

ALPHONSE ISLAND

Explorer Season

CONSERVATION
EXPERIENCE DMC

STAY 7 PAY 5 : 2 FREE NIGHTS

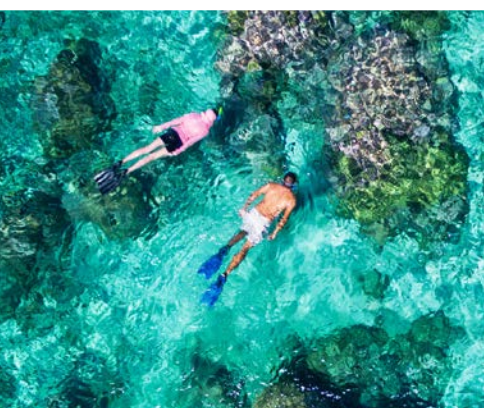


An immersive educational experience where you will gain knowledge and insight into marine ecology, atoll geography, coral reef organism identification, conservation issues and local conservation projects.

Join our conservation team for an awe-inspiring week in the outer islands of the Seychelles on the Alphonse Group of Islands. During this in-depth wildlife conservation experience you will gain ecological insight and education through nature experiences.

From educational talks and presentations, beach clean-ups and native tree planting to one-on-one interactions with experts in marine biology, conservation and underwater wildlife photography. Led by our team of passionate conservationists you will be involved in a range of conservation activities and projects which will include patrolling and monitoring and surveying various ecological aspects of the Alphonse Group of Islands, such as coral reefs, birds, turtles and seagrass to name just a few.

Travel with Purpose... Be a part of this unique experience and **help us to make a difference** by Monitoring, Conserving & Protecting...



A hands-on tangible conservation experience where you personally have the opportunity to **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** to our sensitive marine environment...

HIGHLIGHTS

- One-on-one interactions with experts in marine biology, conservation and underwater wildlife photography.
- Reef Flats Expedition & Biodiversity Surveys.
- Seagrass Surveys.
- Bird-watching Activities.
- Introduction to Coral Reef Ecology and Identification of Reef Fish & Corals.
- Educational Conservation Presentations.
- Participate in Beach Clean-ups.
- Turtle Patrol & Bird Monitoring.
- Native Tree Planting.



CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES ON OFFER

REEF FLATS EXPEDITION & BIODIVERSITY SURVEYS

Inner lagoons of atolls and barrier reef eco-systems are unique but often hostile environments with large fluctuations in temperature, visibility, dissolved nutrients and salinity. However these conditions have created amazing adaptations amongst the marine creatures that live and thrive on these flats; with some of the most famous reef flats in the world, the Alphonse Reef Flats Expedition allows you to explore and learn about this environment and the animals that live there including flats-specialists such as turtles, moray eels, giant trevallies and a plethora of weird and wonderful invertebrates.

SEAGRASS SURVEYS

The lagoons and flats around Alphonse are home to extensive and largely undisturbed seagrass meadows. These environments are so important to the functionality of tropical coastal marine ecosystems such as coral reefs as well as the world-class fly-fishery; additionally, they are key foraging grounds for a huge resident population of green and hawksbill turtles, up to four different species of large ray and juvenile lemon sharks. You will help our on-site NGO collect valuable data on the health of these environments to better understand the management of our fishery and marine resources.

BIRD WATCHING ACTIVITIES

Learn about and assist in monitoring the different bird species present on Alphonse. Be enlightened by the history of these birds over the course of Alphonse's occupation by humans and subsequent habitat alteration, through to conservation success stories since the arrival of the Island Conservation Society (ICS). Take a tour of the island's beaches and forested interior looking out for some iconic species such as greater and lesser frigatebirds, wedge-tailed shearwaters, red footed boobies, many different terns and tropicbirds just to name a few!

INTRODUCTION TO CORAL REEF ECOLOGY & IDENTIFICATION OF REEF FISH & CORALS

These activities will include an interactive presentation and then a guided point-out presentation where guests will learn to identify reef fish and corals and learn about reef ecology. These snorkels can be done on sites such as Oasis or even the house reef which is just off the dock in front of the Activity Centre.

EVENING PRESENTATIONS

Introduction to Coral Reefs, Seychelles Manta Ray Project and Shark Awareness and Conservation.

BEACH CLEAN-UPS

Learn about the impacts of debris on these remote outer island eco-systems, help to protect these pristine habitats by removing plastic and help us in understanding more about the origins of the waste through separation and data collection. Finally turn trash into unique artwork for decorating the dive and fishing centre as a way of making something positive and educational.

TURTLE PATROL

Four species of sea turtles frequent the waters of the Seychelles and two species, namely green and hawksbill turtle, use our islands as their breeding grounds.

ICS conducts monitoring activities to assess status and trends of turtle nesting populations and foraging aggregations, and to identify critical nesting and foraging areas, in order to better understand the biology of turtles and to determine which sites warrant inclusion within the Seychelles Protected Area network. This is an activity not to be missed as you might be lucky enough to encounter little hatchlings!





NATIVE TREE PLANTING

When IDC took over management of the island in 1983, the intention was to continue coconut production and develop crop and animal farming, tourism and timber production. But increasing labour and transport costs made agriculture unviable and only tourism was developed, after the construction of a runway at the end of 1999.

Today, abandoned coconut plantations cover much of Alphonse and St François Islands, with casuarina and scrubland dominating the remainder of the islands.

Help our conservation team eradicate coconut palms and plant native trees on Alphonse to assist in restoring Alphonse's natural habitat.

TORTOISE FEEDING

When humans first discovered Alphonse Island there were no giant tortoises recorded. An unknown number was introduced prior to 1954 and 15 animals of unknown origin were present on Alphonse during 1954–1959.

In 2010, only 25 animals were reported to be present on Alphonse Island. In 2016, nine adults and 15 juveniles were introduced to the island by ICS. Today, 76 tortoises roam freely on the island and contribute to improving the genetic diversity of the Alphonse tortoise population.

All the tortoises on Alphonse Island have been specially micro-chipped to allow ICS to effectively monitor the population size and study the movement patterns, behaviour, growth and survival of individuals. The juveniles are fed daily in the tortoise pen, join our team in learning about this pre-historic species!

We invite you to join us in making a difference
this Explorer Season...



EXPLORER SEASON CONSERVATION PACKAGE | DMC

1 MAY - 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

BEACH BUNGALOW	SHARING		SINGLE	
	US\$		US\$	
7-NIGHT CONSERVATION PACKAGE	TOTAL 6 625 pp		TOTAL 7 675 pp	
RETURN CHARTER FLIGHT: Mahé/Alphonse/Mahé	965 x 5 Nights = 4,825	Return flight: 1,380	1,175 x 5 Nights = 5,875	Return flight: 1,380
	Conservation Donation: 60 x 7 nights = 420		Conservation Donation: 60 x 7 nights = 420	
1-BEDROOM BEACH VILLA	SHARING		SINGLE	
	US\$		US\$	
7-NIGHT CONSERVATION PACKAGE	TOTAL 9 375 pp		TOTAL 14 675 pp	
RETURN CHARTER FLIGHT: Mahé/Alphonse/Mahé	1,515 x 5 Nights = 7,575	Return flight: 1,380	2,575 x 5 Nights = 12,875	Return flight: 1,130
	Conservation Donation: 60 x 7 nights = 420		Conservation Donation: 60 x 7 nights = 420	
4-BEDROOM BEACH VILLA	4 PAX SHARING		ADDITIONAL ADULT	
	US\$		US\$	
7-NIGHT CONSERVATION PACKAGE	TOTAL 46 950		TOTAL 6 625	
RETURN CHARTER FLIGHT: Mahé/Alphonse/Mahé	4 pax: 7,950 x 5 Nights = 39,750	Return flight: 1,380 x 4 pax = 5,520	965 x 5 Nights = 4,825	Return flight: 1,130
	Conservation Donation: 60 x 7 nights x 4 pax = 1,680		Conservation Donation: 60 x 7 nights = 420	
CHILDREN	12-17 YEARS		2-11 YEARS	
	US\$		US\$	
7-NIGHT CONSERVATION PACKAGE	TOTAL 3 855 pp		TOTAL 3 015 pp	
RETURN CHARTER FLIGHT: Mahé/Alphonse/Mahé	495 x 5 Nights = 2,475	Return flight: 1,380	375 x 5 Nights = 1,875	Return flight: 1,140
Accommodation & flights for children under 23 months is FREE of charge. Children 0-17 years are exempt of Conservation Donation. Accommodation for 12-17 years is based on separate accommodation from parents. Should children share with their parents the rates of \$325 per night per child applies.				
SATURDAY FLIGHTS ONLY. TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY.				

INCLUDES:

- > 7 nights accommodation with three meals daily
- > Domestic Flights
- > Room amenities, non-motorised and land based activities
- > Conservation activities as listed
- > Soft drinks during activities
- > Water, tea and coffee
- > Complimentary scheduled communal excursions
- > Snorkelling equipment (Loss of gear charged per item)
- > Watersport equipment (Stand up paddle boards, kayaks)
- > Public Wi-Fi
- > VAT

EXCLUDES:

- > International flights
- > Mahé accommodation and transfers
- > Travel and medical insurance
- > Additional excursions
- > Motorised activities
- > Beverages
- > Laundry, telephone charges and items of a personal nature
- > Spa Treatments (where applicable)
- > Boutique and shop purchases
- > Babysitting/Child-minding (where applicable)
- > Gratuities
- > Private Transfers



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JULY 22