



MINISTRY OF TOURISM
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

C I R C U L A R

Ref Number: 88-PS/CIR/2021/71

Date: 23rd July 2021
To: All Tourist Facilities
Subject: Update on Travel Restriction

Dear Sir/Madam,

Reference is made to the **Announcement Numbers (IUL)23-L/452/2021/5 (dated 21st July 2021) & (IUL)23-L/452/2021/6 (dated 22nd July 2021)** published on the Government of Maldives Gazette by Health Protection Agency (HPA).

As per the announcements by HPA, it has been decided to implement below mentioned eases in restriction for **Maldivians and Work Permit Holders** arriving to Maldives from abroad **effective from 23rd July 2021**. ALL necessary approvals regarding below should be obtained through “HAALUBELUN PORTAL” before travel.

FOR MALDIVIANS & WORK PERMIT HOLDERS

- 1) All individual(s) should hold a negative result for a nucleic acid test (PCR test) for COVID- 19 prior to entry into the Maldives, including those who have completed the prescribed dose(s) of Covid-19 vaccines and recovered from Covid-19. The sample for the PCR test must be taken at most 72 (seventy-two) hours before departure from the first embarkation point.
- 2) Exemption of travel quarantine upon arrival to Maldives for those individual(s) who have tested positive for Covid-19 in Maldives and recovered within the past 60 (sixty) days from the date of initial sample collection, including accompanying children (who are not eligible for vaccination).
- 3) Exemption of travel quarantine upon arrival to Maldives for those individual(s) who have completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 Vaccine (approved by the World Health Organization Emergency Use Listing (EUL) or the Maldives Food and Drug Authority and at least 14 (fourteen) days have passed after the recommended doses(s), including accompanying children (who are not eligible for vaccination).
- 4) ALL individual(s) stated above in (3) and accompanying children stated above in (2) are required to undertake a PCR test for Covid-19 within 05 -07 days of arrival to Maldives.
- 5) All those individual(s) who does not fulfill the criteria stated above in (2) and (3) should undergo mandatory travel quarantine of 14 days as per the guidelines set forth by HPA and will be released on receiving a negative PCR test result for Covid-19 upon completion of 14 days of travel quarantine. However, Work-Permit holders from South Asian Countries who are not eligible for the exemption mentioned above and require to be quarantined for 14 days should observe their mandatory travel quarantine at an HPA designated facility, and they should also undergo PCR testing within 48 -72 hours of arrival as well as at the end of their quarantine.

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FOR ALL INBOUND TOURISTS

ALL inbound tourists to Maldives should hold a negative result for a nucleic acid test (PCR test) for COVID-19 prior to entry into the Maldives, including those who have completed the prescribed dose(s) of Covid-19 vaccines and recovered from Covid-19. The sample for the PCR test must be taken at most 72 (seventy-two) hours before departure from the first embarkation point.

Furthermore, the following measures are to be ensured **effective** from **26th July 2021** for ALL inbound tourists while check-in to Tourist Guesthouses in Local Islands.

- 1) To strictly ensure that the tourists (excluding children and infants who are not eligible for vaccination) have completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 Vaccine (approved by the World Health Organization Emergency Use Listing (EUL) or the Maldives Food and Drug Authority and at least 14 (fourteen) days have passed after the recommended doses(s) before the check-in to Tourist Guesthouses in local islands.

However, those tourists who have not completed the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 Vaccine shall be accommodated in Tourist Guesthouses in local islands upon fulfillment of below criteria by the Tourist Guesthouse island;

- (a) At least 60% of the Tourist Guesthouse island population eligible for vaccination have completed and 14 (fourteen) days have passed after the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 Vaccine.
 - (b) At least 95% of staff in ALL tourist facilities of the Tourist Guesthouse island have completed and 14 (fourteen) days have passed after the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 Vaccine.
 - (c) At least 90% of resident population of the Tourist Guesthouse island who are 65 years & above, have completed and 14 (fourteen) days have passed after the recommended dose(s) of a Covid-19 Vaccine.
- 2) Should hold a negative result for a nucleic acid test (PCR test) for COVID-19, within 72 (seventy-two) hours prior to check-out from the respective Tourist Guesthouses in local islands.

Please note that ALL the above eases and measures may be subject to change upon assessing the Covid-19 situation in the respective country.

As always, we take this opportunity to thank all tourist facilities for the support & cooperation extended to us at all times. For further clarification, please contact our Situation Monitoring Unit (SMU) on (+960) 9423131 or email us at smu@tourism.gov.mv.

Yours sincerely,

Ali Razzan

Senior Executive Director

