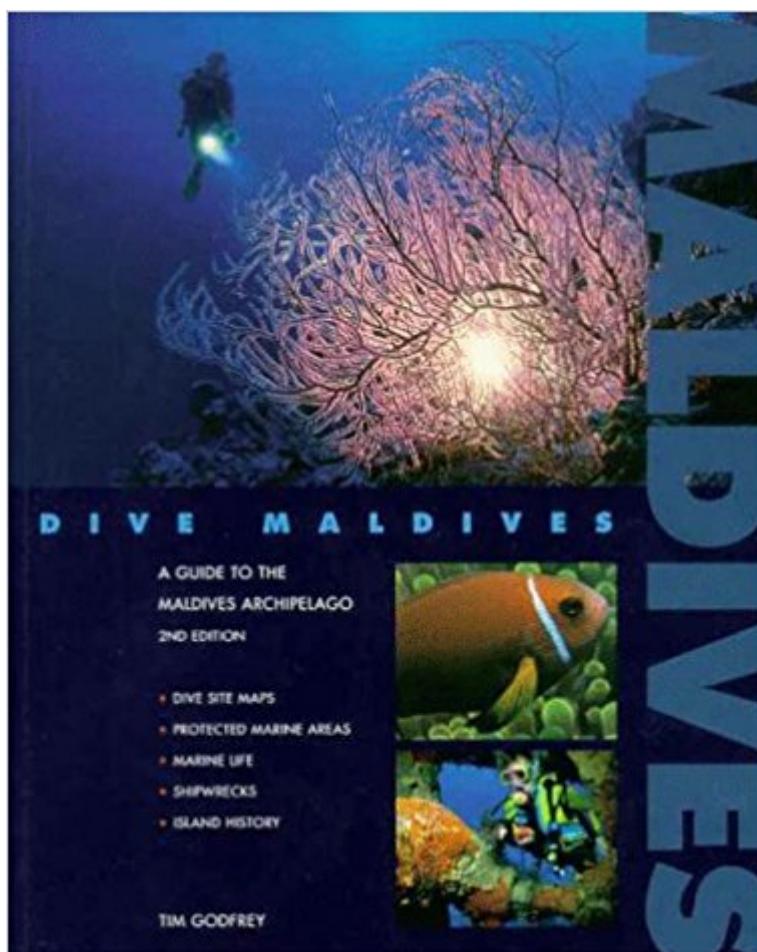


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Dive Maldives: A Guide To The Maldives Archipelago



Synopsis

Dive Maldives is a detailed guide to diving in all the tourist atolls of the Maldives Archipelago. It contains 114 computer-generated maps with descriptions of over 270 dive sites based on the author's personal research over 12 years. The maps are divided into three types: atoll, region and site maps. The atoll maps show the resorts in blue type with traditional island names in brackets. Also shown are uninhabited islands, reefs, Protected Marine Areas, heliports, channel names, and some of the well-known dive site locations. The region maps show the same features but in more detail with all the dive site locations described in this book. The dive site maps are useful references for divers and show the topography and scale of the reef. Through the use of symbols for features such as caves, overhangs, saddles and canyons, as well as commonly seen fish and marine life, divers get a pre-dive glimpse of what they can expect to see during the dive. Scattered throughout the book are 191 photographs with informative captions. All fish mentioned are listed in a separate index at the back and are grouped by class and family, with both their common and scientific name reported for easy identification. For those divers who have never been to this remote nation of 1190 islands, there is a useful section with practical information for travelers and divers, and an up-to-date index of resorts and live aboard vessels. Besides the diving related material, Dive Maldives covers other important aspects of this wonderful archipelago, including island history, Indian Ocean maritime history and shipwrecks, coral reef ecosystem and environmental problems. Although non-divers would find it extremely pleasant and interesting to read, this is indeed a book dedicated to divers, particularly those seeking a deeper knowledge and understanding of this top-class dive destination. Recommended to all those who want to know more than a simple dive guide can tell... And it comes in three versions too: English, German and Italian.

Book Information

Paperback: 152 pages

Publisher: Atoll Editions; 2nd edition (April 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1876410000

ISBN-13: 978-1876410001

Package Dimensions: 10.2 x 8.3 x 0.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,797,575 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Travel > Asia

Customer Reviews

Dive Maldives, by Tim Godfrey, describes all the established dive sites in detail and is a good investment and souvenir for any diver...' For divers and anyone else interested in the exact location of reefs, thilas, channels etc, the best source is the book Dive Maldives, the associated sheet map Maldives Travellers & Divers Map, and an atlas/directory called Malways...' Dive Maldives, by Tim Godfrey, is a highly recommended diving guide with detailed descriptions of all the main sites in the Maldives tourist zone, a fascinating maritime history and stories of the most famous wrecks. The maps are excellent, and are also available in sheet format and as an atlas/directory called Malways.'

-- Lonely Planet Maldives '97 Guidebook

Atoll Editions started its business in 1996 with three products: Dive Maldives, a Guide to the Maldives Archipelago', Malways, Maldives Island Directory', and Divers and Travellers map of the Maldives'. In response to continuing resort developments and additional information, the second edition of these three products was released in 1998. Dive Maldives' was also translated into German by Claus-Peter Stoll and into Italian by Cinzia Mariolini. Both these translators are diving experts and spent a number of months working on the text and checking terms and fish names for consistency. The atoll maps in these three products are very detailed and extremely well presented thanks to Chris Crook of Country Cartographics in Australia. Dive Maldives' has quickly established a reputation for accuracy and become the standard reference for both divers and instructors. Previously there was little reference material available and it is pleasing to note some of the positive feedback that has come from them. The Ministry of Tourism has acknowledged the usefulness of Dive Maldives' by using many of the stories, information and maps in its official Website and CD-Rom. Malways', is the first detailed island directory, or atlas, available on the Maldives and is used not only by travellers but by expatriate workers, local fishermen and boat captains. It is even used by the sea-plane pilots as a quick reference for flying tourists and government officials around the atolls. The Divers and Travellers Map' was designed for divers to show all the major features, including the main dive site locations, on the one map. A major development for Atoll Editions was the release in April, 1998 of Photo Guide to Fishes of the Maldives' by Rudie. H. Kuiter. Atoll Editions is just over a year old but it has been in the pipeline for some years. New publications are planned and existing ones have to be updated. We look forward to a solid future and hope that it will

not be too long before another product hits the market.

To begin, The Maldives are a group of over 400 islands (many uninhabited) that can be found in the Indian Ocean south-west of the Indian continent. These are the 'paradise' islands - idyllic bleached sand, green lagoons and blue ocean. The sun is virtually guaranteed 365 days a year (though trade winds can help lower the temperature from time to time). Most islands can be circumnavigated on foot in less than ten minutes, so I would advise anyone thinking of visiting The Maldives to do so only if they want a holiday with nothing to see and nowhere to go, OR want to spend their holiday clutching the bar stool and watching the waves caress the beach, OR love water sports. It's as quiet as that, and scuba, snorkeling and water-skiing are about as active as you'll get. If you fit into the third category, you'll adore these islands and their friendly peoples. You'll undoubtedly appreciate the diving which, in my view, ranks with the very best in the world (and I've dived a lot of places). Tim Godfrey has spent a considerable amount of time and effort putting together 'Dive Maldives'. When you consider, for a start, that the islands cover an area of ocean as big as Texas, you'll understand the scale of the task. And for readers who have attempted underwater photography, you'll appreciate that it can take several dives just to get one good picture. This book contains 191 superb photos taken throughout the atolls that make up The Maldives. Also included are 114 computer-generated maps with descriptions of over 270 dive sites based on the author's personal research over 12 years. Included in this comprehensive book is information on uninhabited islands, reefs, Protected Marine Areas, heliports, channel names, and some of the better-known dive site locations. The dive site maps show the topography and scale of the reefs, using symbols for features such as caves, overhangs, saddles and canyons, as well as commonly seen fish and marine life. Here divers can get a pre-dive glimpse of what they can expect to see during the dive. EXCELLENT stuff, thoroughly researched and exquisitely photographed. For visitors to The Maldives, who have diving in mind, this book is an absolute MUST HAVE.

The most incredible underwater photos yet to be seen of the Maldives; combined with the best dive spots and detailed descriptions. First fully detailed, reliable and accurate maps of all the Islands, a Great book that is a must to any Maldives traveller or scuba enthusiast.

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