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## **Japanese rave about dive trip on Oleanda**

Marshall Islands Tours conducted its first-ever live-aboard diving tour with visiting Japanese divers.

The business' parent company, Marshalls Dive Adventures, chartered the *Oleanda* from Rongelap Expeditions for two dive cruises. The first, four-day cruise escorted the divers around Majuro and Arno and included one night at the Marshall Islands Resort. A second tour was shortened to three days of diving and also included a night's stay at the MI Resort. Each cruise drew eight divers.

Guests were awed by the marine life and were particularly appreciative of the atoll's healthy coral reef. Great care was taken not to damage or impede upon the reef, which is often considered the most spectacular worldwide due to its health and coral varieties.

The popularity of live-aboard dive tours is increasing among Japanese divers. Marshalls Dive Adventures wants to use this style of touring to introduce tourists to the RMI's outer atolls. Revenue from the dive tours could supplement traditional incomes from copra products and fishing.