

## For Immediate Release

## The Infiniti Live-aboard in the Andaman Islands will offer amazing unique Volcanic Diving at Barren Island

**Mumbai, September 25, 2013:** Karina Tourism & Adventures, the owner of the "Infiniti Liveaboard", India's first luxury live-aboard yacht at Andaman Islands, today announced their plans for introducing unique "**volcanic diving**" adventure at Barren Island in the Andamans. As part of this adventure, certified scuba divers will be taken on four night trips to Barren Island in the Andamans. Once there, they will be taken for scuba diving in the surrounding waters with expert dive guides.

**Barren Island** is south East Asia's only **active volcano**. The volcano is estimated to be 1.8 million years old, and scuba diving or snorkelling here is a fantastic, unique experience. An earlier eruption here has covered almost everything underwater with a thick layer of black sand, creating an unusual magnificent underwater landscape to explore with solidified lava flow making for spectacular underwater cliffs & canyons; and tunas and sharks swimming along black walls which plunge to over 500 meters. Visibility can exceed 50 meters and hammerhead sharks have been seen here. The contrasting vivid colors of bright fish against the jet-black walls is almost psychedelic; and this is a unique diving experience for all enthusiasts of the underwater world.

**Mr. Sunil Bakshi**, founder of Karina Tourism & Adventures said "Diving at an active volcano is a special & unique experience; and we are proud to pioneer this in all of South East Asia. Barren Island is really accessible only via a live-aboard, and with several trips planned to Barren Island, we are excited to open up the Andaman Islands as the world's hottest new diving destination with the Infiniti live-aboard. We already have two trips to Barren chartered & sold out, and four more are in the plan between January – April 2014."

The Infiniti is a brand new, custom designed boat recently launched in the Andaman Islands (the first & only in the area). It is RINA certified and fully equipped for a safe & comfortable onboard stay and cruise around the islands. It features spacious air conditioned guest rooms with ensuite bathrooms, an onboard kitchen, dining area, lounges & decks and all top of the line scuba equipment.

The Andaman Islands in the warm, tropical waters of the Indian Ocean are one of the world's newest diving destinations and have yet to be properly explored for diving. These islands in the Bay of Bengal of the Andaman sea are territorially a part of India, but geographically closer to Myanmar or Thailand. After a 50-year period of virtual isolation from the outside world, the Indian government has made a decision to allow limited, environmentally conscious tourism development in the islands.



Visiting and diving the Andaman Islands really is a special adventure. Only 26 of these 576 islands are inhabited. The islands have no modern fishing fleet and commercial fishing licenses are granted to foreign operators only on an extremely limited basis. Thus, the waters surrounding the islands are simply full of fish that have never been disturbed by modern man. Beneath the waves lie reefs barely touched and hardly seen by other divers. In fact, until recently, only about 50 divers a year have been lucky enough to experience the Andaman's hidden treasures. It is easy to see why Jacques Cousteau named the Andamans the 'invisible islands'.

## About INFINITI Live-aboard

The **INFINITI** is a high end, world class live-aboard with all premium attributes– gorgeous aesthetics, unmatched comfort, uncompromising safety and exacting engineering. Owned by **Karina Tourism & Adventures Pvt. Ltd.**, it is India's first live-aboard, and one of the finest in Asia. At nearly 130 feet, the **INFINITI** is huge; however, it is also exclusive. The number of guests sailing on board the **INFINITI** at any one point of time will be limited, so as to keep the experience special and intimate. Scuba diving enthusiasts will find the **INFINITI** a once-in-a-lifetime experience, as it takes them to exotic underwater kingdoms resplendent with beauty and life.

*For more information, you can also visit: <u>www.INFINITILiveaboard.com</u> or follow us on <u>www.facebook.com/INFINITIliveaboard</u> and twitter: @InfinitiDiving* 

## About Karina Tourism & Adventures Pvt. Ltd.

**Karina Tourism & Adventures Pvt. Ltd.** is a Mumbai based company with a mission to offer interesting and innovative opportunities in India's travel & tourism sector. The company aims to open new ways to explore all that India has to offer to domestic as well as international tourists.

While India has a lot to offer to travellers, domestic & international, there has not been enough fresh thinking and creative initiatives to really tap into the country's potential. Indians are going abroad for "active" holidays and even the international tourists are choosing destinations such as Thailand over India. **Karina Tourism & Adventures** aims to bridge that gap by introducing innovative initiatives in active holidays such as diving, surfing and more.