

# MALDIVES TOURISM UPDATES

16<sup>th</sup> September 2021

2021  
Vol - 37

## 1. Tourist Arrivals

From 1st January 2021 to 15th September 2021, a total of 817,387 tourists arrived in the Maldives.

The top source market for the tourist arrival was India with 184,267 arrivals, followed by Russia with 165,453 tourist arrivals. Germany stood third with 48,573 tourist arrivals. Other top source markets include USA, Ukraine, Saudi Arabia, Spain, United Kingdom, Kazakhstan and France.



Total Arrivals 2019

**1,702,887**

as at end December 2019

Total Arrivals 2020

**555,494**

as at end December 2020

Total Arrivals 2021

**817,387**

As of 15th September 2021

|  | Arrivals         |                |                | Growth (%)   |               | Daily Average<br>2021 | Duration<br>of Stay<br>(Days) |
|--|------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
|  | 2019             | 2020           | 2021           | 2021/2019    | 2021/2020     |                       |                               |
| January  | 151,552          | 173,347        | 92,103         | -39.2        | -46.9         | 2,971                 | 9.2                           |
| February                                       | 168,583          | 149,785        | 96,882         | -42.5        | -35.3         | 3,460                 | 8.8                           |
| March  | 162,843          | 59,630         | 109,585        | -32.7        | +83.8         | 3,535                 | 8.7                           |
| April  | 163,114          | 13             | 91,200         | -44.1        | N/A           | 3,040                 | 9.3                           |
| May  | 103,022          | 41             | 64,613         | -37.3        | N/A           | 2,084                 | 9.1                           |
| June   | 113,475          | 1              | 56,166         | -50.5        | N/A           | 1,872                 | 9.0                           |
| July   | 132,144          | 1,752          | 101,818        | -22.9        | N/A           | 3,284                 | 9.1                           |
| August   | 139,338          | 7,636          | 143,599        | +3.1         | 1,780.6       | 4,632                 | 9.6                           |
| September(1 <sup>st</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> )  | 57,079           | 4,458          | 61,421         | +7.6         | 1,277.8       | 4,095                 | 8.6                           |
| <b>Total (as of 15<sup>th</sup> September)</b> | <b>1,191,150</b> | <b>396,663</b> | <b>817,387</b> | <b>-31.4</b> | <b>+106.1</b> | <b>3,168</b>          | <b>9.1</b>                    |

## Top 10 Markets 2021

As of 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021

| Market         | Arrivals | Share (%) | Rank |
|----------------|----------|-----------|------|
| India          | 184,236  | 22.5      | 01   |
| Russia         | 165,452  | 20.2      | 02   |
| Germany        | 48,571   | 5.9       | 03   |
| U.S.A          | 32,976   | 4.0       | 04   |
| Ukraine        | 27,695   | 3.4       | 05   |
| Saudi Arabia   | 27,380   | 3.3       | 06   |
| Spain          | 24,023   | 2.9       | 07   |
| United Kingdom | 17,784   | 2.2       | 08   |
| Kazakhstan     | 17,512   | 2.1       | 09   |
| France         | 15,425   | 1.9       | 10   |

## Top 10 Markets 2020

end December 2020

| Market         | Arrivals | Share (%) | Rank |
|----------------|----------|-----------|------|
| India          | 62,960   | 11.3      | 01   |
| Russia         | 61,387   | 11.1      | 02   |
| United Kingdom | 52,720   | 9.5       | 03   |
| Italy          | 46,690   | 8.4       | 04   |
| Germany        | 36,435   | 6.6       | 05   |
| China          | 34,245   | 6.2       | 06   |
| France         | 28,031   | 5.0       | 07   |
| U.S.A          | 19,759   | 3.6       | 08   |
| Switzerland    | 12,517   | 2.3       | 09   |
| Ukraine        | 10,343   | 1.9       | 10   |

## Top 10 Markets 2019

end December 2019

| Market         | Arrivals | Share (%) | Rank |
|----------------|----------|-----------|------|
| China          | 284,029  | 16.7      | 01   |
| India          | 166,030  | 9.7       | 02   |
| Italy          | 136,343  | 8.0       | 03   |
| Germany        | 131,561  | 7.7       | 04   |
| United Kingdom | 126,199  | 7.4       | 05   |
| Russia         | 83,369   | 4.9       | 06   |
| France         | 59,738   | 3.5       | 07   |
| U.S.A          | 54,474   | 3.2       | 08   |
| Japan          | 44,251   | 2.6       | 09   |
| Australia      | 39,928   | 2.3       | 10   |

## Maldives Tourism Recovers

As the Maldives recovers from the COVID-19 situation, tourist arrivals to the Maldives bounce back. On 16th July 2021 with a total of 555,006 tourists arrivals reached and exceeded the 2020 annual total of 555,494. By 15th September the total arrivals to the Maldives exceeded 800,000 with an increase of 106% compared with that of 2020. Arrivals is gaining momentum in July as COVID-19 restrictions eased and borders reopened for South Asian markets. Daily average arrivals remain above 4,000 as of 15th September 2021.

While major markets such as Russia and India made full recovery with strong positive growth rates, new markets emerged from the European Region and the Middle East. As of 15th September 2021, top ten source markets to the Maldives were, India with 22.5% shares, Russia with 20.2% shares, Germany with 5.9% shares, U.S.A with 4.0% shares, Ukraine with 3.4% shares, Saudi Arabia with 3.3%, Spain with 2.9% shares, United Kingdom with 2.2% shares, Kazakhstan with 2.1% shares, and France with 1.9% shares.

### Recovering Markets / Regions

| From 1st January to 15th September 2021 | Arrivals |        |         | Growth (%) |           |
|---|----------|--------|---------|------------|-----------|
|   | 2019     | 2020   | 2021    | 2019/2021  | 2020/2021 |
| Kazakhstan                              | 3,409    | 2,949  | 17,512  | 413.8      | 493.8     |
| Ukraine                                 | 8,862    | 4,944  | 27,695  | 212.5      | 460.2     |
| Russia                                  | 55,837   | 29,963 | 165,452 | 196.3      | 452.2     |
| Romania                                 | 6,313    | 4,076  | 12,598  | 99.6       | 209.1     |
| Brazil                                  | 6,683    | 3,024  | 11,371  | 70.1       | 276.0     |
| India                                   | 109,728  | 35,126 | 184,263 | 67.9       | 424.6     |
| United Arab Emirates                    | 7,571    | 3,582  | 11,192  | 47.8       | 212.5     |
| Saudi Arabia                            | 19,884   | 7,412  | 27,380  | 37.7       | 269.4     |
| Czech Republic                          | 9,534    | 4,598  | 12,701  | 33.2       | 176.2     |
| Poland                                  | 12,934   | 5,744  | 15,028  | 16.2       | 161.6     |

|                           |         |        |         |       |       |
|---------------------------|---------|--------|---------|-------|-------|
| Central/Eastern Europe    | 119,772 | 66,036 | 287,352 | 139.9 | 335.1 |
| South Asia                | 128,463 | 40,037 | 197,862 | 54.0  | 394.2 |
| Middle East               | 44,841  | 16,723 | 65,603  | 46.3  | 292.3 |
| Africa                    | 12,220  | 3,604  | 18,032  | 47.6  | 400.3 |
| East Mediterranean Europe | 13,796  | 3,900  | 15,096  | 9.4   | 287.1 |

## 2. Tourist Accommodation

### Accommodation Facilities by Type

As of 15th September 2021

| Facility Type        | Total Capacity |               | Operational Capacity |               |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
|                      | Nos.           | Beds          | Nos.                 | Beds          |
| Resorts              | 163            | 38,554        | 155                  | 36,832        |
| Hotels & Guesthouses | 762            | 13,580        | 570                  | 11,006        |
| Safari Vessels       | 161            | 3,004         | 144                  | 2,846         |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>1,086</b>   | <b>55,138</b> | <b>869</b>           | <b>50,684</b> |

### Guesthouses in Operation by Atolls and Islands

As of 15th September 2021

| Atoll / Island    | Nos.      | Beds       |
|-------------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Haa Alifu</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>128</b> |
| 1. Hoarafushi     | 2         | 24         |
| 2. Kelaa          | 4         | 52         |
| 3. Vashafaru      | 5         | 52         |
| <b>Haa Dhaalu</b> | <b>5</b>  | <b>66</b>  |
| 1. Hanimaadhoo    | 4         | 56         |
| 2. Nolhivaranfaru | 1         | 10         |
| <b>Shaviyani</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>24</b>  |
| 1. Bilehfahi      | 1         | 8          |
| 2. Kanditheemu    | 1         | 8          |
| 3. Komandoo       | 1         | 8          |
| <b>Noonu</b>      | <b>6</b>  | <b>64</b>  |
| 1. Fodhdhoo       | 1         | 24         |
| 2. Holhudhoo      | 1         | 6          |
| 3. Velidhoo       | 4         | 34         |
| <b>Raa</b>        | <b>2</b>  | <b>22</b>  |
| 1. Rasgetheemu    | 1         | 12         |
| 2. Maakurathu     | 1         | 10         |
| <b>Baa</b>        | <b>36</b> | <b>622</b> |
| 1. Dharavandhoo   | 9         | 140        |
| 2. Dhonfanu       | 1         | 8          |
| 3. Eydhafushi     | 1         | 8          |
| 4. Fehendhoo      | 2         | 36         |
| 5. Finolhas       | 1         | 62         |
| 6. Fulhadhoo      | 4         | 88         |
| 7. Goidhoo        | 3         | 48         |
| 8. Kamadhoo       | 8         | 114        |
| 9. Kudarikilu     | 1         | 22         |
| 10. Maalhos       | 5         | 82         |
| 11. Thulhaadhoo   | 1         | 14         |

| Atoll / Island          | Nos.       | Beds         |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>Lhaviyani</b>        | <b>4</b>   | <b>44</b>    |
| 1. Hinnavaru            | 1          | 12           |
| 2. Kurendhoo            | 1          | 6            |
| 3. Olhuveli Fushi       | 1          | 10           |
| 4. Naifaru              | 1          | 16           |
| <b>Kaafu</b>            | <b>220</b> | <b>4,972</b> |
| 1. Greater Male' Region | 65         | 1,934        |
| 2. Dhiffushi            | 23         | 388          |
| 3. Gaafaru              | 6          | 62           |
| 4. Gulhi                | 7          | 108          |
| 5. Guraidhoo            | 21         | 286          |
| 6. Himmafushi           | 12         | 122          |
| 7. Huraa                | 14         | 190          |
| 8. Kaashidhoo           | 4          | 48           |
| 9. Maafushi             | 40         | 1,400        |
| 10. Thulusdhoo          | 28         | 434          |
| <b>Alifu Alifu</b>      | <b>114</b> | <b>1,480</b> |
| 1. Bodufulhadhoo        | 5          | 56           |
| 2. Feridhoo             | 7          | 76           |
| 3. Himandhoo            | 3          | 24           |
| 4. Maalhos              | 2          | 16           |
| 5. Mathiveri            | 7          | 76           |
| 6. Rasdhoo              | 24         | 334          |
| 7. Thoddoo              | 42         | 552          |
| 8. Ukulhas              | 24         | 346          |
| <b>Alifu Dhaalu</b>     | <b>62</b>  | <b>872</b>   |
| 1. Dhangethi            | 12         | 182          |
| 2. Dhidhdhoo            | 1          | 12           |
| 3. Dhigurah             | 13         | 278          |
| 4. Fenfushi             | 1          | 12           |
| 5. Hangnaameedhoo       | 12         | 128          |
| 6. Maamigili            | 4          | 42           |
| 7. Mahibadhoo           | 8          | 112          |
| 8. Omadhoo              | 11         | 106          |
| <b>Vaavu</b>            | <b>43</b>  | <b>492</b>   |
| 1. Felidhoo             | 5          | 46           |
| 2. Fulidhoo             | 17         | 182          |
| 3. Keyodhoo             | 13         | 116          |
| 4. Thinadhoo            | 8          | 148          |
| <b>Meemu</b>            | <b>2</b>   | <b>20</b>    |
| 1. Madduvari            | 1          | 8            |
| 2. Mulah                | 1          | 12           |

| Atoll / Island      | Nos.       | Beds         |
|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>Faafu</b>        | <b>7</b>   | <b>88</b>    |
| 1. Magoodhoo        | 1          | 8            |
| 2. Nilandhoo        | 6          | 80           |
| <b>Dhaalu</b>       | <b>2</b>   | <b>50</b>    |
| 1. Bandidhoo        | 1          | 14           |
| 2. Kudahuvadhoo     | 1          | 36           |
| <b>Thaa</b>         | <b>4</b>   | <b>56</b>    |
| 1. Gaadhiffushi     | 1          | 12           |
| 2. Kinbidhoo        | 2          | 36           |
| 3. Thimarafushi     | 1          | 12           |
| <b>Laamu</b>        | <b>3</b>   | <b>138</b>   |
| 1. Gan              | 3          | 138          |
| <b>Gaafu Alifu</b>  | <b>4</b>   | <b>34</b>    |
| 1. Kolamaafushi     | 1          | 8            |
| 2. Maamendhoo       | 1          | 8            |
| 3. Nilandhoo        | 1          | 6            |
| 4. Villingili       | 1          | 12           |
| <b>Gaafu Dhaalu</b> | <b>6</b>   | <b>92</b>    |
| 1. Faresmaathodaa   | 1          | 14           |
| 2. Hoadehdhdhoo     | 3          | 44           |
| 3. Thinadhoo        | 1          | 24           |
| 4. Vaadhoo          | 1          | 10           |
| <b>Gnaviyani</b>    | <b>17</b>  | <b>206</b>   |
| 1. Fuvahmulah       | 17         | 206          |
| <b>Seenu</b>        | <b>9</b>   | <b>176</b>   |
| 1. Feydhoo          | 1          | 22           |
| 2. Hithadhoo        | 3          | 94           |
| 3. Hulhudhoo        | 1          | 12           |
| 4. Maradhoo Feydhoo | 2          | 20           |
| 5. Meedhoo          | 2          | 28           |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>560</b> | <b>9,646</b> |

# 3. Airlines & Connectivity

Maldives is Connected to the World



- |    |                    |    |                        |    |                        |
|----|--------------------|----|------------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1  | BRITISH AIRWAYS    | 2  | EDELWEISS              | 3  | LUFTHANSA              |
| 4  | AZUR AIR RUSSIA    | 5  | TURKISH AIRLINES       | 6  | QATAR AIRWAYS          |
| 7  | FLY DUBAI          | 8  | EMIRATES               | 9  | ETIHAD AIRWAYS         |
| 10 | GOAIR              | 11 | INDIGO                 | 12 | AIR INDIA              |
| 13 | SRILANKAN AIRLINES | 14 | AEROFLOT               | 15 | SPICEJET               |
| 16 | AZUR AIR UKRIANE   | 17 | AIR ASTANA             | 18 | SINGAPORE AIRLINES     |
| 19 | SILK AIR           | 20 | AIR FRANCE             | 21 | GULF AIR               |
| 22 | AUSTRIAN AIRLINES  | 23 | CONDOR                 | 24 | AIR VISTARA            |
| 25 | UZBEKISTAN AIRWAYS | 26 | UKRAINE INT'L AIRLINES | 27 | SCAT AIRLINES          |
| 28 | GULLIVAIR          | 29 | LOT POLISH AIRLINES    | 30 | SAUDI ARABIAN AIRLINES |
| 31 | BLUE PANAROMA      | 32 | IBERIA                 | 33 | AIR INDIA EXPRESS      |

## International Scheduled Flights

(as of 15th September 2021)

| Operator               | No. of Passengers | No. of Movements |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Emirates               | 155,273           | 1,874            |
| Qatar Airways          | 137,662           | 1,594            |
| Indigo                 | 105,587           | 1,504            |
| Aeroflot               | 100,319           | 670              |
| Go Air                 | 63,847            | 1,002            |
| Flydubai               | 42,708            | 844              |
| Turkish Airlines       | 38,595            | 590              |
| Ethiad Airways         | 27,485            | 482              |
| Maldivian              | 20,245            | 570              |
| Lufthansa              | 18,634            | 186              |
| Azur Air Russia        | 18,382            | 70               |
| Spicejet               | 15,250            | 404              |
| Saudi Arabian Airlines | 12,919            | 242              |
| Condor                 | 12,285            | 126              |
| Srilankan Airlines     | 10,451            | 896              |
| Edelweiss              | 9,142             | 112              |
| Austrian Airlines      | 7,996             | 76               |
| Air India              | 7,500             | 154              |
| Gulf Air               | 6,168             | 386              |
| Singapore Airlines     | 5,367             | 284              |
| Air Seychelles         | 3,206             | 74               |
| Blue Panorama          | 3,058             | 22               |
| British Airways        | 3,004             | 88               |
| Air India Express      | 2,388             | 32               |
| Silk Air               | 1,264             | 50               |
| Air France             | 166               | 06               |
| Others                 | 0                 | 258              |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>828,919</b>    | <b>12,596</b>    |

## International Chartered Flights

(as of 15th September 2021)

| Operator              | No. of Passengers | No. of Movements |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Air Astana            | 12,032            | 148              |
| Azur Air Ukraine      | 6,626             | 46               |
| Iberia                | 5,082             | 52               |
| Gullivair             | 4,667             | 36               |
| Ukraine International | 3,647             | 30               |
| Scat Airlines         | 3,534             | 32               |
| Air Vistara           | 2,644             | 64               |
| Uzbekistan Airways    | 1,633             | 26               |
| Lot Polish Airlines   | 1,334             | 12               |
| Blue Air              | 187               | 02               |
| Others                | 46                | 120              |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>41,432</b>     | <b>568</b>       |

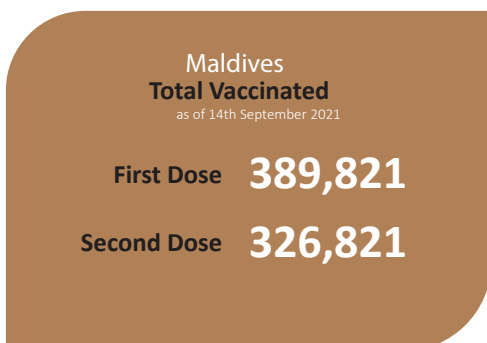
## 4. COVID-19 Cases & Vaccination Update

### COVID-19 Case Updates

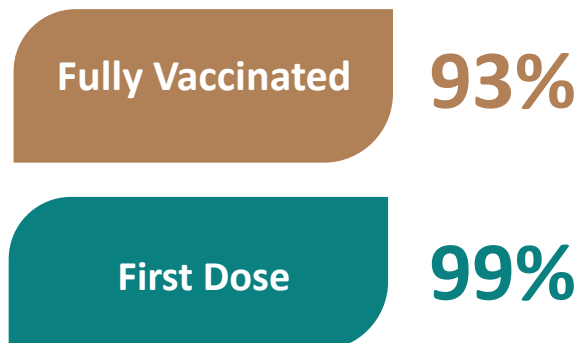
As at 15th September 2021



### Vaccination Updates



### Resort employees Vaccination





## 5. News Highlights

### Maldives Re-elected for the Chair of UNWTO Commission for South Asia



At the 58th Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for South Asia, Maldives has been re-elected for the Chair of the Commission for South Asia of the United Nations World Tourism Organization, UNWTO for a two-year term (2021-2023). The meeting held on 14th September 2021 provided a platform for member states to identify the challenges, exchange ideas and activate the solutions to RestartTourism in the region. The meeting was attended by 25 members from 7 countries.

### Ambassador of Hungary Paid a Courtesy Call on Minister of Tourism



The Ambassador of Hungary, H. E. András László Király paid a courtesy call on Minister of Tourism Dr. Abdulla Mausoom on 13 September 2021. Discussions were focused on enhancing cooperation between the two countries in the tourism sector. The Honorary Consul of Hungary in Maldives, H.E Mohamed Ali Janah also joined the meeting.

### Ambassador of Argentina Paid a Courtesy Call on Minister of Tourism



Minister of Tourism Dr. Abdulla Mausoom received a courtesy call from the newly appointed Ambassador of the Argentine Republic, H.E. Dr Hugo Javier Gobbi on 15th September 2021. During the meeting they discussed ways to continue and enhance tourism cooperation between the two countries.

## Laamu Aoll Council Members Meet with Minister of Tourism



Laamu Atoll Maabaidhoo Council members visited the Ministry of Tourism and met with Minister Dr. Abdulla Mausoom on 8th September 2021. During the meetings discussions were focused on Tourism Diversification and Localization options for the islands and cooperation between the Council and Ministry of Tourism

## Tourism Diversification and Localization Team Visits Faafu & Dhaalu Atoll



On its tour of local islands to promote tourism diversification and localization in the atoll, the Tourism Diversification and Localization team from the Ministry of visited Faafu and Dhaalu Atoll from 8th – 12th September 2021. During the Faafu atoll lag of the tour, the team was accompanied by Faafu Atoll Council President Mr. Ali Mohamed and for the Dhaalu sector, Dhaalu Atoll Council President Mr. Ahmed Shafiu joined the team. Over the course of the trip, the team travelled to 5 islands of the Faafu Atoll and 6 islands of Dhaalu Atoll. Meetings were held with the island council, the Women’s Development Committee and relevant private stakeholders. Discussions were focused on promoting Tourism Diversification & Localization challenges and concerns in developing tourism in the islands.



## Visit Maldives Launches Campaign with Tatler Malaysia



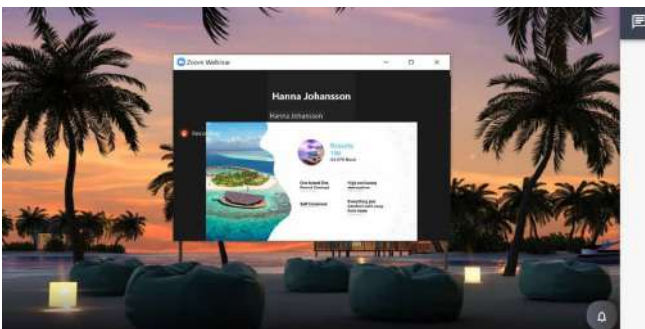
Visit Maldives has commenced a digital marketing campaign with Tatler Malaysia to maintain destination presence and promote Maldives as a leading safe haven destination targeting high-income travelers in the Malaysian and Southeast Asian market. Conducted from September until October, the campaign aims to position Maldives as one of the most preferred destinations to travel to, once the borders reopen for leisure travel in Malaysia. Tatler Malaysia is a leading lifestyle magazine for affluent travellers in Malaysia.

## Visit Maldives Begins Media Events to Boost Destination Visibility in Switzerland & Austria



Visit Maldives begins media events to boost destination visibility in Switzerland and Austria. The B2B activity in Switzerland is being held on 13th September 2021 at Renaissance Zurich Tower Hotel, Zurich. The activity in Austria will be held on 15th September 2021 at The Ritz-Carlton, Vienna. During these events information on the latest travel guidelines and safety measures, product information on (resorts, hotels, guesthouses and liveaboards), and information on the services and experiences unique to the Maldives will be provided to the attendees.

## Visit Maldives Begins Webinar Series for the Nordic Market



Visit Maldives begins a webinar series to promote Maldives as a safe haven for the Nordic market. This is the first of three webinars to be held under this series. The purpose of this webinar series is to update the Nordic travel trade with the latest information and travel guidelines from the destination. The webinar series will also inspire the Nordic travel trade to broaden and extend their Maldives product portfolio. The objective of this webinar is to maintain and strengthen the destination presence in the Nordic market. It will also offer a platform for partners to showcase their products, update the travel trade with the latest destination news and respond to clarifications, questions and concerns of key stakeholders.



**107** days to Golden Jubilee of Tourism 2022

#MaldivesTourism50 #ދިވެހިރާއްޖޭގެ ދަތުރުތަކުގެ 50 ވަނަ ބަންދުވަސް