MINISTRY OF TOURISM
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

MALDIVES TOURISM UPDATES

Issue - 22 | 1st June 2023

ARRIVAL UPDATES

2021
454,383
as of 1st Jun
1,321,937
Total end Year

2022
702,332
as of 1st Jun
1,675,303
Total end Year

2023
809,245
as of 31st May
+15.2%
Change 2023/2022

Ministry of Tourism Opens Applications for Maldives Tourism Awards 2023

TOURIST ARRIVALS

	Arrivals			Growth %	Daily Average	Avg. Duration of Stay 2023 (days)
	2021	2022	2023	2023/2022	2023	
January	92,103	131,765	172,499	30.9	5,564	8.1
February	96,882	149,011	177,915	19.4	6,354	8.0
March	109,585	150,748	173,514	15.1	5,597	7.8
April	91,200	145,280	164,357	13.1	5,479	7.6
May (1st - 31st)	64,613	125,528	120,960	-3.6	3,902	7.2
TOTAL (as of 31st May)	**454,383**	**702,332**	**809,245**	**15.2**	**5,359**	**7.8**

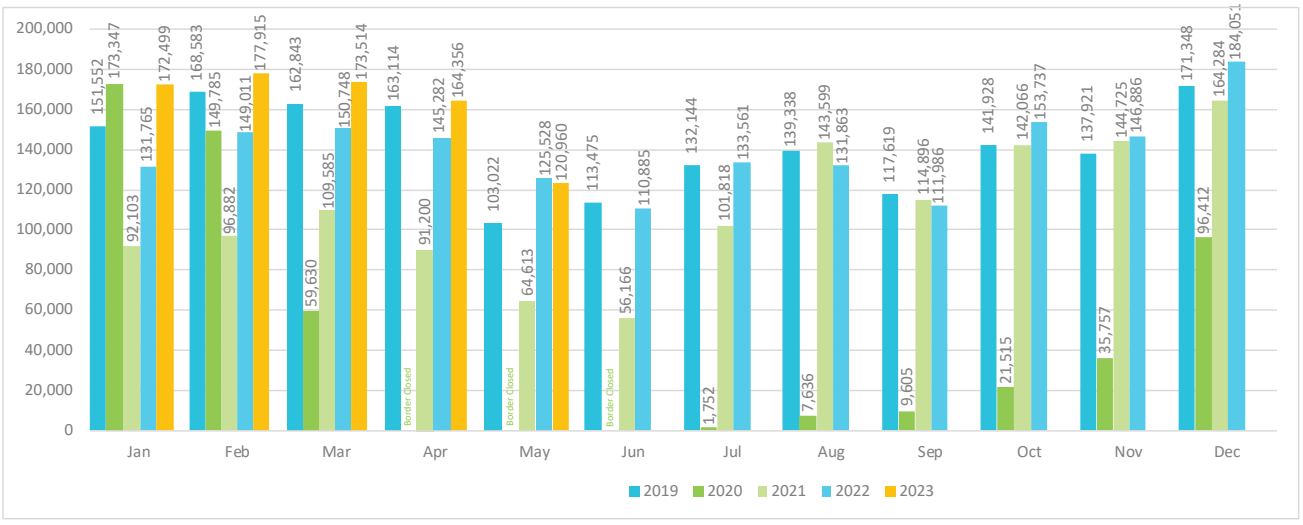
Top 10 Markets, 2022
(end December)

	Arrivals	Market Share (%)	Rank 2021
1. India	241,369	14.4	1
2. Russia	201,957	12.1	2
3. United Kingdom	179,312	10.7	4
4. Germany	133,424	8.0	3
5. Italy	97,627	5.8	10
6. United States	80,691	4.8	5
7. France	48,340	2.9	9
8. Spain	42,123	2.5	7
9. South Korea	35,947	2.1	32
10. Switzerland	34,608	1.1	11

Top 10 Markets, 2023
(as of 31st May)

	Arrivals	Market Share (%)	Rank 2022
1 Russia	94,213	11.6	2
2 India	93,879	11.3	1
3 United Kingdom	73,373	9.1	3
4 Italy	60,322	7.6	5
5 Germany	60,170	7.3	4
6 China	46,396	5.4	27
7 USA	33,303	4.1	7
8 France	29,156	3.7	6
9 Switzerland	19,133	2.4	10
10 South Korea	15,021	1.8	9

Monthly Arrivals, 2021 - 2023



TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

(as of 31st May 2023)

	Total Capacity		Operational Capacity	
	Nos.	Beds	Nos.	Beds
Resorts	174	42,159	170	41,263
Hotels	13	1,640	13	1,640
Guesthouses	901	14,802	901	14,802
Safari Vessels	160	3,125	160	3,125
Total	**1,248**	**61,726**	**1,244**	**60,830**

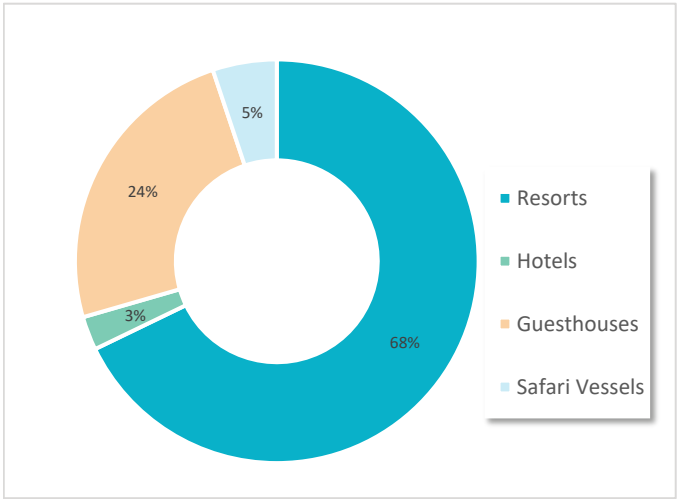
Spatial Distribution of Hotels & Guesthouses

(Operational as of 31st May 2023)

	Atolls	Islands	Beds
Guesthouses	20	117	14,802
Hotels	7	7	1,640

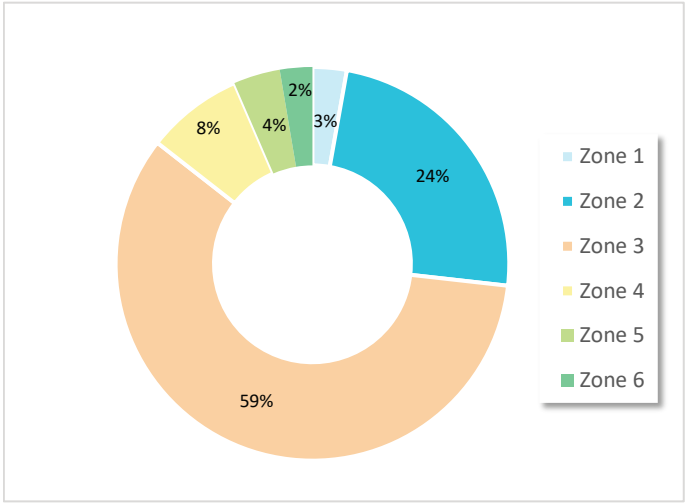
Share of Beds by Type of Facilities

(In Operation as of 31st May 2023)



Distribution of Guesthouse / Hotel Beds by Zones

(In Operation as of 31st May 2023)



Distribution of Tourist Facilities by Zones

(as of 31st May 2023)

	Resorts		Hotels		Guesthouses	
	Nos.	Beds	Nos.	Beds	Nos.	Beds
Zone 1	**5**	**1,008**	**1**	**128**	**47**	**485**
Haa Alif (Ha)	***2***	***446***			***22***	***235***
1 Dhidhdhoo					4	41
2 Hoarafushi					2	24
3 Kelaa					8	96
4 Vashafaru					8	74
Haa Dhaalu (HDh)	***1***	***118***	***1***	***128***	***17***	***188***
1 Finey					1	8
2 Hanimaadhoo			1	128	7	98
3 Kulhudhuffushi					2	14
4 Makunudhoo					2	16
5 Nolhivaranfaru					3	40
6 Vaikaradhoo					2	12
Shaviyani (Sh)	***2***	***444***			***8***	***62***
1 Bilehfahi					1	8
2 Funadhoo					1	8
Goidhoo					1	8
3 Kanditheemu					1	8
4 Komandoo					1	8
5 Lhaimagu					1	8
6 Maroshi					1	8
7 Milandhoo					1	6
Zone 2	**51**	**12,416**	**1**	**150**	**94**	**1,266**
Noonu (N)	***9***	***2,642***			***14***	***162***
1 Fodhdhoo					5	78
2 Holhudhoo					3	20
3 Lhohi					1	20
4 Manadhoo					2	16
5 Velidhoo					3	28
Raa (R)	***16***	***4,146***			***7***	***60***
1 Alifushi					1	8
2 Hulhudhuffaaru					1	6
3 Inguraidhoo					1	10
4 Maakurathu					1	10
5 Meedhoo					1	8
6 Rasgetheemu					1	12
7 Ungoofaaru					1	6
Baa (B)	***17***	***3,228***	***1***	***150***	***65***	***968***
1 Dharavandhoo					14	192
2 Dhonfanu					1	8
3 Fehendhoo					4	66
4 Finolhas			1	150	1	62
5 Fulhadhoo					10	178
6 Goidhoo					5	72
7 Hithaadhoo					1	20
8 Kamadhoo					11	166
9 Kendhoo					5	48
10 Kihaadhoo					1	8
11 Kudarikulu					1	20
12 Maalhos					10	114
13 Thulhaadhoo					1	14
Lhaviyani (Lh)	***9***	***2,400***			***8***	***76***
1 Hinnavaru					1	12
2 Kurendhoo					3	24
3 Naifaru					3	30
4 Olhuvelifushi					1	10
Zone 3	**87**	**21,090**	**9**	**1,062**	**663**	**11,761**
Kaafu (K)	***55***	***13,826***	***7***	***954***	***350***	***7,759***
1 Greater Male' Area			7	954	133	3,521
2 Dhiffushi					24	482
3 Gaafaru					9	94
4 Gulhi					14	232
5 Guraidhoo					27	340
6 Himmafushi					20	238
7 Huraa					18	244
8 Kaashidhoo					7	78
9 Maafushi					65	2,018
10 Thulusdhoo					33	512
Alifu Alifu (AA)	***11***	***2,224***			***159***	***2,020***
1 Bodufulhadhoo					7	86
2 Feridhoo					10	116
3 Himandhoo					5	38
4 Maalhos					3	24
5 Mathiveri					14	144
6 Rasdhoo					30	392
7 Thoddoo					58	776
8 Ukulhas					32	444
Alifu Dhaalu (Adh)	***17***	***4,346***	***1***	***56***	***98***	***1,284***
1 Dhangethi					19	266
2 Dhidhdhoo					2	18
3 Dhigurah					22	390
4 Fenfushi					3	28
5 Hangnaameedhoo					16	178
6 Kunburudhoo					1	12
7 Maamigili					9	124
8 Mahibadhoo					10	124
9 Mandhoo			1	56	4	28
10 Omadhoo					12	116
Vaavu (V)	***4***	***694***	***1***	***52***	***56***	***698***
1 Felidhoo					7	106
2 Fulidhoo					22	236
3 Keyodhoo					16	172
4 Thinadhoo			1	52	10	158
5 Rakeedhoo					1	26
Zone 4	**16**	**4,118**	**0**	**0**	**33**	**476**
Meemu (M)	***3***	***614***			***5***	***44***
1 Madduvari					1	8
2 Mulah					1	12
3 Muli					2	18
4 Veyvah					1	6
Faafu (F)	***1***	***250***			***7***	***86***
1 Magoodhoo					2	30
2 Nilandhoo					5	56
Dhaalu (Dh)	***9***	***2,860***			***10***	***114***
1 Bandidhoo					1	14
2 Hulhudheli					1	6
3 Kudahuvadhoo					3	52
4 Maaenboodhoo					2	18
5 Meedhoo					1	12
6 Rinbudhoo					2	12
Thaa (Th)	***1***	***152***			***6***	***70***
1 Buruni					1	6
2 Gaadhiffushi					1	12
3 Kinbidhoo					1	8
4 Thimarafushi					2	36
5 Veymandoo					1	8
Laamu (L)	***2***	***242***			***5***	***162***
1 Gan					5	162
Zone 5	**9**	**1,829**	**1**	**144**	**22**	**236**
Gaafu Alifu (GA)	***6***	***1,279***	***1***	***144***	***13***	***100***
1 Dhaandhoo					1	6
2 Gemanafushi					1	8
3 Kolamaafushi					1	8
4 Kondey					1	8
5 Koodoo			1	144		
6 Maamendhoo					4	28
7 Nilandhoo					2	12
8 Villingili					3	30
Gaafu Dhaalu (GDh)	***3***	***550***			***9***	***136***
1 Faresmaathodaa					1	14
2 Gadhdhoo					1	14
3 Hoadedhdhoo					4	54
4 Thinadhoo					1	24
5 Vaadhoo					2	30
Zone 6	**2**	**802**	**1**	**156**	**42**	**578**
Gnaviyani (Gn)					***22***	***284***
1 Fuvahmulah					22	284
Seenu (S)	***2***	***802***	***1***	***156***	***20***	***294***
1 Feydhoo					4	48
2 Gan			1	156		
3 Hithadhoo					7	138
4 Hulhudhoo					1	12
5 Maradhoo					2	32
6 Maradhoo Feydhoo					3	42
7 Meedhoo					3	22
Total	**170**	**41,263**	**13**	**1,640**	**901**	**14,802**

DIRECT AIR CONNECTIONS TO THE MALDIVES

(Updated 31st May 2023)

Flights Operating to the Maldives

- AEROFLOT
- AIR ASIA
- AIR ASIA THAILAND
- AIR ASTANA
- AIR FRANCE
- AIR INDIA
- AIR SEYCHELLES
- AIR VISTARA
- AUSTRIAN AIRLINES
- AZUR AIR RUSSIA
- BANGKOK AIRWAYS
- BRITISH AIRWAYS
- CAPITAL AIRLINES
- CHINA EASTERN
- CONDOR
- EDELWEISS
- EMIRATES
- ETIHAD AIRWAYS
- EUROWINGS DISCOVER
- FLY DUBAI
- GULF AIR
- INDIGO
- ITA AIRWAYS
- KUWAIT AIRWAYS
- LOT POLISH AIRLINES
- MALDIVIAN
- NEOS
- QATAR AIRWAYS
- SALAM AIR
- SAUDI ARABIAN AIRLINES
- SINGAPORE AIRLINES
- SMARTWINGS
- SRILANKAN AIRLINES
- TURKISH AIRLINES
- US-BANGLA AIRLINES
- WIZZ AIR

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Ministry of Tourism Opens Applications for Maldives Tourism Awards 2023

The Ministry of Tourism has opened applications for the second edition of Maldives Tourism Awards. At a press briefing held at the Ministry of Tourism on 1 June 2023, the Deputy Minister of Tourism, Mr. Asad Riza and Senior Policy Director, Ms. Rifa'ath Rasheed provided details on the award.

This Maldives Tourism Awards 2023 features 59 awards in 5 categories, including newly introduced, Tourism Professionals / Personalities category. Tourist Resorts, Hotels, Guesthouses, Safari Vessels, Travel Agencies, Dive Centers, Water Sports Centers providing services to tourists and local professionals working in the tourism sector of Maldives with a service record of one year or more are eligible to apply for the award. Applications are open until 16th July 2023. The applications will be judged by panels of experts.

Maldives Tourism Awards is an annual National Award launched by the Ministry of Tourism in 2022, to acknowledge and recognize tourist facilities in the Maldives for adopting best practices in delivering outstanding experiences and demonstrating enterprise excellence.

The Minister of Tourism Attends PATA Annual Summit & Adventure Mart in Nepal

The Minister of Tourism Dr. Abdulla Mausoom, attended the PATA Annual Summit & Adventure Mart held in Pokhara, Nepal, from 30 May – 03 June 2023. On his trip to Pokhara, Minister Dr. Mausoom was accompanied by Deputy Minister Mr. Ahmed Athif, Permanent Secretary Ms. Fathimath Nilfa and Senior Policy Director Mr. Ibrahim Farhad.

Speaking at the inaugural function of the event Minister, Dr. Mausoom highlighted the importance of product diversification for tourism success & thanked organizers for the warm hospitality.

The PATA Annual Summit and Adventure Mart embraces a global tourism forum that brings together international thought leaders, industry shapers and senior decision-makers from both the public and private sectors to address issues and opportunities in the development of a responsible and sustainable travel and tourism industry in the Asia Pacific region.

Minister of Tourism Attended PATA Executive Board Meeting

Minister of Tourism Dr. Abdulla Mausoom attended PATA Executive Board Meeting and PATA Board Meeting on 30 May 2023 held in Pokhara, Nepal. This year's topic focuses on tourism as a tool for responsibility and sustainability.

Minister of Tourism Joined as a Speaker at the Panel on “Challenges & Opportunities for Responsible Tourism” at PATA Annual Summit

0n 31st May, Minister Dr. Mausoom joined as a speaker in the Session on "Challenges & Opportunities for Responsible Tourism" at PATA Annual Summit. The session was moderated by Ms. Carman Roberts, The Travel Show presenter of BBC News. Among the speakers of the panel included Dr. Dhananjay Regmi, CEO of Nepal Tourism Board (NTB), Mr. Raki Phillips, the CEO of Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority (RAKTDA) & Mr. Florian Sengstschmid, the CEO of Azerbaijan Tourism Board.

Maldives Represented in the Government Discussions Thematic Session at PATA Annual Summit & Adventure Mart

The Maldives represented by a delegation from the Ministry of Tourism, comprising of the Deputy Minister Mr. Ahmed Athif, Permanent Secretary Ms. Fathimath Nilfa and Senior Policy Director Ibrahim Farhad participated in the Government Discussions on Tourism Industry Human Capital Development Thematic session at the PATA Annual Summit & Adventure Mart 2023 in Pokhara, Nepal.

The Adventure Travel Mart component brings together tourism professionals involved in adventure travel and responsible tourism for unparalleled networking and contracting opportunities to help them access decision makers, meet new clients, expand their networks, establish new relationships and consolidate existing business partnerships.

Minister of Tourism Graces MNU Job Festival

Minister of Tourism Dr. Abdulla Mausoom attended the MNU Fahi Furusathu, as the Chief Guest on 27 May 2023. The MNU Fahi Furusathu is a Job Festival organized by the Maldives National University from 27-28 May 2023 at the MNU Central Administration Building. In his speech Minister Dr. Mausoom thanked the University and all the participants for their contributions to human development. Afterwards Minister toured the stalls.

Ministry of Tourism Attends Maldives Marine Industry Forum

Minister of Tourism Dr. Abdulla Mausoom attended the Maldives Marine Industry Forum held at Jen Hotel on 27 May 2023. The forum, a platform for high-level discussions between Maldivian marine industry stakeholders was organized by Medium Events and endorsed by the National Boating Association of Maldives. It brought together stakeholders from marine industry and had expert panel discussions on opportunities, challenges & solutions for the industry.

Minister Dr. Mausoom participated as Speaker for the Panel Discussion on Boating Tourism and Safety. Panelists for this session included Mr. Ahmed Afrah, Board Member of National Boating Association of Maldives, Mr. Ahmed Shabiq, Managing Director of Allied Insurance Company of the Maldives Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Hussein Nazeer, Director at Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation, and Capt. Mohamed Zaid, Head of Centre for Marine Studies at Maldives National University.

MMPRC Concludes Visit Maldives Storyteller's Conference 2023

Maldives Marketing & PR Corporation, MMPRC concludes Visit Maldives Storytellers' Conference 2023. The event took place on 30th May 2023, at Crossroads Maldives, bringing together esteemed speakers and participants from around the world to celebrate the beauty and allure of storytelling in the Sunny Side of Life.

The Visit Maldives Storytellers' Conference 2023 was a one-of-a-kind gathering that united over 70 content creators, journalists, bloggers, and industry professionals in an immersive experience to discover and share the wonders of Maldives. Over the course of the conference, participants had the opportunity to connect with the local culture, explore breathtaking landscapes, and understand how to create compelling narratives that showcase the true essence of a destination.

Maldives Represented at Riyadh Travel Fair 2023

The Maldives represented by Maldives Marketing and Public Relations Corporation, took part in the Riyadh Travel Fair (RTF) to market the destination in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In partnership with MMPRC, there were 26 participants representing 15 companies taking part in the fair held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 22-24 May 2023. MMPRC's participation in this event was to strengthen brand presence in the KSA market, achieve growth in arrivals, promote halal tourism, and target affluent travellers in the Middle East luxury segment.

RTF 2023 is considered a significant annual event in which leading travel and tourism companies gather with exhibitors representing tourist promotion authorities and tourists companies at the Arab and international levels. RTF is a market for the introduction of tourist products, services, and investments provided by the most significant tourist companies in the world. Corporate travel decision makers, investors, tour operators, travel agents representing VIP clients, and other industry professionals take part in this event every year.

Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa and Signature Collection at Hideaway Honored with Travellers' Choice Awards 2023 by TripAdvisor

News by: Lily Hotels Pvt. Ltd.

Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa and Signature Collection at Hideaway has been honored with the esteemed Travellers' Choice Awards 2023 by TripAdvisor.

This prestigious accolade is bestowed upon properties that consistently receive exceptional reviews from discerning travelers, solidifying their reputation as top-tier destinations. Furthermore, these awards are exclusively granted to properties that rank within the top 10% on TripAdvisor, reaffirming the resort's unwavering dedication to excellence and unwavering commitment to quality.

OBLU XPERIENCE Ailafushi Serves as Final Stop for First Traveller to Visit Every Country Without Flying

News by: The Lux Collective

OBLU XPERIENCE Ailafushi was chosen as the final stop for Torbjørn C. Pedersen (Thor), a Danish traveller and adventurer, who has become the first person to visit every single country in the world entirely without using air travel – and all in a single unbroken journey that has taken 10 years.

Thor's project, called Once Upon A Saga, started in 2013 in Denmark and has taken him through Europe, the Americas, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific by car, bus, train, boat and even on foot. He arrived in Male, capital of the Maldives in the Indian Ocean, on board a container ship to reach his final country of 203, after which he will return to Denmark – without flying.

Thor originally expected it to last four years, but it ended up taking much longer due to challenges including visa issues, political unrest and the COVID-19 pandemic, which kept him in Hong Kong for two years just when there were only a few countries left to visit.

Thor aims to use the project to promote peace, understanding, and cultural exchange between countries and to showcase the beauty and diversity of the world. He has also worked to raise awareness of global issues such as poverty, inequality, and climate change, including through work with the international Red Cross.

Soneva Jani Hosts Asia Premiere of 'Children of Shanghai'

News by: Soneva

Soneva Jani, the iconic over-water resort in the Maldives' Noonu Atoll, celebrated the Asia premiere of Children of Shanghai with a private screening at Cinema Paradiso on May 17, 2023. The hour-long documentary, narrated by British adventurer Bear Grylls, tells the tales of the first fostered children in China whose lives were dramatically changed thanks to the Care for Children charity. The event was hosted by Chinese singer-songwriter G.E.M., a passionate patron who also donated all the profit of merchandise from her latest album Revelation to the charity.

The premiere took place in the intimate setting of Soneva Jani's outdoor movie theatre, with all ticket proceeds from the evening donated to Care for Children. After a private screening of Children of Shanghai, a question and answer session took place with open dialogue around human compassion and the importance of coming together.

Ministry of Tourism invites all tourism stakeholders to submit updates and news highlights to be featured in the Ministry's weekly online publication "Maldives Tourism Updates".

Submissions are to be made with related photos latest by 12pm on every Wednesday via email to;
magazine@tourism.gov.mv

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