



MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES



MALDIVES TOURISM UPDATES

21st May 2026

886,545 Visitors

(-5.2%)
as of 20th May 2026

74.20% SLF (Arrival Seat Load Factor)

(+5.6%)
as of 16th May 2026

67,302 Beds

available for visitors. Out of which 44,977
were resort beds

Key Markets

China (15.7%), Russia (13.5%), United Kingdom (8.8%), Italy (7.9%), Germany (6.6%), and India (5.4%)

Major Highlights

Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Addresses Air Connectivity and Capacity Amid Middle East Situation

Maldives Expands Global Connectivity with Maldivian's New Direct Australia Route



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

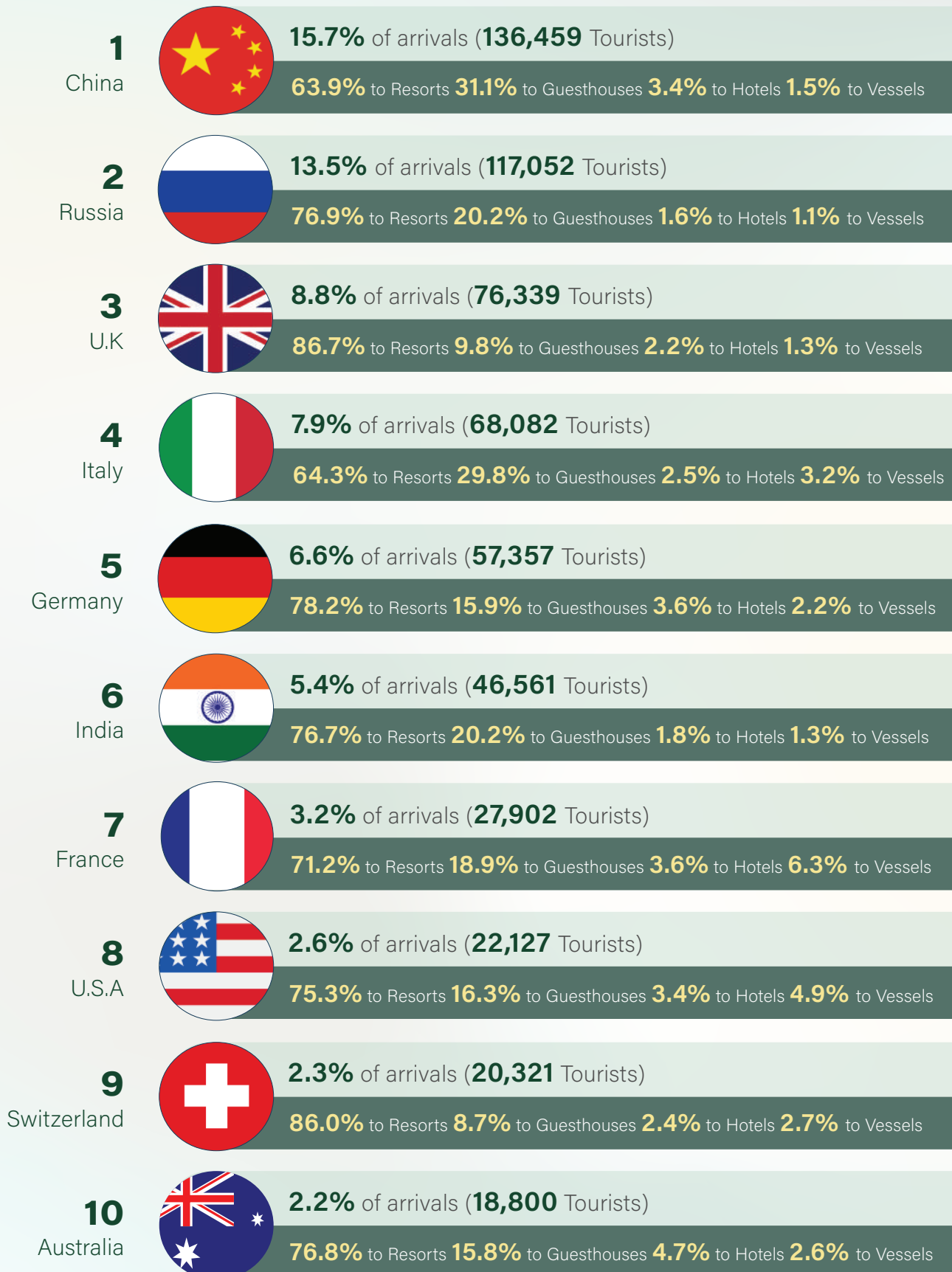
International Visitor Arrivals - Monthly

As of 20th May 2026

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May (1-20th)	Total (as of 20th May)	Daily Average
2024 Total Visitors	195,143	218,631	197,047	172,477	82,558	865,856	6,185
Tourists	192,385	217,392	194,227	168,366	82,558	854,928	6,107
Business Arrivals	960	1,086	1,034	926	n/a	4,006	n/a
Cruise Passengers	1,798	153	1,786	3,185	n/a	6,922	n/a
2025 Total Visitors	216,544	216,309	207,707	202,214	92,646	935,420	6,682
Tourists	214,863	204,091	203,468	198,322	92,646	923,390	6,596
Business Arrivals	1,465	1,606	1,314	2,022	n/a	6,407	n/a
Cruise Passengers	216	612	2,925	1,870	n/a	5,623	n/a
2026 Total Visitors	227,403	254,556	166,616	152,861	85,109	886,545	6,332
Tourists	224,788	247,722	161,259	147,600	85,109	866,478	6,189
Business Arrivals	1,550	1,597	1,308	1,804	n/a	6,259	n/a
Cruise Passengers	1,065	5,237	4,049	3,457	n/a	13,808	n/a
Growth % (2026/25)	5.0	17.7	-19.8	-24.4	-8.1	-5.2	-

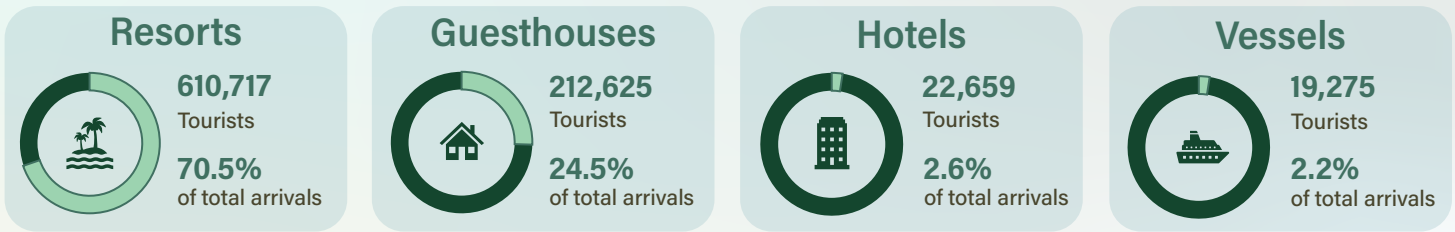
Top 10 Nationalities & their Accommodation Preference

As of 20th May 2026



Tourist Distribution to Facilities

As of 20th May 2026



Total Visitors by Port of Entry

As of 20th May 2026

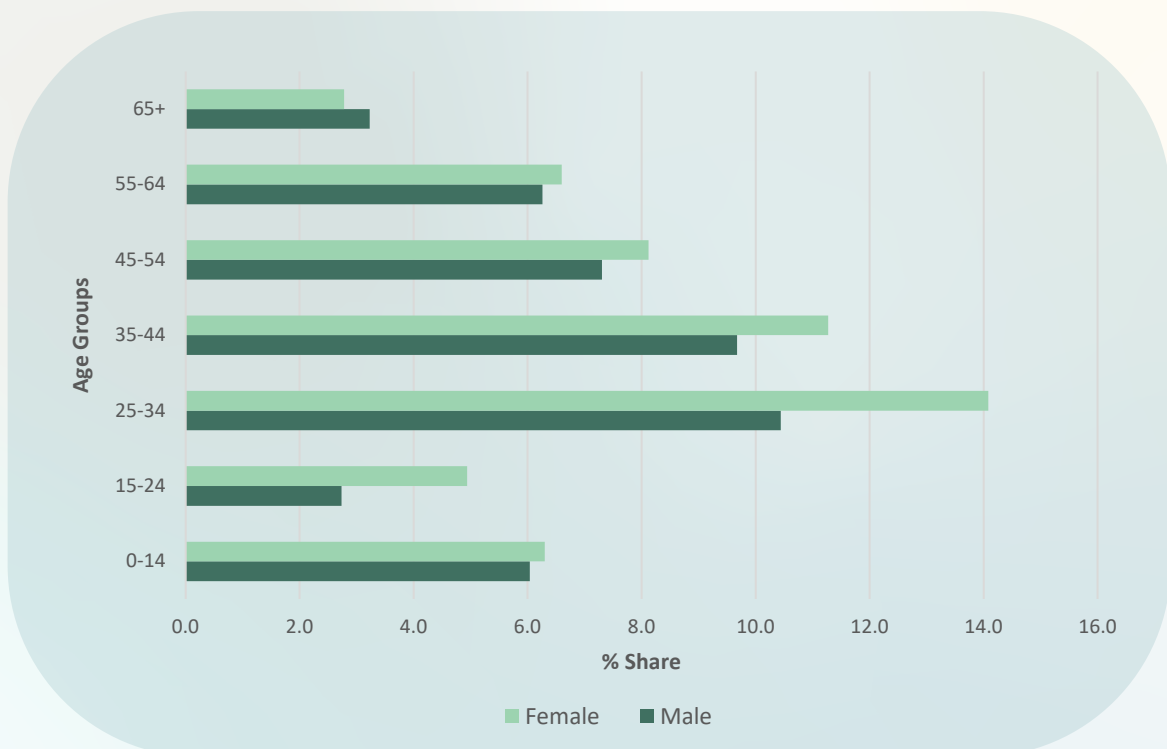


Airports	Arrivals	Share
Velana International Airport	861,674	97.2%
Hanimaadhoo International Airport	1,989	0.2%
Maafaru International Airport	3,145	0.4%
Gan International Airport	3,617	0.4%
Villa International Airport Maamigili	1,582	0.2%
Dhaalu Airport	729	0.1%
Sea Ports	Arrivals	Share
All	13,808	1.6%



Tourists by Age Group & Gender

As of 20th May 2026





Tourist Accommodation

Total Capacity

As of 20th May 2026

98.6%

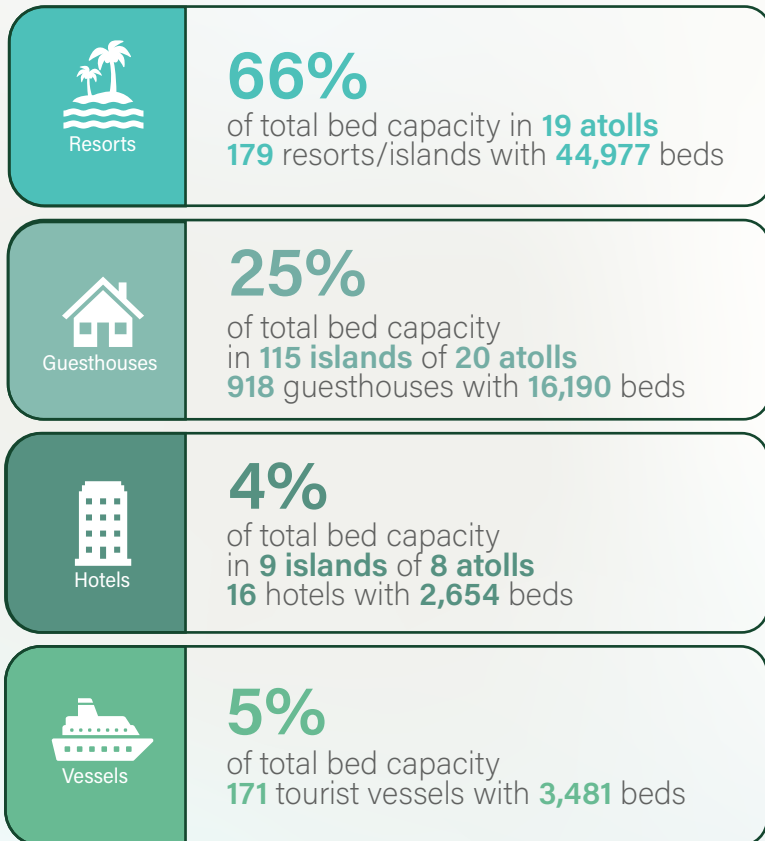
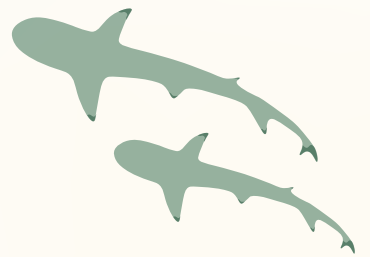
of beds were in Operation

(as of 20th May 2026)

	Nos.	Beds
Resorts	185	45,963
Guesthouses	918	16,190
Hotels	16	2,654
Tourist Vessels	171	3,481
Total (As of 20th May)	1,290	68,288

Capacity in Operation

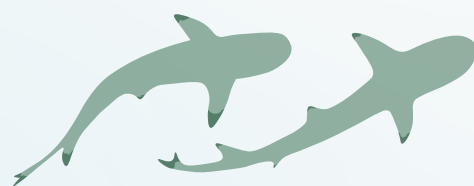
As of 20th May 2026



Arrivals & Beds Distribution by Atolls

As of 20th May 2026

Atolls	Arrivals (Resorts, Hotels & Guesthouses)	Beds			
		Total	Resorts	Hotels	Guesthouses
Haa Alifu	6,391	718	448		270
Haa Dhaalu	2,566	384	162	104	118
Shaviyani	6,764	516	444		72
Noonu	36,953	2,806	2,580		226
Raa	66,911	4,954	4,560	300	94
Baa	48,923	4,934	3,442	150	1,342
Lhaviyani	39,492	3,430	3,402		28
Kaafu	380,311	24,806	15,516	1,646	7,644
Alifu Alifu	66,079	4,766	2,518		2,248
Alifu Dhaalu	76,303	6,256	4,306	102	1,848
Vaavu	27,839	1,646	794	52	800
Meemu	7,567	686	614		72
Faafu	2,503	346	250		96
Dhaalu	35,487	2,968	2,864		104
Thaa	1,546	290	152		138
Laamu	3,545	500	360		140
Gaafu Alifu	15,782	1,595	1,301	144	150
Gaafu Dhaalu	8,301	566	440		126
Gnaviyani	4,365	386			386
Seenu	8,372	1,268	824	156	288
Total	846,001	63,821	44,977	2,654	16,190

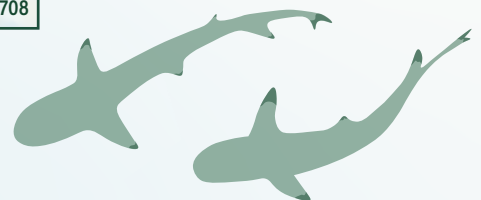




APRIL 2026



AIRLINES		NO. FLIGHTS (WEEKLY)	NO. PAX	AIRLINES		NO. FLIGHTS (WEEKLY)	NO. PAX	AIRLINES		NO. FLIGHTS (WEEKLY)	NO. PAX
AEROFLOT		18	17,865	EMIRATES		24	9,049	US BANGLA AIRLINES		8	3,575
AIR ASIA		21	8,390	ETIHAD AIRWAYS		24	9,248	VIRGIN ATLANTIC		8	3,073
AIR ASIA THAILAND		12	4,791	EUROWINGS		2	1,061				
AIR ASTANA		9	2,954	FITS AIR		11	2,650				
AIR INDIA		12	3,377	FLY DUBAI		10	1,646				
AUSTRIAN AIRLINES		8	4,492	HISKY EUROPE		1	443				
AZUR AIR		5	907	INDIGO		48	15,388				
BANGKOK AIRWAYS		7	1,441	ITA AIRWAYS		1	514				
BATIK AIR		10	3,137	MALAYSIAN AIRLINES		18	6,885				
BEIJING CAPITAL AIRLINES		3	1,648	MALDIVIAN		29	7,660				
BEOND		2	171	NEOS		4	3,650				
BRITISH AIRWAYS		8	3,123	QATAR AIRWAYS		8	2,419				
CENTRUM AIR		3	941	SAUDIA		3	1,335				
CHINA EASTERN		10	4,761	SICHUAN AIRLINES		3	1,168				
CHONGQING AIRLINES		5	1,575	SINGAPORE AIRLINES		24	14,246				
CONDOR		9	6,183	SRILANKAN AIRLINES		36	18,129				
EDELWEISS		8	5,075	TURKISH AIRLINES		8	5,708				



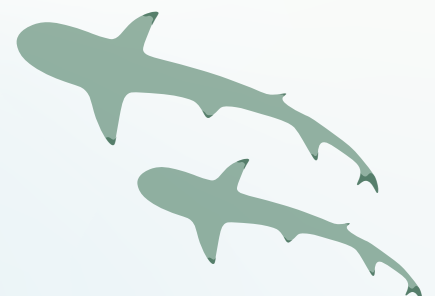
Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Addresses Air Connectivity and Capacity Amid Middle East Situation



During a press conference held by the Special Cabinet Committee on 19 May 2026 regarding the ongoing Middle East situation, the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, H.E. Mohamed Ameen, addressed concerns related to air connectivity and tourism in the Maldives.

The Minister noted that seat capacity for the current summer schedule has increased by 2% compared to the previous year, achieved through collaboration with multiple airlines aimed at strengthening overall connectivity. He added that efforts are underway to ensure the situation does not negatively impact tourism or air access to the Maldives.

The Ministry has also implemented measures to reduce fuel costs in a bid to attract more airlines and improve operational viability. Additionally, a gradual improvement in flight movements from Gulf carriers has been observed, although operations have not yet returned to pre-conflict levels. Authorities noted that while recovery is ongoing, early signs of increased connectivity are becoming visible.



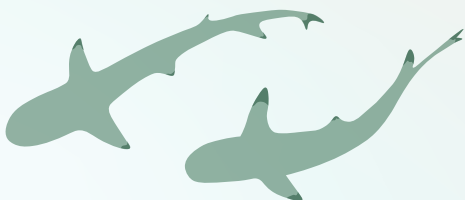
Farewell Call by H.E. Soo Kok Leng, High Commissioner of Singapore to the Maldives, Reaffirms Maldives–Singapore Partnership



H.E. Soo Kok Leng paid a farewell call on Mohamed Ameen, marking the conclusion of his diplomatic tenure in the Maldives.

During the meeting, Minister Ameen thanked the High Commissioner for his valuable contributions towards strengthening the longstanding friendship and cooperation between the Maldives and Singapore. Discussions also reflected on the positive progress achieved in bilateral relations and areas of mutual collaboration during his tenure.

Minister Ameen further conveyed his sincere appreciation for the High Commissioner's service and extended best wishes for success in his future endeavours. The farewell meeting reaffirmed the strong ties and continued partnership between the Maldives and Singapore.



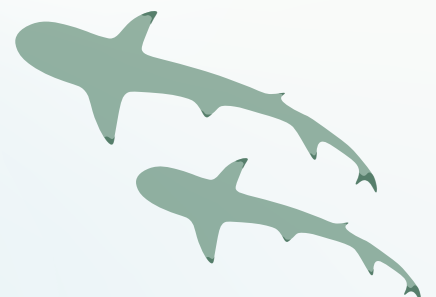
Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Visits VMC



Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, H.E. Mohamed Ameen, visited the Visit Maldives Corporation, where he met with the corporation's CEO/Managing Director and staff members.



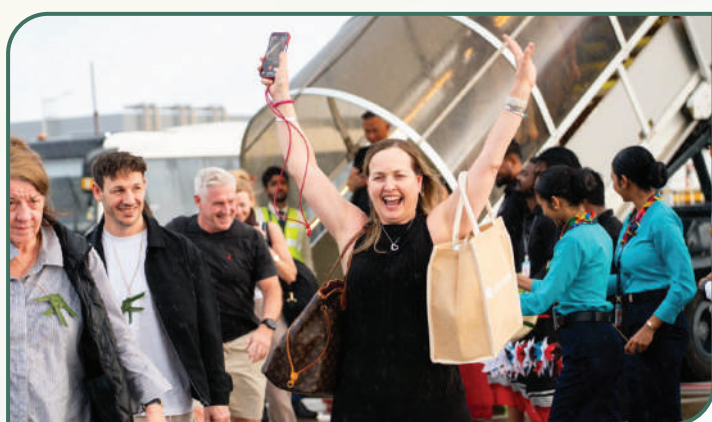
During the visit, the Minister acknowledged and appreciated the efforts of the Visit Maldives team in promoting the Maldives as a leading global tourist destination. The visit also served as a platform for discussions on ongoing and upcoming marketing initiatives, including preparations for "Visit Maldives Year 2027," highlighting the importance of continued collaboration and strategic planning in supporting the growth of the Maldives tourism sector.



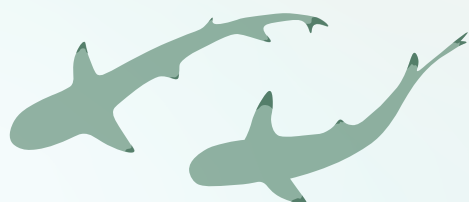
Maldives Expands Global Connectivity with Maldivian's New Direct Australia Route



The first-ever direct flight between Australia and the Maldives has officially arrived at Velana International Airport, marking a major milestone in air connectivity between the two destinations.



The new direct service brings Australia closer to the Maldives than ever before, enhancing travel convenience, strengthening tourism ties, and opening new opportunities for visitors seeking the Maldives' world-renowned luxury and leisure experiences. The launch is expected to further boost arrivals from the Australian market and support the Maldives' growing presence in Oceania.



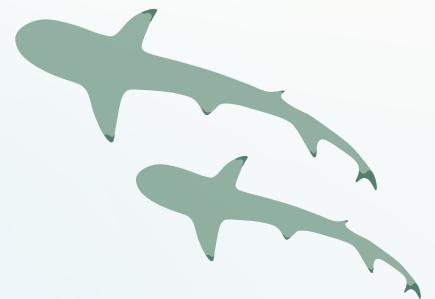
First Aid Training Programme Completed by Participants from Raa, Baa and Lhaviyani Resorts



A total of 22 resort participants from Raa Atoll, Baa Atoll, and Lhaviyani Atoll have successfully completed the Standard First Aid Training Programme, strengthening essential emergency response skills within the tourism sector.



The certificates were awarded at a ceremony held at Cyryx College on 16 May. Speaking at the event, Deputy Minister Hassan Suwad highlighted the importance of applying first aid knowledge in both workplace settings and daily life, noting its value in enhancing safety and preparedness across resort operations.



Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation Participates in Co.Lab 26



The Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoTCA) participated in the Maldives AI Lab initiative launched by MINDCo and Bank of Maldives as part of the Maldives 2.0 Digital Transformation Agenda. The initiative brought together five ministries to present practical AI-driven solutions aimed at improving public service delivery and operational efficiency.



During the sessions, MoTCA presented five AI use cases focused on enhancing workflows and supporting smarter service delivery within the tourism sector. Among these, three use cases were identified as the highest priorities for implementation.

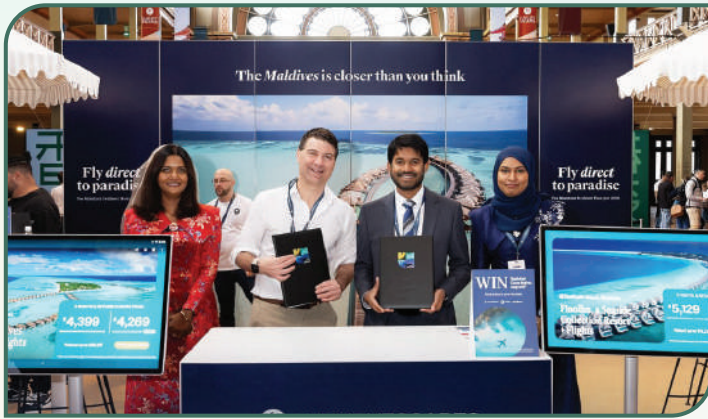


The prioritized use cases included Automated Document Verification & Data Entry System, which can help speed up application processing, improve accuracy, and reduce manual workload through automated document handling and data extraction. Another key use case, Streamlining Data Cleaning & Compilation, can support faster and more reliable reporting by improving the organization, consistency, and compilation of data collected from multiple sources. The third prioritized use case, AI-based Verification for Pre-Application, can help simplify verification procedures, improve the quality of submissions, and accelerate application review timelines through AI-assisted validation processes.

MoTCA's participation highlights the ministry's commitment to adopting innovative digital solutions that support smarter governance and more efficient public services.



Visit Maldives Strengthens Australian Market Presence



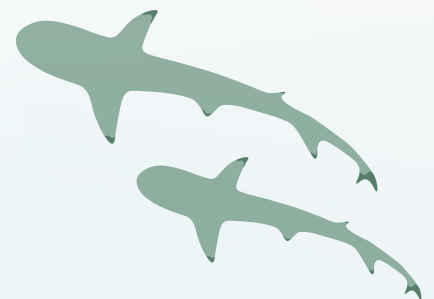
Visit Maldives has intensified its push into the Australian market through a strategic partnership with Luxury Escapes, alongside a strong showcase at the Luxury Escapes LIVE Melbourne 2026 event.



The collaboration includes joint marketing campaigns across Australia and New Zealand, trade activations, retail promotions, and destination storytelling aimed at boosting Maldives visibility among Australian travellers. Visit Maldives also highlighted the launch of new Melbourne to Malé charter operations by Maldivian, improving direct connectivity between the two destinations.



At the Melbourne event, the Maldives promoted its premium travel experiences including luxury, wellness, romance, and family tourism through immersive destination showcases and exclusive travel offers. The campaign further reinforces the Maldives' strategy to attract high-value travellers and strengthen tourism growth from the Oceania market.

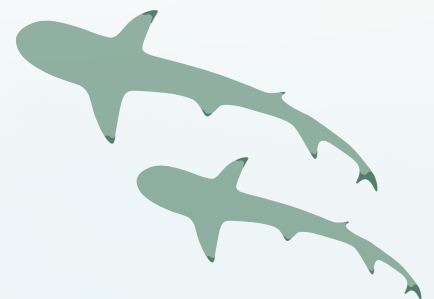


Maldives Showcases Culinary Excellence at Worldchefs Congress & Expo 2026



Visit Maldives is promoting the Maldives' rich culinary heritage and luxury dining experiences at the Worldchefs Congress & Expo 2026 in Newport, Wales. The global event brings together leading chefs, hospitality professionals, culinary educators, and industry stakeholders from around the world.

Through live cooking demonstrations, authentic Maldivian cuisine showcases, and networking engagements, Visit Maldives is positioning the destination as a premier gastronomy and experiential tourism hub. The participation also aims to strengthen partnerships with international culinary associations, chefs, travel trade professionals, and media, while enhancing the Maldives' visibility across key global markets.





TOURISM RESEARCH & STATISTICS SECTION

Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation

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