

boatinginsider

by NBAM

EDITION 8
September 2021

National Boating Association of Maldives (NBAM)

PHONE +960 797-0033

EMAIL info@boating.mv



Photo: Minister Fayyaz with officials and event participants at the Maldives Marine Expo 2019

Maldives Marine Expo 2021 to be held from 11-13 Dec 2021 at Hulhumalé city

Maldives Marine Expo, the official event of the National Boating Association of Maldives (NBAM) has announced that the 2021 edition of the event is planned to be held from the 11th to 13th of December 2021 at Hulhumalé city.

This is the 6th edition of the Maldives Marine Expo which has become a platform for businesses in the marine industry to gather and connect for their requirements and industry updates...

... Read more on Page 3

Expo 2020: Emirates Offers Discounted Deal for Visitors to Dubai and Expo 2020

Emirates, the Premier Partner and Official Airline of Expo 2020 Dubai has launched its latest initiative under a global campaign to promote destination Dubai to people from all walks of life this winter season.

The airline's Early Bird Expo 2020 Dubai deal, launched this week across its global markets, will enable customers to save up to 20% on fares to Dubai when they book their flights early...

... Read more on Page 4

BML Partners with Mastercard and MTCC to Provide Digital Payments for Public Transport

Bank of Maldives has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mastercard and Maldives Transport and Construction Company (MTCC) to implement an integrated transport management and automatic fare collection system for the public transport service operated by MTCC in the Maldives.

The project is part of Mastercard's 'Smart Cities' initiative to introduce urban mobility solutions to transform the transport ...

... Read more on Page 6

BE A MEMBER
OF NBAM

TO ENJOY
BOATING
privilege



boatinginsider

by NBAM



Maldives No Longer on UK Red List

With great effort from the Maldivian Government and everyone involved, Maldives is no longer on the UK Red List. Commencing from Wednesday 22nd September 2021 eight countries including the Maldives has been removed from the red list.

This comes as happy news to whole of the Tourism Industry. British travelers are among the top source markets for the Maldivian Tourism, Maldives being on the red list has been very much challenged for many segments as the travelers who return after the vacation had to go through a mandatory quarantine which is costly time which they have to be stuck due to a vacation.

Now with this new change in safety status. This will increase traffic of British travelers to the Islands of Maldives. High Commissioner of UK in Maldives, Her Excellency Caron Rohsler, appreciate the effort made by everyone involved and tweeted mentioning that removing from the red list is a step in safely opening up travel between both countries.

Gulf Craft's Majesty 175 Wins 'Best Revelation Yacht' Award at Cannes Yachting Festival

Gulf Craft has announced that its recently launched superyacht, Majesty 175 has won the Best Revelation Yacht award at the World Yacht Trophies held in Cannes Yachting Festival 2021.

Majesty 175 is the world's largest composite production yacht manufactured at Gulf Craft's integrated in-house production facility in the UAE. The Yacht is scheduled to be handed over to its owner this month.

Gulf Craft has built more than 10,000 boats already, serving clients around the world. The 2019 AEU Safety Award Winner, Gulf Craft was awarded 'Best in the Show' at Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show for its 43.3m Majesty 140 superyacht.



boatinginsider

by NBAM

Maldives Marine Expo 2021 to be held from 11-13 Dec 2021 at Hulhumalé city



Maldives Marine Expo 2021, Watersports Festival has been announced to be held from 11th – 13th December 2021, at Hulhumalé city, Kaafu atoll. The upcoming event presents new components, marine foods, watersports activities and endurance activity which will be conducted concurrently and are vital components of the marine industry.

Maldives Marine Expo is the longest running maritime event for the marine industry held in the Maldives, it has become the prime platform for the marine industry to engage, network and exchange ideas, with each year making constant progress the event has gained regional recognition and interest. Maldives Marine Expo is the official event of the National Boating Association of Maldives (NBAM), the association promotes the betterment of the liveaboard and marine industry and is at the forefront in advocating for the stakeholders of the marine sector.

The event includes multiple components aimed at the marine industry, such as;

Exhibition Area, is an area for exhibiting and showcasing commercial products and services. This year's exhibition area will feature outdoor tent booths in 9 SQM and 18 SQM as well as Bare space of 9 SQM.

Boat & Equipment Display area is specialized for displaying boats on-ground. Buyers can view and get a better understanding of the boats while engaging with boat builders.

Seminars, will be conducted near the exhibition area by Key figures in the marine industry. Visitors can visit and participate in these seminars, please note some seminars will be ticketed while many are on free entrance basis.

Workshops, by recognized local and international stakeholders will be conducted for participants from local establishments, registration is mandatory for participation in workshops.

Marine Foods, is a new component added to this year's event in hopes of attracting direct buyers to local marine food producers, we hope to expand on this component in the coming years.

About the Organizer of Maldives Marine Expo

The organizer of Maldives Marine Expo Virtual Edition is MEDIUM Pvt Ltd, the company has cumulative experience spanning 45+years, and provides full-suite event management, creative solutions.

For participation in the upcoming Maldives Marine Expo 2021, please contact the following **Hotline +960 799-7974** or contact via Email info@marineexpo.mv

Maldives Promoted In Deluxe Travel Market Targeting Luxury Travelers From Russia & CIS Region



Visit Maldives promotes the destination at the Deluxe Travel Market - Oriental Edition targeting Russia and CIS region. The one-day event held on 16th September 2021 at UAE's Medinat Jumeirah, was aimed at promoting Maldives as a top of the mind destination to travel trade agents involved in promoting destinations to luxury travelers from Russia and CIS region (Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan). Exhibitors at this event included 5 star hotels, hotel chains and resorts, DMCs, tourism offices from the Middle East and Indian Ocean.

During this event, Visit Maldives provided the agents with the latest information about the destination, including the stringent measures in place at our products (Resorts, Hotels, Guesthouses and Liveaboards). We emphasized on the safety provided by our geographically scattered islands for luxury travelers from Russian and CIS market. We also promoted the destination as a haven for travelers from this market, looking for privacy, safety and experiences unique to Maldives.

boatinginsider

by NBAM

Expo 2020: Emirates Offers Discounted Deal for Visitors to Dubai and Expo 2020



Emirates, the Premier Partner and Official Airline of Expo 2020 Dubai has launched its latest initiative under a global campaign to promote destination Dubai to people from all walks of life this winter season.

The airline's Early Bird Expo 2020 Dubai deal, launched this week across its global markets, will enable customers to save up to 20% on fares to Dubai when they book their flights early.

Early bird discount: This special offer is valid on any return tickets booked to Dubai as the final destination for travel dates between 26 September 2021 and 31 March 2022. It is applicable to bookings made from 13 September to 03 October, 2021 via Emirates.com, through Emirates call centre or retail outlets, or via a travel agent. The offer applies to Emirates Business and Economy base fares; on Saver, Flex, Flex+ fare brands.

Free Emirates Expo Day Pass: Emirates customers visiting and travelling through Dubai anytime during the much-awaited Expo 2020 mega event, will be eligible to receive a free Emirates Expo Day Pass for every flight ticket booked with the airline. For more information on this promotion, please visit the dedicated offer page.

Earn a mile a minute in Dubai: Emirates customers can earn 1 Skywards Mile for every 1 minute spent in Dubai between 01 October 2021 and 31 March 2022. Existing and new Emirates Skywards members who sign up for the program before 31 March 2022, can avail the offer on Emirates.com, and will earn up to 5,000 Miles. The offer is applicable on all Emirates flight tickets purchased between 01 August 2021 and 31 March 2022, for travel during Expo 2020 Dubai. Emirates marketed, flydubai operated flights with an Emirates (EK) flight number are also included in the offer. flights with an Emirates (EK) flight number are also included in the offer.

As international borders reopen and travel restrictions ease, Emirates has resumed passenger services to over 120 destinations and currently operates 21 weekly passenger flights from Male to Dubai. A fourth daily flight is scheduled to commence from 15 October.

Explore Dubai with Emirates Holidays and Dubai Experience

Dubai safely re-opened for international business and leisure visitors in July 2020, and it remains one of the world's most popular holiday destinations. From sun-soaked beaches and heritage activities to world class hospitality and leisure facilities, Dubai offers a variety of world-class experiences. It was one of the world's first cities to obtain Safe Travels stamp from the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) – which endorses Dubai's comprehensive and effective measures to ensure guest health and safety. Customers can book their holiday to Dubai, including Expo-themed packages through Emirates Holidays or create their own itinerary with Dubai Experience.

Expo 2020 Dubai

Dubai will host the world for Expo 2020 between October 2021 and March 2022. Through the theme of Connecting Minds, Creating the Future, Expo 2020 Dubai aims to inspire people by showcasing the best examples of collaboration, innovation and cooperation from around the world.

Expo 2020 Dubai is the first World Expo ever hosted in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia (MEASA) region. Its six-month program is packed with experiences to suit all ages and interests, including a rich line-up of themed weeks, entertainment, and edutainment.

Travelling with Emirates

Health and wellbeing: Keeping the health and wellbeing of its passengers as top priority, Emirates has introduced a comprehensive set of safety measures at every step of the customer journey. The airline has also recently introduced contactless technology and scaled up its digital verification capabilities to provide its customers even more opportunities to utilise the IATA Travel Pass this summer.

Travel assurance: Emirates continues to lead the industry with innovative products and services that address traveller needs during a dynamic time. The airline has taken its customer care initiatives further with even more generous and flexible booking policies, an extension of its multi-risk insurance cover, and helping loyal customers retain their miles and tier status.

Customers are encouraged to check the latest government travel restrictions in their country of origin and ensure they meet the travel requirements of their final destination. For more information on entry requirements for international visitors to Dubai visit: <https://www.emirates.com/english/help/covid-19/dubai-travel-requirements/>

boatinginsider

by NBAM



Ooredoo Maldives revamps 5G AirFibre plans with even more data, enabling the best internet experience in the Maldives

In line with their vision of enriching lives of its customers by introducing the latest technologies to enable new opportunities, in 2020 Ooredoo Maldives introduced the 5G AirFibre - the first 5G powered Home Broadband AirFibre services in the Maldives. Under its efforts to provide high speed internet at affordable rates, the telecom giant today has brought strong upgrades to its 5G AirFibre portfolio providing more data and enhanced speeds.

The all new 5G AirFibre portfolio

5G AirFibre Plans	Price	Monthly Benefit	Throttle Speed
5G AirFibre 749	MVR 749	300	2Mbps
5G AirFibre 999	MVR 999	500	2Mbps
5G AirFibre 1499	MVR 1499	750	2Mbps
5G AirFibre 1999	MVR 1999	1024	5Mbps
5G AirFibre 2999	MVR 2999	1536	5Mbps
5G AirFibre 5999	MVR 5999	4000	5Mbps

The enhanced connectivity with 5G AirFibre will provide incredibly high speeds which is extremely positive news for local communities and businesses; especially for Small and Medium Enterprises and businesses operating remotely or working from homes. To further assist the small businesses to acquire the 5G Airfibre, Ooredoo is also offering a special device plan with a 12 month contract.

MITDC to Host "Savaadheeththa Dhathuru" Maldives Yacht Rally next year to promote Maldives cultural tourism



A Yacht Rally to be Held Next Year to Promote Maldives Cultural Tourism Maldives Integrated Tourism Development Corporation (MITDC) has announced an International Yacht Rally that is to be held next year as an initiative to promote Maldives cultural tourism. The official launching of the International Yacht Rally was held at the National Gallery, Malé City by the Managing Director and Co-Founder of Voyages Maldives and Seagull Group, Mr. Salah Shihab.

In addition to this, the ceremony was attended by high-ranking officials of MITDC, as well as the Economic Minister Uz. Fayyaz Ismail, Defense Minister Uza. Mariya Ahmed Didi and Managing Director of MMPRC, Mr. Thoyyib Mohamed.

The event titled, "Savaadheeththa Dhathuru" is organized together with Minister of Arts, Culture and Heritage, and National Centre for Cultural Heritage which is planned to be held in February 2022.

Speaking at the ceremony, Managing Director of MITDC, Mohamed Raaidh mentioned that this event is held following President Ibrahim Solih's hopes to boost Maldives traditions, culture, and art in the tourism sector. He further said this event will recognize and promote the culture and traditions of islands in different regions of the Maldives in an international level.

Raaidh also highlighted that the event is planned as an annual event, each year with a different theme. The International Yacht Rally 2022 will make journey across islands mentioned in the Maldives folklore story, "Boduthakurufaanu" and other distinctive islands, a total of 15 islands including inhabited and uninhabited islands.

boatinginsider

by NBAM

BML Partners with Mastercard and MTCC to Provide Digital Payments for Public Transport



Bank of Maldives has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mastercard and Maldives Transport and Construction Company (MTCC) to implement an integrated transport management and automatic fare collection system for the public transport service operated by MTCC in the Maldives.

The project is part of Mastercard's 'Smart Cities' initiative to introduce urban mobility solutions to transform the transport experience in cities. As part of this, contactless and digital payments will be introduced on the bus and ferry network, making travelling simpler for commuters and cost-effective for service providers.

Commenting on the project, Bank of Maldives CEO and Managing Director, said "Investing in innovative solutions that offer simplicity and convenience while meeting the changing customer expectations remains an important part of our business. We are delighted to partner with Mastercard and MTCC to implement this project which will see our digital card and mobile payment solutions enabled for the public transport sector."

Commenting on the solution offered to Male' City, Rajesh Mani, Country Manager, Sri Lanka & Maldives, Mastercard said, "We are very happy to once again join hands with the Government of Maldives, this time to implement our open-loop Mastercard Transit Solutions system which will bring about significant fiscal savings, while offering unparalleled convenience to commuters."

Furthermore, Maldives Transport & Contracting Company CEO, Mr. Adam Azim said "We are delighted to partner with BML and Mastercard to provide even more convenience to our customers. The past year has shown the critical importance of innovative and contactless payment methods, and as always, we will strive to provide services that are safe and easily accessible for the public. This service will undoubtedly make the use of public transport simple and straightforward."

With a nationwide network of 35 branches across all 20 atolls, 73 Self Service Banking Centers, 134 ATMs, over 200 agents and a full suite of Digital Banking services, Bank of Maldives is committed to supporting individuals, businesses and communities across Maldives.

GAM Holds Annual General Meeting and Announces Rebranding of its Name



Guesthouse Association of Maldives (GAM) has announced rebranding of its name to National Hotels & Guesthouse Association (NGAM) at the Annual General Meeting held at Kaani Palm Beach, Maafushi yesterday.

As the association who manages the guesthouses of Maldives, GAM revealed the new change was brought to showcase its effort in providing support for the local hotels along with the guesthouses as voted by the participants of the Annual General Meeting 2020.

During the general meeting, Mohamed Shamheed from OTO Creative signed an agreement with the organization to conduct Guesthouse Expo and to publish the official Magazine of the organization.

Speaking at the event, President of GAM, Abdulla Nasheed said that with the expansion of Guesthouse tourism in the Maldives, it is important to plan for a way to steady the occupancy across the guesthouses. He further said despite occupancy held stable at Maafushi, several other guesthouses face challenges as it is not held as firm and the association will be working with the government to overcome and devise a solution regarding the difficulties. The association also revealed a full-time Secretary General will be appointed to carry out regular works.

COVID-19 Cases & Vaccination Update

COVID-19 Case Updates

As at 15th September 2021

Tourist COVID cases as a % of total Tourist Arrivals (15th Jul 2020 - 15th September 2021)

0.19%	2020 (15 July - 31 Dec)
0.22%	2021 (1 Jan - 31 Aug)
0.11%	2021 (1st - 15th Sep)

Vaccination Updates

Maldives Total Vaccinated as at 14th September 2021

First Dose	389,821
Second Dose	326,821

Resort employees Vaccination

Fully Vaccinated	93%
First Dose	99%

boatinginsider

by NBAM

MALDIVES TOURISM UPDATES

16th September 2021

Total Arrivals 2019
1,702,887

Total Arrivals 2020
555,494

Total Arrivals 2021
817,387

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.

Top 10 Markets 2021

As of 15th 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

	Arrivals			Growth (%)	Daily Average	Duration of Stay (days)
	2019	2020	2021	2019/2020	2020/2021	
January	111,310	171,887	161,201	-68.3	10.9	9.2
February	108,749	146,799	160,881	-63.3	10.2	9.8
March	105,880	108,600	179,581	-52.7	10.6	10.7
April	103,119	18	161,200	-66.1	9.6	10.9
May	100,022	91	162,011	-77.3	9.6	10.1
June	113,675	7	162,390	-86.3	9.6	10.0
July	111,144	1,712	161,818	-82.9	9.6	10.1
August	179,098	7,696	162,390	-19.3	1,780.6	9.6
September (1st 15)	177,079	6,808	161,811	-17.6	1,277.8	9.6
Total (1st Jan to 15th Sep)	1,181,136	596,403	1,612,387	-19.8	1,106.5	9.1

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

	Arrivals			Growth (%)	
From 1st January to 15th September 2021	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

AS OF 15TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Facility Type	Total Capacity		Operational Capacity	
	Nox.	Beds	Nox.	Beds
Resorts	163	38,554	175	36,832
Hotels & Guesthouses	762	13,380	570	11,006
Safari Vessels	161	3,004	144	2,848
Total	1,086	54,938	889	50,686

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

AIRLINES & CONNECTIVITY



boatinginsider

by NBAM

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 restart tourism in the region. The meeting was amended by 25 members from 7 countries.

Visit Maldives Launches Campaign with Tatler Malaysia



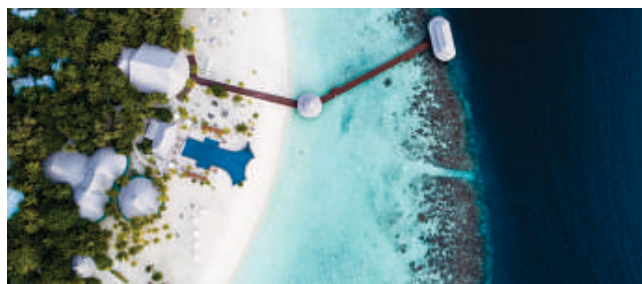
Visit Maldives has commenced a digital marketing campaign with Tatler Malaysia to maintain destination presence and promote Maldives as a leading safe haven destination targeting high-income travelers in the Malaysian and Southeast Asian market. Conducted from September until October, the campaign aims 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 travelers in Malaysia.

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.

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.

MALDIVES MARINE EXPO 2021

OFFICIAL EVENT OF



*See You
There*

FOR PARTICIPATION OR CLARIFICATIONS
PLEASE CONTACT OUR HOTLINE +960 799-7974



 MaldivesMarineExpo

 MvMarineExpo

 MvMarineExpo

www.marineexpo.mv

EVENT ORGANIZER

MEDIUM

   /MediumMv