:00 USD98++/person
AFTERNOON CORAL ID DIVE
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at the Diving Center

17:00 – 19:00
PADI DIVE HISTORY WORKSHOP
Join PADI staff for a journey through the history of scuba diving, and of PADI itself. With background on the development of the equipment, the conservation challenges faced by the world today and explaining the growth of the largest diver training organisation in the world.
Meet at the Yoga Grove

TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

09:00 – 10:00
iBUBBLE INTRODUCTION with underwater drone expert, Benjamin Valtin. For those interested in the latest underwater tech and stunning underwater dive footage!
Meet at the Diving Center

10:00 – 12:00 USD98++/person
MORNING iBUBBLE DIVE course with underwater drone expert, Benjamin Valtin
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at the Diving Center

14:00 – 16:00 USD98++/person
AFTERNOON iBUBBLE DIVE with underwater drone expert, Benjamin Valtin
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at the Diving Center

17:00 – 19:00
iBUBBLE PRESENTATION AND WORKSHOP
Explore the best techniques for underwater drone photography with iBubble experts, who will be presenting imagery from their cutting edge technology, and what it reveals about our marine world.
Meet at the Yoga Grove

WEDNESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

09:00 – 10:00
UNDERWATER SCOOTER INTRODUCTION-Giving you the chance to 'fly' along the atoll reefs, this PADI Diver Propulsion Vehicle specialty is open to certified divers.

10:00 – 12:00 USD98++/person*
MORNING UNDERWATER SCOOTER DIVE
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at Diving Center

14:00 – 16:00 USD98++/person*
AFTERNOON UNDERWATER SCOOTER DIVE
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at Diving Center

17:00 – 19:00 UNDERWATER SCOOTER COURSE
Learn the fundamental skills needed to use this exciting equipment and become a certified underwater scooter diver with this specialty course.
Meet at the Yoga Grove

21:30
CINEMA PARADISO
Join us for a special complimentary screening of BLUE PLANET at our outdoor cinema in the coconut grove.

THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

09:00 – 10:00
WHALE SHARK INTRODUCTION with PADI Dive Team and resident Marine Biologist
Meet at the Diving Center

10:00 – 12:00 USD98++/person
MORNING WHALE SHARK DIVE course with PADI Dive Team and resident Marine Biologist
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at the Diving Center

•USD 30++ for rental equipment/USD 30++ training fee
•Training fee is waived with all Certification courses

PRICES SUBJECT TO SERVICE CHARGE AND GOV. TAXES

UNDERWATER FESTIVAL THE PROGRAM

THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

14:00 – 16:00 USD98++/person
AFTERNOON WHALE SHARK DIVE course with PADI Dive Team and resident Marine Biologist
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at the Diving Center

17:00 – 19:00
WHALE SHARK CONSERVATION WORKSHOP
Learn more about the largest fish in the world with PADI, our LUX* marine biology team and the Maldives Whale Shark Research Team. Receive training on the biology of whale sharks and information on the organisations protecting them.
Meet at the Yoga Grove

FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

09:00 – 10:00
DIGITAL UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY INTRODUCTION this training will help you get the best from an underwater camera whether you are snorkelling or on scuba. We invite you to enjoy the hands on training and information on the science of getting good photos.
Meet at Diving Center

10:00- 12:00 USD98++/person*
MORNING UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY DIVE
Dive course to learn the best techniques for underwater photography with DUP experts
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at the Diving Center

14:00- 16:00 USD98++/person*
AFTERNOON UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY DIVE
Dive course to learn the best techniques for underwater photography with DUP experts
Book at the Diving Center/Meet at the Diving Center

17:00 – 19:00
PROJECT AWARE WORKSHOP
Join the PADI team for a special Project AWARE course. This complimentary educational experience is open to divers and non-divers alike. It will teach you the fundamental mechanisms of our marine environment, the challenges it faces, and what you can do to help. All attendees will receive a special Project AWARE certification card, sponsored by PADI.

19:30 – 20:30
AN EVENING WITH THE EXPERTS– join our festival experts and LUX* staff for an evening of cocktails and socialising.
Meet at Senses Beach

SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

09:00 – 10:00 Complimentary
TURTLE SNORKELING INTRODUCTION with turtle research expert Dr. Claire Petros from the Olive Ridley Project.

10:00 – 12:00 Complimentary
GROUP TURTLE SNORKELING
Join us on a turtle expedition, as we search and swim with the friendly turtles of the Maldives with PADI team, resident Marine Biologist and turtle expert, Dr. Claire Petros.
Book at the the Marine Biology Center/Meet at the Marine Biology Center

16:30 – 17:30
UNDERWATER FESTIVAL CLOSING CEREMONY
Let's celebrate the close of a fascinating week of ocean and marine life exploration at the Lagoon Bar Beach. Enjoy canapés and live music from the resident DJ, with diving workshop certifications to be awarded.
Meet at Lagoon Bar Beach

•USD 30++ for rental equipment/USD 30++ training fee
•Training fee is waived with all Certification courses

UNDERWATER FESTIVAL

THE EXPERTS

DR. Drew Richardson



Considered one of the foremost diving specialists of his generation, American, Dr. Drew Richardson is the founder of PROJECT AWARE and the CEO of PADI Dive.

A life long diver and passionate lover of marine conservation, Dr. Drew Richardson was inducted into the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame in 2008. Utilizing his credentials in marine science, business and education, Richardson has significantly advanced the PADI Dive system and lends his constant conservation vision to PROJECT AWARE, a global conservation movement to protect the oceans. Recent campaigns include, responsible shark and ray tourism, defending against the global shark trade and diving against debris.

Be sure to join Dr. Richardson for some exciting excursions and workshops!

Benjamin Valtin



Pairing his drone photography talents to his passion for the underwater world, French diver and drone expert, Benjamin Valtin now shares his passion for the latest underwater technology with his creation of the first underwater drone, the iBUBBLE.

Working with a team of passionate divers and underwater enthusiasts, mechatronics experts, software developers, designers and innovative marketers, the iBUBBLE was born and offers divers the ultimate in underwater video and photography.

Benjamin Valtin will be sharing this exceptional advancement and underwater tech to help you create stunning video and images from your dives!

Hussain Ihfal



Born and raised in the Maldives, Hussain Ihfal is a talented artist, who blends his love for the sea with his skills in painting with acrylics and other mediums.

An accomplished artist, he hopes to use his art to draw attention to the challenges facing today's oceans and the specific threat to the Maldives, which thrives off of the sea. Passionate about saving the local reefs, he uses his underwater painting projects as a platform to drive awareness to the pressing issues in marine conservation.

Hussain Ihfal will exhibit his artwork at the Opening Ceremony and will be painting live underwater at the arrival jetty on Monday, September 17th.

UNDERWATER FESTIVAL THE EXPERTS

Matt Wenger



Originally from Switzerland, Matt Wenger went on his first dive at the age of 14 and now has become the Regional Manager for PADI Europe, Maldives, Middle East and Africa.

Spending most of his early years in the Caribbean and then traveling the world, Matt Wenger has settled in the Maldives and is an expert in underwater scooter operation and training as well as digital underwater photography or DUP.

Be sure to join Matt on some exciting excursions!

Mark McMillan

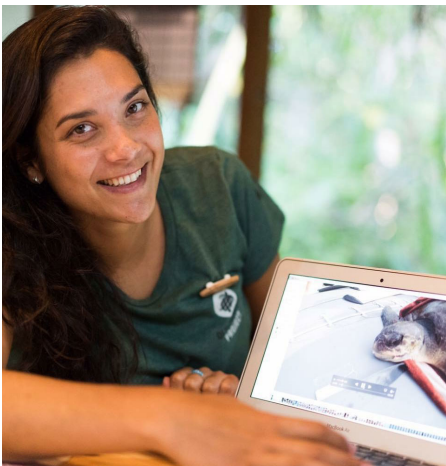


Inspired by nature documentaries and aquariums as a child, UK, Marine Biologist, Mark McMillan has been fascinated with the underwater world from the very beginning. Studying Marine Vertebrate Zoology and specializing in the field of Marine Ornamental Aquaculture.

An expert in all things fishy, Mark is passionate about ocean conservation, education and public awareness, he is involved in many exciting projects here at the resort, from coral re-building to turtle and whale shark research. If you have any questions on our underwater friends, Mark is on site at the resort to help.

Mark will be assisting with the whale shark workshop and excursions to swim with the magnificent creatures that call this atoll home.

Dr. Claire Petros



A veterinarian and Biologist, Claire has always had a passion for nature and graduated from Oxford in Biological Sciences.

Specializing in Marine Ecology, she studied the health status for coral reefs in Indonesia and developed further interest in marine conservation. Her work has taken her from South Africa to the London Zoo and became fascinated with turtles after witnessing a surgery on a Loggerhead sea turtle. Turtle medicine is now her love!

Be sure to join Dr. Claire Petros for a sea turtle presentation and group snorkeling excursion on Saturday, the 22nd of September.

UNDERWATER FESTIVAL

THE EXPERTS

Rich Somerset



Richard Somerset is a familiar face amongst PADI Professionals in the UK. Having worked for PADI for more than ten years, he has held various positions within the Training and Instructor Development wings of the company, before taking over as Territory Director for the UK, France, Maldives, Malta and Portugal in 2016. Having begun diving as a teenager, Richard became the second ever European Rolex Scholar in 2001, enabling him to travel and work with industry experts across the globe. His teaching career went on to span Australia, the Pacific and the Caribbean as well as managing dive centres in the UK. With qualifications that include recreational, technical, rebreather and free diving credentials, Richard is now directly involved in the development of new PADI courses, and in the growth of the UK diving industry amongst PADI centres.

He also regularly conducts Instructor Examinations, webinars and live training events for PADI members across Europe, Middle East and Africa.

Richard has a passion for being outdoors and when he is not diving Richard is an avid marathon runner and trekker

Mark Spiers



A passionate diver for over 25 years, Mark Spiers started diving in the UK, and went on to run several dive stores throughout Europe and Asia, in addition to being a successful PADI Course Director. Mark joined PADI in their Asia Pacific Office in 2006, before relocating to the UK to head up their Europe, Middle East and Africa office, as the Vice-President of Training, Sales and Field Services.

An accomplished educator, Spiers is committed to the diving space, protecting the oceans and teaching the world to dive.

DISCOVER SCUBA (1/2 Day)

Includes:

1 lagoon session
Rental equipment
Fee: USD 73

DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING (1 Day)

Includes:

1 lagoon session
Rental equipment & boat trip
Fee: USD 139

SCUBA DIVER COURSE (2-3 Days)

Includes:

3 Modules Theory, 3 Lagoon Sessions, 2 Boat Dives, Student Kit and World Wide Certification
Fee: USD 447

OPEN WATER DIVE COURSE (3-4 Days)

Includes:

5 Modules Theory, 5 Lagoon Sessions, 4 Boat Dives, Student Kit and World Wide Certification
Fee: USD 659

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