

brief on guideline for

Restarting Tourism in the Maldives



A Brief

With the Maldives to reopen its borders for tourists, the Ministry of Tourism, in consultation with health professionals and industry stakeholders, has prepared a Guideline for Restarting Tourism in Maldives, outlining the measures that need to be followed to ensure the safety of tourists and residents.

In this publication, we have summarised the Guideline in the perspective of:

- △ **Tourists:** covering procedures in place from the port of entry to departure.
- △ **Tourist Establishments:** covering the general requirements for all tourist establishments and support businesses and the specific requirements for guesthouses and foreign vessels.

Tentative dates for commencement of services



**Velana International
Airport**

15 July 2020



Tourist Resorts

15 July 2020



Tourist Vessels

15 July 2020



**Tourist Hotels*
& Guesthouses**

1 August 2020

* Tourist Hotels on Uninhabited Islands allowed to commence operations from 15 July 2020.

Tourist's Perspective



Arrival

Upon Disembarkment

Temperature check & basic screening

Non-symptomatic

Transfer to
tourist establishment

Symptomatic

Temporary isolation
& PCR test ¹

Negative

Transfer to
tourist establishment

Positive

Transfer to
isolation ²



Tourist
Establishment ³



Departure

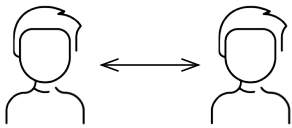
¹ If any one tourist is symptomatic, all tourists in the group will be tested. All subject to tests will be moved to a temporary isolation facility until test results are received.

² Option given to the tourist establishment to transfer the tourist for isolation at the booked room or at a Government Isolation Facility.

³ If present as symptomatic while at the tourist establishment, the tourist will be temporarily isolated and PCR test will be done. Depending on the test result, tourist establishment to follow HPA advise.



Special Considerations



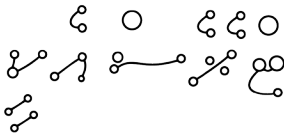
Maintain physical distancing of at least 1 meter



Practise good hand hygiene



Wear facemasks at all times during arrival and transit to tourist establishment



Install "Trace Ekee" application upon or before arrival at the Maldives

Tourist Establishment's Perspective

Minimum Standards and General Procedures applicable to all tourist establishments and support businesses.



Before Operation Starts

- △ Guest rooms to be used for isolation/ quarantine have to be designated as per HPA standards.
- △ Staff serving guests have to be trained for the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and disinfection procedures.
- △ Emergency procedures must be formulated and staff trained accordingly.
- △ Health and safety plan has to be submitted to the Ministry of Tourism prior to reopening.
- △ Special requirements for staff returning to work from abroad/inhabited islands will be applied.



After Operation Starts

- △ Guest rooms to be used for isolation/ quarantine have to be maintained as per HPA standards.
- △ Adequate stock of PPE must be maintained.
- △ Disinfection and decontamination procedures to be followed at vessels and guest rooms - after each trip or use.
- △ Frequently contaminated surfaces and common areas must be subject to regular disinfection.
- △ Obligation to bear transfer and accommodation costs of positive guests to Government Isolation Facilities.
- △ Airport representatives commuting between inhabited islands and airports will be restricted from travelling to resorts.

Special Rules



Guesthouses

- △ To be opened to receive tourists starting from 1 August (tentatively).
- △ Isolation in cases of symptomatic or positive cases to be arranged at guest rooms.
- △ Food and beverage services to be arranged within the premises.
- △ Resident doctor on the island to have undergone HPA certified training on COVID-19 management.
- △ Contact tracing of the guests to be maintained.
- △ Health and Safety Plan has to be submitted to MOT for approval prior to restarting.



Foreign Vessels

- △ Exempted from the Guideline and to follow International Maritime Organization Regulations and Guidelines.
- △ Will be allowed to disembark passengers on inhabited islands from 1 August onwards.
- △ Access to international airports, under specific requirements, allowed from 15 July onwards Screening measures will be conducted at first port of clearance.
- △ Associated costs for isolation or treatment at a Government Isolation Facility have to be borne by the vessel's agent or operator of the vessel.

For additional information with respect to the Guideline, please contact one of the following members of our team:



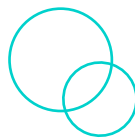
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ABOUT US

CTL Strategies is a multi-disciplinary law firm registered in the Maldives, specialised in tax advisory services. We advise international hotel chains, multinational companies, some of the big four audit firms, and a number of the world's largest companies as well as high net-worth individuals on commercial transactions, tax compliance, planning and tax disputes.

We are ranked by the Asia Law Profiles as a Highly Recommended tax disputes firm in the Maldives in addition to being recognised as a leading law firm in the Maldives from 2017.

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This publication is intended to provide a summary of the Guideline for Restarting Tourism in Maldives, published by the Ministry of Tourism. It should not be regarded as offering detailed explanation of all the matters addressed in the Guideline. Readers are advised to seek professional advice specifically to their particular circumstances.

Date of publication: 27 June 2020