

MALDIVES



12nts Coral Reef Survey Trips with the *Marine Conservation Society* 2009 dates on board the fabulous **Sea Spirit**

13 Jun to 26 Jun 2009

12nt

£2372

Includes flights, transfers, accommodation with all meals, all diving and 1 year's membership to MCS



Join us on board the superb **Sea Spirit** and take part in our ongoing reef project studying the corals and fish stocks of the wonderful Maldives. You will get to dive at all our regular fantastic dive sites with our mantas and, if you are lucky, our whale sharks. With 3 dives a day visiting different sites, the trip will offer you superb diving and the added value of our guest marine biologist from the **Marine Conservation Society**, who will offer informal marine ecology fish and coral identification talks.

Our annual reef survey trips offer not only great diving and a lot of fun, but also a relaxed way to take an active part in marine conservation and to learn more about the reef systems of the Maldives and the world. The research input is purely voluntary and if you are not interested and don't want to take part in the actual surveys it will in no way interrupt a normal 3 dive a day liveaboard itinerary.



During the first week we aim to head west to dive our selected ongoing monitoring sites in Rasdhu Atoll and during the second week we head south to do our Southern Reef studies. You can either join us for the first week as a 7 day trip - for £1737 per person - or stay on board for the full 12 days. Divers interested are asked to do a simple count of fish types and number

they see during their dive. Others will be asked to take a 100m tape measure down and place this over the reef making notes of coral types and the general health of the coral within it. This data is collected and added to the dataset of survey data going back to 2005 - the year after the Indian Ocean tsunami. We use this information to assist with the overall protection of the Maldives reef systems and the MCS, as the regional co-ordinator of Reef Check, has other teams collecting data in the Maldives. Our popular reef survey trips are always fun and worthwhile and as an added bonus all divers joining the trips will get a free year's membership to the MCS. We would love to have you join us for the trips and to help in the preservation of our wonderful coral reefs.

Accommodation:

The **Sea Spirit** offers excellent accommodation for 12 divers in twin or double air-conditioned cabins. All cabins have en-suite bathrooms with hot water showers. The large saloon has plenty of comfortable seating and a bar that serves wine, beers and spirits. Tea, coffee, soft drinks and water are available throughout the day and night free of charge.



For photographers and videographers, there are full digital work stations with TV, monitor, and ample 24 hour recharging points. Out on deck are large, comfortable shaded seating areas. On the stern of each vessel, a large platform offers easy access to the water for swimming or snorkelling and there are camera rinse tanks and fresh water deck showers.

REEF PROJECT DATES WITH THE MCS

Prices are per person in Pounds Sterling and include economy class scheduled flights from the UK with Emirates (subject to availability at the time of booking), airport to liveaboard transfers, full board accommodation in an air-conditioned, en-suite twin/double cabin, canned soft drinks, teas, coffees and snacks, drinking water, all diving, use of tanks and weights, various excursions, a coral reef CD, and one year membership to the Marine Conservation Society.

Please add UK and Male departure taxes of £67 per person.
Sri Lankan flights also available on request.

Maldives Scuba Tours

Innovation House, Boldero Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP32 7BS

Tel: 01284 748010 Fax: 01284 748011

E-mail: info@scubascuba.com Website: www.scubascuba.com

20-Oct-08



FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE RING 01284 748010