



GREEN BOOK

CORA CORA®
Maldives
it's freedom time



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MESSAGE FROM THE RESORT MANAGER

Muiz Mohamed

At Cora Cora Maldives, we believe that real freedom comes with responsibility. Through our Freedom Footprint Sustainability Program, we reinforce our commitment to sustainable and ecological practices across all areas of our operations—while still delivering unforgettable experiences to our guests.

We stay true to our mission of preserving the rich natural heritage, culture, and biodiversity of the Maldives. Our priority is a large-scale coral restoration project, where we work with experts and the local community to restore damaged reefs. We also celebrate local culture through our Museum of Island Heritage, open to guests, staff, and nearby communities.

Sustainability has become a core part of who we are. We do our best to reduce our impact, make mindful choices, and involve everyone in the process through open communication and collaboration. This includes our team, our guests, our suppliers, local schools, NGOs, and shareholders.

We recognize that our activities can have both positive and negative impacts, but we're honest about the challenges we face, and we stay committed to finding better ways to move forward. Every action matters, and we believe that small steps can lead to meaningful change.



OUR ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORT



*Working together
to create a sustainable future*



OUR ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES

- We shall monitor and ensure efficient use of ENERGY & WATER.
- We will continue to place high importance on WASTE REDUCTION.
- We will continually work to improve the overall air quality and reduce pollution, both indoor and outdoor.
- We will concentrate on biodiversity conservation, preservation and restoration within the resort as well as nearby surrounding areas.
- We will continue to work closely with and support local communities.
- We will continue to improve the health, safety and well-being of team members, guests and local community.
- This environmental and social policy is freely available to all interested parties on request.
- We are committed to complying with Maldivian and international laws on environment, health, safety, hygiene, and employment legislation.



ONGOING GREEN INITIATIVES



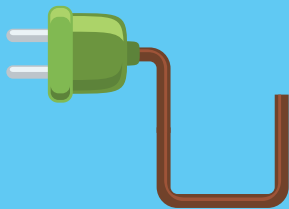
WATER BOTTLING PLANT

By producing our own water, we eliminate the use of almost 1,000,000 plastic bottles a year.



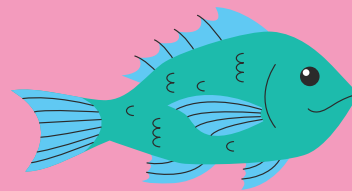
TREATED WASTE WATER

Treated wastewater is used for irrigation purposes that allow us to save a considerable amount of portable water.



99% LED LIGHTS

We use energy-efficient lights all around the resort; 99% of light bulbs are LED and the remaining bulbs are CFL, which eventually will be replaced too.



LOCAL FISH

All local varieties of fish are caught by the local fisherman. Only specialty items are imported.



WASTE SEGREGATION & RECYCLING

Waste generated is sorted into metal, glass, plastic, and paper. An eco-friendly incinerator handles non-recyclables to reduce overall waste. We partner with Parley for the Oceans and Secure Bag to recycle plastic and scrap metal, while remaining waste is sent to WAMCO for recycling or upcycling.

ONGOING GREEN INITIATIVES



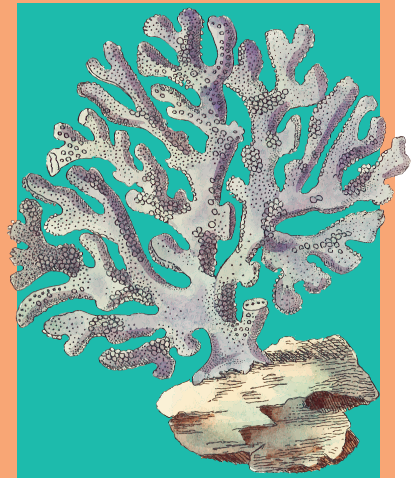
CULTURAL CONSERVATION: MUSEUM & HERITAGE SITE TOURS

We are home to the Dutch Onion®, one of only two registered museums in the Maldives with an outdoor heritage site that preserves centuries-old island history. Guided tours are led by our in-house conservationist, offering guests, staff, and local communities a deeper understanding of Maldivian culture and craftsmanship. These efforts are part of our ongoing initiative to protect and celebrate local heritage for future generations.



CORAL RESTORATION & MARINE CONSERVATION

A multi-year, science-backed coral restoration program utilizing a large-scale, multidisciplinary initiative aims to rehabilitate damaged reefs and strengthen marine biodiversity. Guests are invited to join our Walk with the Marine Biologist tour and take part in the Adopt a Coral program, allowing for hands-on participation in reef recovery. This initiative supports long-term ocean health and aligns with our commitment to marine stewardship.

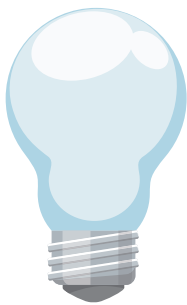


TURTLE TRAILS: CONSERVATION & PROTECTION

In partnership with Atoll Marine Centre, we actively support sea turtle conservation through education, rescue, and habitat preservation. Efforts include awareness sessions for guests, staff, and the local community. As well as annual support for the center and direct involvement in turtle rescues and habitat care. These actions are part of our broader mission to protect marine life and foster environmental responsibility.

GUESTS INITIATIVES

Here are some suggestions on how you can help to create a more sustainable future.



ENERGY SAVING

- Avoid keeping doors and windows open when using air conditioning in the villa.
- Keep air conditioning temperature set at 24°C.
- Switch off all unnecessary lights.



WATER SAVING

- Avoid leaving taps running when shaving and brushing your teeth.
- Avoid wasting water, especially hot water, as it consumes more energy and resources.



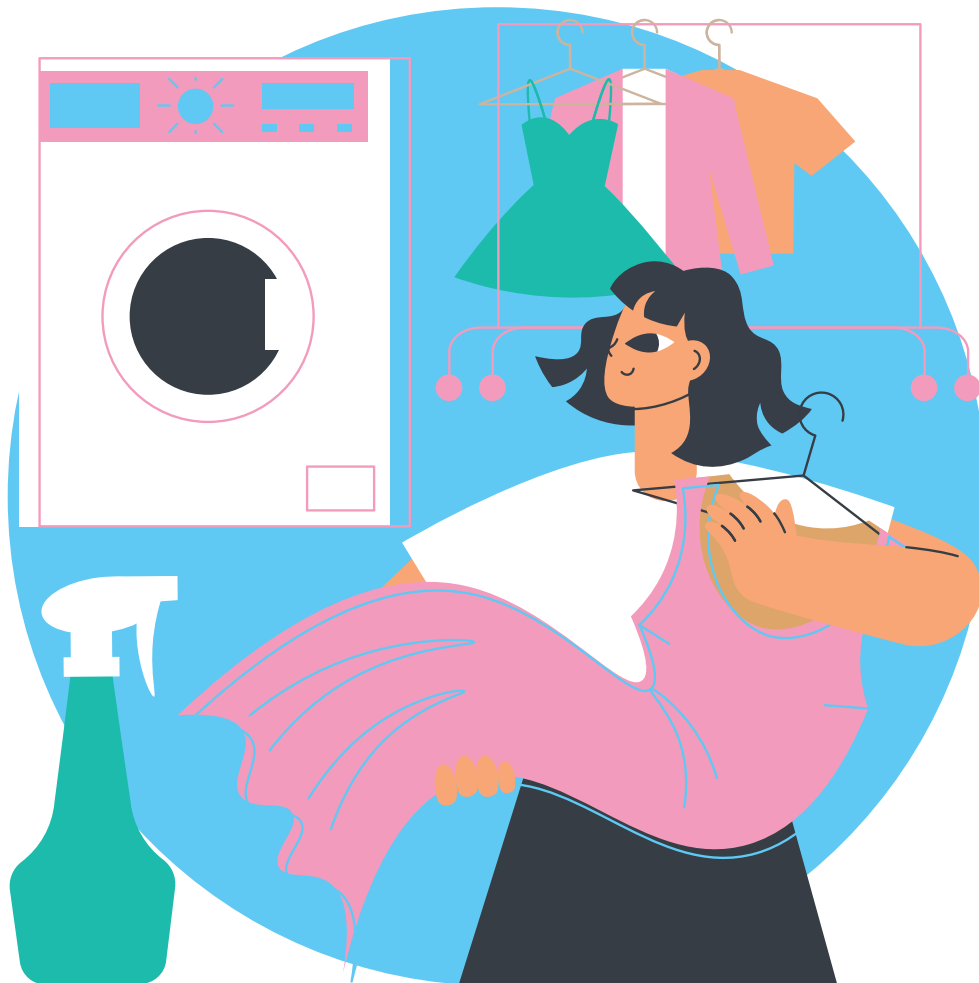
WASTE REDUCTION

- Take back any plastic containers and used batteries, as these cannot be recycled in the Maldives.
- Request straws only when needed and to use reusable cups for takeaway drinks to help reduce waste.

GUESTS LAUNDRY

- Laundry is an area that uses a lot of water and energy, as well as a certain amount of detergent.
- We encourage our guests to participate in the Towel and Linen Reuse Program.
- Leave the towels hanging, if you would like to use them again; place them on the floor if you would like them to be replaced.
- For the bed linen, please leave the Green Card on the bed to inform our villa attendants that you would like your sheets changed. If no note is placed on the bed, a change of sheets will take place every 2nd day.

“Be part of our energy, water, and chemical reduction efforts.”



ABOUT THE MALDIVES

*The sunny side
of life*



CULTURE & HISTORY

The Maldives was originally a country ruled by kings (known as Radun) and queens (Ranin) some few centuries ago. During this time, the country held a position of strategic importance due to its location on the major marine routes of the Indian Ocean. Strongly influenced by its neighboring countries Sri Lanka and India, both of which had cultural and economic influences, the Maldives provided the main source of currency, cowry shells. Boli or cowry shells were the first known medium of exchange used in the Maldives prior to printed currency. The country's trade in cowry shells continued until the late 19th century. Several



European colonial powers took over most of the trade in the Indian Ocean, which often led to influences and interferences in the Maldives local politics, and economy.

These powers included the Dutch, French and Portuguese. On the 16th of December 1887, the Maldives became a British protectorate when the Sultan signed a contract with the British Governor of Ceylon. With this agreement the British government offered the country military protection and non-interference in local administration in exchange for an annual tribute to be paid by the Maldives. In 1957 the British established an RAF base in the strategic southernmost atoll of Addu, where hundreds of locals were employed. 19 years later the British government relocated their base.

On 26th of July 1965 the Maldives announced their Independence from the British.

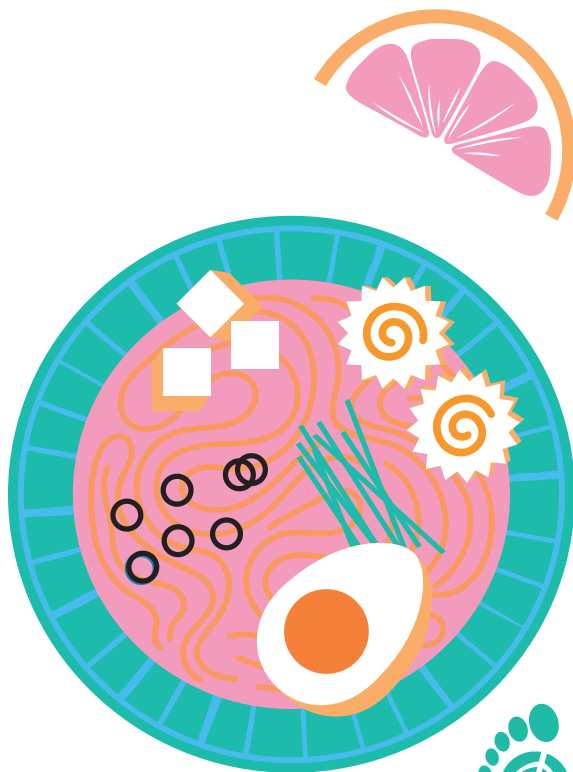
LANGUAGE

The language of the Maldivians is Dhivehi. Dhivehi is rooted in Sanskrit and according to some researchers, it is an ancient form of Sinhala, (a language which is spoken in Sri Lanka). Following the advent of Islam in 1153, the language was heavily influenced from Arabic. In more recent times, English is now a very common language in the country, which started following the introduction of English as a medium of education in the early 1960s.



LOCAL CUISINE

The Maldives is located at an important crossroads in the Indian Ocean. Traders and visitors over time have left their mark on Maldivian cuisine in addition to contributing to the molding of the country's culture and norms. As the Maldives consists of more sea than land, it is only natural that fish (mainly tuna) has always been the most prominent element of Maldivian food. However, with travelers from different parts of the world, new seasonings and vegetables were introduced into the country and added to the existing (limited) repertoire of seafood and tubers (e.g. taro & sweet potato). Each new discovery was incorporated into the diet in quantities most palatable to Maldivians. Thus, Maldivian cuisine now consists of Arabic, Indian, Sri Lanka, and Oriental tastes blended into a unique cuisine that embodies a culinary identity of its own.



BODU BERU

Bodu Beru is a very traditional performance art played on drums which are made from hollowed-out coconut wood and covered on both ends with the goat hide.

‘Bodu Beru’ is translated into English meaning ‘big drum’ and is thought to have been introduced to the Maldivian culture in the 11th century by Africans. Even today Bodu Beru is still one of the most popular forms of cultural activities in the Maldives and can be seen on almost every inhabited island as part of their festivities. They are used in a performance of around fifteen people including three drummers and a lead singer singing in Dhivehi, often about



patriotism, romance, or satire. The dance is either performed by men in a dance called Thaara, or by women in a dance called Bandiyaa. The audience often joins in the dancing too.

In our Resort, you will see our team of Bodu Beru performers sharing their talents and traditions with shows every Saturday and during special occasions and celebrations.



DUTCH ONION® MUSEUM

This might be your first experience of the wonders of the Maldives, but our island has been welcoming visitors for more than 900 years. And once you've set foot on the soft sand glowing in the warm sun, who can blame them?

While ships sailed the Spice Routes, our atoll (ring-shaped cluster of coral islands) was the ideal spot to stop, do a

little trading, restock supplies, and wait for the weather and winds to turn in their favor.

Excavations on Maamigili—the island Cora Cora Maldives is on—uncovered over 60 remarkable finds. We've also sourced 600+ relics from across the Maldives, now curated in the Dutch Onion® Museum and Outdoor Heritage Site.



BEAUTY OF THE MALDIVES



Explore the under- and overwater world in Raa Atoll, home to manta rays, reef sharks and many more fascinating species, on a trip guided by our skilled diving and watersports team.



Snorkeling



CODE OF BEHAVIOR



*We respect local culture,
religion, & beliefs*



Below is a list of activities and behaviors that you should be aware of in order to be respectful and considerate of the culture and environment of the Maldives.



Do purchase ethical souvenirs as this encourages growth and development for the country and they make great gifts for family and friends.

Do participate in our culturally connecting activities to learn more about this beautiful destination, and to have some fun.



Do not collect shells or take them off the beach. It is illegal to take coral from the Maldives and shells are the home of hermit crabs! If you are caught taking coral or shells from the Maldives, you could face a hefty fine.

Do not throw plastic or any form of rubbish into the sea.

Do not buy sea jewelry. This includes turtle and shark products, shells, black coral, puffer fish and any other hard coral. Due to the endangered status and environmental hazards, the exploitation of sea turtles and black coral has been banned in the Maldives.



PROHIBITED SOUVENIRS

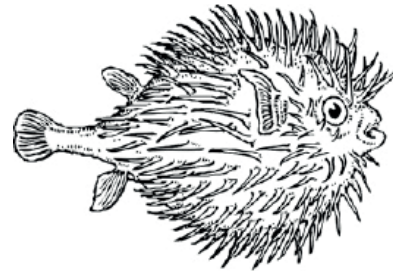
By avoiding the purchase of these illegal souvenirs, you contribute to conservation efforts in the Maldives and help protect its unique marine environment for future generations to enjoy.



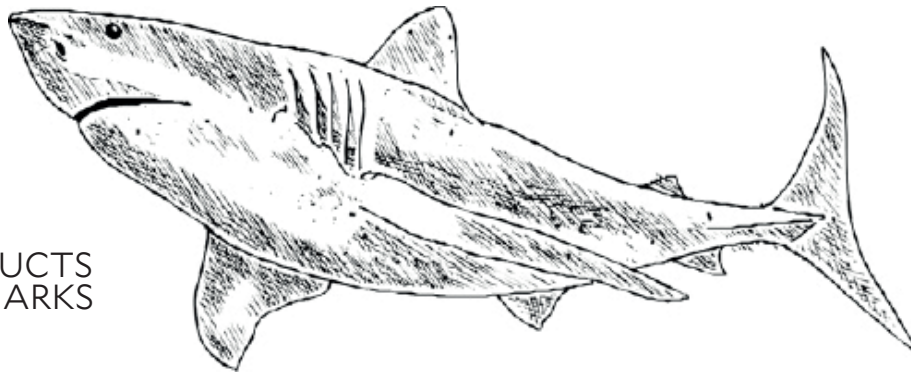
PRODUCTS
OF TURTLE



PRODUCTS OF
BLACK CORAL



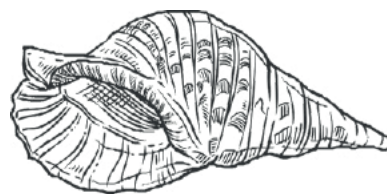
PUFFER FISH



PRODUCTS
OF SHARKS



ALL STONY
CORALS



TRITON SHELL



These illegal souvenirs should not be bought and taken home. If you are caught with any of these items, you could face a hefty fine.

LOCAL ISLAND VISIT



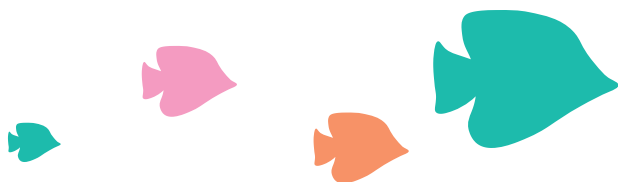
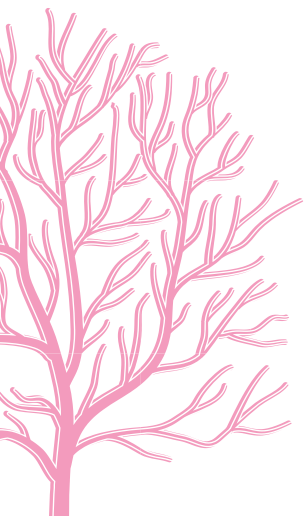
It is important to respect the culture and religious beliefs of each destination we visit. We would therefore like to inform you that outside of the resorts in the Community Islands you may cause offence if you are not properly dressed.

MALÉ ISLAND VISIT

If you get the chance, try to visit the capital of the Maldives and explore its heritage. The Sultan's Park, the Islamic Centre, Hukuru Miskiiy (the oldest mosque in the Maldives) and the Fish Market are just some of the attractions within walking distance. And while you're in town, don't forget to stock up on supplies and souvenirs in the local shopping district.



THE FLORA, FAUNA & MARINE LIFE





COCONUT PALM (RUH)

The coconut palm, *Cocos nucifera*, is a member of the family Arecaceae (palm family). The term coconut can refer to the entire coconut palm, the seed, or the fruit, which, botanically, is a drupe, not a nut. You will often also see bunches of large fruits called coconuts. The coconut consists of a thin hard skin, a thicker layer of husk, the hard (coconut) shell, the white kernel and a large cavity filled with coconut milk. Coconut palms can be up to 30 m tall.



HELIOTROPE TREE (BOSHI)

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SCREWPINE TREE (MAAKASHIKEYO)

The Screw pine family refers to around 600 tropical species of the genus Pandanus spread out in Southeast Asia and the Pacific region. It refers to the various plants and shrubs of the screw pine family. The screw pine is mainly characterized by the presence of aerial prop roots and by the long narrow leaves which are spirally arranged in clusters. The fruits look like an orange colored pineapple, and consist of many small parts.



HIBISCUS (SAIMAA)

The Hibiscus is a quite large plant, containing several hundred species that are native to warm-temperate, subtropical, and tropical regions throughout the world. Member species are often noted for their showy flowers and are commonly known simply as hibiscus, or less commonly known as rose mallow. The flower usually comes in red or white colors.



DRACAENA (VAIFILAA)

Dracaena reflexa is a popular houseplant with origins in Madagascar and other Indian Ocean islands. Dracaena plant care is simple, and they can even withstand a certain amount of neglect. A multi-stemmed shrub with whorls of strappy green and yellow variegated leaves. A very adaptable plant which can be grown in full sun outdoors, or in lower light levels indoors. Best of all, dracaena helps purify the air we breathe.



POLYSCIAS GUILFOYLEI (FARUDHAA-BAGEECHAA)

The Polyscias guilfoylei is a member of the Araliaceae family. It is an erect, evergreen shrub or small tree growing up to 6 m tall. The plant is usually little-branched and over time assumes a columnar shape with narrow, spindly clusters of vertical stems.





GREY HERON (MAAKANAA)

This is a large bird that stands between 90 to 100 cm tall and can weigh up to 2 kg. It feeds on fish, insects, small reptiles, and mammals in shallow water. You will often see the heron standing still or moving slowly when it's stalking its prey. The loud croaking, referred to as "fraanak" is its signature call. The Grey Heron builds bulky stick nests when breeding.



WHITE-BREASTED WATERHEN (KANBILI)

The White-Breasted Waterhen, locally known as Kanbili, is the national bird of the Maldives with an interesting yet inexplicable call. The waterhen is a small bird with dark slate-grey coloring, and a whitish face, neck, and breast. Their lower belly and undertail are a reddish-brown color, which contrasts with their yellow legs and bill. The local Maldivian kanbili live and nest amongst the dense undergrowth and foliage.



WHIMBREL
(BULHITHUNBI)



This migratory wader visits the Maldives in the winter and breeds across the Sub Arctic, Europe, parts of Asia and Scotland. It is a coastal bird during migration & feeds by probing soft mud for crabs and similar prey. The Dhivehi name translates to “hook-like beak.”



WHITE TERN
(DHONDHEENI)

The white tern is a very elegant and delicate seabird, with immaculate all-white plumage. The small eyes surrounded by black rings make them seem much larger. Adults look the same, but juveniles have a brownish-gray back and are gray on their neck, with a black mark behind their eye. These dainty terns fly in a kind of wavy pattern with deep, slow wingbeats. It looks a bit erratic, but it's actually very strong, which allows them to hover for long periods of time.



ORIENTAL GARDEN LIZARD (BON'DU)

In the breeding season, the male's head and shoulders turn bright orange to crimson and his throat black. Males also turn red-headed after a successful battle with rivals. They feed on insects and small vertebrates. These lizards are harmless and should not be feared.



INDIAN FLYING FOX (VAALU)

The Indian flying fox is named for its unique, fox-like appearance, featuring a reddish-brown coat, a characteristically long snout, and large eyes. Unlike other bats that use echolocation, it perceives its environment through well-developed senses of vision and smell, which help it detect food. Like all bats, it has claws on the second finger of each wing, used for grasping fruits and other objects.





SEA GREEN TURTLE
(VELAA)



HAWKSBILL TURTLE
(KAHAN'BU)

Sea turtles are commonly found in the Maldives, often seen grazing in lagoons or around coral reefs, and play vital roles in maintaining healthy marine ecosystems. While both species are strictly protected, the hawksbill turtle is classified as critically endangered due to its declining population and requires even greater conservation efforts.





GIANT MORAY EEL (KALHU VENN)

They spend the day on the rocks with their head outside and come out at night. They are usually friendly, but if disturbed, they may attack.



PARROT FISH (LANDAA)

Parrot fish are known for their numerous teeth that form a parrot-like beak, which they use to get algae from the corals. These beautiful creatures can poop up to 250g of sand in just one day. That's over 90 kg of sand in a year from just one fish!



SPINNER DOLPHIN (KOAMAS)

The Spinner Dolphin is the most sighted and abundant cetacean species in the Maldives. School sizes vary between very few and hundreds of individuals.



STING RAYS (NARU NAGOO MADI)

They are benthonic species, always in contact with the bottom, because they get food from little crabs and fishes which live in the sand. They are friendly animals, but they can be dangerous, as they have poisoned spines in their tails.





LAND HERMIT CRAB (BARAVELI)

All land hermit crabs are found along our beaches or amongst the island's rich vegetation. They have adapted to a life outside the sea. As opposed to their close relatives in the reef, they do not breathe through gills but through wrinkled, thin, capillary-rich skin at the tip of their soft hind body. As hermit crabs grow, they must exchange their shell for a larger one. Since shells are not an unlimited resource, there is frequently strong competition among the hermit crabs for the available shells. Land hermit crabs are omnivorous scavengers and feed on all types of dead organic matter



Please do not collect shells from the beaches. Hermit crabs need them!

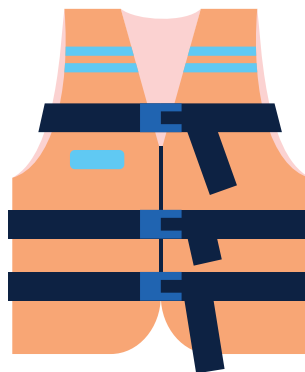
STEPS TO PROTECT MARINE LIFE



Do not



- STEP ON CORAL
- STIR THE SEDIMENT WITH YOUR FINS
- TOUCH OR CHASE MARINE LIFE
- WEAR GLOVES
- FEED FISH
- LITTER
- COLLECT DEAD CORAL OR LIVE MARINE LIFE



Do



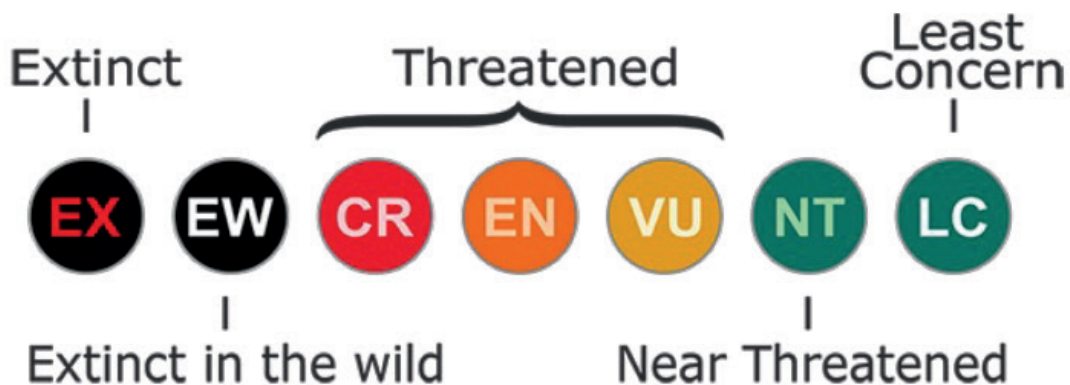
- JOIN IN CONSERVATION PROJECT
- WEAR A LIFE JACKET WHEN SNORKELING



IUCN RED LIST

Endangered Marine Species in the Maldives

The national redlist of threatened species is a list that categorizes species into different levels of extinction risk. The list is developed based on IUCN guidelines and categorizes species to respective threat level.



Get to know more about endangered species at www.iucnredlist.org.



IUCN RED LIST

Critically endangered Marine Species in the Maldives



Hawksbill Turtle



Bowmouth Gutarfish



Oceanic Whitetip Shark



Scalloped Hammerhead



Great Hammerhead



Bottlenose Wedgefish





We hope you enjoyed reading!
We invite you to support our
environmental, energy and csr efforts!

If you would like to learn more, book
an island tour or a heart of house tour,
please contact our front office team!



CORA CORA®
Maldives