

# Maldives Travel Advisory

Prepared by: Indeed Travels

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## Overview

The Maldives, a tropical paradise in the Indian Ocean, is known for its stunning white-sand beaches, crystal-clear turquoise waters, and vibrant marine life. Comprising over 1,000 islands, the Maldives is the perfect destination for honeymooners, adventure seekers, and those looking to unwind in a luxurious setting. With its unique culture, exquisite cuisine, and endless opportunities for relaxation and exploration, the Maldives promises an unforgettable escape.

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## Entry Requirements

### 1. Visa and Passport

- **Visa-Free Entry:** Citizens from most countries, including the **United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia,** and **EU countries**, can obtain a **30-day visa on arrival**.
- **Passport Validity:** Ensure your passport is valid for at least **six months** beyond your date of arrival.

### 2. Customs Regulations

- Travelers are allowed to bring personal effects duty-free. However, restrictions apply to certain items, including alcohol and narcotics.
  - Importing goods such as meat and alcohol is regulated; check local laws for details.
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## Health and Safety

### 1. Healthcare in the Maldives

- The Maldives offers medical facilities primarily in **Malé**, with limited services available on outer islands. For serious medical issues, evacuation to a better-equipped facility may be necessary.

- **Emergency Numbers:** For emergencies, dial **119** for police and **102** for medical assistance.
  - 2. **Vaccinations and Health Precautions**
    - Routine vaccinations are recommended before travel. Consider vaccinations for **Hepatitis A** and **Typhoid**, especially if you plan to visit local areas.
    - Travelers should ensure they are covered by travel insurance that includes health coverage.
  - 3. **Safety Tips**
    - The Maldives is generally safe for tourists. However, be cautious of petty crime, especially in crowded areas and markets.
    - Adhere to local laws and customs, particularly regarding behavior in public places.
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## Local Laws and Etiquette

1. **Cultural Sensitivity**
    - The Maldives is a Muslim country; modest clothing is required when outside resort areas. Swimwear is acceptable on beaches but should be avoided in local towns.
    - Respect local customs and traditions, especially during the holy month of **Ramadan**.
  2. **Tipping**
    - Tipping is appreciated but not mandatory. A **10% service charge** is often included in bills at resorts and restaurants. Additional tips for exceptional service are welcomed.
  3. **Public Behavior**
    - Alcohol consumption is restricted to resorts and designated areas. Public drunkenness is frowned upon.
    - Avoid public displays of affection, as they may be considered inappropriate.
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## Getting Around

1. **Transportation Options**

- **Seaplanes and Speedboats:** Many resorts are accessible via seaplane or speedboat transfers from **Malé** International Airport. Book these transfers in advance through your resort.
  - **Local Ferries:** Ferries connect inhabited islands, offering a more economical option to explore. Schedules can vary, so check in advance.
2. **Domestic Flights**
- For longer distances, domestic flights operate between major islands and atolls. Airlines like **Maldivian** and **Flyme** provide these services.
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## Top Destinations in the Maldives

1. **Malé**  
The bustling capital offers attractions like the **Maldives Islamic Centre**, **Fish Market**, and **National Museum**. A visit to Malé provides insight into local culture and history.
  2. **Maafushi**  
A local island that offers guesthouses and a chance to experience Maldivian life. Enjoy activities like snorkeling, diving, and exploring the nearby sandbanks.
  3. **Baa Atoll**  
A UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, famous for its marine biodiversity. Ideal for snorkeling and diving, with opportunities to see manta rays and whale sharks.
  4. **Ari Atoll**  
Known for its luxurious resorts, stunning dive sites, and beautiful beaches. Ari Atoll is perfect for water sports enthusiasts and those seeking relaxation.
  5. **Vaavu Atoll**  
A remote atoll that offers tranquil beaches and fantastic diving opportunities. It's less crowded, making it perfect for a peaceful getaway.
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## Money and Currency

1. **Currency**
  - The official currency is the **Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR)**. Credit cards are widely accepted at resorts and larger businesses, but cash may be needed for local purchases.
2. **Bargaining**

- Bargaining is common in local markets but not typically practiced in resorts.
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## Climate

- The Maldives has a tropical monsoon climate with two main seasons:
    - **Dry Season:** November to April, characterized by clear skies and lower humidity, making it the best time for beach activities.
    - **Wet Season:** May to October, with occasional rain and storms. However, even during the wet season, sunny days are common.
  - **Best Time to Visit:** The ideal time to visit the Maldives is from **November to April** for optimal weather and visibility for snorkeling and diving.
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Whether you're looking for adventure, relaxation, or a romantic escape, the Maldives is a stunning destination that offers unparalleled beauty and experiences. Let **Indeed Travels** help you plan your perfect getaway to this tropical paradise! Contact us today for tailored travel packages and expert advice.