TOURISM YEARBOOK 2019

MINISTRY OF TOURISM
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

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Tourism Yearbook 2019

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INTRODUCTION

Tourism Yearbook 2019 has been produced and published by the Statistics & Research Section of the Ministry of Tourism. This publication briefly presents the overall performance of the tourism industry of the Maldives through 2014 to 2018.

This publication is divided into 6 sections

1. Tourist Accommodation
2. Tourist Arrival Trends
3. Economic Indicators
4. Airline Statistics
5. Additional Tables

Each section provides important data and information. Together, the sections provide a comprehensive picture of tourism in the Maldives.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements ii
Introduction iii

SECTION 1 - TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

1.1 Accommodation Facilities 2
Table 1: Accommodation Establishments & Bed Capacity, 2014 - 2018 2
1.2 Distribution of Accommodation Facilities by Atolls 4
Table 2: Accommodation Facilities by Atolls, 2018 4
1.3 Capacity & Utilization 5
Table 3: Bed Nights, Occupancy Rate & Average Duration of Stay, 2014 - 2018 5
Figure 1: Bed Nights vs. Occupancy Rate, 2014 - 2018 6
Table 4: Occupancy Rates & Average Duration of stay by Month, 2014 – 2018 7

SECTION 2 - TOURIST ARRIVAL TRENDS

2.1 Global Arrival Trends 9
Table 5: International Tourist Arrivals Worldwide, 2014 - 2018 9
2.2 Maldives Arrival Trends 10
Table 6: Monthly Arrivals to the Maldives, 2014 - 2018 10
2.3 Tourist Arrivals by Regions 11
Figure 2: Market Share by Regions, 2014 - 2018 11
2.4 Top Ten Markets, 2018 13
Table 7: Tourist Arrivals and Market Share of Top Ten Markets, 2018 13
2.4.1. China 14
Table 8: Chinese Arrivals and Growth Rate, 2014 - 2018 14
Figure 3: Chinese Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018 14
Figure 4: Chinese Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 - 2018 14
2.4.2. Germany 15
Table 9: German Arrivals and Growth Rate, 2014 - 2018 15
Figure 5: German Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018 15
Figure 6: German Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 - 2018 15
2.4.3. United Kingdom (U.K.) 16
Table 10: U.K. Arrivals and Growth Rate, 2014 - 2018 16
Figure 7: U.K. Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018 16
Figure 8: U.K. Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 - 2018 16
2.4.4. Italy 17
Table 11: Italian Arrivals and Growth Rate, 2014 - 2018 17
Figure 9: Italian Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018 17
Figure 10: Italian Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 - 2018 17
2.4.5. India 18
Table 12: Indian Arrivals and Growth Rate, 2014 - 2018 18
Figure 11: Indian Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018 18
Figure 12: Indian Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 - 2018 18
2.4.6. Russia 19

2.4.7. France *20*
Table 14: French Arrivals and Growth Rate, 2014 - 2018 20
Figure 15: French Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018 20
Figure 16: French Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 - 2018 20
2.4.8. Japan 21
Table 15: Japanese Arrivals and Growth Rate, 2014 - 2018 21
Figure 17: Japanese Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018 21
Figure 18: Japanese Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 - 2018 21
2.4.9. U.S.A 22
Table 16: U.S.A Arrivals and Growth Rate, 2014 - 2018 22
Figure 19: U.S.A Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018 22
Figure 20: U.S.A Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 - 2018 22
2.4.10. Australia 23
Table 17: Australian Arrivals and Growth Rate, 2014 - 2018 23
Figure 21: Australian Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018 23
Figure 22: Australian Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 - 2018 23

SECTION 3 - ECONOMIC INDICATORS

3.1 Tourism Contribution to GDP 25
Figure 23: GDP Contribution by Major Economic Sectors of Maldives, 2018 25
Table 18: Tourism Contribution to GDP, 2014 - 2018 25
3.2 Tourism Revenue 26
Table 19: Tourism Revenue, 2014 - 2018 26
Table 20: Tourism Revenue by type of Facilities, 2014 – 2018 26
3.3 Tourism Receipts 27
Table 21: Tourism Receipts, 2014 - 2018 27
3.4 Tourism Expenditure 27
Table 22: Government Expenditure on Tourism, 2014 - 2018 27

SECTION 4 - AIRLINE STATISTICS

4.1 Traffic by Domestic Carriers 29
Table 23: Passenger Arrivals by Domestic Carriers, 2014 - 2018 29
4.2 Traffic by International Carriers 29
Table 24: International Carriers by Type, 2014 - 2018 29
Table 25: Passenger Arrivals by International Scheduled Carriers, 2014 - 2018 30

SECTION 5 - ADDITIONAL TABLES

Table 26: Bed Capacity of Tourist Resorts, 2014 - 2018 32
Table 27: Distribution of Resort Beds by Atolls, 2014 - 2018 35
Table 28: Bed Capacity of Tourist Hotels, 2014 - 2018 36
Table 29: Tourist Arrivals & Market Share by Selected Markets, 2014 - 2018 37
Table 30: Growth Trends of Selected Markets, 2014 - 2018 39
Table 31: Tourist Arrivals by Gender, 2014 - 2018 41
Table 32: Seasonal Variation of Tourist Arrivals, 2014 - 2018 41
Table 33: Inbound and Outbound Travel, 2014 - 2018 41
Table 34: Tourist Arrivals by Nationality as at end November 2019 42
Table 35: Fairs participated by MMPRC, 2018 44

SECTION 1
TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

1.1 - Accommodation facilities

The Maldives archipelago is made up of 1,192 islands formed into 20 natural atolls. Each island is unique, surrounded by shades of blue and palm fringed beaches. These tiny coral islands house colorful reefs which inhabit mesmerizing marine life. Coupled with the rays of the sparkling sun, Maldives is known as the "*Sunny side of life*". To enable visitors to experience this natural beauty, several types of accommodation establishments are provided in Maldives.

Tourists travelling to the Maldives could stay in one of the four types of accommodation, Resorts, Hotels, Guesthouses and Safari vessels, permitted under the Tourism Act Law No. 2/99, and registered at the Ministry of Tourism. Over the last five years, from 2014 to 2018, these accommodation facilities, along with its bed capacity has been increasing at an annual average rate of 14.3 percent. In 2018, a total of 95 new establishments came into operation, increasing the bed capacity by 10%. *Table 1* below represents the types of establishments with their bed capacity over the last five years.

Table 1: Accommodation Establishments & Bed Capacity, 2014 -2018

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Type of Establishment	Nos	Beds	Nos	Beds	Nos	Beds	Nos	Beds	Nos	Beds
Resorts / Marinas	111	24,031	115	24,877	126	26,933	135	29,977	145	32,137
Hotels	19	1,704	17	1,648	16	1,713	10	1,456	12	1,862
Guest Houses	220	3,199	313	4,621	393	6,034	458	7,304	521	8,563
Safari Vessels	161	2,739	170	2,939	144	2,694	133	2,518	153	2,857
Total	**511**	**31,673**	**615**	**34,085**	**679**	**37,374**	**736**	**41,255**	**831**	**45,419**

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Resorts in the Maldives are the most prevalent type of accommodation. Each resort is a separate island providing lodging and amenities, which operate under the unique concept of "one-island-one-resort". When tourism started in the Maldives in 1972, there were only two resorts with a total bed capacity of 280. Over the years, the resort sector has expanded vastly - at the end of 2018, there were a total of 145 resort islands with 32,137 beds registered in the Maldives. This comprises 71% of the total bed capacity that year. In 2018, while a total of nine new resorts came into operation, one resort, which was closed for a major renovation project, re-opened and came back into operation.

Hotels provide lodging and accommodation facilities but are located in inhabited islands or airport islands. Due to this, hotels are sometimes referred to as "airport hotels" or "city hotels". In 2018, one new hotel was registered and came into operation during 2018. The total number of registered hotels at the end of 2018 were 12 with a total bed capacity of 1,862. During the last five years, changes to the number of hotels has been minimal.

Guesthouses are a rapidly growing sector of accommodation, popular among low and mid-market tourists. Guesthouses are also located in inhabited islands, within local resident areas and they are only required to provide lodging facilities. Guesthouses run small scale operations, where amenities vary among guesthouses, but generally guesthouses have few beds and mostly provide bed and breakfast only. During the past five years, guesthouses have increased almost three folds from 220 guesthouses in 2014 to 521 guesthouses by the end of 2018. In fact, guesthouses are the highest in terms of number of facilities, but only account for 19% of the bed capacity of the Maldives.

Safari Vessels are live-aboard floating beds cruising around Maldives stopping over at different dive locations and uninhabited islands. Safari Vessels provide accommodation facilities on board with amenities and are opted mostly by divers and surfers. These boats are equipped with professional diving equipment and qualified diving instructors. While Safari vessels accounted for 6% of the total bed capacity, 2018 concluded with 153 safari vessels with 2,857 beds cruising around in the Maldives.

1.2 - Distribution of Accommodation Facilities by Atolls

Table 2 below shows the number of accommodation types dispersed across the 20 atolls of the Maldives in 2018. Each atoll had at least one type of accommodation facility, either a Resort or a Hotel or a Guesthouse. Among all atolls, the highest number of tourist beds were concentrated in central atolls such as Kaafu Atoll (39.6%) and 19% in Alif Alif and Alif Dhaalu combined. From the inception of tourism, these two atolls have been persistently holding the highest share of beds. The proximity of Velana International Airport is the main boosting factor for this cluster of beds.

During the last five years, bed capacity in Baa atoll also increased steadily. At the end of the year 2018 it contributed 8.2% to the total bed capacity of Maldives.

Table 2: Accommodation Facilities by Atolls, 2018

Atoll	Resorts			Hotels			Guest Houses			Total		
	Nos.	Beds	% Share of Beds	Nos.	Beds	% Share of Beds	Nos.	Beds	% Share of Beds	Nos.	Beds	% Share of Beds
Haa Alifu	3	594	1.8	0	0	0.0	10	93	1.1	13	687	1.6
Haa Dhaalu	1	118	0.4	1	104	5.6	10	96	1.1	12	318	0.7
Shaviyani	2	457	1.4	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	2	457	1.1
Noonu	7	1,388	4.3	0	0	0.0	5	42	0.5	12	1,430	3.4
Raa	8	2,126	6.6	1	300	16.1	3	24	0.3	12	2,450	5.8
Baa	15	2,882	9.0	1	150	8.1	33	464	5.4	49	3,496	8.2
Lhaviyani	9	2,284	7.1	0	0	0.0	5	44	0.5	14	2,328	5.5
Kaafu	47	10,568	32.9	7	1,016	54.6	249	5,264	61.5	303	16,848	39.6
Alifu Alifu	13	2,488	7.7	0	0	0.0	84	910	10.6	97	3,398	8.0
Alifu Dhaaalu	17	4,056	12.6	0	0	0.0	48	620	7.2	65	4,676	11.0
Vaavu	2	434	1.4	0	0	0.0	27	294	3.4	29	728	1.7
Meemu	2	400	1.2	0	0	0.0	2	20	0.2	4	420	1.0
Faafu	1	250	0.8	0	0	0.0	5	60	0.7	6	310	0.7
Dhaalu	7	1,754	5.5	0	0	0.0	6	42	0.5	13	1,796	4.2
Thaa	1	152	0.5	0	0	0.0	3	32	0.4	4	184	0.4
Laamu	1	194	0.6	0	0	0.0	5	226	2.6	6	420	1.0
Gaafu Alifu	4	616	1.9	1	136	7.3	7	44	0.5	12	796	1.9
Gaafu Dhaalu	3	550	1.7	0	0	0.0	5	66	0.8	8	616	1.4
Gnaviyani	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	3	30	0.4	3	30	0.1
Seenu	2	826	2.6	1	156	8.4	11	192	2.2	14	1,174	2.8
Total	**145**	**32,137**	**100**	**12**	**1,862**	**100**	**521**	**8,563**	**100**	**678**	**42,562**	**100**

Source: Ministry of Tourism

1.3 – **Capacity and Utilization**

The tourist bed capacity and its utilization rates are major indicators to assess the performance of the industry. Table 3 below presents accommodation capacity indicators over the last five-year period. There are slight variations in the registered and operational bed capacity in the Maldives. While any bed registered for tourist consumption is accounted for in the registered bed capacity, some of these beds can be temporarily closed for various reasons such as renovation or maintenance, which is not accounted for in the operational capacity. During the year 2018, with an average of 41,887 beds were operational, which was 92% of the registered bed capacity that year. Furthermore, more than 90% of the registered capacity remains operational annually.

Table 3: Bed Nights, Occupancy Rate and Duration of Stay, 2014 – 2018

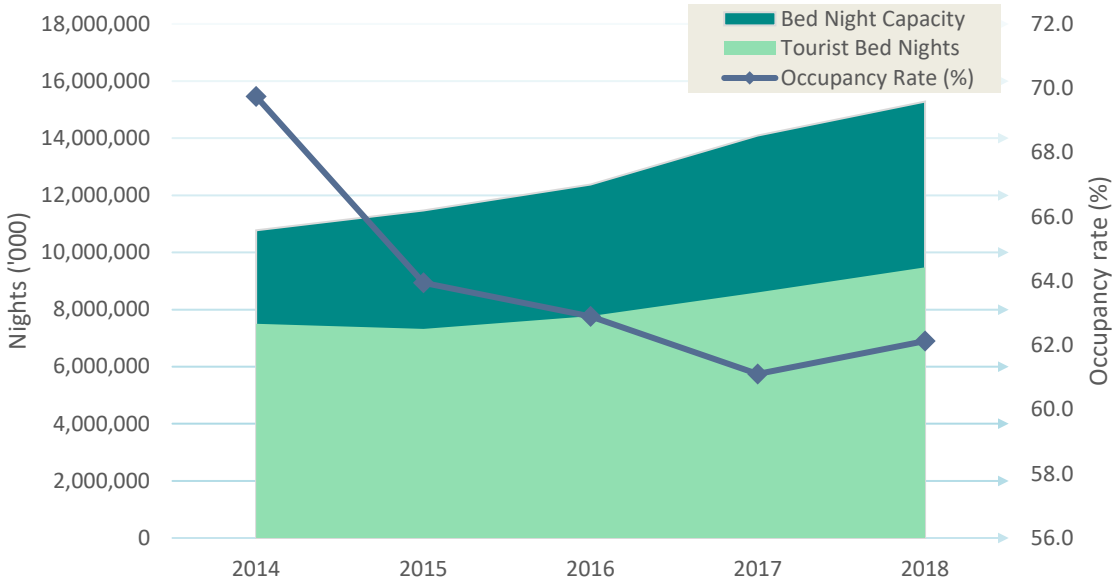
Year	Registered Bed Capacity (end Year)	Bed Capacity in Operation (annual average)	Bed Night Capacity	Tourist Bed Nights [-1]	Bed Night Growth (%)	Occupancy Rate (%) [-2]
2014	**31,673**	**29,515**	**10,774,128**	**7,505,622**	**3.7**	**69.7**
Resorts	24,031	22,986	8,390,083	6,864,861	2.9	81.9
Hotels	1,704	1,435	523,703	223,717	10.0	42.6
Guest Houses	3,199	2,477	905,288	160,805	64.7	18.3
Safari Vessels	2,739	2,617	955,054	256,240	-3.3	26.9
2015	**34,085**	**31,424**	**11,470,577**	**7,322,683**	**-2.4**	**63.9**
Resorts	24,877	23,348	8,521,881	6,489,783	-5.5	76.2
Hotels	1,648	1,456	531,419	204,439	-8.6	38.5
Guest Houses	4,621	3,831	1,399,597	331,840	106.4	23.8
Safari Vessels	2,939	2,788	1,017,680	296,621	15.8	29.2
2016	**37,374**	**33,802**	**12,372,833**	**7,770,923**	**6.1**	**62.9**
Resorts	26,933	24,568	8,992,263	6,645,765	2.4	74.0
Hotels	1,713	1,466	536,460	216,842	6.1	40.3
Guest Houses	6,034	5,249	1,921,509	644,473	94.2	33.5
Safari Vessels	2,694	2,520	922,601	263,843	-11.1	29.0
2017	**41,255**	**38,592**	**14,089,406**	**8,596,039**	**10.6**	**61.1**
Resorts	29,977	27,686	10,107,755	7,343,577	10.5	72.7
Hotels	1,456	1,497	546,327	241,844	11.5	44.2
Guest Houses	7,304	6,729	2,456,898	754,245	17.0	30.8
Safari Vessels	2,518	2,681	978,426	256,374	-2.8	26.4
2018	**45,419**	**41,887**	**15,290,704**	**9,477,680**	**10.3**	**62.1**
Resorts	32,137	29,400	10,731,344	8,000,049	8.9	74.6
Hotels	1,862	1,759	642,480	255,389	5.6	40.4
Guest Houses	8,563	8,000	2,921,048	944,521	25.2	32.6
Safari Vessels	2,857	2,728	995,832	277,720	8.3	28.1

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Note: [-1] includes estimates for missing data

While tourist bed nights are the actual number of nights reported by the tourist accommodation facilities, the tourist bed night capacity is derived directly from operational bed capacity. As can be seen from Table 3, tourist bed nights has increased steadily over the last five years, except for the year 2015 where a negative growth of 2.4% was recorded. Factors that contributed to this decline was the slowdown in tourist arrivals during the year. Tourist bed nights were at its peak during the year 2018 with 9,477,680 nights bulk of which was recorded from the resorts (8,000,049).

Figure 1 - Tourist Bed Nights vs. Occupancy Rate, 2014 – 2018



The occupancy rate which is also known as capacity utilization rate has been dropping over the last five years. Figure 1 demonstrates the relationship between the bed night capacity and occupancy rate. The bed night capacity of Maldives has been on an uphill trend as more and more resorts and guesthouses start its operation. Secondly, the tourist bed nights have been increasing slightly, but at a very slow pace.

The occupancy rate stood at 62.1% at the end of 2018. Occupancy rate has slowed down considerably over the last five years. It has gradually dropped from 69.7% in 2014 to 62.1% in 2018. This drop in the occupancy rate, even with the steady increase in bed nights, was due to the bulky increase in bed capacity of tourist establishments, particularly resorts and guesthouses.

Table 4: Occupancy Rate and Duration of Stay by Month, 2014 – 2018

Month	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Occupancy (%)	Avg. Stay (Days)	Occupancy (%)	Avg. Stay (Days)	Occupancy (%)	Avg. Stay (Days)	Occupancy (%)	Avg. Stay (Days)	Occupancy (%)	Avg. Stay (Days)
January	77.9	6.7	69.0	6.8	65.3	6.1	71.3	6.4	74.2	6.6
February	85.9	6.3	82.0	5.9	78.9	6.2	74.3	6.4	81.0	6.4
March	77.4	6.7	71.4	6.2	73.3	6.5	64.1	6.7	68.5	6.5
April	76.0	6.4	68.4	6.3	65.9	6.3	65.4	6.2	63.5	6.7
May	63.7	6.3	59.3	6.0	55.6	6.2	50.7	6.4	49.9	6.9
June	54.4	5.7	48.0	5.5	44.6	5.6	41.5	5.6	43.7	5.8
July	62.7	5.8	59.1	5.5	60.5	5.7	56.9	6.1	57.7	6.1
August	70.1	6.2	65.5	5.8	64.9	6.0	61.6	6.2	63.5	6.6
September	61.8	5.8	57.7	5.7	57.9	5.8	51.3	5.7	51.0	6.0
October	74.5	6.2	65.6	6.1	66.8	6.0	64.8	6.2	62.3	6.4
November	64.1	6.4	58.8	6.3	60.7	6.2	62.9	6.2	62.8	6.4
December	68.5	6.2	62.5	5.3	60.4	5.7	68.7	6.0	67.4	6.0
Annual Average	**69.7**	**6.2**	**63.9**	**5.9**	**62.9**	**6.0**	**61.1**	**6.2**	**62.1**	**6.4**

Source: Ministry of Tourism

The monthly occupancy pattern of Maldives has been consistent throughout the years. As seen from the Table 4, the peak period in Maldives lasts from December to February, with the month of February recording the highest occupancy rate throughout the five year period. This is complemented by the holiday season in Europe, and further enhanced by the Chinese New Year holidays. Both European and Chinese markets are major markets to the Maldives, contributing to this seasonality.

The average duration of stay has been on an upward trend since 2015, increasing steadily. The rebound of Europe as the dominant market region to the Maldives accounted for this upturn. According to the Maldives Visitors Survey, February 2018, European tourists stay longer while Asian tourists stay for a shorter duration. At the end of 2018, the duration of stay was 6.4 day, which was an increase of 0.2 compared with that of 2017.

SECTION 2
TOURIST ARRIVAL TRENDS

2.1- Global Arrival Trends

According to reports published by The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), a total of 1.4 billion tourists travelled worldwide in 2018, with an increase of 5.6% compared with that of 2017. Year 2018 was the second strongest year since 2010 and consolidated the strong growth of 2017 (+7%). These results were led by favorable economic conditions and strong outbound demand from major source markets.

According to UNWTO World Tourism Barometer (WTB) January 2019 edition, international arrivals were highest during the months of July (+5.5%) and August (+5.1%). All regions enjoyed an increase in international arrivals, led by the Middle East (+10%) and Africa (+7%). Followed by Asia & the Pacific and Europe with +6.1% and +5.7% respectively, weakest performance was recorded from Americas with +2.9%.

Europe surpassed the 700 million-mark, accounting for more than half of the worldwide arrivals (50.8%). Europe continued to show robust results with a growth of +5.7% in 2018. Results were driven by Southern and Mediterranean Europe, with most destinations enjoying double digit growth.

Similarly, Asia & the Pacific region accounted for almost one- fourth of the worldwide arrivals, reaching 342 million tourist arrivals. Among sub-regions, South-East Asia led results, where most destinations posted strong growth.

The America's received 217 million international arrivals which grew by +2.9% in 2018. Their growth was led by North America. Africa comprised +4.8% of the world's total reporting a remarkable growth of +7.3% compared with 2017. The Middle East also showed solid results in 2018, recording 63.6 million arrivals and a growth of +10.3%.

Table 5: International Tourist Arrivals Worldwide, 2014 – 2018

	Tourist Arrivals (in millions)					% Change (2018/2017)	% Share 2018*
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*		
Europe	580.2	605.1	619.0	670.7	712.6	5.7	50.8
Asia & the Pacific	264.3	284.0	305.9	324.0	342.6	6.1	24.4
Americas	181.7	193.7	200.7	207.1	217.2	2.9	15.5
Africa	54.9	53.6	57.8	63.0	67.1	7.3	4.8
Middle East	55.4	58.1	55.6	58.2	63.6	10.3	4.5
World	**1,088**	**1,137**	**1,195**	**1,239**	**1,403**	**5.6**	**100**

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Adapted from UNWTO Barometer, January 2019 Edition

Note: ⁄ Revised
* Data as collected by UNWTO, January 2019

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2.2- Maldives Arrival Trends

Tourist arrivals have been on an upward trail during the past five years, posting a five-year average annual growth rate of +5.7%. In the five-year span from 2014 to 2018, arrivals to the Maldives have been optimistic and grew impressively. Maldives continues to flow in line with the global growth rate whilst increasing its arrivals, steadily. By the end of the year 2018, Maldives received a total of 1,484,274 tourist arrivals.

In terms of monthly performance, the Maldives continued to show mixed results during the year 2018, rather volatile with some months plummeting in arrivals, particularly October (-0.5%) and May (-0.6%). Nevertheless, positive growths were observed in nine months of the year.

Table 6: Monthly Arrivals to the Maldives, 2014 – 2018

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Arrivals	Growth %	Arrivals	Growth %	Arrivals	Growth %	Arrivals	Growth %	Arrivals	Growth %
January	105,296	18.5	97,073	-7.8	108,396	11.7	125,336	15.6	142,351	13.6
February	110,705	5.7	120,468	8.8	120,639	0.1	121,052	0.3	144,286	19.2
March	105,560	6.1	112,427	6.5	115,131	2.4	112,665	-2.1	133,466	18.5
April	105,309	16.2	102,242	-2.9	103,493	1.2	119,774	15.7	119,713	-0.1
May	91,296	14.9	95,389	4.5	93,228	-2.3	93,491	0.3	92,913	-0.6
June	83,347	9.0	81,506	-2.2	79,034	-3.0	85,222	7.8	93,786	10.0
July	100,191	13.9	104,517	4.3	110,432	5.7	113,175	2.5	122,332	8.1
August	104,186	5.9	110,144	5.7	112,282	1.9	121,310	8.0	123,992	2.2
September	95,114	3.1	95,511	0.4	101,909	6.7	105,984	4.0	107,620	1.5
October	110,331	2.8	105,498	-4.4	117,489	11.4	127,986	8.9	127,393	-0.5
November	89,778	-5.1	90,218	0.5	104,572	15.9	120,506	15.2	125,604	4.2
December	103,744	-1.2	119,255	15.0	119,530	0.2	143,041	19.7	150,818	5.4
Total	**1,204,857**	**7.1**	**1,234,248**	**2.4**	**1,286,135**	**4.2**	**1,389,542**	**8.0**	**1,484,274**	**6.8**

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by Maldives Immigration

The first three months of 2018 recorded robust double-digit growth; January +13.6%, February +19.2%, and March +18.5%. February was the best performing month in terms of growth. However, this performance slowed in April (-0.1%) and May (-0.6%) registering declines. Comparatively June also received fewer arrivals than the rest of the months but recorded a commendable growth of +10%.

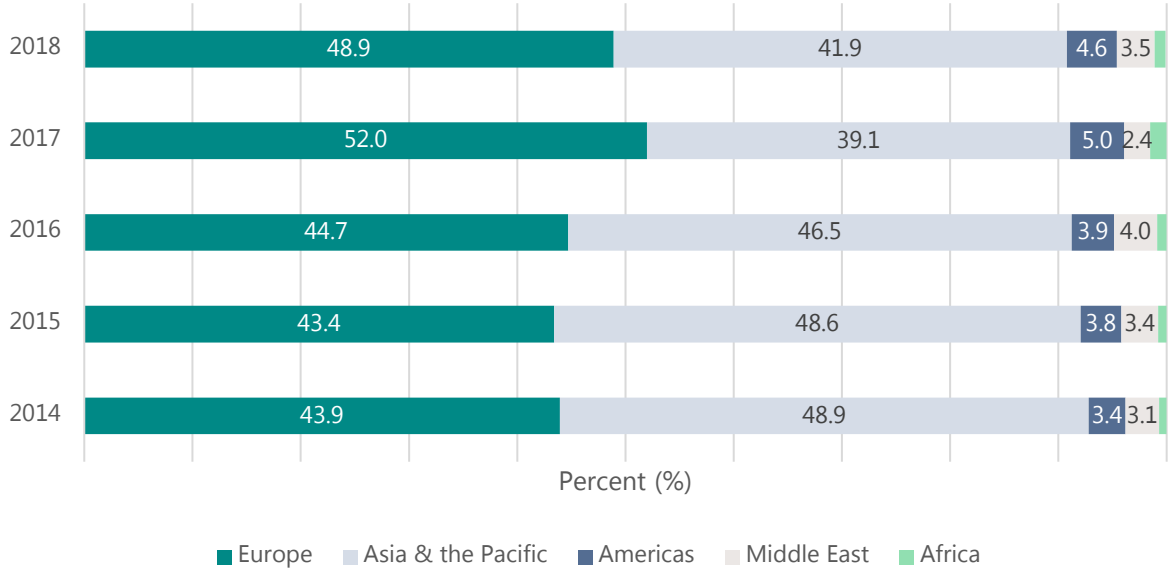
Results for the second half of 2018 were sluggish. Best performance during this period was recorded in July with a +8.1% increase. The month of August (+2.2%) and September (+1.5%) were slow and October recorded a negative growth (-0.5%). Both November (+4.2%) and December (+5.4%) consolidated this growth. Moreover, the month of December recorded the best results in terms of arrivals, reaching 150,818.

2.3 - Tourist Arrival by regions

Europe, the historical market leader to the Maldives, after lagging behind Asia & the Pacific for four consecutive years (2013-2016), rebounded to its original position in 2017. The region started picking up in 2017, boosting its shares from 43.4% in 2015 to a striking 52% in 2017. The year 2018 consolidated this recovery, upholding European region as the prevalent market region in the Maldives. This region also regained its position at the top, with a significant growth of +12.4%, accumulating up to 48.9% shares at the end of 2018. The Maldives received over half a million tourists from this region in 2018.

In 2018, market shares from Europe were dominated mainly by sub-regions, Western Europe (16.4%) and Southern Europe (10.6%). Other sub regions such as Northern Europe (10.5%) and Central/Eastern Europe (10.1%) closely followed. From the Western Europe, growth was led by France (+19.1%), while Germany accounted for the highest number of tourists. The French market has performed well with strong results during the year. Italy and Spain retained as crucial markets to the Maldives, holding market shares of 7.1% and 2.1% respectively within the Southern Europe sub-region. The United Kingdom led from Northern Europe with robust results (7.7% shares). Furthermore, Central/Eastern Europe was driven by Russia, recording a strong surge in arrivals. East Mediterranean Europe contributed the smallest share in the European region (1.3%).

Figure 2: Market Share by Regions, 2014 – 2018



Asia and the Pacific was the second leading market region to the Maldives in 2018. The market share of this region has been plummeting since 2014 losing nearly 10% of its shares by 2017. The region improved its performance in 2018 boosting its shares to 41.9% and enjoying a small yet positive overall growth of 0.7% for the year. One of the main reasons for the deterioration of region is the decline in Chinese tourist arrivals (-5.2%). Chinese arrivals rebounded moderately in 2018, but not enough to post a positive growth.

Among sub regions within Asia and the Pacific, the best performer in terms of growth rate, in 2018 was Oceania with +33.7% compared with that of 2017. Australia from Oceania has been growing at a fast pace, making it one of the promising markets to the Maldives.

The Americas has maintained its position at the third over the last five years with uniform growth. Unlike previous years, its market share dropped slightly from 5% in 2017 to 4.6%, by the end of 2018. However, the region showed a +11% increase in tourist arrivals in 2018. U.S.A remained as the market leader within this region, holding 2.9% of shares. Furthermore, all major markets in this region posted positive growths for the period. The five-year annual average growth rate of the region stood at +16%.

The Middle East showed an overall positive growth of 5.9% by the end of 2018. During the year, Middle East rebounded strongly, contributing to 3.5% shares. Middle Eastern markets displayed mixed results, some markets performing outstandingly, for instance Qatar (74.4%), while some markets declined. Arrivals were down in UAE (-14%), Syria (-12.8), Lebanon (-22.3) and Egypt (-1.2%). Saudi Arabia maintained its market position as the leading market within this region (1.6% shares) in 2018.

The African region is the smallest market region to the Maldives. The region contributed just 1% share to the total arrivals in 2018. Its shares dropped a little from 1.5% in 2017 to 1% in 2018. However, the region registered a moderate growth of +4.6% in 2018, compared with that of 2017. South Africa was the leading market in the region, holding 0.5% of shares.

2.4 - Top ten Markets, 2018

Europe and Asia Pacific supplying over 90% of total arrivals to the Maldives, the top ten markets to the country are generated mostly from these regions. The top ten markets to the Maldives in 2018 consisted of five markets from Europe, four markets from Asia & the Pacific and one market from the Americas.

The top 10 markets by the end of 2018 were, China (19.1%), Germany (7.9%), U.K (7.7%), Italy (7.1%), India (6.1%), Russia (4.8%), France (3.4%), Japan (2.9%), USA (2.9%), and Australia (2.5%). Among the top 10 markets, best performers in terms of growth rate were France, Italy and Russia registering robust growths of +19.1%, +18.5% and +14.5% respectively. These markets observed a significant increase in the number of arrivals, along with its shares. The U.K market has also showed consistent growth throughout the year.

The top ten markets to the Maldives remained similar in 2018 as that of 2017, except for the new entry at the tenth position, all other markets remained firmly at their respective positions. Australia made its way into the top ten list replacing Korea. The total arrivals from these 10 markets sum up to be 954,891, which was 64.3% of all arrivals during the year.

Table 7: Tourist Arrivals and Market Share of Top Ten Markets, 2018

Rank 2018	Country	2018		Rank 2016	2017	
		Arrivals	Market Share (%)		Arrivals	Market Share (%)
1	China	283,116	19.1	1	306,530	22.1
2	Germany	117,532	7.9	2	112,109	8.1
3	United Kingdom	114,602	7.7	3	103,977	7.5
4	Italy	105,297	7.1	4	88,867	6.4
5	India	90,474	6.1	5	83,019	6.0
6	Russia	70,935	4.8	6	61,931	4.5
7	France	50,476	3.4	7	42,365	3.0
8	Japan	42,901	2.9	8	41,133	3.0
9	U.S.A.	42,304	2.9	9	39,180	2.8
10	Australia	37,254	2.5	12	27,360	2.0
Total		**954,891**	**64.3**		**913,919**	**65.8**
Total Arrivals to the Maldives		**1,484,274**			**1,389,542**	

Source: Ministry of Tourism

2.4.1- China

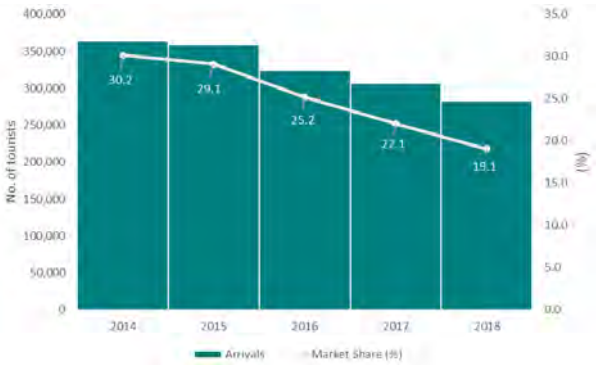
China maintained its position as the number one market to the Maldives with a market share of 19.1% in 2018. The Chinese market which has remained as the largest market generator to the Maldives since 2010, lost its momentum in 2015 and as a result has been on a downward trend since then.

Table 8: Chinese Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	363,626	359,514	324,326	306,530	283,116
Growth (%)	9.6	-1.1	-9.8	-5.5	-7.6

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Figure 3: Chinese Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 - 2018



The Chinese market to the Maldives declined significantly over the past five years. Reducing on average 2.8% of its shares annually, the market has been performing with negative growths over the past four years, resulting in an average annual rate of -2.9%. Arrivals from China declined drastically from 363,626 in 2014 to 283,116 in 2018, losing nearly a hundred thousand visitors along the process.

According to Maldives Visitors Survey, February 2018, access to the beach was the number one motivator for Chinese tourists to visit Maldives. For the majority of Chinese tourists, internet was the primary source of information about the Maldives. The main purpose of visit for these tourists include rest and relaxation and honeymoon. While 85% of the Chinese tourists were first time visitors, Chinese tourists tend to stay for a short duration. Their average duration of stay in the Maldives was found to be 4.5 nights.

Figure 4: Chinese Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018

Figure 4 represents the monthly pattern of Chinese arrivals to the Maldives over the last five years. The seasonality of the Chinese market was consistent, except for slight variations in 2017. Arrivals boosted in the months of February and July, making it peak months of the Chinese market. One of the reasons for the rise in February was due to the Chinese New Year Holidays in February enhancing travel.

2.4.2 - Germany

Germany is a key market to the Maldives, ranked as the second largest market to the Maldives in 2018. This market has always held a strong presence throughout the history of tourism in the Maldives. Till 1998, it had been the leading market before losing its position to Italy. Over the last five years, number of arrivals from German market has increased steadily but the market has been losing substantial amount of its shares during the past two decades.

Table 9: German Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	98,328	105,132	106,381	112,109	117,532
Growth (%)	5.1	6.9	1.2	5.4	4.8

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Figure 5: German Arrivals & Market Trends, 2014 – 2018

The German market had experienced a reasonable increase of 4.8% growth in 2018. This market has shown positive growth trends during the last five years registering an average growth of 23.4%. Market shares slowly diminished, dropping from 8.2% in 2014 to 7.9% in 2018. A total of 117,532 tourists visited the Maldives from Germany in 2018.

Findings of Maldives Visitor Survey, February 2018, reveal that visitors from Germany are motivated the most by the underwater beauty of the Maldives. Around 40% of German visitors identified snorkeling as the primary purpose to visit the Maldives. For German market, "travel agents" are an important source of information about the Maldives. German tourists also tend to stay for a longer duration of 10.3 days.

Figure 6: German Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018

Figure 6 shows the monthly arrival pattern of German tourists to the Maldives. During the year 2018, the seasonality of the German market remained consistent, except for the month of August. March and October are the peak months of this market. June has been recorded as the lowest month for this market.

2.4.3 – United Kingdom (U.K)

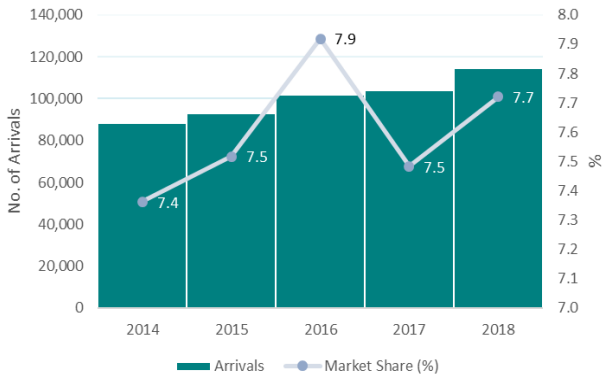
The United Kingdom (U.K) was the third leading market that generated the highest number of tourist inflows to the country in 2018. The U.K market has been a resilient market to the Maldives over the years, maintaining its position within the top five ranks. The year 2018 was a strong year for the market and the market thrust forward, strengthening its performance with a robust growth of +10.2%.

Table 10: U.K Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	88,347	92,780	101,843	103,977	114,602
Growth (%)	3.3	4.6	9.8	2.1	10.2

Source: Ministry of Tourism

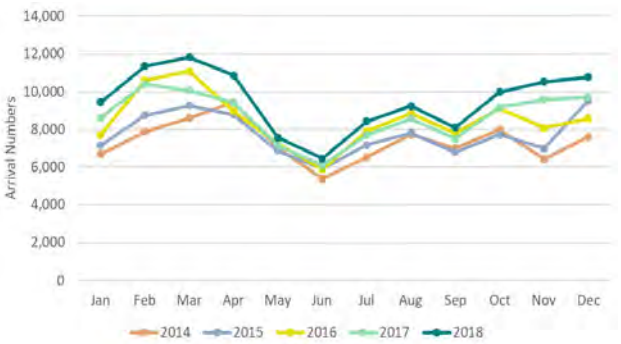
Figure 7: U.K Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 – 2018



The U.K market share fluctuated between 7.4% and 7.9% over the last five years. Arrivals from U.K increased steadily over the years. While the market attained its best in terms of market shares in 2016, best results in growth was recorded during the year 2018 (+10.2%). Overall, the U.K market has been on an upward track with steady increase in number of arrivals over the last five years. In 2018, Maldives welcomed a total of 114,602 tourists from the U.K.

As per findings of Maldives Visitors Survey, February 2018, U.K tourists mainly visit Maldives for rest & relaxation, followed by snorkeling. The tropical weather, white sandy beaches and underwater beauty are the three factors which motivate the U.K tourists to the Maldives. For them 'Word of mouth' is the number one source of information about the Maldives. Visitors from the U.K tend to stay for an average of 8 to 9 days.

Figure 8: U.K Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018



As seen from Figure 8, the monthly pattern of the U.K market was very stable over the last five years. The seasonality has remained consistent over the years. The peak period falls between February to April and throughout the months from November to December. Arrivals from U.K is recorded to be low through May to July, with the month of June being the lowest.

2.4.4 – Italy

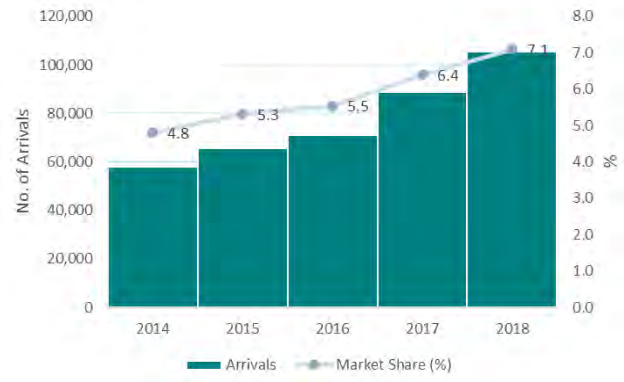
Being an important traditional market to the Maldives, the Italian market stood at the fourth position in 2018. Italian market was the leading market during the late 90's for almost a decade. After this the market suffered the impact of the tsunami in 2004 and the economic crisis in 2012, resulting in a dramatic decline. The Italian market started regaining momentum in 2015 and arrivals from Italy had been increasing since then.

Table 11: Italian Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	57,862	65,616	71,202	88,883	105,297
Growth (%)	0.0	13.4	8.5	24.8	18.5

Source: Ministry of Tourism

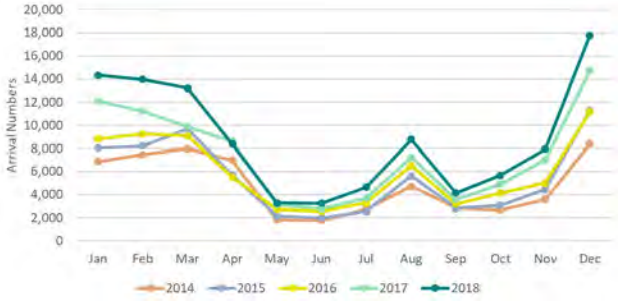
Figure 9: Italian Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 – 2018



The growth trend of the Italian market remained impressive after a series of declines, from a flat 0% in 2014 to a robust +18.5% in 2018. Market share has also been growing, reaching 7.1% by the end of 2018. While the annual average growth of the Italian market recorded a double digit 13% for the five years, arrivals have increased by almost two folds during this period. This market is predicted to grow in the future.

According to the Maldives Visitor Survey, February 2018 findings, Italian visitors travel to the Maldives for rest and relaxation. These tourists are enticed by the beaches of the Maldives. Most Italian tourists prefer to stay in resorts with recorded stays of an average of 7.6 nights. Their travel is family oriented, with 80% of Italians traveling with their family or partner. A majority of Italian tourists use travel agents to book their holiday and accommodation arrangements.

Figure 10: Italian Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018



The monthly arrivals from Italy remained very uniform over the last five years. Italian tourist arrivals soared during the month of December, making it the peak month for the market. On the contrary May and June recorded significantly lower number of arrivals. The performance of the first quarter is better compared to the rest of the quarters.

2.4.5 - India

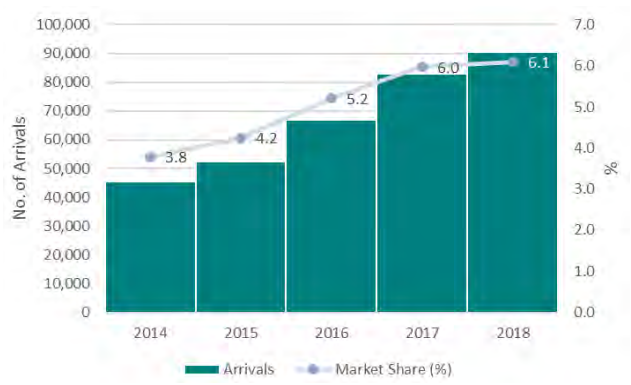
India remained at the fifth position, spiraling positive figures for the year 2018. The Indian market had been dynamic and performed considerably well over the past five years. The market has been accelerating so much so that, arrivals and market share simultaneously doubled, in the span of five years. The proximity of India to Maldives gives it an extra edge for accessibility. As air travel continues to expand in Maldives, Indian market is forecasted to continue doing well in the upcoming years.

Table 12: Indian Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	45,587	52,368	66,955	83,019	90,474
Growth (%)	19.9	14.9	27.9	24.0	9.0

Source: Ministry of Tourism

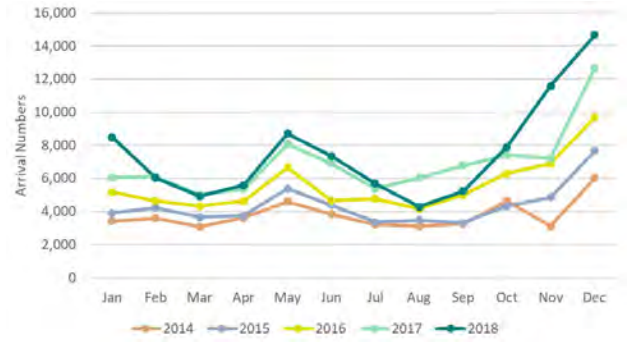
Figure 11: Indian Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 – 2018



Over the last five years the average annual growth rate of Indian market had been relatively healthy throughout the period at 5.1%. Indian market shares have been rising each year ascending from 3.8% in 2014 to 6.1% in 2018. Furthermore, total arrivals from India had increased from 45,587 in 2014 to 90,474 in 2018. Overall, Indian market has been demonstrating strong results.

The findings from Maldives Visitor Survey, February 2018, show more than half of Indian tourists visited Maldives for their honeymoon. In addition to this, rest and relaxation are also significant reasons for their visit to the Maldives. A staggering 68% of Indian travelers fall between the ages 25 to 34 years of age. Repeat visitor rate is quite low from Indian market as 92% of visitors traveled to the Maldives for the first time in their lives. Indian visitors spend approximately 4 nights in the Maldives.

Figure 12: Indian Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018



The monthly pattern of Indian market was partially consistent over the last five years with a few variances. One of the monthly characteristics of Indian market is the surge from April to May and the sharp increase recorded in December. In 2018, the seasonality was slightly irregular than the rest of the years, as the lowest count in arrivals were recorded during the month of August. However, like previous years, Indian market performed best during the month of December in 2018.

2.4.6- Russia

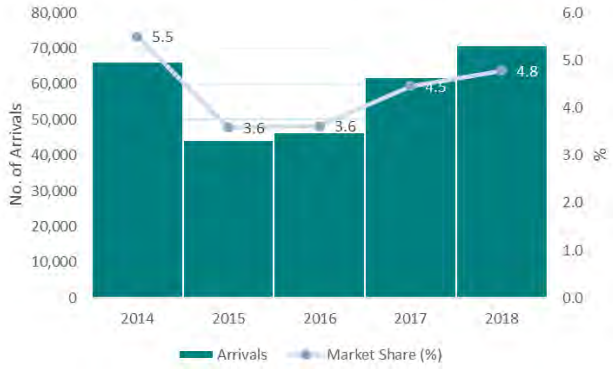
Russia, which plays a significant part in world tourism, strengthened its hold at the sixth position in Maldives tourism in 2018. The Russian market had remained at the top ten list of Maldives over the years although the market recorded a dramatic drop during 2014 and 2015. The 2014/2015 drop accounts for Russia's deteriorated economic situation due to the devaluation of its currency which diversely affected the Russian outbound travel market at large during the period.

Table 13: Russian Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	66,308	44,323	46,522	61,931	70,935
Growth (%)	-13.3	-33.2	5.0	33.1	14.5

Source: Ministry of Tourism

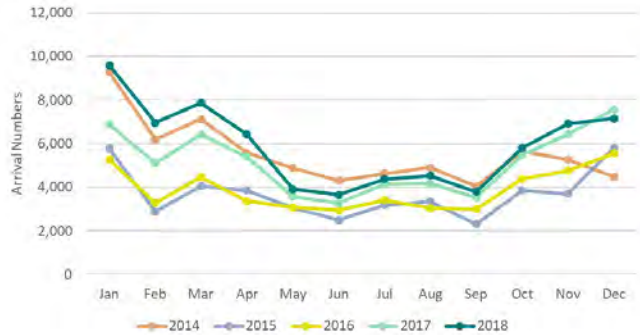
Figure 13: Russian Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 – 2018



The Russian market registered sharp declines of -13.3% and -33.2% respectively in 2014 & 2015. With this drop market share also sunk from 5.5% in 2014 to 3.6% in 2015. The market started rebounding from 2016 onwards enjoying double digit growth rates (33.1% in 2017 and 14.5% in 2018). This influx of tourists also amplified the market shares to 4.8% by the end of 2018. The Russian market is headed to an upward trend. In 2018, Maldives welcomed 70,935 tourists from Russia

According to Maldives Visitor Survey, February 2018, of the Russian visitors, 50% said they stayed in resorts only, while 44% said they stayed in guesthouses only and 4% said they stayed in both resorts and guesthouses. While the key motivator for Russian tourists to the Maldives are the sunny beaches, they commonly visit Maldives for rest and relaxation as well as celebrating birthdays. A small percentage of Russian visitors also come for diving (2%). Russian visitors are found to have longer stays with an average of 8.1 nights.

Figure 14: Russian Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018



The seasonality of the Russian market remained consistent over the last five years, except for the year 2014, as seen in Figure 14. January was the peak month for this market. New Year holidays last from January 1 to January 10 in Russia, enabling more visitors to travel abroad. The lowest month for the Russian tourist arrival was June.

2.4.7 – France

France is an important source market to the Maldives from Europe and remained at the seventh position in 2018. The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) ranks France as the world's fifth outbound tourism market by expenditure. After years of flat growth French market reported a large increase of 10% in tourism spending. The market was on a downhill since 2009, posting negative growths and shrinking its shares but has started to rebound from 2017.

Table 14: French Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	50,656	42,024	40,487	42,365	50,476
Growth (%)	-6.8	-17.0	-3.7	4.6	19.1

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Figure 15: French Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 – 2018

After three consecutive years of negative growth, the year 2018 consolidated the results of 2017 and picked up with +19.1% growth in arrivals. The French market share has shrunk significantly over the years. Though the market is on a recovery track, it is still below the 2014 levels, in terms of absolute numbers as well as market shares. Maldives received a total of 50,476 tourists from France during the year 2018 which accounts for 3.4% of total arrivals during the year.

As per the findings of Maldives Visitor Survey, February 2018, French visitors are motivated by the dazzling underwater beauty of Maldives. 'Travel Agents' is an important source of information about the Maldives for the French market. French tourists visit Maldives for various purposes like rest, relaxation (29%), honeymoon (23%), diving (15%), snorkeling (21%) and birthday celebrations (6%). These tourists stay for an average of 7.2% nights.

Figure 16: French Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018

The monthly pattern of French Market has been very consistent over the years. Peak period for this market is seen from December through February with February recording the highest number of arrivals. The lowest number of arrivals were observed during the month of June as with many European markets.

2.4.8 - Japan

Japan maintained its rank at the eighth position accounting for 2.8% of all arrivals to the Maldives during the year 2018. Japan had been an essential source market from Asia for several years, in fact the largest source market from Asia till 2007, before losing its position to China. Japanese market had been plummeting over the years and consequently dropping its market shares. This market has been struggling in its growth over the last few years, posting marginal growth rates.

Table 15: Japanese Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	38,817	39,244	39,894	41,133	42,304
Growth (%)	-1.6	1.1	1.7	3.1	2.8

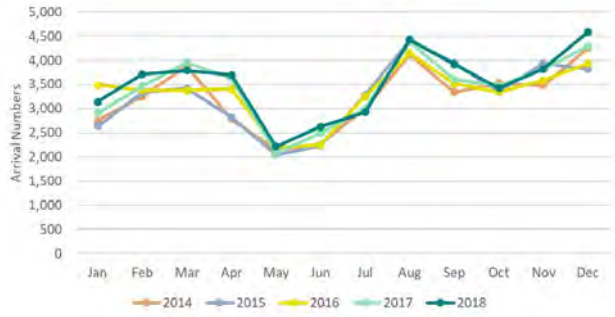
Source: Ministry of Tourism

Figure 17: Japanese Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 – 2018

Market share of Japan has been considerably declining over the past years. In 2000, Japanese market enjoyed a bulky market share of 10.1% which had plunged to 2.9% by the end of 2018. This market has been performing with mixed growth over the last five years, mostly negative and modest. Hence the Japanese market recorded an average annual growth of 2.9% over the last five years. Though this was the case, arrivals from Japan has been slowly growing, as seen in Figure 17. Overall the market is recovering, recording 42,304 arrivals in 2018.

According to the Maldives Visitor Survey, February 2018 edition, Maldives is a popular destination for Japanese honeymoon couples. A whopping percentage of Japanese use travel agents to book airlines (66%) and accommodation (43%). Travel companions of Japanese market are vast, consisting of family, friends, work associates as well as student groups being a frequent option. The multicolored reefs and the mesmerizing underwater beauty is a major motivator for Japanese visitors to the Maldives. Japanese visitors mostly spent an average of 4.4 nights in the Maldives.

Figure 18: Japanese Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018



Japanese market had a very stable seasonality and a uniform pattern was observed over the past five years. In 2018, December was the peak month for the Japanese market, followed by August. The fewest number of arrivals were recorded in May as usual.

2.4.9 – U.S.A

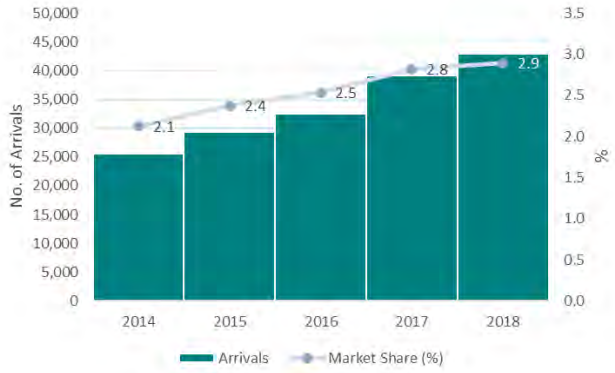
The U.S.A had been demonstrating remarkable performances during the past few years, and remained firmly at the ninth position at the end of 2018. The market entered the top ten list in 2016, strengthening its hold in the list since then. U.S.A market to the Maldives has been progressing well, increasing the number of arrivals significantly, complemented by robust growth rates. The market share has been on a steady rise over the last five years.

Table 16: U.S.A. Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	25,641	29,308	32,589	39,180	42,901
Growth (%)	28.0	14.3	11.2	20.2	9.5

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Figure 19: U.S.A. Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 – 2018



In general, the U.S.A. market expanded and performed very well. Its market share rose significantly between the periods 2014 through 2018 from 2.1% to 2.9% respectively. Growth rate has been robust in the past four years, but slowed down in 2018 to 9.5%. Total number of tourist arrivals from U.S.A was 42,901 in 2018.

According to Maldives Visitor Survey, February 2018, visitors from the U.S.A. are attracted by the natural beauty and uniqueness of Maldives islands. Mostly these tourists visit for rest and relaxation staying for an average of 5.9 nights. 96% of tourists from U.S.A are of the age 25 years and above. While some visitors prefer to travel with family or partner (71%), 18% travel with friends and 10% of visitors traveled alone. Apart from resorts, a good number of these visitors also opt to stay at guesthouses (30%) and safari vessels (4%).

Figure 20: U.S.A Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018

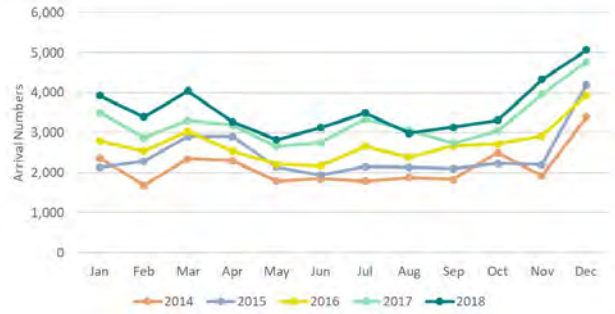


Figure 20 represents the monthly arrival pattern of the U.S.A market during the last five years. The seasonality was consistent and the highest season for this market is recorded to be from November to December. Arrivals from this market are at its lowest during the month of May, followed by August.

2.4.10 - Australia

Australia made its way into the top ten list in 2018, reaching a new milestone replacing Korea to place itself at the tenth position. Australian market has been a major market generator to the Maldives from the Oceania region for a long period of time, but recently the market has been growing at a fast pace. According to the UNWTO Barometer May 2019 edition, Australia is ranked among the world's top 10 source markets in 2018 with a recorded 10% increase in its outbound tourism spending.

Table 17: Australian Arrivals & Growth Rate, 2014 – 2018

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Arrivals	18,872	19,733	23,584	27,360	37,254
Growth (%)	11.6	4.6	19.5	16.0	36.2

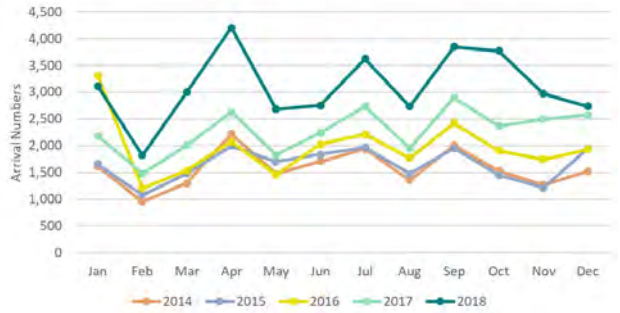
Source: Ministry of Tourism

Figure 21: Australian Arrivals & Market Share, 2014 – 2018

Figure 21 presents the arrival and market share trends of Australian market during the past five years. Arrivals gradually increased from 2014 to 2015, accelerating sharply during the succeeding years 2016 to 2017, and further increasing steeply in 2018. With the increased arrivals, Australian market share rose from 1.6% in 2014 to 2.5% by the end of 2018. In terms of market share trend, market shares remained flat through 2014 to 2015 and picked up from 2016 onwards.

Australian market posted positive growths in the five-year span. Growth was particularly remarkable in 2018, recording a healthy growth of 36.2%. The five-year average annual growth registered a robust 17.6% for the market. According to Maldives Visitors Survey, February 2018, Australian visitors spend an average of 6.3 nights in the Maldives. Majority of Australian visitors travel to Maldives for the purpose of rest and relaxation. Moreover 91% of the visitors traveled to the Maldives for the first time.

Figure 22: Australian Monthly Arrival Trends, 2014 – 2018



The monthly pattern of Australian market was partially consistent over the last five years. While, arrivals fluctuate from one month to the other, the most visible peak point of 2018 is seen during the month of April. In the past five years, arrivals are lowest for the Australian market during the month of February.

SECTION 3
ECONOMIC INDICATORS

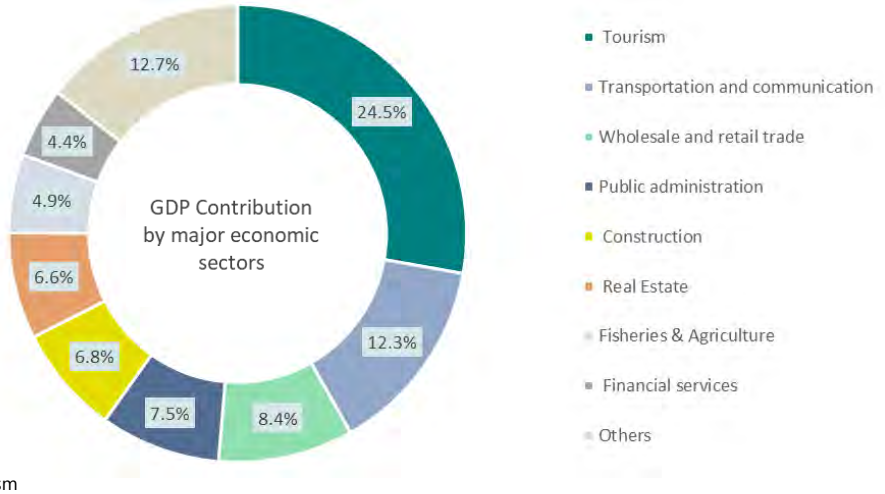
3.1 - Tourism Contribution to GDP

The economic impact of tourism to a small island destination like Maldives is more significant than various other impacts of tourism. In general, the Maldivian economy is highly reliant on the economic benefits of tourism. Tourism is a source of foreign currency and contributes enormously to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the Maldives.

Figure 23 shows the contribution to GDP by different sources of economic activity in the Maldives in 2018. With the changes experienced in prices over the years, and the rapid economic development in Maldives, GDP estimates for the Maldives have been rebased from 2003 prices to a more recent 2014 prices.

As seen in Figure 23, tourism is the top contributor to the GDP of Maldives accounting for 24.5% of the GDP. This is the highest contribution by any given sector in Maldives and more than one third of government revenue is generated from this sector. The tourism contribution to GDP comprises three main segments, namely, resorts (21.2%), other accommodation services (2.6%) and food and beverage services (0.7%). While primary sectors like fisheries and agriculture contributed just 4.9% to the GDP, the closest sector to tourism was Transport and Communication (12.3%).

Figure 23: GDP Contribution by Major Economic Sectors of Maldives, 2018



Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by National Bureau of Statistics

Table 18: Tourism Contribution to GDP, 2014 - 2018

Year	GDP	Tourism Contribution	Growth %	% Share of Tourism Contribution
2014	56,866.74	14,343.05	2.6	25.2
2015	58,143.92	13,708.75	-4.4 _/	23.6
2016	61,727.42	14,022.48	2.3 _/	22.7
2017	66,090.10	15,221.78	8.9 _/	23.0
2018	71,172.74	17,459.25	7.0	24.5

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by National Bureau of Statistics

Note: _/ Revised

Table 18 presents contribution to GDP by tourism over the last five years. In 2018, tourism contributed a total of 17 million Rufiyaa which was 24.5% of the total national GDP of the year. Tourism's contribution to GDP grew by 7% in 2018.

3.2- Tourism Revenue

Tourism Revenue includes earnings received from Goods and Service Tax from the Tourism Sector (T-GST), Green Tax, Tourism Land Rent and Lease Period Extension Fee. Tourism Land Rent is based on the US$ 8 charged per square meter of land from tourist resorts. T-GST charged at the rate of 12% from all tourist facilities. Green Tax which was introduced on 1 November 2015, is payable at the rate of US$ 6 per day of stay from tourist resorts, hotels and vessels and US$ 3 per day of stay from tourist guesthouses.

In 2018, 34.4% of the government revenue was generated from tourism, which was in terms of currency MVR 7.1 billion out of which, MVR 4.7 billion was received from T-GST and MVR 1.5 billion was received from Tourism Land Rent. In 2018, 85% of the total tourism revenue was generated from resorts, while other forms of accommodation generated approximately 1%.

Table 19: Tourism Revenue, 2014 – 2018 (in Million Rufiyaa)

Year	Total Government Revenue[1]	Tourism Revenue[2] (Million Rufiyya)						% Share of Tourism Revenue in Total Government Revenue
		Land Rent	Tourist Bed-night Tax	Green Tax	Tourism Goods & Service Tax	Lease Period Extension	Total Tourism Revenue	
2014	15,164.23 _/	1,156.22	804.70	-	3,027.13	789.36	**5,777.42**	37.1
2015	17,306.20 _/	1,197.55	0.63	45.48	4,146.79	1096.36	**6,486.83**	37.7
2016	18,578.06 _/	1,449.68	0.15	633.55	3,964.86	569.10	**6,617.34**	34.8
2017	20,258.67 _/	1,401.64	0.00	693.97	4,182.93	117.41	**6,395.96**	32.6
2018	21,322.69	1,535.32	0.00	810.35	4,774.69	76.70	**7,197.07**	34.4

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Note: _/ Revised
Data provided by: [1] Ministry of Finance & Treasury
[2] Maldives Inland Revenue Authority

Table 20: Tourism Revenue by type of Facilities, 2014 – 2018 (in Million Rufiyaa)

Year	Facility Type	Tourism Land Rent	Tourism Bed night Tax	Green Tax	Tourism Goods & Service Tax (TGST)	Lease Period Extension Fee	Total Tourism Revenue	% Share
2014	**Total**	**1,156.22**	**804.70**	**0.00**	**3,027.13**	**789.36**	**5,777.42**	**100.00**
	Resorts	1,127.00	804.70	-	2,453.21	737.32	5122.22	88.66
	Hotels	2.41	-	-	41.11	28.91	72.43	1.25
	Guesthouses	-	-	-	8.24	-	8.24	0.14
	Safari vessels	-	-	-	29.31	-	29.31	0.51
	Others	26.82	-	-	495.27	23.13	545.22	9.44
2015	**Total**	**1,197.55**	**0.63**	**45.48**	**4,146.79**	**1,096.36**	**6,486.83**	**100.00**
	Resorts	1,168.33	0.63	41.17	3,312.98	1,026.97	5550.09	85.56
	Hotels	2.41	-	0.98	74.69	38.55	116.62	1.80
	Guesthouses	-	-	-	22.09	-	22.09	0.34
	Safari vessels	-	-	3.33	45.06	-	48.39	0.75
	Others	26.82	-	-	691.98	30.84	749.64	11.56
2016	**Total**	**1,449.68**	**0.15**	**633.55**	**3,964.86**	**569.10**	**6,617.34**	**100.00**
	Resorts	1,419.20	0.15	559.80	3,175.31	551.75	5706.21	86.23
	Hotels	3.66	-	12.34	70.42	9.64	96.06	1.45
	Guesthouses	-	-	2.24	38.46	-	40.70	0.62
	Safari vessels	-	-	59.17	51.72	-	110.89	1.68
	Others	26.82	-	-	628.95	7.71	663.48	10.03
2017	**Total**	**1,401.64**	**0.00**	**693.83**	**4,182.84**	**117.41**	**6,395.73**	**100.00**
	Resorts	1,355.28	-	596.67	3,351.57	117.41	5420.93	84.76
	Hotels	19.54	-	14.22	78.76	-	112.51	1.76
	Guesthouses	-	-	20.45	51.24	-	71.69	1.12
	Safari vessels	-	-	62.50	55.38	-	117.88	1.84
	Others	26.82	-	-	645.90	-	672.72	10.52
2018	**Total**	**1,535.32**	**0.00**	**810.35**	**4,774.69**	**76.70**	**7,197.06**	**100.00**
	Resorts	1,483.90	-	706.82	3,901.48	76.70	6168.91	85.71
	Hotels	24.60	-	15.96	85.62	-	126.19	1.75
	Guesthouses	-	-	24.50	61.19	-	85.69	1.19
	Safari vessels	-	-	63.06	57.58	-	120.64	1.68
	Others	26.82	-	-	668.81	-	695.64	9.67

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Note: Others include Yacht Marinas
Data provided by: Maldives Inland Revenue Authority

3.3 - Tourism Receipts

Tourism Receipts, is the expenditure made by tourists in the Maldives, and calculated in U.S. Dollars. Tourism Receipts is generated, using actual numbers from tourism related taxes, revenue from duty free and Airport Development fee. Table 11 below represents Tourism Receipts from 2014 to 2018. In 2018, the total tourism receipt was US$ 2.9 billion, an increase of 9.65%, compared with 2017.

Table 21: Tourism Receipts, 2014 – 2018 (in Million US Dollars)

Year	Tourism Receipts [1]	Growth Rate (%)	Exports, FOB [2]	Imports, CIF [2]
2014	2,695.69	15.44	144.47	1,987.63
2015	2,569.12 _/	-4.70	143.67	1,890.26
2016	2,505.57 _/	-2.47	139.20	2,120.61
2017	2,741.82	8.35 _/	198.92	2,354.20 _/
2018	2,976.56	9.65	178.88	2,915.15

Note: _/ Revised
Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by: [1] Maldives Monetary Authority
[2] Maldives Customs Services

3.4 - Tourism Expenditure

Tourism Expenditure refers to the expenditure made on tourism from the central government budget. Table 21 presents the tourism expenditure in relation to total government expenditure from 2014 to 2018. On average 0.39% of the Government Expenditure was spent on tourism over the last five years. In 2018, out of the MVR 25 billion government expenditure, MVR 67.69 million was spent on tourism.

Table 22: Government Expenditure on Tourism, 2014 – 2018 (in Million Rufiyaa)

Year	Government Expenditure	Tourism Expenditure	% Share of Tourism Expenditure
2014	16,539.40	49.60	0.32
2015	21,440.90	103.71 _/	0.48
2016	25,306.51 _/	143.48 _/	0.57
2017	22,497.56 _/	60.72 _/	0.30 _/
2018	25,837.05	67.69	0.30

Note: _/ Revised
Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by: Ministry of Finance & Treasury

SECTION 4
AIRLINE STATISTICS

4.1 - Traffic by Domestic Carriers

Domestic carriers in the Maldives include seaplane and airplane movements. Table 22 presents domestic carriers at Velana International Airport. Airplanes are operated by Island Aviation Services and Fly Me, while sea planes are operated by Trans Maldivian Airways (TMA) and Island Aviation Services. In 2018, the total number of domestic passengers increased by 5.5%. Overall, all commercial operators recorded increases in traffic for passengers. TMA recorded a significant increase in its number of movements in 2018, amounting to 87,144. Furthermore, the highest number of passengers were carried by TMA, during 2018.

Table 23: Passenger Arrivals by Domestic Carriers, 2014 – 2018

Operator	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In
Domestic										
Fly Me	8,664	162,809	7,216	143,794	6,376	120,952	6,832	139,789	7,770	163,254
Island Aviation Services	15,630	255,685	16,460	286,782	19,776	332,651	21,370	375,684	22,574	395,457
Island Aviation Sea Planes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,886	79,922
Maldivian Air Taxi	-	-	4	234	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trans Maldivian Airways	50,862	245,940	48,360	321,021	47,343	437,884	52,268	478,591	87,144	410,407
Other Domestic *	70	93	308	51	466	167	150	82	48	0
Total	**75,226**	**664,527**	**72,348**	**751,882**	**73,961**	**891,654**	**80,620**	**994,146**	**135,422**	**1,049,040**

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by: Maldives Civil Aviation Authority

Note: * Includes movements by photo, training, technical and surveillance flights

4.2 - Traffic by International Carriers

In 2018, a total of 1.8 million passengers from International carriers arrived in the Maldives of which scheduled flights brought in 99.9% passengers and chartered flights carried in 0.1% of the passengers. While scheduled carrier passengers saw a strong growth of 7.2% in 2018, the charter sector saw a decline of -17.7% during the year compared to the previous year. The number of passengers arriving at chartered carriers has been rapidly decreasing over the past five years.

Table 24: International Carriers by Type, 2014 - 2018

Type of Carrier	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Arrivals	% Share	Arrivals	% Share	Arrivals	% Share	Arrivals	% Share	Arrivals	% Share
Scheduled	1,459,103	97.5	1,504,143	98.0	1,601,163	99.4	1,688,054	99.9	1,809,919	99.9
Charter	37,803	2.5	31,016	2.0	9,985	0.6	2,405	0.1	1,989	0.1
Total	**1,363,930**	**100.0**	**1,496,906**	**100.0**	**1,611,148**	**100.0**	**1,690,459**	**100.0**	**1,811,908**	**100.0**

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by: Maldives Civil Aviation Authority

Table 25: Passenger Arrivals by International Scheduled Carriers, 2014 – 2018

Operator	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In	No. of Movements (Take off / Landing)	Passenger In
Aeroflot	252	26,584	236	23,309	258	32,256	262	34,632	392	48,637
Air Asia	-	-	62	4,657	314	28,700	640	52,299	730	53,667
Air Asia Thailand	-	-	-	-	-	-	286	19,223	732	51,414
Air Asia X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	204	24,969
Air France	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	4,824	110	13,886
Alitalia	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	4,787	184	17,966
Air Berlin	68	5,035	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Austrian Airlines	106	10,650	72	7,197	66	6,261	76	6,413	86	6,711
Bangkok Airways	680	21,139	728	25,909	732	28,473	730	30,198	730	25,157
Beijing Capital Airlines	-	-	14	862	216	17,659	286	32,363	274	31,758
British Airways	624	33,970	206	14,540	132	14,594	126	13,645	128	14,311
Cathay Pacific	418	34,225	420	37,649	418	39,025	426	41,965	424	37,335
China Eastern Airlines	294	14,514	278	13,701	300	15,767	588	51,276	802	63,203
China Southern Airlines	276	29,025	284	26,070	236	19,015	252	24,899	330	31,060
Condor	204	22,079	194	20,937	210	23,116	200	22,018	126	13,875
Edelweiss	98	13,167	68	9,075	88	10,695	130	15,270	148	19,038
Emirates	2,260	232,329	2,918	280,201	2,910	300,362	2,972	334,578	3,236	352,786
Etihad Airways	732	49,755	732	54,951	732	51,280	822	53,669	968	59,614
Fly Dubai	442	14,792	610	19,469	838	25,008	784	26,443	100	4,549
Go Air	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	162	8,720
Hainan Airlines	298	29,898	244	24,707	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hongkong Airways	140	16,478	38	4,197	-	-	-	-	254	25,420
Indian Airlines	1,086	55,920	1,102	61,131	1,200	55,375	1,190	54,546	1,124	58,690
Indigo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	188	8,452
Korean Air	312	18,097	314	21,350	312	21,705	314	33,547	314	32,908
Lufthansa	-	-	14	1,732	90	8,721	100	10,413	92	9,805
Mahan Air	-	-	6	359	6	316	-	-	-	-
Malaysia Airlines	730	41,346	464	25,208	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maldivian	1,198	46,163	1,656	82,677	1,632	94,042	-	91,892	1,552	83,057
Mega Maldives	1,376	112,335	1,160	97,445	1,408	106,043	344	29,301	-	-
Meridiana Fly	70	6,928	34	2,976	32	2,786	34	3,423	-	-
Mihin Lanka	-	-	44	3,924	408	34,605	-	-	-	-
Neos	112	13,476	142	16,493	156	18,459	170	22,172	180	25,368
Oman Air	518	26,171	712	22,935	290	8,769			128	3,841
Qatar Airways	1,460	76,811	1,462	76,920	1,464	107,438	1,460	135,884	1,574	140,210
Saudi Arabian Airlines	-	-	-	-	332	9,371	392	14,660	430	16,477
Shangai Airlines	-	-	66	4,939	248	24,308	-	-	-	-
Silk Air	-	-	80	5,214	234	15,152	696	48,866	906	59,398
Singapore Airlines	1,358	130,650	1,310	132,883	1,232	114,893	764	89,730	732	74,570
Spicejet	728	22,777	730	19,216	732	24,853	1,196	35,248	798	26,326
Srilankan Airlines	3,626	264,125	3,132	272,782	2,640	265,296	2,566	268,455	2,288	281,810
Tiger Airways	392	25,442	416	30,086	410	27,876	418	30,298	408	27,146
Transaero Airlines	242	21,671	82	5,174	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turkish Airlines	1,220	43,551	1,282	53,268	1,456	48,944	1,380	51,109	1,390	57,785
Expo Aviation (Cargo)	116	0	64	0	94	0	158	8	56	0
Schedule Total	**21,436**	**1,459,103**	**21,376**	**1,504,143**	**21,826**	**1,601,163**	**21,442**	**1,688,054**	**22,280**	**1,809,919**

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by: Maldives Civil Aviation Authority

SECTION 5
ADDITIONAL TABLES

Table 26: Bed Capacity of Tourist Resorts, 2014 – 2018

	Name of the Resort	Atoll & Island Name	Airport Distance (Km)	Year of Initial Operation	Initial Bed Capacity	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	AaaVeee Nature's Paradise	Dh. Dhoores	158.0	2015	66	-	66	66	66	66
2	Adhaaran Club Rannaalhi	K. Rannalhi	34.0	1978	34	256	256	256	260	260
3	Adhaaran Prestige Vaadhu	K. Vaadhu	8.0	1978	18	100	100	100	100	100
4	Adhaaran Select Hudhuranfushi	K. Lhohifushi	22.5	1979	40	354	354	354	404	404
5	Adhaaran Select Meedhupparu	R. Meedhupparu	130.3	2000	430	470	470	470	470	470
6	Alidhoo Island Resort	H.A. Alidhoo	300.0	2007	66	200	200	200	200	200
7	Alimatha Aquatic Resort	V. Alimatha	48.0	1975	20	312	312	312	312	312
8	Amari Havodda Maldives	G.Dh. Havodda	405.0	2015	240	-	240	240	240	240
9	Amaya Kuda Rah Maldives (Kudarah Island Resort)	A.Dh. Kudarah	88.5	1991	50	60	120	120	102	102
10	Anantara Kihavah Villas	B. Kihavah Haruvalhi	125.0	2010	110	172	172	172	172	178
11	Anantara Resort & Spa Maldives	K. Dhigufinolhu	40.0	1980	24	220	220	220	226	226
12	Angaaga Island Resort and Spa	A.Dh. Angaga	85.0	1989	100	180	180	180	180	180
13	Angsana Resort & Spa Maldives - Ihuru	K. Ihuru	17.0	1978	20	90	90	90	90	90
14	Angsana Resort and Spa Maldives - Velavaru	Dh. Velavaru	125.0	1998	50	236	238	238	238	238
15	Asdhu Sun Island	K. Asdhu	32.0	1981	36	60	60	60	60	60
16	Atmosphere Kanifushi Maldives	Lh. Kanifushi	133.0	2013	140	300	300	300	300	300
17	Ayada Maldives	G.Dh. Magudhdhuva	420.0	2011	200	200	200	200	200	200
18	Bandos Maldives	K. Bandos	8.0	1972	220	430	430	430	430	430
19	Banyan Tree Maldives Vabbinfaru	K. Vabbinfaru	12.0	1977	24	96	96	96	96	96
20	Baros Maldives	K. Baros	16.0	1973	56	150	150	150	150	150
21	Bathala Island Resort	A.A. Bathala	48.3	1983	20	90	90	90	90	90
22	Biyaadhu Island Resort	K. Biyaadhoo	18.0	1982	192	192	192	192	192	192
23	Canareef Resort Maldives	S. Herethere	480.0	2007	106	542	542	542	542	542
24	Carpe Diem Beach Resort and Spa Maldives	R. Huruvalhi	147.0	2018	244	-	-	-	-	244
25	Centara Grand Island Resort & Spa Maldives	A.Dh. Machchafushi	95.0	1992	96	224	224	224	224	224
26	Centara Ras Fushi Resort & Spa	K. Giraavaru	11.3	1980	40	220	220	220	280	280
27	Cheval Blanc Randheli	N. Randheli	169.0	2013	120	120	120	120	120	120
28	Cinnamon Dhonveli Maldives	K. Kanuoiy Huraa	13.0	1981	20	296	296	296	296	296
29	Cinnamon Hakuraa Huraa Maldives	M. Hakuraa Huraa	128.7	1999	72	160	160	160	160	160
30	Club Med Finolhu Villas	K. Gasfinolhu	23.0	1980	18	104	104	104	104	104
31	Club Med Kanifinolhu	K. Kanifinolhu	19.3	1978	18	492	492	492	492	544
32	Coco Palm Boduhithi	K. Boduhithi	29.0	1979	50	206	206	206	200	200
33	Coco Palm Dhunikolhu	B. Dhunikolhu	124.0	1998	192	200	196	196	196	196
34	Coco Privé Kuda Hithi Island	K. Kudahithi	27.4	1984	12	14	14	14	14	14
35	Cocoa Island	K. Makunufushi	30.0	1981	12	70	70	70	70	70
36	Cocoon Maldives	Lh. Ookolhu Finolhu	130.0	2016	302	-	-	302	302	302
37	Conrad Maldives Rangali Island	A.Dh. Rangalifinolhu	96.6	1992	80	304	304	304	304	304
38	Constance Halaveli Resort	A.A. Halaveli	36.0	1982	30	172	172	172	172	172
39	Constance Moofushi Resort	A.Dh. Moofushi	80.0	1990	84	220	220	220	220	220
40	Dhevanafushi Maldives Luxury Resort, Managed by Acco	G.A. Meradhoo	400.0	2011	38	74	74	74	74	74
41	Dhigali Maldives	R. Dhigali	156.0	2017	358	-	-	-	358	358
42	Dhiggiri Tourist Resort	V. Dhiggiri	32.0	1982	50	90	90	122	122	122
43	Dhigufaru Island Resort	B. Dhigufaruvinagandu	142.0	2016	80	-	-	80	80	80
44	Diamonds Athuruga Beach and Water Villas	A.Dh. Athurugau	90.0	1990	79	146	146	146	146	146
45	Diamonds Thudufushi Beach & Water Villas	A.Dh. Thundufushi	80.5	1990	74	144	144	144	144	144

Table 26: (continued…)

	Name of the Resort	Atoll & Island Name	Airport Distance (Km)	Year of Initial Operation	Initial Bed Capacity	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
46	Dream Island Maldives	K. Villivaru	29.0	1981	120	120	120	120	120	120
47	Dreamland - The Unique Sea & Lake Resort / Spa (Hirundhoo)		120.0	2018	34	-	-	-	-	180
48	Drift Thelu Veliga Retreat	A.Dh. Theluveliga	90.0	2015	60	-	60	60	60	60
49	Dusit Thani Maldives	B. Mudhdhoo	120.0	2012	20	208	208	208	208	208
50	Ellaidhoo Maldives By Cinnamon	A.A. Ellaidhoo	54.0	1985	32	224	224	224	224	224
51	Emboodhu Village	K. Emboodhu	8.0	1979	44	236	236	236	236	236
52	Eriyadhu Island Resort	K. Eriyadhu	40.0	1982	40	114	114	152	152	152
53	Fihalhohi Island Resort	K. Fihaalhohi	28.0	1981	90	300	300	300	300	300
54	Filitheyo Island Resort	F. Filitheyo	120.7	1999	250	250	250	250	250	250
55	Finolhu Baa Atoll Maldives	B. Kanufushi	121.0	2016	272	-	-	272	272	272
56	Four Seasons Private Island Maldives at Voavah	B. Voavah	134.0	2016	26	-	-	26	26	26
57	Four Seasons Resort Maldives at Kuda Huraa	K. Kuda Huraa	12.9	1977	32	212	212	212	220	220
58	Four Seasons Resort Maldives at Landaa Giraavaru	B. Landaa Giraavaru	120.0	2006	206	206	206	244	244	244
59	Fun Island Resort	K. Bodufinolhu	38.0	1980	44	200	200	200	150	150
60	Furaveri Island Resort & Spa	R. Furaveri	151.0	2016	130	-	-	130	202	202
61	Fushifaru Maldives	Lh. Fushifaru	145.0	2017	98	-	-	-	98	98
62	Gangehi Island Resort	A.A. Gangehi	77.2	1987	50	72	72	72	72	72
63	Gili Lankanfushi	K. Lankanfushi	9.7	1980	12	94	94	94	94	94
64	Grand Park Kohdhipparu Maldives	K. Kohdhipparu	18.0	2017	250	-	-	-	250	250
65	Hideaway Beach Resort and Spa at Dhonakulhi Island Ma	H.A. Dhonakulhi	250.0	2005	50	90	90	90	220	220
66	Holiday Inn Resort Kandooma Maldives	K. Kandoomafushi	27.4	1985	98	322	322	322	322	322
67	Holiday Island	A.Dh. Dhiffushi	93.0	1994	284	284	284	284	284	284
68	Hondaafushi Island Resort	H.Dh. Hondaafushi	291.0	2018	118	-	-	-	-	118
69	Hurawalhi Island Resort	Lh. Hurawalhi	140.0	2016	180	-	-	180	180	180
70	Huvafenfushi	K. Nakatchafushi	25.7	1979	80	102	102	102	98	98
71	JA Manafaru	H.A Manafaru	337.0	2007	100	174	174	174	174	174
72	Joali Muravandhoo (Muravandhoo)	R. Muravandhoo	170.0	2018	32	-	-	-	-	100
73	Jumeirah Vittaveli Island Resort at Bolifushi	K. Bolifushi	12.0	1982	64	178	178	178	196	196
74	JW Marriott Maldives Resort & Spa	Sh. Vagaru	215.0	2012	97	-	-	-	-	159
75	Kandholhu Island Maldives	A.A. Kandholhudhoo	74.6	2014	60	60	60	60	60	60
76	Kandima Maldives	Dh. Kandinma	170.0	2017	544	-	-	-	544	544
77	Kanuhura	Lh. Kanuhuraa	125.5	1999	200	200	200	200	192	192
78	Kihaad Resort	B. Kihaadhuffaru	104.6	1999	200	236	236	236	236	236
79	Komandoo Maldive Island Resort	Lh. Komandoo	128.7	1998	90	120	120	130	130	130
80	Kudadoo Maldives Private island	Lh. Kudadhoo	146.0	2018	32	-	-	-	-	34
81	Kudafushi Resort & Spa	R. Kudafushi	160.0	2017	214	-	-	-	214	214
82	Kuramathi Maldives	A.A. Kuramathi	56.3	1977	48	580	580	790	790	790
83	Kuredhdhu Island Resort	Lh. Kuredhdhu	128.7	1978	18	768	768	778	778	778
84	Kurumba Maldives	K. Vihamanaafushi	3.2	1972	60	362	362	362	362	362
85	Lily Beach Resort	A.Dh. Huvahendhoo	85.0	1994	168	250	250	250	250	250
86	Loama Resort Maldives at Maamigili	R. Maamigili	177.0	2014	40	186	210	210	210	210
87	Lux North Male' Atoll	K. Olhahali	56.0	2018	30	-	-	-	-	94
88	Lux South Ari Atoll, Maldives	A.Dh. Dhidhdhufinolhu	104.0	1988	180	394	394	394	394	394
89	Maalifushi By Como	Th. Male'fushi	210.0	2013	46	132	152	152	152	152
90	Maayafushi Tourist Resort	A.A. Maayafushi	63.0	1983	48	150	150	150	150	150

Table 26: (continued…)

	Name of the Resort	Atoll & Island Name	Airport Distance (Km)	Year of Initial Operation	Initial Bed Capacity	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
91	Madoogali Resort	A.A. Madoogali	77.2	1989	70	112	112	112	112	112
92	Makunudhoo Island	K. Makunudhu	38.6	1983	58	74	74	74	72	72
93	Malahini Kuda Bandos	K. Kuda Bandos	9.0	2016	164	-	-	164	164	164
94	Medhufushi Island Resort	M. Medhufushi	128.7	2000	240	240	240	240	240	240
95	Meeru Island Resort	K. Meerufenfushi	37.0	1978	128	570	570	570	572	572
96	Milaidhoo Island Maldives	B. Milaidhoo	127.0	2016	30	-	-	88	100	100
97	Mirihi Island Resort	A.Dh. Mirihi	112.6	1989	36	76	76	76	76	76
98	Mövenpick Resort Kuredhivaru Maldives	N. Kuredhivaru	188.0	2018	16	-	-	-	-	212
99	Naladhu (Palm Tree Island)	K. Veligandu Huraa	27.0	1986	32	138	138	138	176	176
100	Nika Island Resort	A.A. Kudafolhudhu	69.2	1983	30	76	104	104	104	104
101	Niyama Maldives	Dh. Olhuveli & Embudhufu	128.0	2012	56	154	274	274	274	274
102	Noku Maldives	N. Kudafunafaru	180.0	2008	100	100	100	100	100	100
103	Oblu By Atmosphere at Helengeli	K. Helengeli	46.7	1979	20	100	220	236	236	236
104	Oblu Select by Atmosphere at Sangeli	K. Akirifushi	51.0	2018	288	-	-	-	-	288
105	Olhuveli Beach & Spa Resort	K. Olhuveli	51.5	1979	36	332	332	332	416	456
106	One & Only Reethi Rah, Maldives	K. Medhufinolhu	64.4	1979	24	268	268	268	268	268
107	Outrigger Konotta Maldives Resort	G.Dh. Konotta	416.0	2015	110	-	110	110	110	110
108	Ozen by Atmosphere at Maadhoo	K. Maadhoo Finolhu	32.0	2016	198	-	-	204	204	204
109	Palm Beach Resort & Spa Maldives	Lh. Madhiriguraidhoo	128.7	1999	200	248	248	248	270	270
110	Paradise Island Resort & Spa	K. Lankanfinolhu	9.6	1979	24	568	568	568	568	568
111	Park Hyatt Maldives, Hadaha	G.A. Hadahaa	405.0	2009	100	100	100	100	100	100
112	Ranveli Island Resort	A.Dh. Villingilivaru	77.0	1991	112	112	112	112	112	112
113	Reethi Beach Resort	B. Fonimagoodhoo	104.6	1998	200	248	248	248	248	248
114	Reethi Faru Resort	R. Filaidhoo	155.0	2017	162	-	-	-	162	162
115	Rihiveli	K. Mahaanaelhi Huraa	40.2	1980	40	100	100	100	100	100
116	Robinson Club Maldives	G.A. Funamauddua	400.0	2009	100	202	202	242	242	242
117	Robinson Club Noonu	N. Orivaru	180.0	2017	300	-	-	-	300	300
118	Royal Island Resort & Spa	B. Horubadhoo	110.0	2001	304	304	304	304	304	304
119	Safari Island	A.A. Mushimasmingili	60.0	2013	168	168	168	168	168	168
120	Shangri - La's Villingili Resort & Spa, Maldives	S. Villingili	478.0	2009	284	284	284	284	284	284
121	Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Reosort & Spa	K. Furanafushi	5.6	1973	112	312	312	312	352	352
122	Sirru Fen Fushi	Sh. Gaakoshibee	240.0	2017	68	-	-	-	68	298
123	Six Senses Laamu	L. Olhuveli	260.0	2011	66	194	194	194	194	194
124	Soneva Fushi By Six Senses	B. Kunfunadhoo	104.6	1983	50	130	130	228	228	228
125	Soneva Jani	N. Medhufaru	160.0	2016	36	-	-	36	74	74
126	Summer Island Maldives	K. Ziyaaraifushi	35.0	1983	58	230	230	230	314	314
127	Sun Aqua Iru Veli Maldives (Aluvifushi)	Dh. Aluvifushi	155.0	2018	28	-	-	-	-	242
128	Sun Aqua Vilu Reef Maldives	Dh. Meedhuffushi	128.7	1998	136	200	200	200	200	200
129	Sun Island Resort & Spa	A.Dh. Nalaguraidhoo	99.8	1998	700	852	852	852	924	924
130	Taj Exortica Resort & Spa Maldives	K. Embudhu Finolhu	12.9	1983	20	128	128	128	134	134
131	The Residence Maldives	G.A. Falhumafushi	405.0	2012	108	200	200	200	200	200
132	The St. Regis Vommuli Resort, Maldives	Dh. Vommuli	128.0	2016	28	-	-	184	190	190
133	The Sun Siyam Iru Fushi Maldives	N. Medhafushi	174.0	2008	200	442	442	442	448	448
134	The Westin Maldives Miriandhoo Resort	B. Miriandhoo	112.0	2018	134	-	-	-	-	134
135	Thulhaagiri Island Resort	K. Thulhaagiri	11.0	1980	44	172	172	168	168	168

Table 26: (continued…)

	Name of the Resort	Atoll & Island Name	Airport Distance (Km)	Year of Initial Operation	Initial Bed Capacity	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
136	Twin Island Resort	A.Dh. Maafushivaru	54.7	1991	60	98	98	98	98	98
137	Vakarufalhi Island Resort	A.Dh. Vakarufalhi	90.0	1994	100	150	150	150	150	150
138	Vakkaru Maldives	B. Vakkaru	125.0	2017	248	-	-	-	248	248
139	Velaa Private Island	N. Fushivelavaru	186.0	2013	100	134	134	134	134	134
140	Velassaru Maldives	K. Velassaru	11.3	1974	90	258	258	258	258	258
141	Velidhoo Island Resort	A.A. Velidhoo	80.5	1989	22	200	200	200	200	200
142	Veligandu Island	A.A. Veligandu	51.0	1984	34	148	148	148	182	182
143	Vilamendhoo Island Resort	A.Dh. Vilamendhoo	48.3	1994	200	368	368	368	368	388
144	Vivanta by Taj - Coral Reef, Maldives	K. Hembadhoo	32.2	1982	68	128	128	128	128	128
145	W. Retreat and Spa Maldives Fesdhu	A.A. Fesdhu	72.4	1982	90	164	164	164	164	164
Total						24,031	24,877	27,031	29,977	31,971

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Table 27: Distribution of Resort Beds by Atolls, 2014 – 2018

Atoll	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Beds	% Share	Beds	% Share	Beds	% Share	Beds	% Share	Beds	% Share
Haa Alifu	464	1.9	464	1.9	464	1.7	594	2.0	594	1.9
Haa Dhaalu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	118	0.4
Shaviyani	159	0.7	159	0.6	159	0.6	227	0.8	457	1.4
Noonu	796	3.3	796	3.2	832	3.1	1,176	3.9	1,388	4.3
Raa	656	2.7	680	2.7	810	3.0	1,616	5.4	1,960	6.1
Baa	1,704	7.1	1,700	6.8	2,302	8.5	2,562	8.5	2,882	9.0
Lhaviyani	1,636	6.8	1,636	6.6	2,138	7.9	2,250	7.5	2,284	7.1
Kaafu	8,968	37.3	9,088	36.5	9,506	35.2	10,094	33.7	10,568	33.1
Alifu Alifu	2,216	9.2	2,244	9.0	2,454	9.1	2,488	8.3	2,488	7.8
Alifu Dhaalu	3,862	16.1	3,982	16.0	3,982	14.7	4,036	13.5	4,056	12.7
Vaavu	402	1.7	402	1.6	434	1.6	434	1.4	434	1.4
Meemu	400	1.7	400	1.6	400	1.5	400	1.3	400	1.3
Faafu	250	1.0	250	1.0	250	0.9	250	0.8	250	0.8
Dhaalu	590	2.5	778	3.1	962	3.6	1,512	5.0	1,754	5.5
Thaa	132	0.5	152	0.6	152	0.6	152	0.5	152	0.5
Laamu	194	0.8	194	0.8	194	0.7	194	0.6	194	0.6
Gaafu Alifu	576	2.4	576	2.3	616	2.3	616	2.1	616	1.9
Gaafu Dhaalu	200	0.8	550	2.2	550	2.0	550	1.8	550	1.7
Seenu	826	3.4	826	3.3	826	3.1	826	2.8	826	2.6
Total	24,031	100.0	24,877	100.0	27,031	100.0	29,977	100.0	31,971	100.0

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Table 28: Bed Capacity of Tourist Hotels, 2014 – 2018

	Name of the Hotel	Atoll & Island Name	Airport Distance (Km)	Year of Initial Operation	Initial Bed Capacity	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Amilla Fushi	B. Finolhas	125.0	2014	97	146	146	146	146	150
2	Champa Central Hotel	K. Male'	2.0	1998	82	-	-	148	148	148
3	Coral Hotel & Spa	K. Male'	2.0	2006	77	81	81	81	LC	LC
4	Equator Village - Gan	S. Gan	400.0	1992	60	156	156	156	156	156
5	Gan Island Retreat	S. Gan	400.0	2011	100	100	100	100	LC	LC
6	Hotel Octave	K. Male'	2.0	2012	14	28	***	***	***	***
7	Hotel Jen Male'	K. Male'	2.0	2009	78	234	234	234	234	234
8	Hulhule Island Hotel	K. Hulhule'	0.0	2000	176	272	272	272	272	272
9	Ifuru Transit Hotel	R. Ifuru	178.0	2018	300	-	-	-	-	300
10	Maagiri Hotel	K. Male'	2.0	2018	102	-	-	-	-	102
11	Kam Hotel	K. Male'	2.0	1994	24	54	54	54	***	***
12	Lucky Hiya Hotel	K. Male'	2.0	2007	39	60	LC	LC	LC	LC
13	Marble Hotel	K. Male'	2.0	2008	40	55	55	***	***	***
14	Mercure Maldives Kooddoo	G.A Kooddoo	384.0	2017	136	-	-	-	136	136
15	Mookai Hotel	K. Male'	2.0	2000	102	102	102	102	102	102
16	Mookai Siutes	K. Male'	2.0	2008	98	98	98	98	98	98
18	Nasandhura Palace Hotel	K. Male'	2.0	1981	60	36	LC	LC	LC	LC
19	Off Day Inn	K. Male'	2.0	1999	30	30	30	30	LC	LC
20	Relax Inn	K. Male'	2.0	1998	60	74	74	74	LC	LC
21	Riveries Diving Village	L. Gan	260.0	2012	46	46	46	46	***	***
22	The Barefoot Eco Hotel	H.Dh. Hanimaadhoo	290.0	2014	40	40	80	80	104	104
24	The Somerset Hotel	K. Male'	2.0	2013	60	60	60	60	60	60
25	Baani Hotel	K. Male'	2.0	2008	32	32	32	32	LC	LC
Total						**1,704**	**1,620**	**1,713**	**1,456**	**1,862**

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Note: LC- License Cancelled
*** Changed to a Guest House

Table 29: Tourist Arrivals and Market Share by Selected Markets, 2014 – 2018

REGION / NATIONALITY	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
EUROPE	**529,291**	**(43.9)**	**535,962**	**(43.4)**	**575,176**	**(44.7)**	**646,363**	**(46.5)**	**726,420**	**(46.5)**
Central / Eastern Europe	**109,638**	**(9.1)**	**92,742**	**(7.5)**	**104,554**	**(8.1)**	**129,490**	**(9.3)**	**150,651**	**(9.3)**
Belarus	1,885	(0.2)	1,508	(0.1)	1,570	(0.1)	1,776	(0.1)	2,150	(0.1)
Bulgaria	2,263	(0.2)	2,904	(0.2)	3,758	(0.3)	5,150	(0.4)	5,510	(0.4)
Czech Republic	6,450	(0.5)	8,105	(0.7)	10,338	(0.8)	11,459	(0.8)	13,229	(0.8)
Hungary	3,589	(0.3)	4,436	(0.4)	5,539	(0.4)	6,375	(0.5)	7,782	(0.5)
Kazakhstan	3,208	(0.3)	3,394	(0.3)	3,398	(0.3)	4,446	(0.3)	4,249	(0.3)
Poland	6,182	(0.5)	6,879	(0.6)	8,976	(0.7)	8,699	(0.6)	12,025	(0.6)
Romania	3,204	(0.3)	3,918	(0.3)	5,337	(0.4)	6,914	(0.5)	8,520	(0.5)
Russia	66,308	(5.5)	44,323	(3.6)	46,522	(3.6)	61,931	(4.5)	70,935	(4.5)
Slovakia	3,262	(0.3)	4,286	(0.3)	4,957	(0.4)	6,079	(0.4)	6,584	(0.4)
Ukraine	8,057	(0.7)	6,747	(0.5)	7,599	(0.6)	9,722	(0.7)	11,430	(0.7)
Other Central / Eastern Europe	5,230	(0.4)	6,242	(0.5)	6,560	(0.5)	3,812	(0.3)	8,237	(0.3)
Northern Europe	**109,586**	**(9.1)**	**119,562**	**(9.7)**	**132,626**	**(10.3)**	**140,535**	**(10.1)**	**156,465**	**(10.1)**
Denmark	5,008	(0.4)	8,418	(0.7)	9,747	(0.8)	10,629	(0.8)	11,133	(0.8)
Finland	2,002	(0.2)	2,109	(0.2)	2,589	(0.2)	3,705	(0.3)	5,682	(0.3)
Ireland	2,759	(0.2)	2,856	(0.2)	3,449	(0.3)	3,892	(0.3)	4,236	(0.3)
Norway	3,882	(0.3)	4,153	(0.3)	3,971	(0.3)	5,006	(0.4)	5,585	(0.4)
Sweden	7,163	(0.6)	9,138	(0.7)	10,918	(0.8)	13,127	(0.9)	14,988	(0.9)
United Kingdom	88,704	(7.4)	92,775	(7.5)	101,843	(7.9)	103,977	(7.5)	114,602	(7.5)
Other Northern Europe	68	(0.0)	113	(0.0)	109	(0.0)	199	(0.0)	239	(0.0)
Southern Europe	**84,470**	**(7.0)**	**95,817**	**(7.8)**	**109,326**	**(8.5)**	**132,544**	**(9.5)**	**157,987**	**(9.5)**
Greece	1,981	(0.2)	1,700	(0.1)	2,077	(0.2)	2,470	(0.2)	2,398	(0.2)
Italy	57,862	(4.8)	65,616	(5.3)	71,202	(5.5)	88,867	(6.4)	105,297	(6.4)
Portugal	4,916	(0.4)	5,057	(0.4)	6,259	(0.5)	6,882	(0.5)	8,342	(0.5)
Slovenia	1,319	(0.1)	1,470	(0.1)	1,548	(0.1)	2,100	(0.2)	3,167	(0.2)
Spain	15,230	(1.3)	17,816	(1.4)	23,393	(1.8)	25,843	(1.9)	31,780	(1.9)
Other Southern Europe	3,162	(0.3)	4,158	(0.3)	4,847	(0.4)	2,763	(0.2)	7,003	(0.2)
Western Europe	**213,289**	**(17.7)**	**213,729**	**(17.3)**	**213,006**	**(16.6)**	**226,114**	**(16.3)**	**242,727**	**(16.3)**
Austria	18,726	(1.6)	18,981	(1.5)	17,654	(1.4)	19,709	(1.4)	20,391	(1.4)
Belgium	5,195	(0.4)	5,250	(0.4)	5,571	(0.4)	5,854	(0.4)	6,492	(0.4)
France	50,656	(4.2)	42,024	(3.4)	40,487	(3.1)	42,365	(3.0)	50,476	(3.0)
Germany	98,328	(8.2)	105,132	(8.5)	106,381	(8.3)	112,109	(8.1)	117,532	(8.1)
Netherlands	7,936	(0.7)	9,640	(0.8)	10,372	(0.8)	12,438	(0.9)	13,845	(0.9)
Switzerland	31,497	(2.6)	31,923	(2.6)	31,678	(2.5)	32,651	(2.3)	32,984	(2.3)
Other Western Europe	951	(0.1)	779	(0.1)	863	(0.1)	988	(0.1)	1,007	(0.1)
East Mediterranean Europe	**12,308**	**(1.0)**	**14,112**	**(1.1)**	**15,664**	**(1.2)**	**17,680**	**(1.3)**	**18,590**	**(1.3)**
Israel	3,299	(0.3)	3,567	(0.3)	5,072	(0.4)	5,949	(0.4)	7,748	(0.4)
Turkey	8,668	(0.7)	10,200	(0.8)	10,091	(0.8)	11,168	(0.8)	10,129	(0.8)
Other East Mediterranean Europe	341	(0.0)	345	(0.0)	501	(0.0)	563	(0.0)	713	(0.0)

Table 29: (continued…)

REGION / NATIONALITY	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
ASIA & THE PACIFIC	**588,845**	**(48.9)**	**600,099**	**(48.6)**	**598,044**	**(46.5)**	**617,099**	**(44.4)**	**621,438**	**(44.4)**
North East Asia	**444,743**	**(36.9)**	**441,017**	**(35.7)**	**403,491**	**(31.4)**	**392,905**	**(28.3)**	**372,448**	**(28.3)**
China	363,626	(30.2)	359,514	(29.1)	324,326	(25.2)	306,530	(22.1)	283,116	(22.1)
Japan	38,817	(3.2)	39,244	(3.2)	39,894	(3.1)	41,133	(3.0)	42,304	(3.0)
Korea	34,896	(2.9)	33,001	(2.7)	29,580	(2.3)	34,808	(2.5)	34,400	(2.5)
Taiwan	7,341	(0.6)	9,177	(0.7)	9,505	(0.7)	10,326	(0.7)	12,439	(0.7)
Other North East Asia	63	(0.0)	81	(0.0)	186	(0.0)	108	(0.0)	189	(0.0)
South East Asia	**56,089**	**(4.7)**	**59,354**	**(4.8)**	**67,737**	**(5.3)**	**82,162**	**(5.9)**	**93,398**	**(5.9)**
Indonesia	3,333	(0.3)	3,452	(0.3)	4,886	(0.4)	5,375	(0.4)	5,885	(0.4)
Malaysia	13,457	(1.1)	12,575	(1.0)	16,185	(1.3)	19,092	(1.4)	22,202	(1.4)
Philippines	5,406	(0.4)	6,907	(0.6)	9,551	(0.7)	10,532	(0.8)	11,035	(0.8)
Singapore	18,638	(1.5)	15,881	(1.3)	14,782	(1.1)	14,502	(1.0)	13,877	(1.0)
Thailand	12,281	(1.0)	15,910	(1.3)	16,451	(1.3)	26,037	(1.9)	32,436	(1.9)
Other South East Asia	2,974	(0.2)	4,629	(0.4)	5,882	(0.5)	809	(0.1)	7,963	(0.1)
South Asia	**67,199**	**(5.6)**	**77,951**	**(6.3)**	**101,108**	**(7.9)**	**111,724**	**(8.0)**	**115,082**	**(8.0)**
Bangladesh	2,231	(0.2)	4,431	(0.4)	6,018	(0.5)	4,714	(0.3)	3,644	(0.3)
India	45,587	(3.8)	52,368	(4.2)	66,955	(5.2)	83,019	(6.0)	90,474	(6.0)
Pakistan	3,105	(0.3)	3,987	(0.3)	6,251	(0.5)	6,241	(0.4)	5,340	(0.4)
Sri Lanka	13,753	(1.1)	14,153	(1.1)	17,927	(1.4)	14,070	(1.0)	12,792	(1.0)
Other South Asia	2,523	(0.2)	3,012	(0.2)	3,957	(0.3)	1,155	(0.1)	2,832	(0.1)
Oceania	**20,814**	**(1.7)**	**21,777**	**(1.8)**	**25,708**	**(2.0)**	**30,308**	**(2.2)**	**40,510**	**(2.2)**
Australia	18,872	(1.6)	19,733	(1.6)	23,584	(1.8)	27,360	(2.0)	37,254	(2.0)
New Zealand	1,916	(0.2)	1,978	(0.2)	2,087	(0.2)	2,877	(0.2)	3,200	(0.2)
Other Oceania	26	(0.0)	66	(0.0)	37	(0.0)	71	(0.0)	56	(0.0)
AMERICAS	**41,044**	**(3.4)**	**46,602**	**(3.8)**	**50,458**	**(3.9)**	**61,972**	**(4.5)**	**68,763**	**(4.5)**
Brazil	4,321	(0.4)	5,082	(0.4)	5,015	(0.4)	7,064	(0.5)	7,702	(0.5)
Canada	7,435	(0.6)	7,537	(0.6)	7,628	(0.6)	8,994	(0.6)	9,540	(0.6)
U.S.A	25,641	(2.1)	29,308	(2.4)	32,589	(2.5)	39,180	(2.8)	42,901	(2.8)
Other Americas	3,647	(0.3)	4,675	(0.4)	5,226	(0.4)	2,880	(0.2)	8,620	(0.2)
MIDDLE EAST	**37,201**	**(3.1)**	**41,976**	**(3.4)**	**51,330**	**(4.0)**	**49,193**	**(3.5)**	**52,114**	**(3.5)**
Egypt	2,125	(0.2)	2,776	(0.2)	3,767	(0.3)	3,574	(0.3)	3,530	(0.3)
Kuwait	5,248	(0.4)	4,491	(0.4)	4,215	(0.3)	4,576	(0.3)	4,559	(0.3)
Lebanon	1,949	(0.2)	2,185	(0.2)	2,258	(0.2)	2,444	(0.2)	1,898	(0.2)
Qatar	3,260	(0.3)	3,033	(0.2)	3,716	(0.3)	1,770	(0.1)	3,087	(0.1)
Saudi Arabia	12,405	(1.0)	15,749	(1.3)	21,964	(1.7)	19,546	(1.4)	23,540	(1.4)
United Arab Emirates	7,008	(0.6)	7,322	(0.6)	8,045	(0.6)	10,485	(0.8)	9,018	(0.8)
Other Middle East	5,206	(0.9)	6,420	(0.5)	7,365	(0.6)	2,915	(0.2)	6,482	(0.2)
AFRICA	**8,149**	**(0.7)**	**9,276**	**(0.8)**	**10,752**	**(0.8)**	**14,678**	**(1.1)**	**15,355**	**(1.1)**
South Africa	3,699	(0.3)	4,170	(0.3)	4,656	(0.4)	7,050	(0.5)	7,751	(0.5)
Other Africa	4,450	(0.4)	5,106	(0.4)	6,096	(0.5)	4,676	(0.3)	7,604	(0.3)
OTHERS	**327**	**(0.0)**	**333**	**(0.0)**	**375**	**(0.0)**	**237**	**(0.0)**	**184**	**(0.0)**
UN Passport Holders	204	(0.0)	181	(0.0)	228	(0.0)	95	(0.0)	63	(0.0)
OTHERS / NOT STATED	123	(0.0)	152	(0.0)	147	(0.0)	142	(0.0)	121	(0.0)
GRAND TOTAL	**1,204,857**		**1,234,248**		**1,286,135**		**1,389,542**		**1,484,274**	

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data: Maldives Immigration

Table 30: Growth Trends of Selected Markets, 2014 – 2018 *(in percent)*

REGION / NATIONALITY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
EUROPE	**0.4**	**1.3**	**7.3**	**12.4**	**12.4**
CENTRAL / EASTERN EUROPE	***-8.3***	***-15.4***	***12.7***	***23.8***	***16.3***
Belarus	-7.1	-20.0	4.1	13.1	21.1
Bulgaria	20.2	28.3	29.4	37.0	7.0
Czech Republic	0.5	25.7	27.6	10.8	15.4
Hungary	28.4	23.6	24.9	15.1	22.1
Kazakhstan	2.5	5.8	0.1	30.8	-4.4
Poland	-7.3	11.3	30.5	-3.1	38.2
Romania	32.2	22.3	36.2	29.5	23.2
Russia	-13.3	-33.2	5.0	33.1	14.5
Slovakia	18.3	31.4	15.7	22.6	8.3
Ukraine	-22.2	-16.3	12.6	27.9	17.6
Other Central / Eastern Europe	13.3	19.3	5.1	10.2	54.5
NORTHERN EUROPE	***6.3***	***9.1***	***10.9***	***6.0***	***11.3***
Denmark	23.5	68.1	15.8	9.0	4.7
Finland	29.2	5.3	22.8	43.1	53.4
Ireland	6.5	3.5	20.8	12.8	8.8
Norway	18.3	7.0	-4.4	26.1	11.6
Sweden	25.8	27.6	19.5	20.2	14.2
United Kingdom	3.3	4.6	9.8	2.1	10.2
Other Northern Europe	3.0	66.2	-3.5	82.6	20.1
SOUTHERN EUROPE	***6.4***	***13.4***	***14.1***	***21.2***	***19.2***
Greece	7.6	-14.2	22.2	18.9	-2.9
Italy	0.0	13.4	8.5	24.8	18.5
Portugal	6.5	2.9	23.8	10.0	21.2
Slovenia	6.1	11.4	5.3	35.7	50.8
Spain	38.0	17.0	31.3	10.5	23.0
Other Southern Europe	14.2	31.5	16.6	30.4	27.9
WESTERN EUROPE	***0.3***	***0.2***	***-0.3***	***6.2***	***7.3***
Austria	3.2	1.4	-7.0	11.6	3.5
Belgium	1.3	1.1	6.1	5.1	10.9
France	-6.8	-17.0	-3.7	4.6	19.1
Germany	5.1	6.9	1.2	5.4	4.8
Netherlands	23.0	21.5	7.6	19.9	11.3
Switzerland	-7.6	1.4	-0.8	3.1	1.0
Other Western Europe	5.2	-18.1	10.8	14.5	1.9
EAST MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE	***-2.2***	***14.7***	***11.0***	***12.9***	***5.1***
Israel	1.4	8.1	42.2	17.3	30.2
Turkey	-4.9	17.7	-1.1	10.7	-9.3
Other East Mediterranean Europe	60.1	1.2	45.2	12.4	26.6

Table 30: (continued…)

REGION / NATIONALITY	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
ASIA & THE PACIFIC	**12.3**	**1.9**	**-0.3**	**3.2**	**0.7**
NORTH EAST ASIA	***9.0***	***-0.8***	***-8.5***	***-2.6***	***-5.2***
China	9.6	-1.1	-9.8	-5.5	-7.6
Japan	-1.6	1.1	1.7	3.1	2.8
Korea	15.1	-5.4	-10.4	17.7	-1.2
Taiwan	12.6	25.0	3.6	8.6	20.5
Other North East Asia	-38.8	28.6	129.6	-41.9	75.0
SOUTH EAST ASIA	***37.3***	***5.8***	***14.1***	***21.4***	***13.7***
Indonesia	32.7	3.6	41.5	10.0	9.5
Malaysia	23.7	-6.6	28.7	18.0	16.3
Philippines	77.8	27.8	38.3	10.3	4.8
Singapore	67.3	-14.8	-6.9	-1.9	-4.3
Thailand	4.9	29.5	3.4	58.3	24.6
Other South East Asia	89.4	55.6	27.1	20.6	88.4
SOUTH ASIA	***18.3***	***16.0***	***29.7***	***10.5***	***3.0***
Bangladesh	17.1	98.6	35.8	-21.7	-22.7
India	19.9	14.9	27.9	24.0	9.0
Pakistan	15.3	28.4	56.8	-0.2	-14.4
Sri Lanka	10.9	2.9	26.7	-21.5	-9.1
Other South Asia	41.5	19.4	31.4	1.9	-37.9
OCEANIA	***10.9***	***4.6***	***18.1***	***17.9***	***33.7***
Australia	11.6	4.6	19.5	16.0	36.2
New Zealand	7.0	3.2	5.5	37.9	11.2
Other Oceania	-52.7	153.8	-43.9	91.9	-21.1
AMERICAS	**24.5**	**13.5**	**8.2**	**22.8**	**11.0**
Brazil	17.6	17.6	-1.3	40.9	9.0
Canada	21.9	1.4	1.2	17.9	6.1
U.S.A	28.0	14.3	11.2	20.2	9.5
Other Americas	15.3	28.2	11.1	30.3	71.1
MIDDLE EAST	**16.1**	**12.8**	**22.3**	**-4.2**	**5.9**
Egypt	27.2	30.6	35.7	-5.1	-1.2
Kuwait	13.5	-14.4	-6.1	8.6	-0.4
Lebanon	7.3	12.1	3.3	8.2	-22.3
Qatar	15.3	-7.0	22.5	-52.4	74.4
Saudi Arabia	18.4	27.0	39.5	-11.0	20.4
United Arab Emirates	18.1	4.5	9.9	30.3	-14.0
Other Middle East	10.8	23.3	14.7	-2.5	-0.3
AFRICA	**-1.5**	**13.8**	**16.3**	**36.5**	**4.6**
South Africa	-17.9	12.7	11.7	51.4	9.9
Other Africa	18.1	14.7	20.0	23.2	-18.5
OTHERS	**165.9**	**1.8**	**12.6**	**-36.8**	**-22.4**
UN Passport Holders	240.0	-11.3	26.0	-58.3	-33.7
Other / Not Stated	95.2	23.6	-3.3	-3.4	-14.8
TOTAL	**7.1**	**2.4**	**4.2**	**8.0**	**6.8**

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Table 31: Tourist Arrivals by Gender, 2014 – 2018

Year	Male	Female	Total
2014	N/A	N/A	**1,204,857**
2015	598,458	635,790	**1,234,248**
2016	623,657	662,478	**1,286,135**
2017	667,286	722,256	**1,389,542**
2018	710,256	774,018	**1,484,274**

Note: N/A: data not available
Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by: Maldives Immigration

Table 32: Seasonal Variations of Tourist Arrivals, 2014 – 2018 (Seasonal Indices)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Seasonality Ratio
2014	105	110	105	105	91	83	100	104	95	110	89	103	**1.1**
2015	94	117	109	99	93	79	102	107	93	103	88	116	**1.2**
2016	101	113	107	97	87	74	103	105	95	110	98	112	**1.1**
2017	117	113	105	112	87	80	106	113	99	119	112	133	**1.1**
2018	115	117	108	97	75	76	99	100	87	103	102	122	**1.2**

Source: Ministry of Tourism

Table 33: Inbound and Outbound Travel, 2014 – 2018 (Maldivians Only)

Year	Arrivals	% change	Departure	% change
2014	194,003	23.0	196,542	18.1
2015	210,469	8.5	212,842	8.3
2016	218,388	3.8	216,719	1.8
2017	201,080	-7.9	204,409	-5.7
2018	210,229	4.6	209,626	2.6

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by: Maldives Immigration

Table 34: Tourist Arrivals by Nationality, as at end November 2019

REGION / NATIONALITY	January - November				
	2018	2019	Change '%	% Share 2019	Market Ranking 2019
EUROPE	**643,665**	**740,093**	**15.0**	**48.3**	
CENTRAL / EASTERN EUROPE	***133,833***	***158,305***	***18.3***	***10.3***	
Belarus	1,867	2,414	29.3	0.2	60
Bulgaria	4,551	5,112	12.3	0.3	41
Czech Republic	11,980	11,961	-0.2	0.8	21
Hungary	6,675	8,478	27.0	0.6	34
Kazakhstan	3,598	4,082	13.5	0.3	47
Latvia	1,028	1,193	16.1	0.1	71
Lithuania	2,340	1,881	-19.6	0.1	65
Poland	10,867	18,656	71.7	1.2	18
Romania	7,408	8,578	15.8	0.6	33
Russia	63,783	74,332	16.5	4.9	6
Slovakia	5,907	6,108	3.4	0.4	38
Ukraine	10,021	11,715	16.9	0.8	23
Other Central / Eastern Europe	3,808	3,795	-0.3	0.2	52
NORTHERN EUROPE	***140,428***	***148,356***	***5.6***	***9.7***	
Denmark	10,298	9,847	-4.4	0.6	28
Finland	4,687	4,411	-5.9	0.3	45
Ireland	3,847	3,914	1.7	0.3	49
Norway	5,098	5,064	-0.7	0.3	42
Sweden	12,468	10,683	-14.3	0.7	25
United Kingdom	103,818	114,222	10.0	7.5	5
Other Northern Europe	212	215	1.4	0.0	79
SOUTHERN EUROPE	***135,033***	***172,285***	***27.6***	***11.2***	
Croatia	1,363	1,921	40.9	0.1	64
Greece	1,976	2,349	18.9	0.2	61
Italy	87,510	115,049	31.5	7.5	4
Portugal	7,520	10,421	38.6	0.7	26
Serbia	2,178	2,827	29.8	0.2	58
Slovenia	2,772	3,217	16.1	0.2	56
Spain	29,149	33,051	13.4	2.2	12
Other Southern Europe	2,565	3,450	34.5	0.2	54
WESTERN EUROPE	***217,595***	***241,591***	***11.0***	***15.8***	
Austria	18,026	19,242	6.7	1.3	17
Belgium	5,682	6,544	15.2	0.4	37
France	44,062	52,891	20.0	3.5	7
Germany	106,660	120,168	12.7	7.8	3
Netherlands / Holland	12,746	11,267	-11.6	0.7	24
Switzerland	29,533	30,436	3.1	2.0	13
Other Western Europe	886	1,043	17.7	0.1	75
EAST MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE	***16,776***	***19,556***	***16.6***	***1.3***	
Israel	6,883	9,664	40.4	0.6	29
Turkey	9,270	9,174	-1.0	0.6	31
Other East Mediterranean Europe	623	718	15.2	0.0	77

Table 34: (continued…)

REGION / NATIONALITY	January - November				
	2018	2019	Change '%	% Share 2019	Market Ranking 2019
ASIA & THE PACIFIC	**567,891**	**644,875**	**13.6**	**42.1**	
NORTH EAST ASIA	*346,908*	*355,573*	*2.5*	*23.2*	
China	266,376	267,875	0.6	17.5	1
Japan	37,713	39,826	5.6	2.6	9
Korea	31,057	33,441	7.7	2.2	11
Taiwan	11,608	14,163	22.0	0.9	19
Other North East Asia	154	268	74.0	0.0	78
SOUTH EAST ASIA	*85,318*	*79,502*	*-6.8*	*5.2*	
Indonesia	5,532	4,268	-22.8	0.3	46
Malaysia	20,436	19,540	-4.4	1.3	16
Myanmar	935	1,171	25.2	0.1	73
Philippines	10,336	7,851	-24.0	0.5	35
Singapore	11,534	12,748	10.5	0.8	20
Thailand	30,152	27,052	-10.3	1.8	14
Viet Nam	5,173	5,721	10.6	0.4	39
Other South East Asia	1,220	1,151	-5.7	0.1	74
SOUTH ASIA	*98,126*	*168,770*	*72.0*	*11.0*	
Bangladesh	3,245	3,325	2.5	0.2	55
India	75,814	145,047	91.3	9.5	2
Iran	1,709	1,456	-14.8	0.1	69
Pakistan	4,893	5,575	13.9	0.4	40
Sri Lanka	11,484	11,953	4.1	0.8	22
Other South Asia	981	1,414	44.1	0.1	70
OCEANIA	*37,539*	*41,030*	*9.3*	*2.7*	
Australia	34,523	37,084	7.4	2.4	10
New Zealand	2,964	3,824	29.0	0.2	50
Other Oceania	52	122	134.6	0.0	82
AMERICAS	**61,144**	**75,629**	**23.7**	**4.9**	
Argentina	3,050	2,451	-19.6	0.2	59
Brazil	6,972	8,851	27.0	0.6	32
Canada	8,389	10,269	22.4	0.7	27
Mexico	1,615	1,979	22.5	0.1	62
U.S.A.	37,835	48,267	27.6	3.2	8
Other Americas	3,283	3,812	16.1	0.2	51
MIDDLE EAST	**47,597**	**55,119**	**15.8**	**3.6**	
Egypt	3,205	3,480	8.6	0.2	53
Jordan	1,355	1,677	23.8	0.1	67
Kuwait	4,134	4,912	18.8	0.3	43
Lebanon	1,700	1,746	2.7	0.1	66
Oman	870	1,035	19.0	0.1	76
Qatar	2,794	4,054	45.1	0.3	48
Saudi Arabia	21,475	24,321	13.3	1.6	15
Syria	1,026	1,184	15.4	0.1	72
United Arab Emirates	8,376	9,595	14.6	0.6	30
Other Middle East	2,662	3,115	17.0	0.2	57
AFRICA	**12,993**	**15,536**	**19.6**	**1.0**	
Algeria	1,412	1,602	13.5	0.1	68
Morocco	1,522	1,924	26.4	0.1	63
South Africa	6,305	7,429	17.8	0.5	36
Other Africa	3,754	4,581	22.0	0.3	44
OTHERS	**166**	**287**	**72.9**	**0.0**	
UN Passport Holders	50	131	162.0	0.0	81
Other / Not Stated	116	156	34.5	0.0	80
TOTAL TOURIST ARRIVALS	**1,333,456**	**1,531,539**	**14.9**	**100.0**	

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by: Maldives Immigration

Table 35: Fairs participated by Maldives Marketing and Public Relations Corporation (MMPRC), 2018

#	Name of Fair	City|Country	Dates	Type of Fair
1	Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia (FITUR)	Madrid, Spain	17 -21 Jan	Trade & Consumer
2	BOOT	Düsseldorf, Germany	20 - 28 Jan	Dive
3	FESPO	Zürich, Switzerland	20 - 28 Jan	Trade & Consumer
4	Outbound Travel Mart (OTM)	Mumbai	18 - 20 Feb	Trade
5	East Mediterranean International Tourism & Travel Exhibition (EMITT)	Istanbul, Turkey	25 - 28 Jan	Trade
6	BIT – International Travel Exhibition	Milan, Italy	11 - 13 Feb	Trade
7	Amour Asia Pacific	Bangkok, Thailand	14 - 17 Feb	Trade & Consumer
8	Internationale Tourismus-Börse (ITB)	Berlin, Germany	7 - 11 Mar	Trade & Consumer
9	Moscow International Travel & Tourism Exhibition (MITT)	Moscow, Russia	13 - 15 Mar	Trade & Consumer
10	China Outbound Travel & Tourism Market (COTTM)	Beijing, China	16- 18 Apr	Trade
11	JATA Tourism Expo	Tokyo, Japan	20 - 23 Sep	Trade
12	Arabian Travel Market (ATM)	Dubai, UAE	22 - 25 Apr	Trade & Consumer
13	IFTM Top Resa (France's International Travel and Tourism Trade Fair)	Paris, France	25 - 28 Sept	Trade
14	TTG Incontri (The International B2B Tourist Fair)	Rimini, Italy	10 - 12 Oct	Trade
15	CAEXPOTE (China-ASEAN Expo Tourism Exhibition)	Guilin, Guangxi, China	26 - 28 Oct	Trade
16	Swiss International Holiday Exhibition (SIHE)	Lugano, Switzerland	1 - 4 Nov	Trade
17	World Travel Market (WTM)	London, UK	5 - 7 Nov	Trade
18	China International Travel Market (CITM)	Shanghai, China	16 - 18 Nov	Trade

Source: Ministry of Tourism
Data provided by: Maldives Marketing & Public Relations Corporation

Definitions

Definitions in this publication are used as per World Tourism Organization's (UNWTO) recommendations. However, some of the terminologies are specific to the use of data provided in this publication itself.

Following are some of the UNWTO definitions.

Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes.

International visitor refers to any person traveling to a country other than the one in which he/she has his/her usual residence, but outside his/her usual environment, for less than 12 consecutive months and whose main purpose of trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Tourist (overnight visitor) is a visitor who stays at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the country visited.

Nationality of a visitor is that of the government issuing his/her passport or other identification document, even if he/she normally resides in another country.

Tourist accommodation refers to any facility that regularly or occasionally provides overnight accommodation for tourists.

Occupancy rate refers to the proportion of the rooms or bed-places in a collective tourism establishment that is occupied over some period of time, such as night, month or year.

Duration of stay refers to the time spent during a visit measured from the stand point of the receiving country or place.

Tourism receipts are defined as expenditures of international inbound visitors including their payments to national carriers for international transport. They also include any other prepayments or payments afterwards made for good and services received in the destination country.

Apart from the above UNWTO definitions, the following definitions from the Maldives Tourism Act (Law No. 2/99) are adopted for this publication.

Tourist resort refers to an island or a designated area of an island that has been developed to accommodate tourists and to provide board and lodging facilities for them.

Tourist hotel refers to an establishment, other than a tourist resort or a tourist guesthouse that has been developed to provide board and lodging or [only] lodging for tourists for a payment decided at a certain rate per day of stay.

Tourist guesthouse refers to an establishment, other than a tourist hotel, that has been developed, in compliance with standards determined by the Ministry of Tourism, to provide board and lodging or [only] lodging for tourists for a payment decided at a certain rate per day of stay.

Tourist vessel (safari vessel) refers to seagoing vessel that has been developed, in compliance with standards determined by the Ministry of Tourism, to provide board and lodging for tourists for a payment decided at a certain rate per day of stay on board such vessel.

Marina refers to harbors developed for anchoring yachts and such vessels and to provide various services to those vessels. A Marina is also associated with accommodation facilities.

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