



MINISTRY OF TOURISM
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

C I R C U L A R

Ref Number: 88-PS/CIR/2021/73

Date: 14th September 2021

To: All Tourist Facilities

Subject: Update on Travel Restriction

Dear Sir/Madam,

Reference is made to the Announcement Number **(IUL)23-L/452/2021/9** dated **06th August 2021** published on the Government of Maldives Gazette by Health Protection Agency (HPA).

As per the announcements by HPA, it has been decided to implement below mentioned eases in restriction with regard to Nucleic Acid (PCR) testing and travel quarantine applicable for ALL internal travel within Maldives effective from 01st September 2021.

These eases will ONLY be applicable if:

1. The individual(s) traveling have completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 Vaccine (approved by the World Health Organization Emergency Use Listing (EUL) or the Maldives Food and Drug Authority), and at least 14 (fourteen) days have passed after the recommended doses(s) AND;

2. The below conditions are fulfilled in the respective Inhabited Island(s) /Tourist Resort the individual is traveling to.

2a) At least 90% of the resident/staff population of the Inhabited Island(s) /Tourist Resort who are above 12 (twelve) years of age and eligible for vaccination have completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 vaccine, and 14 (fourteen) days have passed since completion.

2b) At least 90% of the resident/staff population of the Inhabited Island(s) /Tourist Resort who are 65 (sixty-five) years & above, have completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 vaccine, and 14 (fourteen) days have passed since completion.

2c) If the Inhabited Island(s) consists of Tourist Guesthouses, it shall be ensured that at least 95% of staff in ALL tourist facilities of the Inhabited Island(s) have completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 vaccine, and 14 (fourteen) days have passed since completion.

3. Individual(s) are traveling from an island with a weekly Covid-19 sample positivity rate below 5%.

Hence, if the above conditions are fulfilled within the respective Inhabited Island(s) /Tourist Resort, and individual(s) traveling to these islands adhere to the above criteria, they can now be exempted from travel quarantine and negative PCR test for COVID- 19 requirement prior to travel.

However, if the weekly positivity rate of the respective island(s) is above 5%, the individual travelling should hold a negative PCR test, within 72 (seventy-two) hours prior to travel to the respective Inhabited Island(s) /Tourist Resort.





Traveling individual(s) who have not fulfilled the above criteria shall proceed as follows:

- For those individual(s) traveling to Inhabited Island(s) /Tourist Resort with the Vaccine coverage (2a,2b and 2c) fulfilled, however have NOT completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 Vaccine (as specified previously) should undergo mandatory travel quarantine of 14 days as per the guidelines set forth by HPA and will be released on receiving a negative PCR test result at the end of this period.

- If the respective Inhabited Island(s)/Tourist Resort does NOT meet the Vaccine Coverage criteria AND if the individual traveling has not completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 vaccine, they shall present a negative PCR test, within 72 (seventy-two) hours prior to travel AND undergo mandatory travel quarantine of 14 days as per the guidelines set forth by HPA and will be released on receiving a negative PCR test result at the end of this period.

Furthermore, ALL those individual(s) who have not completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 Vaccine shall bear ALL the expenses associated with obtaining the negative PCR test result for Covid-19 prior to travel as well as the release sample at the end of the 14 days of travel quarantine.

ALL information in relation to vaccine coverage and positivity rate of the islands will be published by HPA.

We take this opportunity to thank all tourist facilities for the support & cooperation extended to us at all times. For further clarification, please contact our Situation Monitoring Unit (SMU) on (+960) 9423131 or email us at smu@tourism.gov.mv .

Yours sincerely,



Ibrahim Farhad

Senior Policy Director