



MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION  
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

# MALDIVES TOURISM UPDATES

23rd April 2026

## 758,753 Visitors

as of 22nd April 2026

## -4.1% Decline

compared to the same period of 2025

## 67,913 Beds

available for visitors. Out of which 45,101 were resort beds

## Key Markets

China (15.0%), Russia (12.9%), United Kingdom (9.4%), Italy (8.5%), Germany (6.9%), and India (4.5%)

## Major Highlights

Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Holds Introductory Meeting with Industry Stakeholders

Maldivian Strengthens Global Connectivity Through Strategic Partnership with Sri Lankan Airlines



**2024** **2,074,442**

Total Visitors as at year-end

**2,046,615** Tourists  
**15,610** Business Arrivals  
**12,217** Cruise Passengers

**2025** **2,275,088**

Total Visitors as at year-end

**2,246,516** Tourists  
**20,309** Business Arrivals  
**8,263** Cruise Passengers

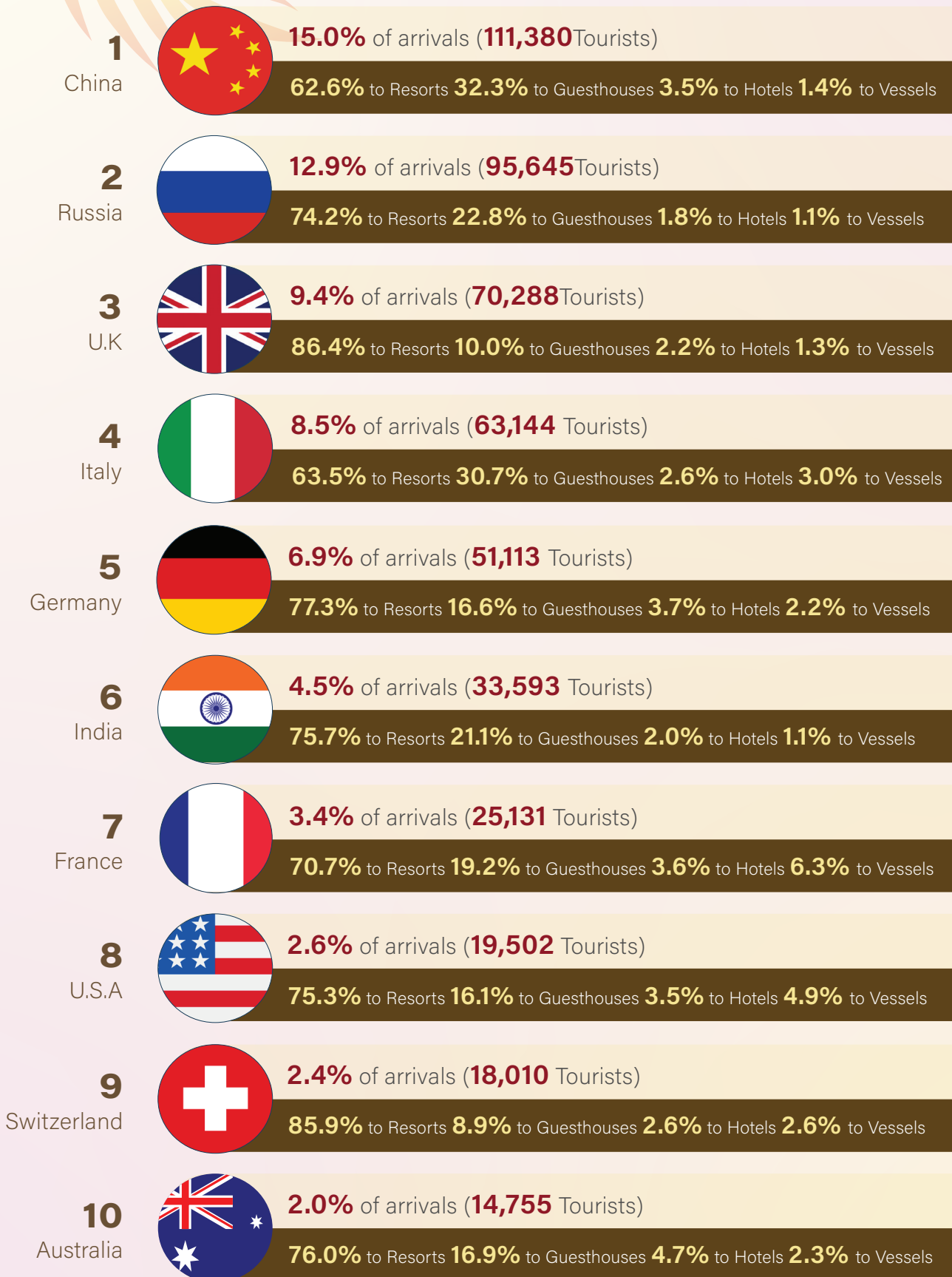
## International Visitor Arrivals - Monthly

As of 22nd Apr 2026

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr (1-22nd)	Total (as of 22nd Apr)	Daily Average
<b>2024 Total Visitors</b>	195,143	218,631	197,047	124,948	735,769	6,569
Tourists	192,385	217,392	194,227	124,948	728,952	6,509
Business Arrivals	960	1,086	1,034	n/a	3,080	n/a
Cruise Passengers	1,798	153	1,786	n/a	3,737	n/a
<b>2025 Total Visitors</b>	216,544	216,309	207,707	150,808	791,368	7,066
Tourists	214,863	204,091	203,468	150,808	783,230	6,993
Business Arrivals	1,465	1,606	1,314	n/a	4,385	n/a
Cruise Passengers	216	612	2,925	n/a	3,753	n/a
<b>2026 Total Visitors</b>	227,403	254,556	166,616	110,178	758,753	6,775
Tourists	224,788	247,722	161,259	110,178	743,947	6,642
Business Arrivals	1,550	1,597	1,308	n/a	4,455	n/a
Cruise Passengers	1,065	5,237	4,049	n/a	10,351	n/a
<b>Growth % (2026/2025)</b>	5.0	17.7	-19.8	-26.9	-4.1	-

# Top 10 Nationalities & their Accommodation Preference

As of 22nd Apr 2026



# Tourist Distribution to Facilities

As of 22nd Apr 2026

## Resorts



**516,255**  
Tourists  
**69.4%**  
of total arrivals

## Guesthouses



**189,967**  
Tourists  
**25.5%**  
of total arrivals

## Hotels



**20,318**  
Tourists  
**2.7%**  
of total arrivals

## Vessels



**16,423**  
Tourists  
**2.2%**  
of total arrivals

## Total Visitors by Port of Entry

As of 22nd Apr 2026



### Airports

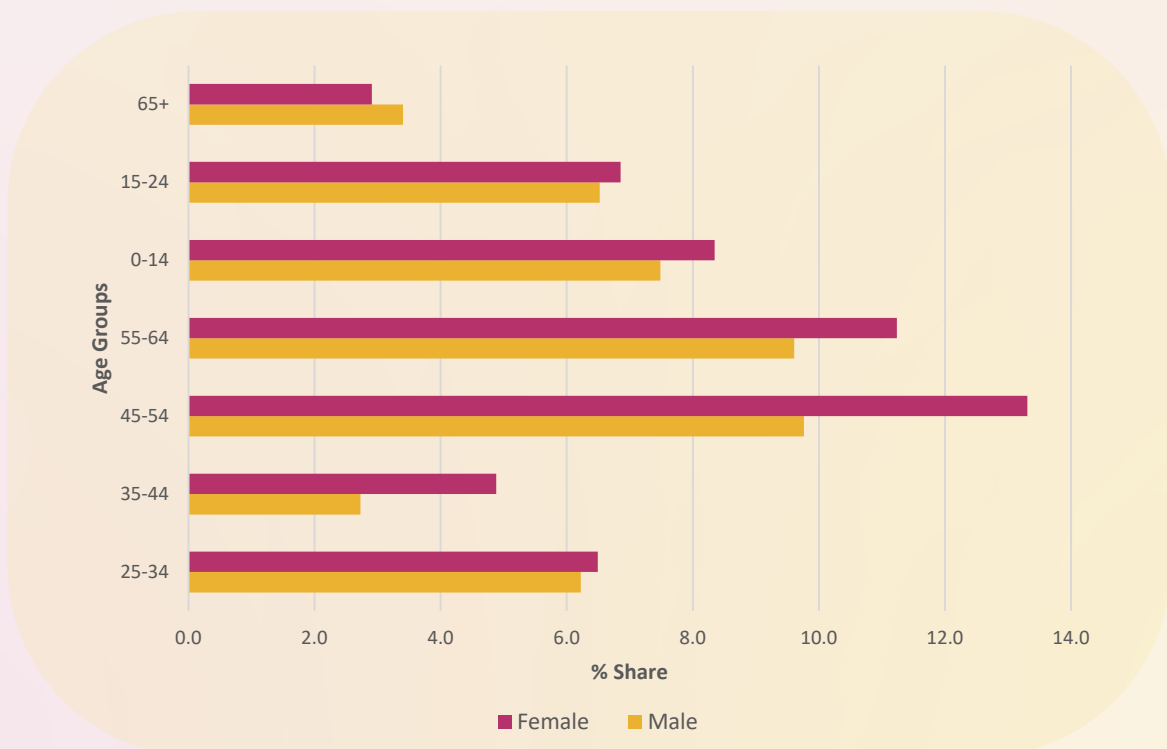
	Arrivals	Share
Velana International Airport	738,735	97.4%
Hanimaadhoo International Airport	1,750	0.2%
Maafaru International Airport	2,794	0.4%
Gan International Airport	3,116	0.4%
Villa International Airport Maamigili	1,372	0.2%
Dhaalu Airport	636	0.1%

### Sea Ports

	Arrivals	Share
All	10,351	1.4%

## Tourists by Age Group & Gender

As of 22nd Apr 2026





## Total Capacity

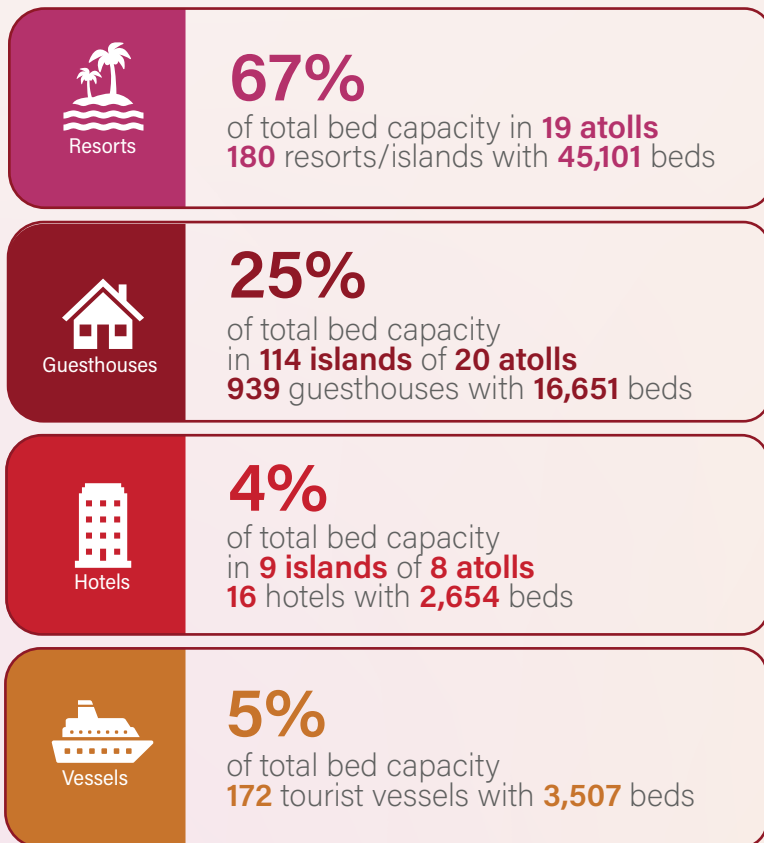
As of 22nd Apr 2026

**98.6%**  
of the beds were in  
**Operation**  
*(as of 22nd Apr 2026)*

	Nos.	Beds
Resorts	186	46,087
Guesthouses	939	16,651
Hotels	16	2,654
Tourist Vessels	172	3,507
<b>Total</b> (As of 22nd Apr)	<b>1,313</b>	<b>68,899</b>

## Capacity in Operation

As of 22nd Apr 2026

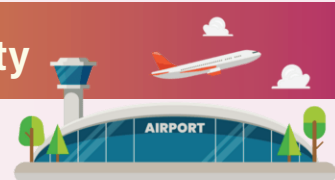


# Arrivals & Beds Distribution by Atolls

As of 22nd Apr 2026



Atolls	Arrivals (Resorts, Hotels & Guesthouses)	Beds			
		Total	Resorts	Hotels	Guesthouses
Haa Alifu	5,586	730	448		282
Haa Dhaalu	2,337	392	162	104	126
Shaviyani	5,908	516	444		72
Noonu	31,347	2,806	2,580		226
Raa	56,337	4,954	4,560	300	94
Baa	43,043	4,880	3,442	150	1,288
Lhaviyani	33,243	3,446	3,402		44
Kaafu	322,851	25,196	15,640	1,646	7,910
Alifu Alifu	58,092	4,937	2,518		2,419
Alifu Dhaalu	67,015	6,276	4,306	102	1,868
Vaavu	24,605	1,656	794	52	810
Meemu	6,458	686	614		72
Faafu	2,211	346	250		96
Dhaalu	30,300	2,968	2,864		104
Thaa	1,436	290	152		138
Laamu	3,282	500	360		140
Gaafu Alifu	13,870	1,589	1,301	144	144
Gaafu Dhaalu	7,140	566	440		126
Gnaviyani	3,911	386			386
Seenu	7,570	1,286	824	156	306
<b>Total</b>	<b>726,540</b>	<b>64,406</b>	<b>45,101</b>	<b>2,654</b>	<b>16,651</b>



MARCH 2026



AIRLINES		NO. FLIGHTS (WEEKLY)	NO. PAX	AIRLINES		NO. FLIGHTS (WEEKLY)	NO. PAX	AIRLINES		NO. FLIGHTS (WEEKLY)	NO. PAX
AEROFLOT		21	19,886	CONDOR		11	6,820	SAUDIA		7	3,653
AIR ARABIA		-	159	EDELWEISS		6	4,162	SICHUAN AIRLINES		3	1,067
AIR ASIA		24	7,559	EMIRATES		20	6,810	SINGAPORE AIRLINES		25	13,524
AIR ASIA THAILAND		12	3,523	ETIHAD AIRWAYS		16	2,940	SMARTWINGS		2	6
AIR ASTANA		10	4,399	EUROWINGS		5	2,488	SRILANKAN AIRLINES		29	18,966
AIR INDIA		14	4,535	FITS AIR		16	3,644	TURKISH AIRLINES		17	11,596
AUSTRIAN AIRLINES		9	7,349	FLY DUBAI		9	1,105	US BANGLA AIRLINES		9	3,386
AZERBAIJAN AIRLINES		5	1,688	HISKY EUROPE		2	589	VIRGIN ATLANTIC		12	7,368
AZUR AIR		5	928	HONG KONG AIRLINES		-	236	Note: Air Arabia, Hong Kong Airlines & Icelandair operated 1 flight each in March 2026			
BANGKOK AIRWAYS		7	1,130	ICELANDAIR		-	64				
BATIK AIR		10	2,678	INDIGO		50	13,314				
BEIJING CAPITAL AIRLINES		3	1,584	ITA AIRWAYS		5	3,551				
BEOND		13	685	MALAYSIAN AIRLINES		18	5,771				
BRITISH AIRWAYS		12	7,171	MALDIVIAN		24	6,306				
CENTRUM AIR		3	415	NEOS		8	5,120				
CHINA EASTERN		12	4,278	QATAR AIRWAYS		2	308				
CHONGQING AIRLINES		5	1,641	SAN MARINO EXECUTIVE AVIATION SRL		1	267				

## Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Holds Introductory Meeting with Industry Stakeholders



An introductory meeting was held between the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, H.E. Mohamed Ameen, and senior officials from Visit Maldives Corporation (VMC), along with representatives of the Maldives Association of Tourism Industry (MATI), National Hotels and Guesthouse Association of Maldives (NHGAM) and Maldives Association of Travel Agents and Tour Operators (MATATO).



The discussions focused on enhancing tourism promotion efforts, strengthening collaboration between the government and industry stakeholders, reinforcing the Maldives' global tourism positioning, and supporting the sustainable growth of the tourism sector.



## Minister addresses Aviation Operations Amid Regional Crisis at Press Conference held by the Special Ministerial Committee



*Despite the ongoing Middle East crisis, Gulf carriers have resumed operations to the Maldives. Emirates and Etihad are each operating 2 daily flights, Qatar Airways is flying daily through to June, and flydubai has resumed limited passenger services. Gulf Air and Air Arabia are also expected to resume in May.*

**MOHAMED AMEEN**  
MINISTER OF TOURISM &  
CIVIL AVIATION

Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, H.E. Mohamed Ameen speaks at the press conference held by the special ministerial committee in response to the conflicts in the Middle East. During the briefing, the Minister assured that the operations of Gulf-based air carriers serving the Maldives have continued and resumed despite the regional situation. He confirmed that Emirates and Etihad Airways are each operating two daily flights, while Qatar Airways continues to operate daily flights through June. Flydubai has also resumed limited passenger operations.

The Minister further stated that Gulf Air and Air Arabia are expected to resume flights to the Maldives in May 2026, supporting continued air connectivity and tourism arrivals.

## Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation Explores Collaboration with Sichuan Province



Minister H.E. Mohamed Ameen met with the Vice Governor of the Sichuan Provincial People's Government H.E. Ren Jingdong, along with a high-level delegation of senior officials from the province. The meeting was also attended by the Chinese Ambassador to the Maldives, H.E. Kong Xianhua



Discussions focused on the longstanding friendly relations between China and the Maldives, with particular emphasis on strengthening tourism collaboration between Sichuan Province and the Maldives.

## Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation Participates in MTIB Q2 2026



The Visit Maldives Corporation (VMC) hosted the Maldives Tourism Intelligence Briefing (MTIB) for the second quarter of 2026 on 21 April 2026 at Barceló Nasandhura, bringing together industry leaders, government representatives, and key tourism stakeholders.



The briefing focused on assessing the impact of ongoing disruptions in the Middle East air corridor and coordinating immediate response strategies to mitigate challenges facing the tourism sector. The Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoTCA) participated in the Q2 2026 Tourism Intelligence Briefing as part of its continued engagement with industry partners.



During the session, Deputy Director General of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Mohamed Hamadh, outlined the Ministry's key priorities under the Fifth Tourism Master Plan, highlighting destination credibility, sustainability, data driven planning, and raising standards across the tourism sector.

## Maldivian Strengthens Global Connectivity Through Strategic Partnership with Sri Lankan Airlines



Maldivian, the national airline of the Maldives, has entered into a strategic partnership with Sri Lankan Airlines, the national carrier of Sri Lanka and a member of the Oneworld alliance, aimed at expanding global connectivity and enhancing passenger travel options.

The partnership is designed to improve access between the Maldives and a wide international network, while strengthening connectivity across both airlines' route systems. Through this collaboration, Maldivian will be able to welcome increased passenger traffic from Sri Lankan Airlines' extensive international network, providing onward connections to 17 domestic destinations beyond Malé.

The agreement will also facilitate seamless travel for passengers from key global markets into the Maldives via Colombo, offering greater convenience and flexibility when exploring the Maldivian archipelago. At the same time, Maldivian passengers will benefit from smoother international connections through Colombo, enabling easier access to a broad range of global destinations.

The partnership reflects both airlines' shared commitment to strengthening regional cooperation, integrating their networks, and delivering a seamless travel experience, while supporting the continued growth of tourism and business travel to the Maldives and facilitating outbound travel for Maldivians.

## Maldives Secures Six Prestigious Nominations for the World Travel Awards 2026 – Indian Ocean Category



The Maldives has been nominated for six distinguished accolades in the Indian Ocean category of the World Travel Awards (WTA) 2026. These nominations further solidify the nation's standing as a premier global tourism destination and underscore its unwavering commitment to excellence in hospitality and sustainability.

As the industry enters the voting phase, the Maldives invites residents, industry stakeholders, international trade partners, and travel enthusiasts worldwide to cast their votes. Support from the global community is vital in maintaining the Maldives' legacy of excellence on the international stage.



### The 2026 Nominations

The Maldives has been shortlisted for the following categories:

- Indian Ocean's Leading Destination 2026
- Indian Ocean's Leading Beach Destination 2026
- Indian Ocean's Leading Dive Destination 2026
- Indian Ocean's Leading Green Destination 2026
- Indian Ocean's Leading Honeymoon Destination 2026
- Indian Ocean's Leading Tourist Board 2026



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