BAA, ARI AND MALÉ ATOLLS · MALDIVES

Maldives

A chain of coral atolls strung across the Indian Ocean, where reef manta rays gather to feed in Baa Atoll, whale sharks cruise the outer reef of South Ari, and spinner dolphins, turtles and reef sharks are part of almost every boat trip.

132 animals 14 mammals, 44 birds, 6 reptiles, 56 fish, 11 other sea life and 1 dragonfly

Best time: Dec to Apr

Seen _____ of 132

ANIMAL DATE AND PLACE

01 Manta rays, sharks and rays 14

- ☐ Reef Manta Ray
- ☐ Whale Shark
- ☐ Blacktip Reef Shark
- ☐ Whitetip Reef Shark
- ☐ Tawny Nurse Shark
- ☐ Grey Reef Shark
- ☐ Sicklefin Lemon Shark
- ☐ Zebra Shark
- ☐ Ocellated Eagle Ray
- ☐ Blue-spotted Ribbontail Ray
- ☐ Pink Whipray
- ☐ Manta Ray Rare
- ☐ Scalloped Hammerhead Rare
- ☐ Tiger Shark Rare

02 Angelfish, butterflyfish and surgeonfish 11

- ☐ Moorish Idol
- ☐ Powder Blue Tang
- ☐ Convict Surgeonfish
- ☐ Striated Surgeonfish
- ☐ Orangespine Unicornfish
- ☐ Threadfin Butterflyfish
- ☐ Longnose Butterflyfish
- ☐ Schooling Bannerfish

ANIMAL DATE AND PLACE

02 Angelfish, butterflyfish and surgeonfish continued

- ☐ Regal Angelfish
- ☐ Emperor Angelfish
- ☐ Longfin Batfish

03 Triggerfish, wrasses and parrotfish 11

- ☐ Redtooth Triggerfish
- ☐ Orange-lined Triggerfish
- ☐ Titan Triggerfish
- ☐ Clown Triggerfish
- ☐ Bluestreak Cleaner Wrasse
- ☐ Humphead Wrasse
- ☐ Bumphead Parrotfish
- ☐ White-spotted Puffer
- ☐ Guineafowl Puffer
- ☐ Porcupinefish
- ☐ Yellow Boxfish

04 Snappers, groupers and hunters 10

- ☐ Bluestripe Snapper
- ☐ Oriental Sweetlips
- ☐ Many-spotted Sweetlips
- ☐ Peacock Grouper
- ☐ Coral Hind
- ☐ Giant Trevally
- ☐ Bigeye Trevally

ANIMAL | DATE AND PLACE

04 Snappers, groupers and hunters continued

- [ ] Great Barracuda
- [ ] Dogtooth Tuna
- [ ] Giant Grouper Rare

05 Anemonefish and small reef fish 10

- [ ] Maldive Anemonefish
- [ ] Clark's Anemonefish
- [ ] Sea Goldie
- [ ] Blue-green Chromis
- [ ] Humbug Damselfish
- [ ] Giant Moray
- [ ] Devil Firefish
- [ ] Spotted Garden Eel
- [ ] Giant Frogfish Rare
- [ ] Reef Stonefish Rare

06 Corals and invertebrates 10

- [ ] Magnificent Sea Anemone
- [ ] Small Giant Clam
- [ ] Christmas Tree Worm
- [ ] Blue Sea Star
- [ ] Fluted Giant Clam
- [ ] Day Octopus
- [ ] Broadclub Cuttlefish
- [ ] Bigfin Reef Squid
- [ ] Painted Spiny Lobster
- [ ] Long-spined Crown-of-thorns

07 Turtles, whales and dolphins 16

- [ ] Hawksbill Sea Turtle
- [ ] Green Sea Turtle
- [ ] Olive Ridley Sea Turtle Rare
- [ ] Spinner Dolphin
- [ ] Bottlenose Dolphin
- [ ] Pantropical Spotted Dolphin
- [ ] Risso's Dolphin

ANIMAL | DATE AND PLACE

07 Turtles, whales and dolphins continued

- [ ] Short-finned Pilot Whale
- [ ] Striped Dolphin Rare
- [ ] Fraser's Dolphin Rare
- [ ] Melon-headed Whale Rare
- [ ] False Killer Whale Rare
- [ ] Orca Rare
- [ ] Sperm Whale Rare
- [ ] Bryde's Whale Rare
- [ ] Blue Whale Rare

08 Seabirds 18

- [ ] Brown Noddy
- [ ] Black-naped Tern
- [ ] Greater Crested Tern
- [ ] Lesser Noddy
- [ ] Lesser Crested Tern
- [ ] Bridled Tern
- [ ] Sooty Tern
- [ ] Roseate Tern
- [ ] Common Tern
- [ ] White-tailed Tropicbird
- [ ] Lesser Frigatebird
- [ ] Wedge-tailed Shearwater
- [ ] Tropical Shearwater
- [ ] Wilson's Storm Petrel
- [ ] White Tern Rare
- [ ] Great Frigatebird Rare
- [ ] Brown Booby Rare
- [ ] Red-footed Booby Rare

09 Herons and shore birds 20

- [ ] Grey Heron
- [ ] Striated Heron
- [ ] Indian Pond Heron
- [ ] Cattle Egret
- [ ] Little Egret

09 Herons and shore birds continued

ANIMAL	DATE AND PLACE
☐ Great Egret	
☐ Black-crowned Night Heron	
☐ Yellow Bittern	
☐ Ruddy Turnstone	
☐ Whimbrel	
☐ Common Sandpiper	
☐ Crab-plover	
☐ Grey Plover	
☐ Pacific Golden Plover	
☐ Tibetan Sand Plover	
☐ Greater Sand Plover	
☐ Terek Sandpiper	
☐ Sanderling	
☐ Common Greenshank	
☐ Eurasian Curlew	

10 Island birds, bats and lizards 12

ANIMAL	DATE AND PLACE
☐ House Crow	
☐ Asian Koel	
☐ White-breasted Waterhen	
☐ Feral Pigeon	
☐ Barn Swallow	
☐ Amur Falcon Rare	
☐ Indian Flying Fox	
☐ Oriental Garden Lizard	
☐ Common House Gecko	
☐ Brahminy Blind Snake Rare	
☐ Horn-eyed Ghost Crab	
☐ Wandering Glider	

My trip

FROM _____ TO _____

TRAVELLING WITH _____

STAYING AT _____ SEEN _____ OF 132

FIRST ANIMAL WE SAW _____

BEST MOMENT _____

FIELD NOTES AND SKETCHES

ALSO SEEN, NOT ON THIS LIST

_____

_____

_____

KEEP IT IN WILDER

Tick them off in the app

Scan to open this checklist in Wilder. Add your photos, see your whole trip, earn badges and the Maldives passport stamp, and watch your life list grow.

BEST TIME

Dec to Apr

The Maldives has two monsoons rather than summer and winter.

A guide, not a guarantee: what you see depends on season, luck and patience. Give wildlife space and never feed it. Follow the local rules on distance.