



C I R C U L A R

Ref Number: 88-PS/CIR/2020/73

Date: 15th October 2020

To: All Tourist Facilities

Subject: Update on Negative PCR test for COVID-19 requirement
Revised Guidelines for tourist travel movements

Dear Sir/Madam,

Reference to the Circular No: 88-PS/CIR/2020/63 issued on 08th September 2020, please be informed that the validity of the nucleic acid test (PCR test) for COVID-19 has been extended to be conducted within a maximum of **96 hours** prior to departure from the first port of embarkation en route to Maldives. *(For more details, please refer to Circular No: AT 14/2020 – Issue 03 issued on 14th October 2020 by the Maldives Civil Aviation Authority)*

Further, kindly refer to the attached **Public health interventions to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in the Tourism Sector (version 4) revised guideline, issued by the Health Protection Agency on 28th September 2020.**

As per the aforementioned guideline, inter-island travel movements can be permitted as follows;

INTER-ISLAND MOVEMENTS FOR GUESTS (INCLUDING DAY-VISITS)

- Tourists are allowed to travel from a tourist resort to another tourist resort.
(if neither tourist resort is under monitoring or have any reported community spread of COVID-19)





- Tourists are allowed to travel from a tourist guesthouse island to another tourist guesthouse island (if neither tourist Guesthouse Island is under monitoring nor have any reported community spread of COVID-19).
- Tourists are allowed to travel from a tourist resort to a tourist guesthouse and vice-versa, given the split-stay procedures are complied with. However, if a tourist has stayed at a Tourist Guesthouse at any point during their stay in Maldives, they are required to conduct a PCR test 72 hours prior to their scheduled departure from Maldives.
- For approval of all above inter-island travels please submit the attached Form SS-1 via email to splitstays@tourism.gov.mv within two days of the scheduled travel date.


In addition;

- No prior approval is required for day visits between different Tourist Resorts, Tourist Resorts and Guesthouse islands and vice versa. However, tourists must undergo an exit screening as per Annex 5 of Public health interventions to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in the Tourism Sector (version 4) prior to travel from one tourist Guesthouse Island to the other (This is to ensure that a symptomatic person or a person undergoing quarantine does not exit the island).

Furthermore, we advise all facilities to adhere to the guidelines set forth by all relevant authorities and remind all facilities once again to ensure that tourists, who require a negative PCR test result for their outbound flight or onward destination, are not taken to the airport for departure without a negative test result on hand.

We thank you all for your continued support & cooperation during this challenging time and request all tourist facilities to adhere to the procedures and guidelines announced by the Ministry and HPA.

Yours sincerely,


Ali Razzan
Senior Executive Director

