

Tourism in the Maldives

- ❖ Started in 1972
- ❖ One island one resort concept
- ❖ Free visa on arrival
- ❖ No restriction on any nationalities
- ❖ Contributes over 35% to the GDP
- ❖ Number one foreign exchange earner
- ❖ Major employment generator

Accommodation Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ All establishments are required to register at Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC), under Tourism Act, Law No. 2/99
- ❖ Islands are leased for resort development by the Government (MOTAC)
- ❖ Leased for a period of 50 years
- ❖ Inventory of all establishments maintained by MOTAC

Accommodation Statistics

Inbound Tourism

types of accommodation

- ❖ Resort Islands (one island one resort)
- ❖ Hotels
- ❖ Guest Houses
- ❖ Live-aboard Safari Vessels (floating beds)

Accommodation Statistics

Inbound Tourism

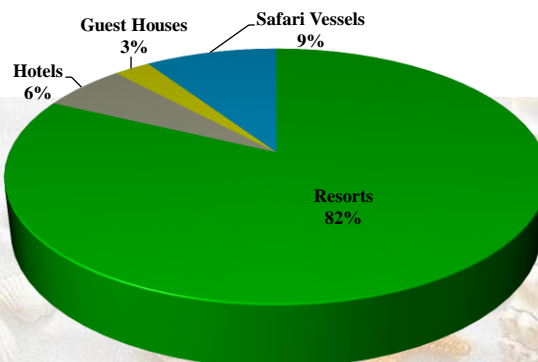
Nos. and bed capacity by type (end January 2012)

Type of Establishment	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012 (end Jan)	
	Nos	Beds	Nos	Beds	Nos	Beds	Nos	Beds	Nos	Beds	Nos	Beds
Resorts	92	19,028	94	19,860	97	20,942	98	21,342	101	22,120	102	22,140
Hotels	11	886	13	1,110	15	1,368	17	1,449	19	1,603	19	1,603
Guest Houses	24	400	24	400	22	462	25	476	38	659	43	701
Safari Vessels	133	1,923	143	2,094	145	2,206	156	2,434	157	2,514	158	2,530
Total	260	22,237	274	23,464	279	24,978	296	25,701	315	26,896	322	26,974

Accommodation Statistics

Inbound Tourism

Bed capacity contribution by types of accommodation
(end January 2012)



Accommodation Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ All accommodation establishments are required to submit data on bed occupancy to MOTAC
- ❖ Occupancy rates generated from the bed night data submitted by the establishments
- ❖ Can submit online / email or fax



Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Major Source of inbound tourism statistics
 - ❖ Arrival/departure card (monthly/annual)
 - ❖ Maldives Visitor Survey (once a year)



Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC) publishes monthly and annual reports on tourist arrivals to the country
- ❖ Daily data provided to MOTAC by Department of Immigration & Emigration
- ❖ Data collected through arrival/departure cards of immigration
- ❖ Tourist arrivals to the country is compiled by air only, with two ports of entry
- ❖ Cruise passengers (tourists arrivals by sea) are currently not compiled

Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Data collected from Arrival/Departure Card
- ❖ Arrival
 - ❖ Nationality
 - ❖ Gender
 - ❖ Age (D.O.B)
 - ❖ Place of Residence
 - ❖ Purpose of visit
 - ❖ Length of stay
- ❖ Departure
 - ❖ Nationality
 - ❖ Gender
 - ❖ Place of stay in Maldives

Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

Arrival/Departure Card

WELCOME TO MALDIVES

REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES
Department of Immigration and Emigration
Male, Maldives Tel: +960 333 0448, 333 0452

ARRIVAL CARD

Full Name as it appears in Passport/Travel document Please write clearly in CAPITALS

Nationality Country of Birth Date of Birth

Passport No. Place of Issue

Date of Expiry Place of Residence (City/State/Country)

Number of persons traveling with this passport Traveling in group tour Sex Male Female

Last place of Embarkation Next Destination

Mode of arrival Flight No. Length of stay (day(s))

Sea Ship's name

Purpose of visit Holiday Business Official Employment

Transit Others

DEPARTURE CARD 1592478

Full Name as it appears in Passport/Travel document Please write clearly in CAPITALS

Nationality Sex Male Female

Passport No. Number of persons traveling with this passport

For resident permit holders only Category & last permit No. Entry Date

LIST OF IMPORT - PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED ITEMS UNDER MALDIVIAN LAW

1. Narcotics, illicit drugs and synthetic drugs substances.
2. Firearms, explosives and weapons.
3. Materials harmful to health.
4. Pornographic materials.
5. Alcohol.
6. Drugs.
7. Infectious diseases.
8. Live animals and plants.
9. Weapons, munitions and ammunition.
10. Other items.
11. Other items.

REPORT OF NO DISEASE
Reported by the traveler or the person in charge of the group

Address in Maldives 1592478

Signature of the passport holder

For resident permit holders only IMMIGRATION OFFICER'S STAMP

Passport Entry Date

HEALTH INFORMATION

COVID-19 test result in the last 90 days

Traveler's Name Date of Birth

HEALTH AUTHORITIES REMIND YOU THAT

At the time of travel, the traveler must declare to the health authorities if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Loss of taste or smell
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Muscle aches
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Stomach pain
- Skin rash
- Other symptoms

Notes:

1. Travelers entering Maldives should declare any symptoms at the point of entry.
2. Travelers with symptoms should self-isolate and seek medical attention immediately.
3. Travelers with symptoms should not travel to other parts of the country.
4. Travelers with symptoms should not visit public places.
5. Travelers with symptoms should not visit other people.
6. Travelers with symptoms should not visit schools or workplaces.
7. Travelers with symptoms should not visit public transport.
8. Travelers with symptoms should not visit public places.
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The card should be completed and given to the immigration officer at the point of entry.

Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

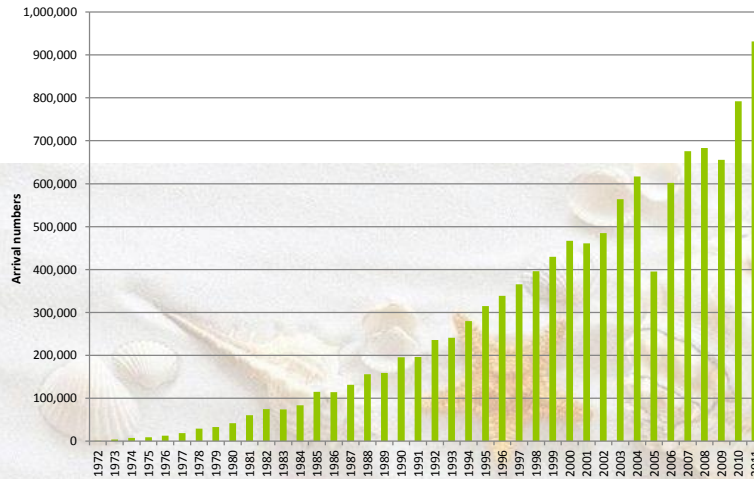
- ❖ Arrival data available by
 - ❖ Nationality
 - ❖ Gender
 - ❖ Age group
- ❖ Time series
 - ❖ Monthly
 - ❖ Annually



Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

Tourist Arrivals, 1972 - 2011

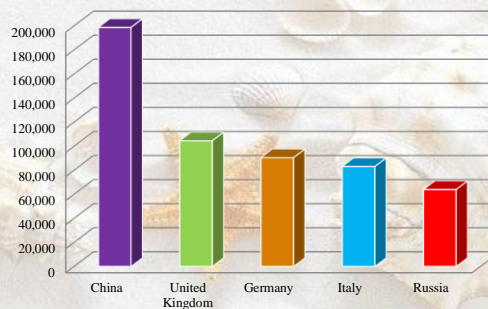


Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Major Markets to the Maldives
 - ❖ Europe (57.7%)
 - ❖ Asia & Pacific (37.5%)
 - ❖ Americas (2.5%)
 - ❖ Middle East (1.6%)
 - ❖ Africa (0.7%)

Top 5 Markets 2011



Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ **Maldives Visitor Survey**

- ❖ Exit survey
- ❖ Targeted to tourists only
- ❖ Conducted once a year



Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ **Data collected through Maldives Visitor Survey**

- ❖ Nationality
- ❖ Country of residence
- ❖ Duration of visit
- ❖ Purpose of visit
- ❖ Perception of tourists
- ❖ Expenditure details

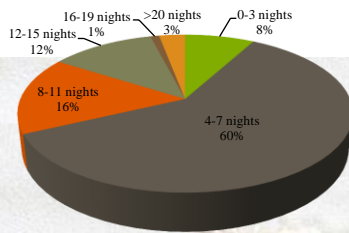


Arrival Statistics

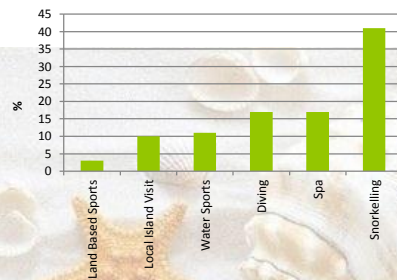
Inbound Tourism

Some of the findings from Maldives Visitor Survey 2011

Duration of stay



Activities Enjoyed



Arrival Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ A tourist arrival forecasting model being developed
- ❖ Will be implemented this year

Revenue & Expenditure Statistics

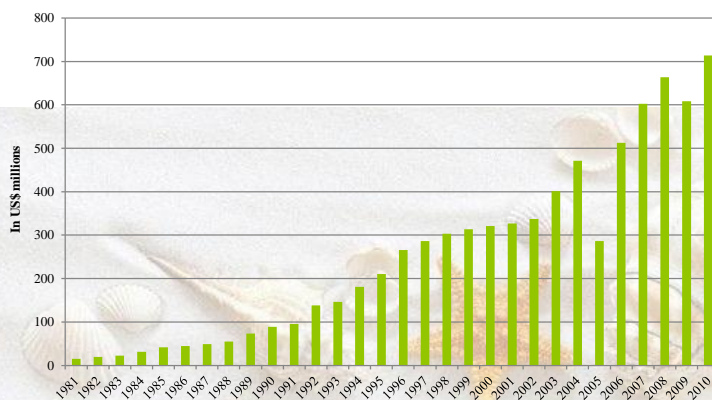
Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Tourism Receipts compiled by the Maldives Monetary Authority (Central Bank) for the purpose of Balance of Payments
- ❖ Previously used a model based estimation
 - ❖ Includes tax returns and expenditure made by tourists in the resorts, souvenir shops, local transport, etc...
 - ❖ Calculations were mainly based on a small scale survey

Revenue & Expenditure Statistics

Inbound Tourism

Tourism Receipts, 1981 - 2010



Revenue & Expenditure Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Goods and Service Tax (GST) introduced in 2011
 - ❖ Administrative records of Maldives Inland Revenue Authority (MIRA) used for the estimation of tourism receipts
 - ❖ Tourism receipts in 2011 was around US\$ 2 billion
- ❖ BOP re-stated
 - ❖ Current account –improved
 - ❖ Coverage of Services account improved

Revenue & Expenditure Statistics

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Tourism Revenue compiled by Maldives Inland Revenue Authority
 - ❖ Lease rent of tourist resorts
 - ❖ Bed tax (US\$ 8 per bed night)
- ❖ Lease rent formula revised in 2011
 - ❖ Changed from a bed based rent to a land rent
 - ❖ US\$ 8 per square meter

Challenges

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Budget constraints
 - ❖ surveys cannot be conducted
- ❖ Lack of human resource
- ❖ Unable to retrieve most of the data collected by the Arrival/Departure card
 - ❖ New system developed for border control not being able to implement
- ❖ Language barrier
 - ❖ Sudden shift in major market segment (Chinese market)

Developments since 2010

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Conducted the Maldives Visitor Survey
 - ❖ Added new questions to the questionnaire on expenditure details of visitors
- ❖ Implemented a regulation for accommodation establishments to submit the data
- ❖ Implemented an online system to submit the data

Plans for the Future

Inbound Tourism

- ❖ Conduct the Visitor Survey more regularly
 - ❖ twice a year (high season and low season)
- ❖ To conduct a detailed inbound expenditure survey
- ❖ Discussions going on to use and implement the UNWTO Accommodation Kit
- ❖ Implement the tourist arrival and tourism receipt forecasting models to be developed with technical assistance from the World Bank for the Maldives

