

Horizon III



Read Before You Leave

Contacting Blue Horizon, Maldives:

The country code is +960

Blue Horizon representatives: +960 7941169 and +960 7951162

Blue Horizon Office: +960 3321169

In case of an emergency, family and friends can reach our staff at any of the numbers listed above. We are also available via Viber and WhatsApp.

Passports and Visas:

Every guest must have a passport that is valid for at least six months after arrival. A 30-day tourist visa is issued upon arrival at the immigration counter at the Maldives International Airport for all nationalities and is free of charge. All guests must be in possession of a valid return or onward ticket.

Insurance:

It is mandatory that you purchase comprehensive diving and travel insurance for your booking. You must ensure that your insurance covers all your personal needs, including pre-existing medical conditions, cancellation fees, medical expenses, and repatriation in the event of an accident or illness, diving injuries, and medical evacuation. Blue Horizon is not responsible for financial losses resulting from circumstances beyond our control, such as weather, force majeure, or changes made by local authorities. It is your responsibility to verify that the following are included:

a. Diving Accident Insurance:

This insurance covers all risks, costs, and expenses that may arise as a result of a diving accident, including but not limited to treatment in a hyperbaric chamber, air evacuation, and loss or damage to personal property. This insurance should cover all diving or water sports activities you are likely to engage in during your trip, and

b. Health insurance:

It covers all risks, costs, and expenses that may arise from a diving or non-diving injury requiring your evacuation to a location with specialized medical care, including, but not limited to, evacuation from low

altitude, specialized medical treatment, and direct and indirect damages; and

c. Travel insurance:

valid at the time of booking to cover all cancellations prior to departure in the event that you must cancel your trip for an insured reason, such as illness or a serious accident, changes to or cancellation of your travel plans, loss or damage to your luggage, etc. In addition, the ship's liability is limited, and we advise all passengers to purchase travel insurance from home that covers all risks associated with adventure travel.

Arrival and Departure Airports

Information on arrival and departure, etc. (Velana International) Airport: We'll pick everyone up from the airport at 11:30 a.m. at Burger King. If you need to wait for a transfer or connecting flight upon arrival, the airport is quite comfortable and features a shop selling local SIM cards, a currency exchange, and a few nice cafés and restaurants, including Thai Express, Burger King, etc. Upon arrival: Guests arriving at Male Airport on check-in day (usually Sunday) will be met by a representative wearing a Blue Horizon Maldives T-shirt and holding a "Horizon III" sign.

On Sunday, you'll be picked up by the 20-meter tender dhoni, where you can unpack and set up your diving gear. If you've rented the gear from us, our crew will help you set it up. After a short 20-minute ride, you'll be transferred from the dive dhoni to the mother ship, the Horizon III.

Domestic Flights

Check-in begins 2 hours before departure and ends 1 hour before departure. The checked baggage allowance for domestic flights is limited to 20 kg per person, and carry-on baggage is much smaller than on most other airlines—roughly the size of a standard backpack. Additional baggage can be purchased for \$1 per kg. Please note that the names on your electronic ticket must match those on your passport. Otherwise, you will not be able to travel.

Check-in and Check-out

Check-out is at 7:00 a.m., and guests must be at the airport by 7:30 a.m. Guests continuing their vacation in the Maldives at a resort, hotel, or another liveaboard must arrange their own transfers from the airport. We cannot arrange direct transfers from the liveaboard to the resorts. Day rooms are available at hotels/guesthouses on Hulhumale. The boat crew OR a Blue Horizon representative can help you arrange this upon request.

Check-in is at 12:00 p.m. We pick everyone up from the airport at 11:30 a.m. We recommend that you arrive before 12:00 p.m. so that you can be picked up on time. Guests arriving after 12:00 p.m. will miss the check-dive. You can also arrive a day early and stay overnight in Male or Hulhumale. If your flight arrives early in the morning, you can stay at the Hulhule Hotel for a day.

Check Dive and Refresher Course

For safety reasons, Blue Horizon strongly advises divers to follow the agencies' standards. Many agencies recommend a Scuba Review if your last dive was more than six months ago. This should be completed before your arrival and signed by an instructor in your dive logbook. The check dive is scheduled based on the group's arrival flights and weather conditions and is used to assess the divers' skills; divers must be grouped with others of similar skill levels. In the interest of safety, Blue Horizon reserves the right to restrict diving activities if the dive instructor has concerns regarding the divers' safety.

Diving in the Maldives

According to regulations, the maximum diving depth in the Maldives is 30 meters with a diving partner of equal qualification. Your maximum diving depth depends on your level of training and experience. It is your responsibility to verify, prior to your arrival, what depths are covered by your insurance policy.

Disclaimer: Unpredictable and strong currents can occur at any time, but especially during the new moon and full moon phases. We recommend that you hold a diving certification for a depth of 30 meters and be familiar with current diving.

Follow the regulations of the Maldives: decompression diving, solo diving, and technical diving are strictly prohibited.

Diving Experience

Blue Horizon advises that all guests must be Advanced Open Water Divers or equivalent. For some dives, the recommended depth is below 18 meters; therefore, Advanced or Deep Diver certification is recommended. Experienced divers may dive in buddy pairs. Inexperienced divers and beginners may find some dives challenging and may be asked by the cruise director to skip dives that are not suitable for their level of experience.

Dive Guides on the Horizon 3

We have a total of four professional dive guides on board. At every dive site we visit, our dive guides will provide you with a detailed and comprehensive dive briefing before you enter the water. Once the dive guide is in the water, they will stay with the group to navigate the dive site and look out for interesting marine life, sharks, and corals to point out to you. Please be sure to follow the dive guides and listen to their instructions underwater. Please also avoid touching marine life underwater, etc. The dive guides will not provide dive instruction during the dive. Depending on the abilities of individual divers, the dive guides may decide not to enter the water for every dive, but will instead remain on board and provide support only from the surface.

Diving Equipment

Blue Horizon has brand-new diving equipment. Diving equipment can be rented from Blue Horizon Maldives. We ask that you reserve your equipment before arriving on board. We need your usual size, weight, and shoe size to ensure that the equipment can be provided in the correct size for you. All divers

must use a dive computer, SMB, and reef hook for every dive, as well as a flashlight for night dives. We can provide SMBs, reef hooks, dive lights, and dive computers (for a fee).

Itineraries & Dive Sites:

All itineraries and dive sites are subject to unforeseen changes, including weather conditions and changes in permits issued by the Maldivian government. Although Blue Horizon Maldives makes every effort, we cannot guarantee diving at specific sites. In the event of adverse weather conditions, the dive guides and the captain on board have the final say in selecting dive sites to ensure the safety of guests, the crew, and the vessel. We also advise our guests to listen to the dive guides and the cruise director on board and to follow the diving rules and regulations of the Maldives. In the unfortunate event that some dives are missed or dive sites cannot be reached due to weather conditions or other unforeseeable changes, Blue Horizon Maldives does not offer refunds or compensation.

Boat Captain

The captain of the boat, together with the dive guides, decides where and when you will dive. Often, dive sites look like a pond from the surface, and to the untrained eye, it may seem like you can dive there. However, if the captain and the guides say no, please accept their decision. Safety is the top priority for our captain and dive guides. The ocean is a dangerous place if you don't respect it, so please accept the alternative plan as best you can.

Non-Divers

Both snorkelers and non-divers must fill out a liability waiver form upon check-in. We do not normally combine snorkelers and divers. Please contact us by email to check availability and feasibility. While we can sometimes accommodate both divers and snorkelers, some routes or dive sites are not permitted for safety reasons.

All diving guests must present a valid diving certification OR an electronic certification and sign a waiver before diving activities begin.

Dive Tanks and Adapters

We have DIN tanks and INT adapters available on board free of charge. We have 12 L and 15 L tanks available on board. 15 L tanks (for a fee)

Children

Children aged 15 or younger must always be supervised by a parent.

Nitrox

Blue Horizon Maldives is able to offer Nitrox fills (typically 32%) on board. Please let us know in advance so we can inform our crew. Nitrox must be paid for on board.

Why do we charge for Nitrox?

The Horizon III is equipped with an onboard Nitrox system. Since this is an expensive system and the costs of operating Nitrox are high, we must charge a fee for it. This ensures that we can continue to offer Nitrox on board.

Bathrooms and Hot Water Showers

All bathrooms have a shower, a sink, and a toilet. Please avoid flushing tissues down the toilet, as this can cause the system to clog. There are trash cans in all bathrooms that are emptied regularly. We do not provide toiletries, body wash, shampoo, etc. We strongly recommend that our guests bring their own. We also strongly recommend that our guests bring ocean-friendly products such as sunscreen and shampoo.

We can only provide 3-in-1 products; please ask the crew for them. All bathrooms have hot water: We recommend that guests shower at different times so that everyone can enjoy a hot shower. If you have any trouble using the shower panel, please ask one of our friendly crew members on board to help you.

Food, Dietary Restrictions, and Alcohol

We serve a buffet on board. Our menu features a variety of local and international dishes to suit every taste. The local dishes are traditionally a bit spicy, and fish is available on board. Snacks, unlimited water, tea, and coffee are free of charge. If you have special dietary requests or allergies, please let us know before your arrival so we can pass this information on to our chef.

Non-alcoholic beverages, fresh juices, and alcoholic beverages (cocktails, spirits, wine, and beer) are subject to a charge.

Bringing alcoholic beverages onto the ship is prohibited by law. Bottles containing alcoholic beverages will be confiscated by customs upon arrival and returned to you upon departure. Alcohol can be purchased on board the Horizon III. Guests are not permitted to dive after consuming alcohol or while suffering from a hangover, as this severely impairs judgment and increases the risk of decompression sickness.

Tips and Accepted Currency

We accept cash in euros and U.S. dollars. Only new and undamaged bills; no coins. We accept Visa and Mastercard on board, which are charged in USD and subject to a 3.5% surcharge. Please check with your bank regarding international fees and exchange rates.

Tips: Our crew will provide you with an envelope in which you can place tips (see "Boat Services" for recommendations). Please give what you consider appropriate, and it will be divided equally among the crew on board. You may also give more if the service exceeded your expectations.

Wi-Fi

Horizon 3 is equipped with Wi-Fi. Data packages can be purchased on board using a code and used on one device at a time. Signal strength may vary, which can result in slow connections. This service depends on the local mobile network provider. On most routes, there are often days when no signal is available. We strongly recommend that you purchase a local SIM card at the airport so that you can also get a data plan.

Courses

We offer a variety of courses on board, ranging from beginner-level classes to a wide range of specialty and advanced courses. Courses are subject to availability and the itinerary. A 16% TGST and a 10% service fee are charged for the courses. These fees apply when the course is conducted on-site. Please contact us in advance if you'd like to take a course on board so we can check availability and inform you accordingly.

Charging Stations

For safety reasons, we advise against charging your devices in your cabin. There is a charging station in the salon that is under 24-hour video surveillance. We have a strict NO SMOKING policy in the cabins. The safety of our guests, the crew, and the boat is our top priority. If you wish to smoke, please use the designated smoking areas. We also have flush tanks available on board. Please use the safe in your cabin to securely store cash and personal belongings.

Housekeeping

We provide bath and beach towels. Our housekeeping crew will clean your cabin daily. Towels and bed linens are changed once a week. For any additional cleaning or towel changes, please contact our friendly crew or one of the guides on board so they can assist you.

Ayurvedic Massage

Ayurvedic massage is a traditional therapeutic practice that originated in India and incorporates the principles of Ayurveda, an ancient system of medicine. It is a holistic approach to well-being that aims to bring the body, mind, and spirit into balance. We offer Ayurvedic massage on board.

Taxes and Port Fees

The mandatory green tax is \$6 per person per night, payable on board. All extras are subject to a 10% service charge and 16% TGST. Please note that some islands charge a fee for BBQs, and these fees must be paid directly to the island. On our cruises to the Deep South, fees may apply for visiting Addu Nature Park. Additionally, a fee is charged for a tiger shark dive (along with safety equipment).

What languages are spoken on board?

The official language of the Maldives is Dhivehi. On board, we have guides, instructors, and crew who speak English and Russian.

Respecting Every Person and Their Privacy

We believe that racism should be eradicated. Therefore, we advise everyone to treat fellow divers, the crew, and staff with respect and to follow local rules and regulations. We do not tolerate racist behavior. We believe in equality, justice, and putting people first—no matter what they look like, where they come from, what abilities they have, or whom they love. This allows us to create a fun, loving, friendly, and pleasant environment for all our guests, the crew, and the staff.

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