

An underwater photograph showing a diver in a black wetsuit and mask swimming over a vibrant coral reef. The reef is dominated by large, pink and purple sea anemones with long, white tentacles. Small fish are visible swimming around the reef. The water is clear and blue. A semi-transparent teal box with a leaf pattern is overlaid on the top part of the image, containing the text 'Astove Atoll SEYCHELLES'.

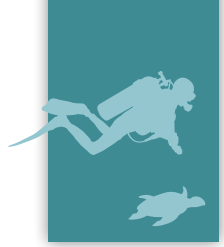
Astove Atoll
SEYCHELLES

Astove Atoll
DIVE FACT SHEET

THE ULTIMATE DIVING EXPERIENCE...

www.bluesafari.com

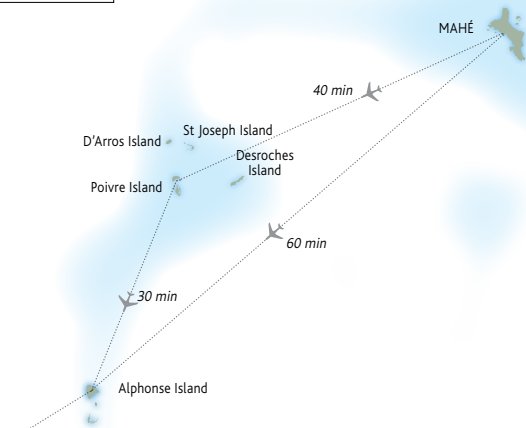
RDV JUNE23



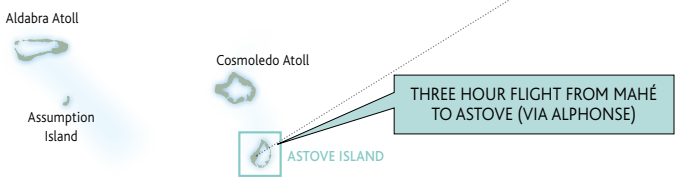
INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS
DIRECT FLIGHTS TO/FROM SEYCHELLES

Astove Atoll

Astove is situated 1,055 km southwest of Mahé and forms part of the remote Aldabra group of atolls. It's a small and unique atoll that spans six kilometers from north to south and just under four kilometers from east to west at the widest points. The shallow lagoon has one small entrance, and due to its elevation a phenomenon occurs whereby the tide falls like a river for ten hours of the 12-hour tidal cycle and then turns to flood the entire lagoon in only two hours.



ASTOVE ATOLL SEASONS	OPENING	CLOSING
	November	April



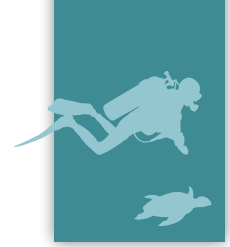
One of the most remote inhabited islands in Seychelles, Astove Atoll features a rugged and dramatic landscape with limestone rock and sand dunes rising against the horizon. It's an environment which has had very little human impact placed on it in recent decades and is teeming with bird and marine life just waiting to be explored!

AT A GLANCE

- Located 665 nautical miles southwest of Mahé in the Seychelles.
- Situated only 9° south of the equator.
- A three hour flight from Mahé via Alphonse Island.
- Astove is comprised of a shallow lagoon, surrounded by sheer drop-offs.
- One of the most remote and secluded inhabited islands in the Seychelles.
- Astove Island Lodge can accommodate between six and 12 guests [fishing, diving or leisure] in air-conditioned en-suite rooms surrounding a central courtyard.
- Similar time zone to Europe, African and the Middle East.

POPULAR DIVE SITES





ASTOVE ATOLL

As Remote as You Can Get...



Astove Atoll has a rich but desolate history and has been the cause of countless shipwrecks dating back to 1500 AD. It has been said that ships used to pass by in the hope of rescuing and then enslaving abandoned souls on the island. It's also a famous atoll because Jacques Cousteau filmed some of the acclaimed underwater documentary *The Silent World* along the edge of "The Wall".

"The Wall" of Astove is breathtakingly beautiful and is best described as looking down into the Grand Canyon. It consists of the flat and reef dropping a vertical 90 degrees from ankle deep water to over 1000 metres over a short distance. "The Wall" is still known as one of the best snorkelling and dive sites on this planet.

The terrain varies from hostile shore breaks on the windward side, to flat calm coral flats on the outside and snow-white sand flats inside the lagoon. Its unique lagoon system is home to countless aquatic seabirds as well as the caspian tern, dimorphic egret and red-tailed tropic bird along with a population of over 150 giant Aldabra tortoises.

GETTING THERE

- The Seychelles is a four and a half hour flight from Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Doha which all serve as a connecting hub for regular international flights from Europe, the United States, Africa and Asia.
- Direct flights to the Seychelles from Paris, Bombay, Nairobi, Mauritius, Antananarivo, Johannesburg, Addis Ababa, Reunion, Colombo, Dar-Es-Salaam, Frankfurt and London.
- Astove Atoll is a three hour flight from Mahé [the main island of the Seychelles].
- Scheduled flights depart and return to Mahé each Monday.
- Scheduled Flights depart from the IDC Hangar, Pointe Larue, Mahé.
- Flight times are subject to change. Please make sure you confirm your correct flight times with our reservations team.
- Guests are expected to arrive in Mahé the day before their trip as any delay on the day of departure will certainly cause the trip to be missed. It's as important for return flights to be booked the next day after arriving back in Mahé as any delays may cause guests to miss their international flights.
- The Alphonse Island reservations team will assist with all return flight reservations between Mahé and Astove at the time of booking.





FAUNA & FLORA OF ASTOVE

Once the island was abandoned, the natural vegetation and inhabitants slowly made their way back. Nowadays the rugged terrain of Astove holds coconut palms and mangrove forests in the shallows. The undisturbed landscapes have seen the return of various bird species like crab plover and caspian tern along with other migratory waders and breeding seabirds. The island also holds a healthy population of giant Aldabra tortoises that are being monitored by the ICS Teams.



The surrounding waters and the colourful coral reefs that they hold plays host to a variety of curious and impressive marine animals. This combined with the sheer drop-offs of "The Wall" and drastic fluctuations of the inner lagoon, create nutrient-rich currents which brings with it an assortment of sought-after marine, bird and land species.



THE HISTORY OF ASTOVE

The history of Astove tells that the area was mostly explored by Arab sailors and merchants between 1000 and 1500 AD. The first mention of settlement on the island would only be noted after 1760. This would be the year that the Portuguese frigate La Dom Royal and its crew and captain ran aground on the island. Legend tells that the ship was heavy with slaves and treasure. After the captain and crew left the island for Mozambique, the slaves left behind formed a small community who lived off the land and the ocean.

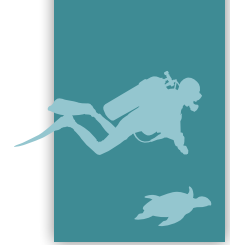
The 1800's would see more visit the island and reports of coconut trees and mangroves being spotted. In 1895, a fishing enterprise was started on the island and later years would see the farming of maize, tomatoes, pumpkins, watermelons, gourds and tobacco. For a brief time, guano extraction also proved profitable.

In 1968, the lease of Astove was passed on to Mark and Wendy Veevers-Carter. Already the successful producers of a copra plantation on Remire Island, the Veevers-Carters aimed to do the same on the larger Astove. The couple built a house, chapel, store and houses for their workers and set on to get their copra plantation started. They also managed to successfully farm tobacco, cattle, pigs and goats.

Wendy Veevers-Carter managed the farm on her own until November of 1970 after her husband passed away in March of that year. The endeavour soon became too much for her and she returned to her homeland of the United States with her 3 children and left the island in the care of 3 Seychellois employees.

The island was eventually abandoned.





ASTOVE ATOLL

The Wildest Diving Destination on this Planet!



WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT DIVING AT ASTOVE ATOLL

Astove has seen very few SCUBA divers in the past decade and therefore the wildlife that is encountered is not accustomed to seeing divers in the water. This means that species that may normally be wary of divers are much more likely to approach and be inquisitive. Astove is famous for its very steep "Wall" that drops vertically from 1 – 2 metres to 50 m+. This "Wall" has very good soft coral coverage and many species of macro life such as nudibranchs can be found here. The close proximity to very deep water also increases the

chance of seeing several species of sharks and rays as well as large grouper, snapper, napoleon wrasse and tuna.

The main section of the Astove "Wall" is close to the guest accommodation meaning that boat rides to the dive sites are relatively short therefore enabling more time to be spent in the water. Astove is known to have variable currents and some strong upwelling, your guides will brief you accordingly before each dive and make sure that everyone is comfortable with the dive plan.

YOUR ITINERARY...

DAY 1: Your charter flight departs from the IDC Hangar, diverts to Alphonse and lands on Astove three hours later. On arrival your group will be transferred to the lodge where orientation and gear set up begins. After lunch we will go for a check dive to make sure everyone is comfortable in their gear.

DAY 2–7: Breakfast is 07h30-08h30, there will be the option to do a dawn dive at six am before breakfast. The standard dive times will be 09h00, 11h00 and 14h00, however these times are flexible and can be adjusted to suit conditions and diver's needs. Lunch will be arranged to fit in with the diving plan for the day. Pre-dinner drinks will commence at 18h00 and dinner will follow.

DAY 8: Breakfast is at 07h30, you can then pack, settle your tab and gratuities, and prepare for the three hour flight back to Mahé. The flight will land back at the IDC Hangar.



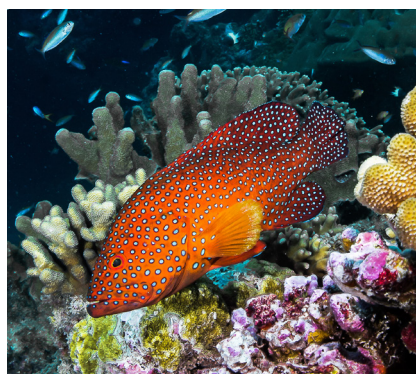


WHAT YOU CAN SPOT

"The Wall" of Astove is probably the best dive site in the Seychelles and those few people that have dived here regard it as one of the best in the world. Sightings range across the board from reef to pelagic fish, big predators and tiny macro life. "The Wall" is covered with a forest of gorgonian and black corals that extends down to great depths. The large marine turtle population means that you will see countless turtles both green and hawksbill; they are absolutely guaranteed during your trip. Schools of predatory fish such as giant and bluefin trevally patrol the drop off looking for prey. Those who dive to see top predators will enjoy the huge size of dogtooth tuna, napoleon wrasse, giant sweetlips, potato cod and other large grouper. The close proximity to the drop off means that opportunities to see pelagic species are greatly increased. Sharks that you may expect to encounter include: hammerhead, bull, silvertip, tawny nurse, whitetip reef and grey reef. Macro-enthusiasts will enjoy a host of creatures including: anemonefish, nudibranch, leaf scorpionfish, tasseled and devil scorpionfish, porcelain crab, cleaner shrimp, flatworm, longnose hawkfish, coral whip goby and shrimp. The human history of Astove can also be seen underwater with big old ships anchors, chains and other various bits of debris from shipwrecks littering the reef in some areas. Due to the fact that there has been very little scuba diving in the area there is still lots to learn about the underwater landscape here.

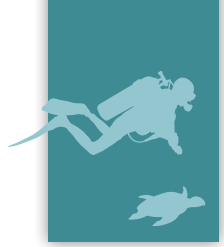
DIVING CONDITIONS

Temperatures range from 25-30°C. Thermoclines can drop the temperature on a dive and take you by surprise. Most of the time an average of 28-29°C can be expected which is suitable for a 3 mm shortie, long wetsuit or even none at all for those who do not feel the cold. Visibility is great, seasonally more than 40 m, making sure that you can take in all the breathtaking scenery along the drop-off. Currents are complex around Astove and therefore your dive guide will carry a surface marker buoy at all times. Please speak with the team on arrival day or before to create the perfect programme for you based on your interests and level of experience.



BOATS & GUIDES

The lodge has two 20 ft Mini-Mahé tender boats that can be used for diving. They are skippered by experienced guides. A PADI divemaster or dive instructor will be in the water with you on all dives. They will be your guide and will at all times carry a line attached to an SMB at the surface allowing the skipper to keep a close eye on the dive group particularly as currents and therefore direction of travel may vary.



DIVE *Equipment*

All diving equipment for Astove is provided by Blue Safari Alphonse. All divers are asked to provide details of their height and weight, so that we can make sure we have the correct equipment sizes and spares available on Astove. All equipment is regularly serviced by a qualified technician and is maintained to the highest possible standards.

We use ScubaPro T-One or Rebel and Mares Rover standard Buoyancy Control Devices [BCDs] which have solid backplate, large Velcro pockets and quick release adjustments. Our BCDs are sized from children's to XL to cater for all. Our regulators are standard ScubaPro MK2+R095/R295, with a metric unit console and are serviced every 100 dives.

Divers have a range of aluminium or steel 10 L or 12 L cylinders to dive with. Our cylinders are visually inspected yearly with hydrostatic tests every four years. Our on-site technician maintains our compressors and makes regular air-checks to ensure you are breathing the purest air.

We offer a range of wetsuits from 3 mm shortie to long, either our own Alphonse brand, ScubaPro or Mares. We have a broad range of fin sizes and offer either closed heel or open-heel with booties from a selection of brands. Our masks include children to adult sizes with single or double lenses, typically ScubaPro Solo or Ecco. Snorkellers may also opt for the full face snorkel.

REEF HOOKS, SMBS & ACCESSORIES DIVE EQUIPMENT

Owing to the unpredictable currents around Astove and our remote location, all divers are provided with a Surface Marker Buoy in their BCD pocket which they can inflate should they lose the group and surface separately. For the more advanced divers we also provide reef hooks which can be used in strong currents to sit and watch the fish swirl by or by photographers wanting a steady position for that special shot.

You may wish to bring some of your own accessories however we have a number of the following spares should you forget yours: computers, torches, de-fogging agent and compasses.

On request we are able to supply a range of items from Alphonse Island. We stock slates, landyards, ear drops, mask straps, dry bags, swimwear, sunscreen, caps & visors and rash vests in our dive shop. You can enjoy our Ocean Positive Range by Fourth Element and support efforts to clean discarded fishing nets from the ocean which are in turn made into useful eco-nylon swimwear. Contact us ahead of your trip for any of these items.



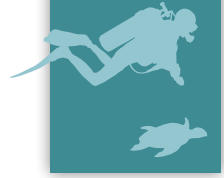
CHECK LIST

Whilst all of your dive equipment will be provided and extras can be purchased here, we recommend that you bring the following for your stay:

- 1 x Personal SCUBA mask
- 1 x Polarized sunglasses
- 1 x Sunscreen [SPF 30+]
- 1 x Lip block [SPF 30+]
- 1 x Mosquito repellent
- 1 x Hat or cap
- 2 x Headband / Buff for long hair
- 1 x Drybag
- 1 x Wetbag
- 1 x Soft tissue for drying & cleaning lenses
- 2 x Fast drying rash vest
- 2 x Swimwear
- 1 x Headlamp or torch
- 1 x Rain jacket [lightweight]
- General loose fitting, quick drying clothing for the humidity

OUR SHOP OFFERS A RANGE OF CLOTHING SUITED FOR DIVING THESE WATERS





ASTOVE CORAL HOUSE



Maximizing Your Dive Experience

Uninhabited since 1969, Astove makes for a wild experience. To ensure that the atoll stays pristine, Astove Coral House only caters from six to 12 guests per week.

In 1968 Astove was occupied by the Veevers-Carter family who established a coconut plantation. They constructed a number of buildings including a large main house, chapel, store and accommodation for the workers. The small settlement they created, forms the basis of the accommodation used today.

Surrounding a central courtyard, the Coral House has six charming and comfortable rooms. With en-suite bathrooms, the recently refurbished rooms offer relaxed accommodation in one of the most remote locations in the world. The key to the experience is how very little has been changed in the Coral House allowing guests a sense of how the Veevers-Carter family would have enjoyed the house.

Guests will enjoy the attentive service as well as superb dining. The menu frequently comprises of a full English breakfast, a buffet lunch or packed picnic lunch to enjoy on location, and a buffet dinner served in the indoor or outdoor dining area. The food is inspired by the traditional Seychellois Creole cuisine with freshly caught fish being the key ingredient.

Evening sundowners are enjoyed most evenings at our beautiful outside bar, allowing everyone to gather and discuss the events of the day.

With picture-perfect beaches, edged by palm trees and with not another soul in sight, Astove Atoll is wonderfully unique.

LODGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Original Coral House which has been refurbished for your comfort.
- Single/double air-conditioned en-suite accommodation.
- Easy beach access, with the ocean only meters away.
- Large lounge area.
- Indoor dining area.



ESSENTIALS & AMENITIES

Air-conditioned | En-Suite | Beach Towels | Laundry Service | Mosquito Repellent



ASTOVE EXPERIENCES

on an Untouched Treasure Trove



Astove Atoll needs to be experienced to be believed... The geographical isolation of Astove Atoll creates an atmosphere of undisturbed solitude where guests forget about the outside world and immerse themselves in all the natural wonders and unique experiences that the island has to offer.

**** COMPLIMENTARY ACTIVITIES ON ASTOVE ATOLL. ALL ACTIVITIES ARE WEATHER AND TIDE PERMITTING.**

INDEPENDENT ACTIVITIES**

The Blue Safari team is at your disposal should you wish further activities like bird identification walks or to organise a private picnic around the island. For those who like to explore independently there is much to offer.

The paths around the island pass through natural vegetation around the lodge enabling running. Guests are provided with information for the directions and distances of these routes. Kayaks and stand-up paddle boards are available for guests wanting to explore the island independently. Snorkelling is a great way to see what marine life resides beneath the waves.

PAULIE'S TROPICAL LUNCH**

A special treat offered by Astove is the amazing Paulie's Lunch. A dining atmosphere like no other. Guests get to revel in the sheer beauty of the flats whilst feasting on a delicious buffet accompanied by an ice cold beverage.

SAND DUNE SUNDOWNERS**

Every Sunday guests join the AFC guides and team at the infamous Astove sand dune for social gathering. Guests enjoy drinks with fellow nature, fishing and diving partners celebrating the week's achievements. Remember, every fish and new sighting counts!

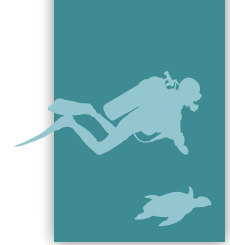
EVENING SUNDOWNERS**

Your island hosts will arrange evening sundowners where you can enjoy stories from the day over a cocktail or an ice cold beer. As the sun sets you and your companions can ready yourself for the day ahead.

KAYAK AND SUP**

Kayaks and SUP's are a perfect and non-intrusive way to get up close to turtles and rays around the flats and allow guests to enjoy Astove from a new perspective. On a guided tour your knowledgeable guide will take you to the Astove 'Wall' where you can peer down into the blue depths of the dramatic coral drop-off. With your guide to hand, spot and identify countless turtles, fish, shark and ray species whilst paddling the water's edge.





REEF FLATS EXPEDITION**

Travel the reef flats from the lodge with a knowledgeable and insightful guide. On this expedition guests get to appreciate the untouched view of the rich seagrass beds and crystal clear waters whilst spotting juvenile turtles, eels as well as crab and mollusc deep under rocks and squeezed into crevices in the reef platform. This is an opportunity to see all types of nature come together with mind-blowing biodiversity on the macro scale.

TURTLE NESTING VIEWINGS**

Despite being a small island, Astove has one of the largest populations of nesting green sea turtle. Guests in the Astove lodge spend their evenings within 10 minutes of where female turtles haul out to lay their eggs. Spending an evening with a knowledgeable guide waiting for this natural phenomenon is a rare treat. During the excursion guests will be educated about turtle ecology and reproduction as well as their conservation status.

ASTOVE "THE WALL" GUIDED SNORKELLING

On this guided excursion you will be taken along the length of the Astove "Wall" which drops dramatically vertically from 1 – 2 metres to 50m+. Snorkellers will see soft coral covered walls, crevices, cuts and overhangs that conceal big fish. Snorkellers can take full advantage of the proximity to open ocean at this dive site and therefore may have encounters with sharks and rays as well as large grouper, snapper, napoleon wrasse and tuna. Snorkelling equipment is complimentary and is available for all guests use.

PAULIE'S ISLAND GUIDED SNORKELLING

On this snorkel venture to Paulie's Island, a gemstone on the flats, you will snorkel in clear waters like never before. It is a shallow snorkel at moments and therefore brings you face-to-face with a variety of fish and numerous turtles that reside at the base of the rocks. Here you can see crabs hiding in all of the nooks and crannies. Snorkelling equipment is complimentary and is available for all guests use.

BLUE SAFARI

This is your opportunity to make the most of your own personalised Blue Safari, speak to your guide to create the perfect trip. You may choose our traditional Blue Safari in the open ocean in search of our resident spinner dolphin, leaping tuna, flying fish or mating turtle or even humpback whales,

when in season. Alternatively, join our guides on an adventure like no other, learning, exploring and discovering the coastline of Astove Atoll. You may encounter a number of craggy islets full to the brim with birdlife and come face-to-face with this unique habitat. As you are able to hop-on and hop-off during this trip you may choose to have a perfect picnic in a secret spot looking over the fabulous ocean vista. This can be a full or half day excursion and as the skiff is exclusively yours, you are able to decide how far and wide you would like to explore this magical atoll.

ASTOVE LAGOON MANGROVE NATURE HIKE**

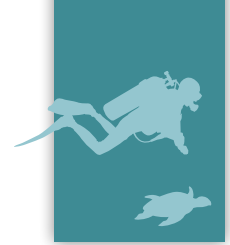
Take this fantastic excursion across the lagoon and into the mangroves. With such a variety of mangroves on Astove this excursion may include venturing into the very top of the lagoon among the mangrove roots looking for all types of wildlife. For any nature lover this will bring endless delights. Our trained guides will be able to help you identify the various species that you see around you. Alternatively you may spend time at the edge of the lower lagoon mangrove and peering into the tree tops for interesting bird life or watching for sharks patrolling the mangrove's edge. This is one of those increasingly rare environments that have the power to put you in touch with raw nature.

FLATS FLY FISHING

Astove has become synonymous with the largest flats-caught GT's in the Indian Ocean. Its shallow lagoon and small entrance, surrounded by sheer drop-offs makes the experience truly unique. The lagoon is a sanctuary for both juvenile and trophy-size fish that feed on the shallow white sand flats that line the inside of the lagoon. Try your hand on a full or half day of fly fishing with one of our experienced Alphonse Fishing Co. guides in search of the various species Astove has on offer.

BLUEWATER FISHING

Experience offshore fishing like never before... The unspoilt waters of the Astove Atoll are home to a vast variety of bluewater species. The structure and sheer drop-offs are idyllic for species such as sailfish, wahoo, dogtooth tuna, yellowfin tuna and dorado. On each given day there is an opportunity to fight the reel and target these species for either a full or half day. Be sure to pre-book your bluewater fishing trip to ensure boat availability.



IMPORTANT POINTS

Please Take Note...

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

RATES INCLUDE

- Three meals daily
- Private charter flight
- Full SCUBA equipment [sizes must be supplied in advance]
- Soft drinks during activities, water, tea and coffee
- Wine with dinner
- Laundry

RATES EXCLUDE

- International Flights
- Accommodation and transfers on Mahé
- Beverages
- Telephone charges
- Travel and medical insurance
- Gratuities and items of a personal nature
- Conservation donation of US\$210

GENERAL INFORMATION

WEATHER

Seychelles is typically hot and somewhat humid with midday temperatures hovering at $\pm 35^{\circ}$ Celsius [$\pm 90^{\circ}$ Fahrenheit]. Evenings are also invariably warm with the exception of the first and last few weeks of the season, when there may be a strong, cooling breeze.

THE DIVING SEASON AT ASTOVE

The season traditionally runs from early November to late April. Due to Astove being a further 2° south of Alphonse Island, the south-easterly monsoon winds blow insistently from May to October. We stick to the fore mentioned dates to ensure you have an unforgettable diving experience.

HOURS OF DAYLIGHT

Due to its proximity to the equator, there is no real twilight in the Seychelles. The sun rises quickly at around 06h15, and sets with equal swiftness at about 18h30. This varies by only minutes throughout the year, giving nearly a full 12 hours of daylight for 365 days a year.

CONSERVATION DONATION

There is a conservation donation of US\$210 per week [US\$30 per day]. This will be included on your confirmation invoice and is settled prior to arrival. All packages exclude this conservation donation which is given to the Island Conservation Society for the preservation of nature in the Seychelles.

FROM SCENE OF ACCIDENT MEDIVAC INSURANCE

You are required to obtain "From Scene of Accident Medivac Insurance". Please supply these details prior to arrival on the Island. Alphonse Island Lodge Limited T/A Blue Safari Seychelles and agents cannot assume any financial responsibility for consequences incurred if this has not been obtained.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

You are required to obtain travel insurance that will cover any costs incurred due to flight or trip delays for any reason. Diving insurance such as Divers Alert Network [DAN] or equivalent is necessary to dive on Alphonse. It may be covered in your normal travel insurance but ensure that you check what depth it includes. Divers wanting to dive to 30 m or 40 m must hold the qualification [Advanced and Deep Speciality, respectively] and insurance to that depth.

INDEMNITY FORM

You will be required to sign an indemnity form once on location. Divers booked on courses must complete the Medical Statement prior to diving, this is provided prior to arrival in case you need to arrange medical clearance from your physician.

ENTRY INTO SEYCHELLES

Every visitor who intends to travel by air or sea to the Seychelles must have an approved, valid Travel Authorization or Disembarkation Information Form. Applications can only be made up to five days prior to your arrival date in Seychelles. There are different requirements for travel to the Seychelles for citizens, permit holders and visitors. Please pay attention to the required documents that apply to you or your group. A yellow fever vaccination is needed if you are traveling to Seychelles from a yellow fever endemic region. If you are transiting through an airport of a yellow fever endemic region for less than 12 hours you do not need yellow fever vaccination. You will need this certificate to apply for your Travel Authorisation. For more information and to apply, refer to the Seychelles Immigration website: seychelles.govtas.com.

FLIGHT TIMES

NB: Please check flight times as they vary. The flights leave Mahé from the IDC hangar and arrive on Astove three hours later. It then departs Astove 45 minutes after arriving and will land back at the IDC Hangar three hours after departing Astove, approximately 15h00.

LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

On inter-island charter flights check-in luggage is strictly limited to 15 kg [33 pounds] per

person, and 5 kg [11 pounds] carry-on luggage.

It is not possible to load extra luggage beyond your limit; it would have to be repacked and left on Mahé until your return. On request, the Blue Safari team in Mahé will assist you with the storage of excess luggage while you are on Astove. We also suggest you use lighter soft-shell bags.

Should you plan to bring heavy underwater camera gear and are able to provide us with advanced warning at the time of booking with an exact weight, we will try to accommodate for it on the flight manifest.

SUN PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

The climatic conditions at Astove can be quite harsh for those that aren't accustomed to them. Light weight breathable fabrics are recommended. Sunscreen with a minimum of SPF 30, ideally SPF 50 is required for any exposed skin. A hat and sunglasses should be taken on the boat to be worn between dives.

ACCOMMODATION

You will be accommodated in one of six single/double en-suite air-conditioned rooms that surround the central courtyard area. The lodge has a lounge and an indoor and outdoor dining area. The bathrooms have a shower, toilet, basin and the same amenities, towels and facecloths you would find at Alphonse Island.

Coral House is managed by a Blue Safari Manageress, staffed by Blue Safari staff, and is operated in a way to maximize your diving time. The menu comprises of an English breakfast, a packed lunch of your choice and a Creole style buffet dinner served in the inside dining area.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The Island has 24-hour electrical current [240 volt, 50 cycles AC] with British plug points. A European electrical current adapter [three-point, square-pin] is necessary.

COMMUNICATION

There is a landline phone service on Astove Atoll in a phone room away from Coral House. You will be able to purchase an international phone card from the Coral House manager for you to be able to use the phone service. There is free Wi-Fi throughout the Coral House.

COMMUNICATION COST: You are able to buy an international telephone card whilst on the island for your use, which are \$12 per card.

We advise that you leave the contact details of Blue Safari with your family and friends. The Astove phone is only answered at certain times for logistical updates so a message can be passed onto you at this time.



Blue Safari Number:
+248-4-22-9700 [GMT+04:00]

WATER CONSUMPTION

We have a desalination plant on Astove, and water from the faucets is safe to drink. We do not stock mineral water and will only supply it if you specifically requested prior to your arrival.

BEVERAGES

Should you have any special beverage requirements please let us know so we can ensure it is on location for your arrival. There will be Seybrew beer and a selection of spirits and wine on location. It's important to remember that Astove is a "dry island" so we request that you do not give any alcohol to the local staff.

MOSQUITOES

Astove has not been civilized for many years so there are mosquito's which need to be repelled. These mosquitoes do not carry diseases. There are very few mosquito's out on the flats. There will be an IDC staff member on location who will be smogging to reduce their numbers. Mosquitoes are only encountered when in the Camp so it's suggested that long lightweight pants and long sleeve shirts are worn in the evening when dining. If you have an allergy to mosquito bites please let us know as we will only carry Antihistamine cream and pills. All the air-conditioned rooms have mosquito netting so the windows can be opened at night. We have Peaceful Sleep mosquito repellent [non-DEET] on location.

GRATUITY GUIDELINE

If you wish to show appreciation to the general staff, we suggest a US\$350 per guest per week or US\$50 per day guideline. Tips are to be left with the lodge manager upon departure for equal distribution. All tips are to please be paid in cash.

Diving Team: US\$20 per dive per person for the diving team, divided up by the dive team and skippers.

Activity Team: US\$20 per day for the activity team if you have joined any activities.

Fly Fishing Guides: US\$650 [US\$110 per day] per angler per week, which is given to the head guide.

CURRENCY

You do not need to change your US\$ [US Dollars], € [Euros] or £ [Pounds] into the local currency SCR [Seychelles Rupees]. The lodge accepts Rupees, Dollars, Euros and Pounds. Please bring sufficient cash to settle bills, tips and other costs incurred. There is a card machine on Astove to settle payments, however we recommend carrying cash for on location tackle and beverage purchases as well as gratuities.

DUTY FREE ALLOWANCE

200 cigarettes or 50 cigars, one litre spirits and two litres wine.



PAYMENT & BOOKING INFORMATION

CREDIT CARD EXCHANGE

The following credit cards are accepted:

- MasterCard • Visa

American Express is not accepted. There is a 5% charge for any credit card withdrawals / gratuities.

CURRENCIES ACCEPTED

- Seychelles Rupee • US\$ • Euro • GBP

CANCELLATIONS

- A 10% fee shall be levied if cancellation is made more than 180 days prior to arrival OR if the reservation is moved to an alternative date within the same year.
- A 50% fee shall be levied if cancellation is between 180 and 90 days prior to arrival.
- A 100% fee shall be levied if cancellation is 90 days or less prior to arrival.
- Private island bookings require a 50% non-refundable deposit with final payment 90 days prior to travel.
- All cancellations and provisional bookings must be confirmed in writing.
- Bank fees associated with refunds are for the clients' account.

PAYMENTS

Reservations will be held for 2 weeks. 50% deposit required to confirm the booking, final payment is to be made 3 month prior to arrival. All extras will be settled on departure.

TARIFFS ARE QUOTED

- Inclusive of VAT in US Dollars
- Subject to availability

TARIFF CHANGES

All tariffs are subject to change, without prior notice, however rates quoted for confirmed bookings will be honoured.



Astove Atoll is part of the Blue Safari Seychelles Collection

CONTACT DETAILS

ISLAND

Telephone +248 422 97 00
+248 422 90 30

E-mail info@bluesafari.com

RESERVATIONS

E-mail reservations@bluesafari.com

MARKETING

E-mail marketing@bluesafari.com

Postal Blue Safari Seychelles

Address P O Box 378, Victoria, Mahé
Republic of Seychelles

Website www.bluesafari.com

