

# Being a physician for some time at the Maldives

TEXT: Christine Bellmann

**M**y arms are still sore from carrying around the movement boxes, so much that I was thinking about the last few weeks. Many things just happened. I passed the final examination, I had a nice prom and I moved out of the apartment I shared with a colleague and stored my belongings. I started realizing that I actually made it, „I am a dentist“! And there I was, sitting at Düsseldorf airport, freezing (as it is December I am talking about) and waiting for my flight to Male (Maldives). How did I get there? Well, long story short: I was asked to help out

at a medical center at the Maldives as a medical consultant. I had no idea what to expect or what my job would look like. The flight was quite nice and I arrived in Male, the capital of the Maldives, in the morning. The sun was shining and I was so looking forward to finally reach the island and meet my colleagues, two German doctors highly qualified for emergency medicine and diving sickness.

After another few hours I reached the island and was amazed by the blue water, the sand and the sunshine. I





never saw anything like it. It really looks like it was pictured on postcards. The medical center I was supposed to work at is located on a small island with only a luxury hotel on it and a few buildings for staff accommodation. Even with me being so tired after the long

trip, I was not able to go to bed right away, as there were just too many new things to explore. During the next three months I treated patients with all kinds of medical problems. Our patients were staff from the hotel or hotel guests. So, during my time working as an assisting



