



KOMANDOO PRODIVERS

PADI 5 STAR DIVE CENTER

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Newsletter December 2005

Dear Friends

It is time again for a little news update from Komandoo. This year has gone very fast for us; mainly because of the renovation in April and the subsequent 3 month closing of the island.

Barbara and I welcomed this opportunity to travel around the world and catch up with some of our friends while Darren, Sabine, Aslam and Saizuddin went to work on Kuredu before going on their vacation themselves.

As most of you know by now, Komandoo has extended their range with an additional 15 water bungalows.

And by now I believe it has been confirmed not only by us, but also by our guests, that they are absolutely beautiful.

Flat screen TV, surround sound and Jacuzzi are admittedly not the first things you look for in a Maldivian vacation, but they can make your stay that much more enjoyable. Also the huge terrace with sun bed, table and couch make these bungalows a great experience. In addition some of the beach bungalows have been upgraded with Jacuzzis and also provide this extra space in the back.

The public restrooms on the island have also been upgraded and so has the island jeweler.

For additional comfort, shades have been installed on the bungalows facing West as well as some palm trees have been planted there to provide more shade.

Dive Center

Not only the hotel has upgraded, but also the dive center is continuously improving its facilities to make you enjoy your dive holiday even more.

As already mentioned in our "latest news" section, we have installed a brand new compressor setup allowing us to provide you with Nitrox "made on Komandoo".

Our new GMX 15 membrane filling station provides pure and clean Nitrox up to 40%. And the equally new BAUER V15 super-silent air compressor replaces our older and much noisier compressors.

The workshop has been remodeled and the analyzing station is also currently under renovation.

Pictures will be posted on our website as soon as they are available.

For those of you that have always asked us about boxes to pack your equipment in, we are happy to announce that since the reopening, we are providing free personal dive bags to our guests to pack and store their dive equipment.

Further we have replaced all our rental computers with the very popular Suunto Viper which allows not only for air profiles but also Nitrox profiles up to 50%.

Staff

On the staff front we also had a few changes.



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As mentioned earlier, Darren and Sabine decided to work on Kuredu while Komandoo was closed. Since September however, they are back in Good ol' Germany, were Sabine returned to her studies at University to become even smarter than she already is ☺ and "Welsh Darren" decided to teach English again. So, no more "Yakidaa" on Komandoo.

We were very sad to see them leave since we became good friends, but wish them of course all the best for their future.

But as some of you already know, they have been replaced with two very qualified and likeable guys. After visiting Komandoo 7 times, Shaun and Colin have decided to stop traveling back and forth between England and Komandoo and accept the job as instructors here with us. They have successfully passed their instructor course in October this year and complete the Komandoo team. Their picture can also soon be admired on our website.

Unfortunately we also had to say goodbye to another good friend who managed our water sports center. After almost 2 years with Prodivers "Tudde" Ibrahim has decided to return to his waiter career and accepted a position on Kuredu. This is a great opportunity and we wish him all the best and good luck for his future.

The Diving

Even though the diving this year was cut a bit short due to the renovation, it was nevertheless quite excellent by any standard. It started early in the year when Sabine found the little black seahorse on the house reef. A very rare and short appearance. (Have a look at the picture on our website).

Throughout the year we really always had the mantas, sometimes mores sometimes only a couple.

A variety of anglerfish (frogfish) were found on different dive sites. Big blue ones, little blue ones, little red one, big red ones. They are such fascinating creatures and got quite a few of our photographers excited. The sharks on Express are of course are still here and always appreciated by all our divers.

Ornate ghost pipefish also count to our rare treasures.

By the way, all out dive sites and the ones from VakaruFalhi have been newly documented and are now available in a little booklet. Ask us about it on your next visit.

We are looking forward to seeing you here on Komandoo again and wish you all a Merry Christmas and all the best for the coming year.

With sunny greetings from Komandoo

Your Prodivers Team