

OCEANIC OSCILLATIONS

expedition II

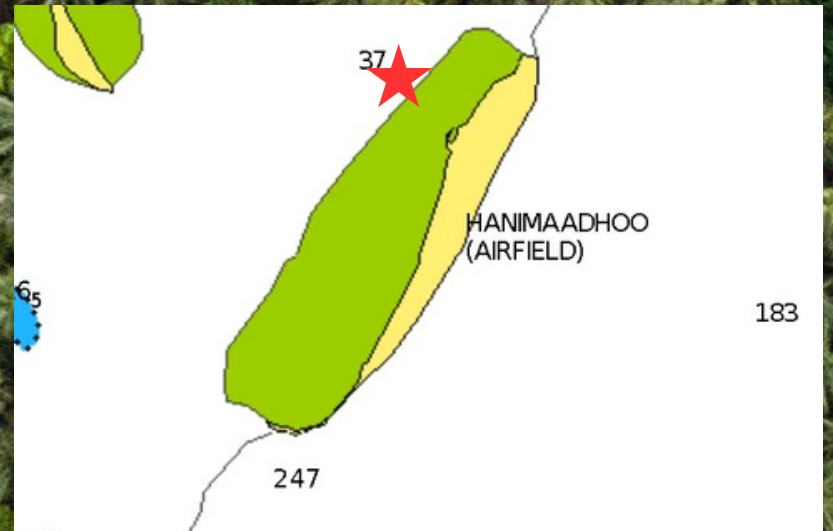
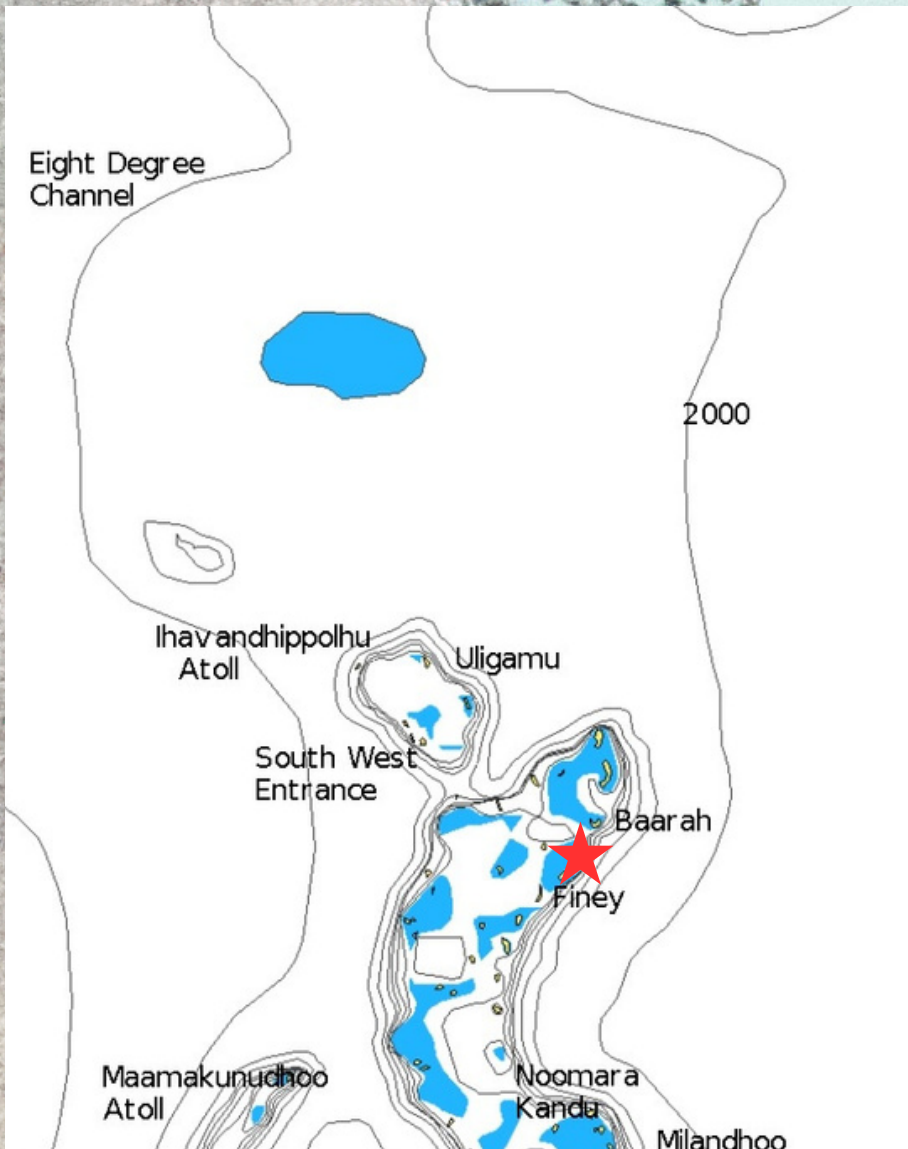
30th Dec '23 - 5th Jan '24

DIVING THROUGH CHANGING SEASCAPES



HANIMAADHOO, MALDIVES

7 days
10 dives



Positioned at the edge of the **8 degree channel**, Hanimaadhoo is part of the Haa Dhaalu Atoll (a.k.a. Thiladhunmathi Atoll) and is situated approximately 288 km north of the capital city, Malé.

This fascinating channel of water holds a rich maritime history, ecological wonders and is of political significance. The 8 degree channel separates the territories of India & the Maldives. While only 127 kilometres wide, it plunges to a depth well over 2000 meters!

The ecological, cultural and bathymetric nuances at this northern frontier are quite far removed from what one otherwise knows of more frequented central atolls of the Maldives.

Travel to this northern precipice with **EARTH CoLab**, on our continued endeavour to witness, document and understand the changes in our ever shifting seas.

We are in the midst on an El Niño year and there is said to be a greater than 90% chance the El Niño, which developed early this year, will last through winter and into early 2024.

Diving on tropical reefs, and the exceptional soft coral ecosystems around Hanimaadhoo, presents an interesting opportunity to witness and document the many subtle and dramatic responses of coastal marine systems. This becomes relevant in the context of understanding historic patterns and present-day implications on people, livelihoods and biodiversity.



Join EARTH CoLab on an expedition for the new year!

Exploring ecosystem edges

Connecting social and ecological shifts

Documenting diversity and anecdotes

**WHAT MEANING CAN WE MAKE OF
THE CHANGES WE WITNESS?**



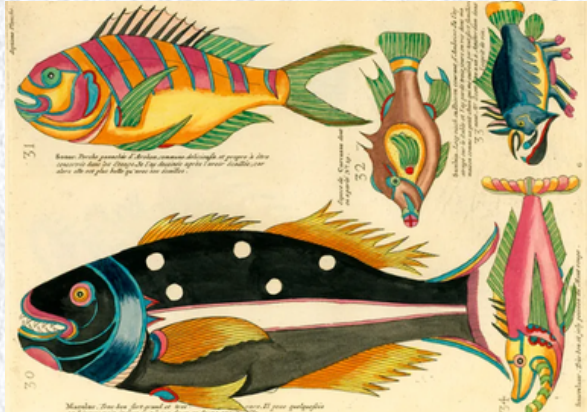
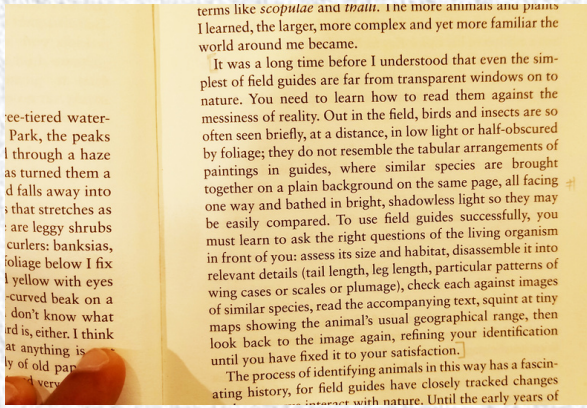
What will we be doing on the Ocean Oscillations II dive expedition?

Your **10 dives** will be curated into 4 themes:

- How to plan & execute dives with greater self reliance
- Identifying indicators, growth and death on a reef
- Mapping ecosystem edges
- Observing & documenting soft coral species

The program will also include activities & discussions on:

- Equipment mastery
- Reef structure and functional groups
- Map making
- Styles of documentation
- Snorkelling
- Intertidal & sandbank explorations



OUR STAY

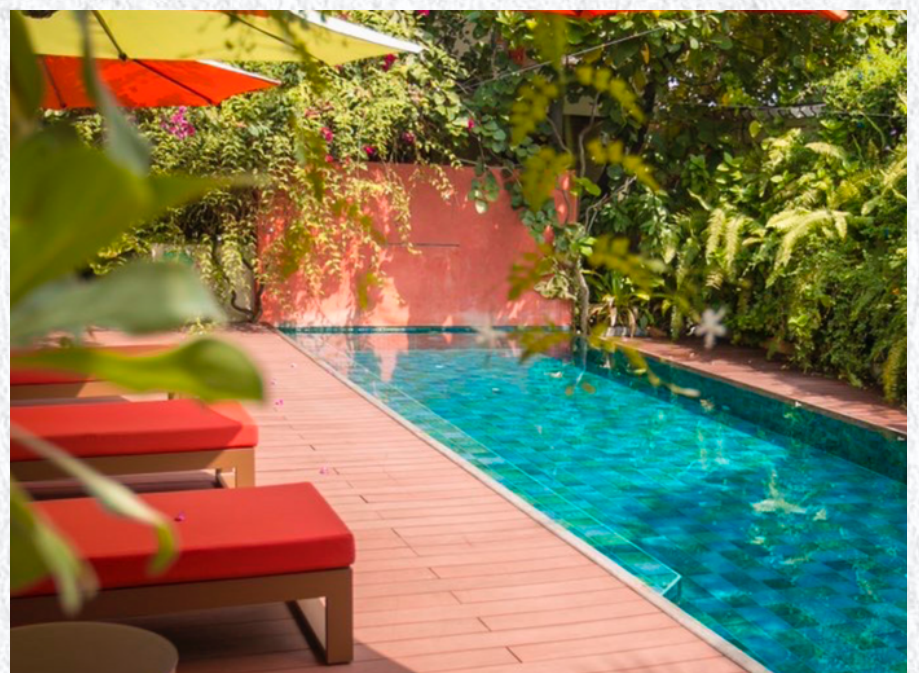
ACCOMMODATION & FACILITIES

Getting to Hanimaadhoo involves a 45-minute local flight from Velaana International Airport.

We will be staying at Viluveli, a boutique property run by a local family - a 10-minute car ride from the Hanimaadhoo airport.

The property is located on the western beach, a short walk from the harbour, and gives us access to a shallow lagoon to the west and the forested area to the north. Standard rooms have been arranged on a **twin-sharing** basis. The rooms are bright and airy, and open out to the central pool and sundeck area. A common space will be set up for all our activities pre- and post-diving, making this an ideal Earth Colab expedition base.

Wifi will be available at Viluveli and most of our meals will be arranged on site, with visits to local cafes for snacks and refreshments.



OUR DIVES

EQUIPMENT & BOAT

Diving in this region will primarily involve deep and exploratory dives. All participants must at least be certified Open Water Divers with a deep adventure dive.

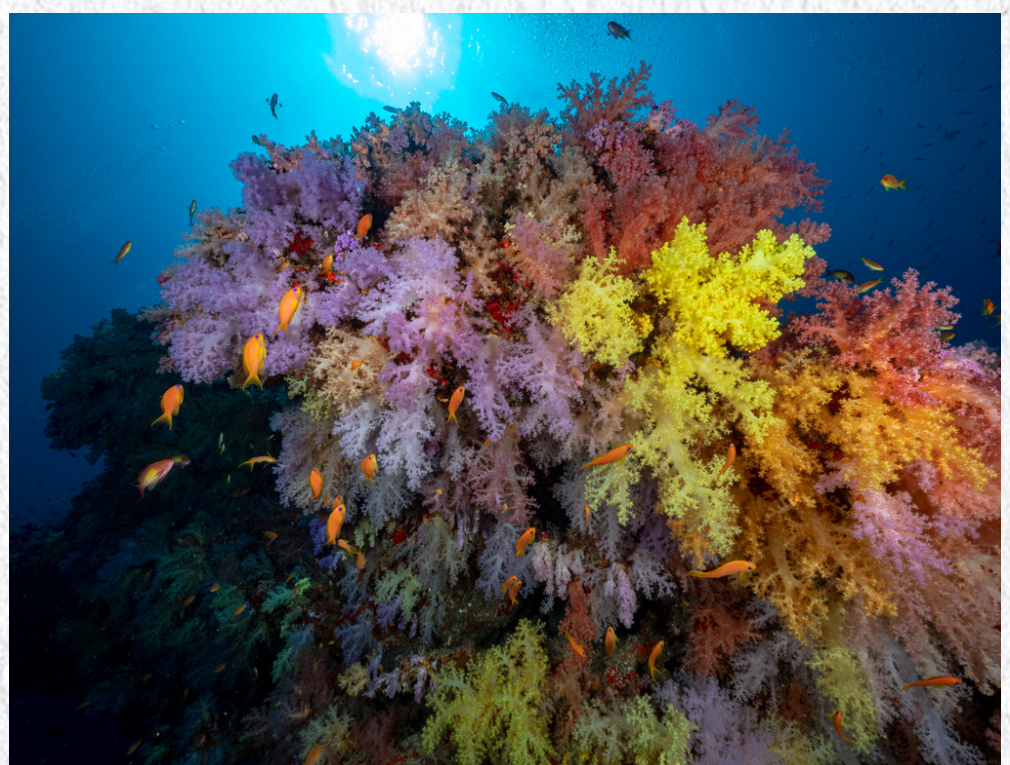
We will be diving in collaboration with Hanimaadhoo Dive & Watersports.

All dive equipment (including dive computers) will be provided as part of the expedition cost.

The dive boat is a big comfortable Dhoni with plenty of shaded and open space on board, as well as a marine toilet.

The best part of the Dhoni is the top deck - perfect to catch some sun and warm up during our post dive discussions.

Tea, water and snacks will be provided on the dive boat.



OUR DIVES

SCHEDULE & SITES

Our dive schedule will be :

Day 1 - arrival | equipment check | snorkelling | briefing

Day 2 - dives x 2 | EC activities

Day 3 - dives x 2 | EC activities

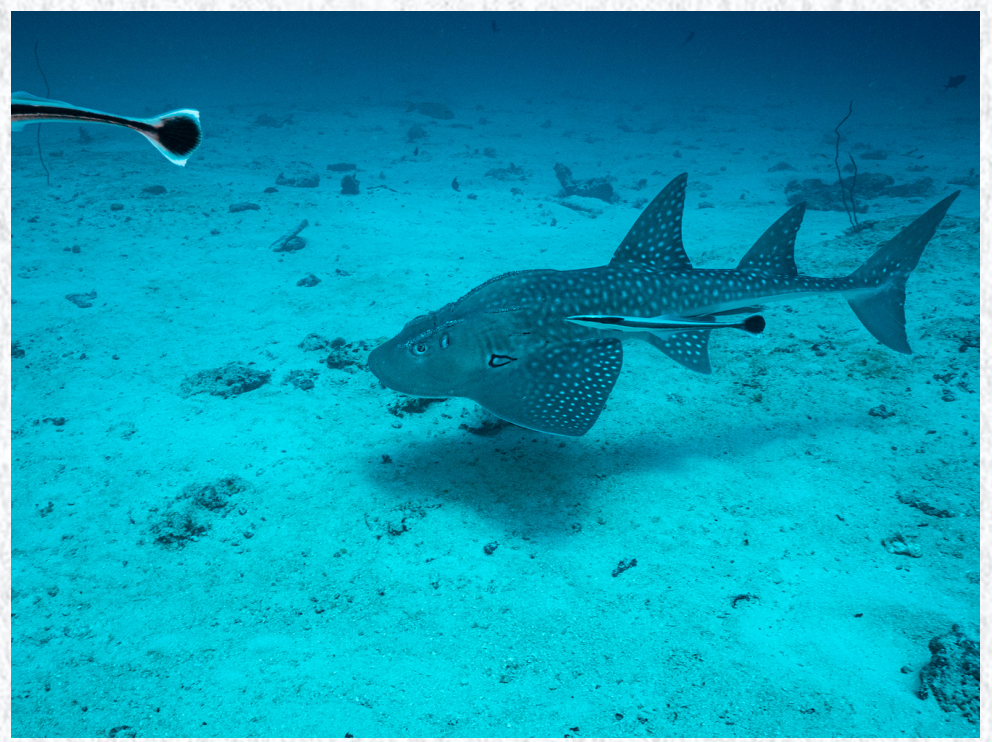
Day 4 - dives x 3 (incl. a night dive) | EC activities

Day 5 - dives x 2 | EC activities

Day 6 - dive x 1 | Intertidal and sandbank exploration

Day 7 - departure

All the images in this brochure are from Hanimaadhoo, Viluveli and the sites we will be diving.





YOUR GUIDES

Umeed would trade anything for a set of gills...

Initially having explored the world of academics through Marine Biology, Umeed realised that his heart and mind were happier while submerged. He has spent the last 25 years scuba diving, teaching and furthering the spirit of biophilia through his area of expertise. Professionally teaching as a PADI staff instructor, Umeed now conducts specialised underwater photography courses designed to address both ecology and photography. His imagery ranges from fine art to scientific documentation – his practice draws one’s eye to aquatic systems and the detail within. Umeed has applied this combination of skills and interests across fields – with numerous popular publications, book and film contributions, exhibitions, educational material and in the setting up of a marine research dive facility on the Andaman Islands. He has been diving and exploring the Maldives since 1996, and loves looking for little gems off the beaten path.



Tasneem will do anything to avoid wearing shoes...

She has spent the last 15 years facilitating interdisciplinary initiatives in the fields of ecology, conservation, education and science communication. Her formal training is in marine zoology and the development of experiential learning pedagogies. After a decade in the Andaman & Nicobar islands, Tasneem managed operations for the Diva Andaman live-aboard in Thailand & set up the Vessel for Inquiry - leading dive expeditions and marine learning programs in the eastern Andaman sea. She is currently exploring the Atlantic, working on setting up a marine observatory and learning centre in Ireland. Her photography and writing are visible across scientific and popular publications, book contributions and in curricular content. Beyond the scope of research and field education, she believes that learning across subject boundaries is fundamental. Sailing, diving, writing, image making and exploring are the binding factors in all her endeavours. She is a proficient diver and has led a number of learning expeditions in the Maldives.

YOUR GUIDES

Savita can be lured into anything if one uses a good book as bait ...

She is curious about how ideas of 'nature' and 'society' are produced and connected to one another. By drawing tools from the field of political ecology, she examines the relationship between knowledge and power in the process of place-making that depicts the oceans as a frontier(s). For many years, she has worked on public policies which affect livelihoods across fisheries, agrarian, and forest ecologies. She is interested in the locations of political-agency and the production of resistance mounted by coastal societies. More broadly, her work speaks to the imaginaries of people's relation to places that are at the cusp of land and sea. At Earth CoLab she specifically works on conceptualising and delivering our learning programmes, to which she brings perspectives on human geography, political economy and political ecology.



Adrien would give up a lifetime supply of chocolate cake for a chance to excavate an ancient city in the rain-forest ...

He is a trained historian and professional documentary producer, and has collaborated with European and Indian directors on over 40 films over the past 2 decades. His expertise has led him to cultivate a vast reservoir of knowledge concerning the history, society, politics, and cinematic panorama of the Indian sub-continent. His filmography covers an impressive array of subjects, ranging from exploring the matrilineal society in North-east India to delving into the intriguing connections between people and rocks. Recently, Adrien's creative endeavours involved capturing the arrival of the monsoon and exploring the process of perfume making in South India. Adrien's passion for filmmaking extends beyond production to research, camera, sound and teaching. His main areas of interest now lead him to explore prehistoric rock art and the connected histories of the Indian Ocean.



WHATS INCLUDED

Accommodation (twin sharing)

Domestic flight ticket (Hulumale to Hanimaadhu return)

10 dives (with equipment)

Snorkelling gear

Buffet meals & refreshments

Earth Colab field equipment

NOT INCLUDED & EXTRAS

International Flights (to the Maldives)

Travel & Dive insurance

Additional beverages or Alcoholic beverages

Additional dives

Room service / A la carte menu orders

TOTAL COST \$2,900

BOOK

www.earthcolab.com