MINISTRY OF TOURISM
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

MALDIVES TOURISM UPDATES

Issue - 04 | 26th January 2023

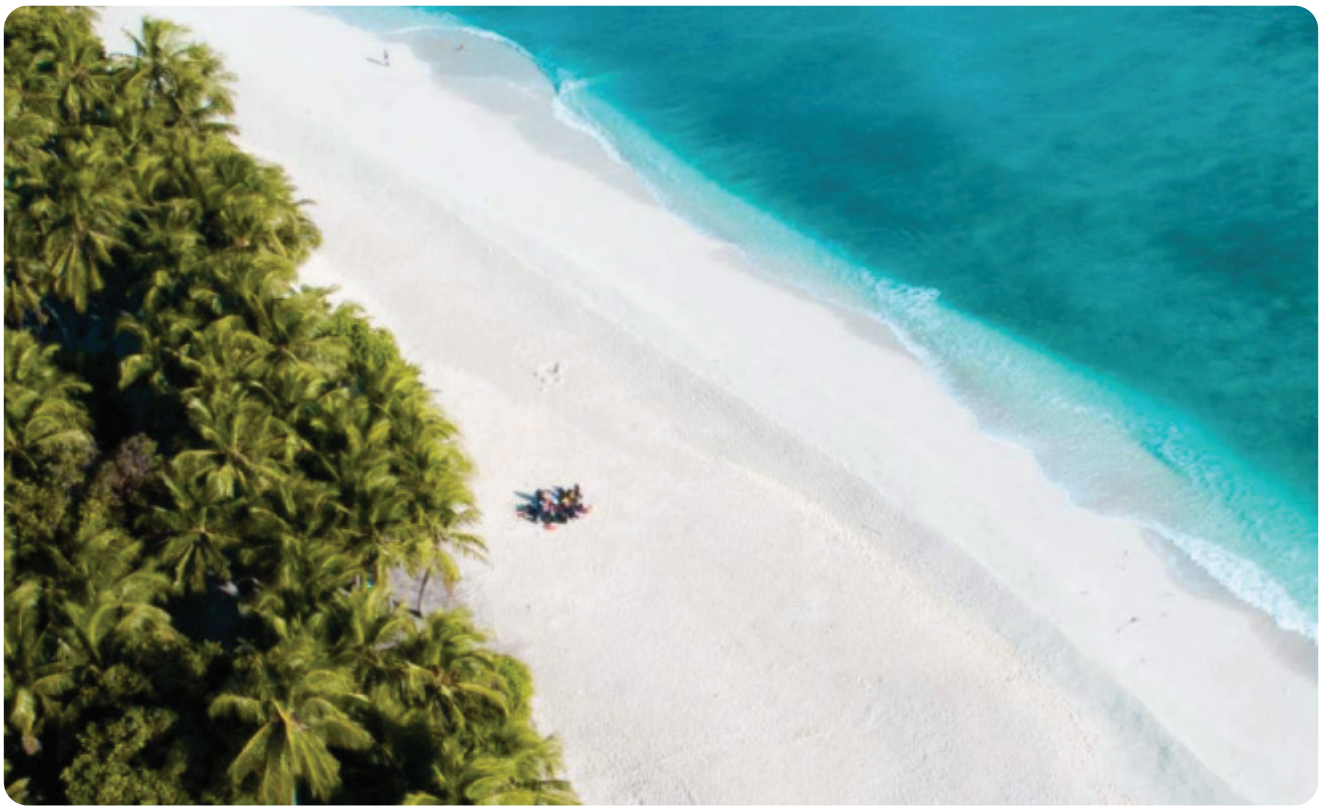
ARRIVAL UPDATES

2021
73,501
as of 25th January
1,321,937
Total end Year

2022
106,826
as of 25th January
1,675,303
Total end Year

2023
138,593
as of 25th January
+29.7%
Change 2023/2022

Ministry of Tourism Opens Invitation for Bids of New Islands for Resort Development



TOURIST ARRIVALS BY MONTH

	Arrivals			Growth %	Daily Average 2023	Avg. Duration of Stay 2023 (days)
	2021	2022	2023	2023/2022		
January (1st - 25th)	73,501	106,826	138,593	29.7	5,544	8.1
TOTAL	**73,501**	**106,826**	**138,593**	**29.7**	**5,544**	**8.1**

TOP 10 MARKETS 2022

(end December)

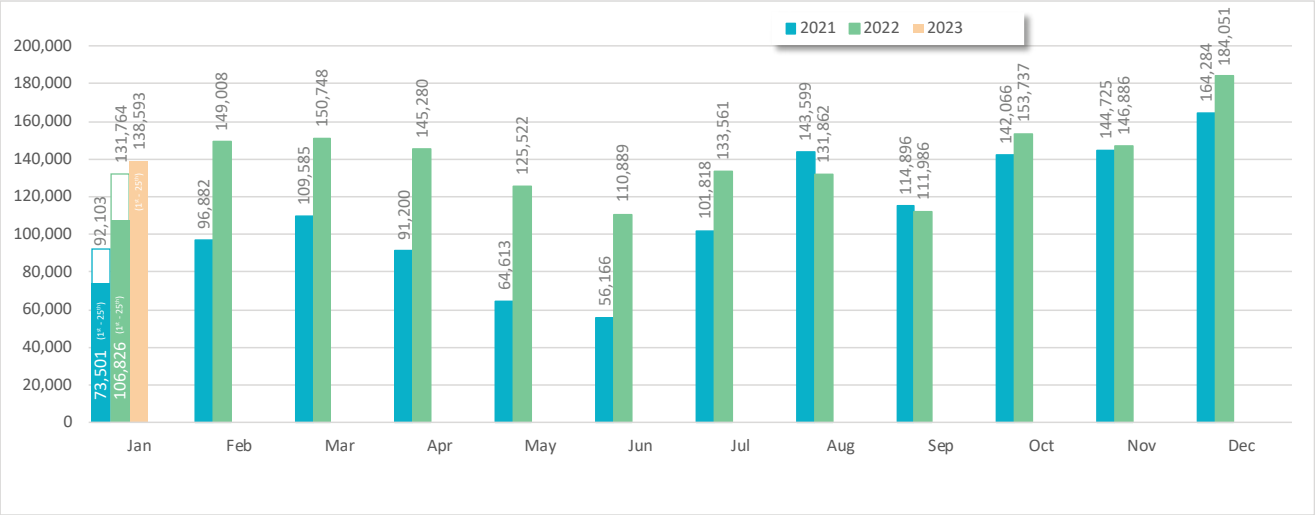
	Arrivals	Market Share (%)	Rank 2021
1. India	241,369	14.4	1
2. Russia	201,957	12.1	2
3. United Kingdom	179,312	10.7	4
4. Germany	133,424	8.0	3
5. Italy	97,627	5.8	10
6. United States	80,691	4.8	5
7. France	48,340	2.9	9
8. Spain	42,123	2.5	7
9. South Korea	35,947	2.1	32
10. Switzerland	34,608	1.1	11

TOP 10 MARKETS 2023

(as of 25th January)

	Arrivals	Market Share (%)	Rank 2022
1. Russia	19,389	14.0	2
2. India	14,350	10.4	1
3. Italy	13,848	10.0	5
4. United Kingdom	11,496	8.3	3
5. Germany	8,253	6.0	4
6. USA	6,425	4.6	6
7. France	5,075	3.7	7
8. China	4,477	3.2	27
9. Kazakhstan	2,693	1.9	15
10. South Korea	2,573	1.9	9

MONTHLY ARRIVALS, 2021 - 2023



TOURIST ACCOMMODATION - 2023

(as of 25th January)

	Total Capacity		Operational Capacity	
	Nos.	Beds	Nos.	Beds
Resorts	172	41,945	168	41,049
Hotels	13	1,640	13	1,640
Guesthouses	877	14,178	877	14,178
Safari Vessels	157	2,901	157	2,901
Total	**1,219**	**60,664**	**1,215**	**59,768**

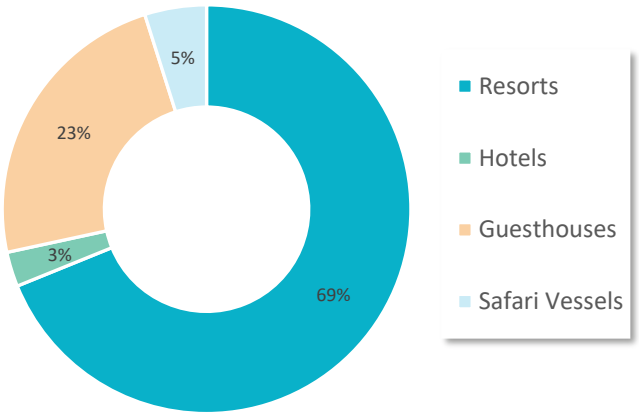
SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF HOTELS & GUESTHOUSES (OPERATIONAL)

(as of 25th January 2023)

	Atolls	Islands	Beds
Guesthouses	20	116	14,178
Hotels	8	7	1,640

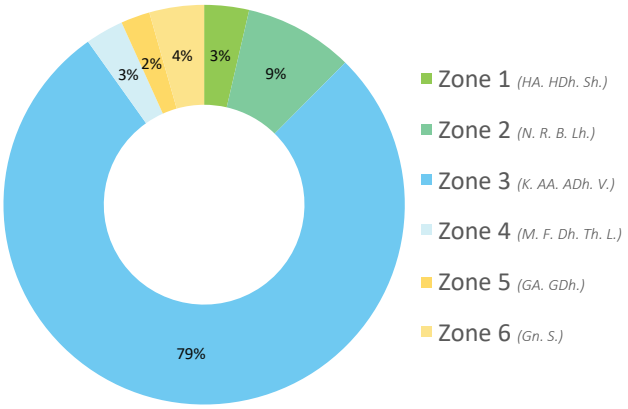
SHARE OF BEDS BY TYPE OF FACILITIES

(In Operation as of 25h January 2023)



DISTRIBUTION OF GUESTHOUSE/HOTEL BEDS BY ZONES

(In Operation as of 25th January 2023)



DISTRIBUTION OF TOURIST FACILITIES BY ZONES

(as of 25th January 2023)

		Resorts		Hotels		Guesthouses	
		Nos.	Beds	Nos.	Beds	Nos.	Beds
Zone 1		**5**	**1,008**	**1**	**128**	**45**	**461**
Haa Alif (Ha)		***2***	***446***			***21***	***219***
1	Dhidhdhoo					3	25
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***			***7***	***54***
1	Bilehfahi					1	8
2	Funadhoo					1	8
3	Kanditheemu					1	8
4	Komandoo					1	8
5	Lhaimagu					1	8
6	Maroshi					1	8
7	Milandhoo					1	6
Zone 2		**49**	**12,216**	**1**	**150**	**93**	**1,228**
Noonu (N)		***8***	***2,542***			***15***	***168***
1	Fodhdhoo					5	78
2	Holhudhoo					3	20
3	Lhohi					1	20
4	Manadhoo					2	16
5	Velidhoo					4	34
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)		***16***	***3,128***	***1***	***150***	***63***	***924***
1	Dharavandhoo					14	192
2	Dhonfanu					1	8
3	Fehendhoo					4	66
4	Finolhas			1	150	1	62
5	Fulhadhoo					8	138
6	Goidhoo					5	72
7	Hithaadhoo					2	30
8	Kamadhoo					12	174
9	Kendhoo					3	26
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**	**21,076**	**9**	**1,062**	**646**	**11,251**
Kaafu (K)		***55***	***13,804***	***7***	***954***	***342***	***7,403***
1	Greater Male' Area			7	954	128	3,443
2	Dhiffushi					24	474
3	Gaafaru					8	86
4	Gulhi					13	216
5	Guraidhoo					27	340
6	Himmafushi					19	220
7	Huraa					19	250
8	Kaashidhoo					6	64
9	Maafushi					64	1,790
10	Thulusdhoo					34	520
Alifu Alifu (AA)		***11***	***2,224***			***156***	***1,940***
1	Bodufulhadhoo					7	86
2	Feridhoo					10	116
3	Himandhoo					4	32
4	Maalhos					2	16
5	Mathiveri					13	124
6	Rasdhoo					30	390
7	Thoddoo					57	734
8	Ukulhas					33	442
Alifu Dhaalu (Adh)		***17***	***4,354***	***1***	***56***	***94***	***1,232***
1	Dhangethi					19	266
2	Dhidhdhoo					2	18
3	Dhigurah					23	414
4	Fenfushi					2	18
5	Hangnaameedhoo					15	170
6	Kunburudhoo					1	12
7	Maamigili					7	74
8	Mahibadhoo					10	126
9	Mandhoo			1	56	4	28
10	Omadhoo					11	106
Vaavu (V)		***4***	***694***	***1***	***52***	***54***	***676***
1	Felidhoo					7	106
2	Fulidhoo					20	214
3	Keyodhoo					16	172
4	Thinadhoo			1	52	10	158
5	Rakeedhoo					1	26
Zone 4		**16**	**4,118**	**0**	**0**	**34**	**482**
Meemu (M)		***3***	***614***			***6***	***50***
1	Dhiggaru					1	6
2	Madduvari					1	8
3	Mulah					1	12
4	Muli					2	18
5	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**	**21**	**222**
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***			***8***	***122***
1	Faresmaathodaa					1	14
2	Hoadedhdhoo					4	54
3	Thinadhoo					1	24
4	Vaadhoo					2	30
Zone 6		**2**	**802**	**1**	**156**	**38**	**534**
Gnaviyani (Gn)						***19***	***262***
1	Fuvahmulah					19	262
Seenu (S)		***2***	***802***	***1***	***156***	***19***	***272***
1	Feydhoo					4	48
2	Gan			1	156		
3	Hithadhoo					7	138
4	Hulhudhoo					1	12
5	Maradhoo					2	32
6	Maradhoo Feydhoo					2	20
7	Meedhoo					3	22
Total		**168**	**41,049**	**13**	**1,640**	**877**	**14,178**

DIRECT CONNECTIONS TO THE MALDIVES

(updated 18th January 2023)

FLIGHTS OPERATING TO THE MALDIVES

(as of 25th January 2023)

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

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Ministry of Tourism Opens Invitation for Bids of New Islands for Resort Development

On 23rd January 2023, the Ministry of Tourism has opened up invitation for bids for the development of 14 new islands from 9 atolls as tourist resorts. These include Alidhuffarufinolhu and Medhufushi in Haa Alif Atoll, Kudafarufasgandu in Haa Dhaalu Atoll, Eh'thigili (with 10 hectares from R. Alifushi Lagoon) in Raa Atoll, a Plot of Lagoon from Kaafu Atoll Kaashidhoo, Boahuraa in Meemu Atoll, 2 Plots of Lagoon from Faafu Atoll Nilandhoo, Olhufushi in Thaa Atoll, Olhufushifinolhu and Beyramauddoo in Gaafu Alif Atoll, and from Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll, Funadhooviligilla, Kalhehuttaa and Fereythavilin'gili (as a cluster with Dhekaan'baa, Koderataa & Island on coordinate number 0"22', 12.86" N 7 30 l', 28.98', E).

Deadline to submit bids for the islands in Haa Alif, Haa Dhaalu, Raa and Kaafu Atoll is 1000 hrs on 28 March 2023 and for the islands in Meemu, Faafu & Thaa is 1000 hrs on 29 March 2023. Deadline for the islands in Gaafu Alif and Gaafu Dhaalu is 1000 hrs on 30 March 2023. Information sessions for the bidders for all islands is to be held on 6th February and 5th March 2023 via ZOOM at 1000hrs. Details on the Bid Document and deadline for submission of bids have been announced on the Ministry's website.

UNWTO Startup Competition for Island Destinations

The Ministry of Tourism rolls out a circular to all tourist facilities in the Maldives, encouraging them to participate in the UNWTO Startup Competition for Island Destinations.

The UNWTO Startup Competition for Island Destinations is a joint effort by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and the Institución Ferial de Canarias (INFECAR) to source the most sustainable, innovative and disruptive business models to provide answers and smart solutions to the complex challenges island destinations are facing, especially after the pandemic.

The competition is aimed at startups and entrepreneurs from across the tourism value chain to facilitate the offering of innovative and smart solutions related to the tourism sector of island destinations, in two categories; Deep Tech: New technologies applied to sustainability, and Innovation & Digitalization for Island Destinations. Deadline to submit applications for this competition is 27 February 2027

Maldives Among the First Destinations for Group Tours from China

Maldives is included among the first group of destinations for Chinese group tours after the country eased travel restrictions for its citizens. According to the Embassy of China in Maldives, on 20th January the government of China announced that starting from 6th February 2023, Chinese travel agencies and online travel companies will resume pilot outbound group tours for Chinese citizens to 20 different countries and Maldives is among the first group of countries for these group tours.

China, the number one market of Maldives prior to the global pandemic, had its borders closed for outbound travel. Travel restrictions started easing in December 2022 and China resumed direct flights to the Maldives on 18 January 2023. The Chinese market has grown rapidly since then and has reached the top ten tourist generating market list of the Maldives with 3.2% shares by 25th January.

Mastercard Launches “Priceless Maldives”

On 25th January 2023, Mastercard launched “Priceless Maldives” platform at a ceremony held at Hulhumale’ Phase 2. The Maldives has been included as the newest destination to be added in this prestigious “Priceless” list by Mastercard as part its commitment to uplift the Maldives economy, strengthen support and partnership with various stakeholders in the community.

Priceless Maldives, is curated with a set of selected experiences which will help to showcase the true authentic beauty and lifestyle of Maldives to a global audience. This platform will open up more opportunities to the local communities, resorts and other stakeholders to also showcase their unique services and experiences which could give the traveler an escapade money cannot buy.

“Priceless” is a digital asset owned by Mastercard which is a platform showcasing a host of exclusively curated unique experiences to the discerning adventure seeker based on proprietary research into the interest of consumers. Based on these interests, cities across the world are carefully picked to offer a one-of-a-kind experience to its customers globally.

COMO Maalifushi Appoints Two Locals to Key Leadership Roles

Mohamed Fareen

Ahmed Rasheed Ibrahim

COMO Maalifushi has appointed two locals, Mr. Mohamed Fareen as Director and Mr. Ahmed Rasheed Ibrahim as Assistant Director of Rooms Division.

Fareen joined COMO from COMO Cocoa Island in 2002 and was transferred to COMO Maalifushi in 2015 as Fleet Manager. He was promoted to Front Office Manager in December 2017 with his excellent performance. In his new position as Director of Rooms, Fareen will oversee the Rooms Division, Marine Sports Centre and Security Department operation. With this promotion, he will be reporting to the General Manager and will be a part of the Planning Committee of the resort.

Ahmed Rasheed joined COMO Cocoa Island in 2004 was transferred to Maalifushi in 2021 as the Executive Housekeeper and has been a dedicated and valuable member of the Housekeeping Team since. In his new role as the Assistant Director of Rooms Division, Ahmed will oversee the operations of the Rooms Division and will work directly under Rooms Division Director.

News by: *COMO Maalifushi*

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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