

Subject: MALDIVES TRIP IN SEPTEMBER

Hi all,

I trust you are enjoying a pleasant Easter weekend.

I have received some pricing for a safari boat hire in Maldives for September, and now seek to see who is available to be part of this great adventure.

The relevant dates are:

Arrival in the Maldives by Friday 19th September, with accommodation that night in Male. Likely cost per room is around \$110 to \$ 130 per night in a nice room, not 5 stars but ensuite and air cond.

Attend Rotary meeting on Saturday morning 20th Sept at 9am in Male.

Set sail around lunchtime for six and half days. Most boats with capacity of 20 people are around \$5,000/\$7,000 US per day but these are for the rich and famous. Bio Ali (one of the Rotarians in Maldives) has found a lovely boat that sleeps up to 23 people for around \$3,000 US per day. It has ten cabins mostly double or twin, all with small ensuite facilities, lovely lounge dining areas both inside and outside. This cost covers our transport to the two islands we need to visit to inspect the Rotary projects, and to take us to great snorkelling sites as well as windsurfers. I have sought quote without Scuba diving as this adds quite a bit to the cost for everyone, even those who don't wish to deep dive. Three meals a day are included and also our accommodation, so this deal looks really good. To book such a trip on your own would cost at least double this price, so it is a unique opportunity.

If we have 15 people on the boat that would be about \$200 per day per person. If we get up to 20 the price drops to \$150 per day. Unless we can get 15 or more it is possible not viable although I am in your hands in this regard. However I reckon \$1400 per person for the week for what we are planning is a steal.

I will send thru a website link for the boat on a separate email shortly. Alternatively you can Google 'Dive Master Maldives' and it will come up. The original ideal of a ketch worked out to not be available at this time.

We are planning to be back in Male for the Rotary meeting the following week as well. (Sept 27th). Obviously some people will wish to stay longer at either end of the boat trip. This is obviously your choice. For instance I will probably be coming in from Europe before the Friday 19th and am no sure when I will leave Maldives.

As a guide, airfares from Adelaide to Maldives and return are around \$1400 to \$1700 per person via Singapore, Malaysia or Dubai, you can save money if you are flexible.

What I need now is some indication for how many people are interested. Could all recipients of this email please indicate if they are a

- #. definite starter (and whether single or double)
- #. A possibility and some indication how keen you are, or
- #. Unfortunately I can't go.

If the dates are the only thing against your participation please let me know. Whilst not fixed this is a great time of the year to go to Maldives.

I need to get back to our friends in Maldives within next few days so your reply is sought with some priority.

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