

MALDIVES CRUISING GUIDE UPDATES - NOVEMBER 2014

Page	Section	Old Text	Updated Text
26	VHF	[...] Boats approaching the Maldives are required to contact the port authorities at least a couple of hours before their arrival, using channel 10 for Malé or channel 16 for one of the other four points of entry: Uligan in the Haa Alifu Atoll, and the Regional Ports of Kuludhufushi in the Haa Dhaalu Atoll, Vilingili in Gaaf Alifu Atoll and Hitadhoo in the Seenu Atoll.[...]	[...] Boats approaching the Maldives are required to contact the port authorities at least a couple of hours before their arrival, using channel 10 for Malé or channel 16 for one of the other three points of entry: Uligan in the Haa Alifu Atoll, and the Regional Ports of Kuludhufushi in the Haa Dhaalu Atoll, and Hitadhoo in the Seenu Atoll.[...]
26	Cell phones, web and e-mails	By now the Maldives are almost completely covered by the GSM and GPRS signals, with the exception of some areas far away from the inhabited islands and some stretches of ocean between the atolls. There are two platforms for cell phone communications: Dhiraagu (www.dhiraagu.com.mv) and Watanya (www.wataniya.mv). [...]	By now the Maldives are almost completely covered by the <i>GPRS Edge or 3G signals</i> , with the exception of some areas far away from the inhabited islands and some stretches of ocean between the atolls. There are two platforms for cell phone communications: Dhiraagu (dhiraagu.com.mv) and <i>Ooredoo</i> (www.ooredoo.mv). [...]
28	Restaurants	The best restaurants in the Maldives are to be found in the most exclusive resorts. It is possible to book lunch or dinner in one of these places through reception at the resorts. A list of resorts complete with phone numbers is available free of charge from the Maldives Tourism Promotion Board, situated on the third floor of the building which also houses the Bank of Ceylon, on the sea front North of Malé. In Malé it is possible to taste the excellent specialities from Thailand at the <i>Sala Thai</i> (3345959), a small establishment in Meer Ahmed Magu. For a pizza, the most suitable place is the <i>Salsa Royal</i> (3335008) in Orchid Magu. Coffee shops providing a quick snack include the <i>Seagull Café House</i> in the open air in Fareedhee Magu, the <i>Jade Bistrot</i> and the <i>Sea House</i> , both on the sea front North of Malé. For a dinner by the swimming pool why not try the <i>Gaadhoo</i> restaurant at the <i>Hulule Island Hotel</i> (3330888) on the island-airport of Hulule).	The best restaurants in the Maldives are to be found in the most exclusive resorts. It is possible to book lunch or dinner in one of these places through reception at the resorts. A list of resorts complete with phone numbers is available free of charge from the Maldives Tourism Promotion Board, situated at 4 th floor of <i>Velaa</i> building, behind the Bank of Ceylon. In Malé it is possible to taste the excellent specialities from Thailand at the <i>Sala Thai</i> (3345959). For a pizza, the most suitable place is <i>Pizza Mia</i> (3316000). Coffee shops providing a quick snack include the <i>Seagull Café House</i> in the open air in Fareedhee Magu, the <i>Jade Bistrot</i> and the <i>Sea House</i> , both on the sea front North of Malé. For a dinner by the swimming pool why not try the <i>Gaadhoo</i> restaurant at the <i>Hulule Island Hotel</i> (3330888) on the island-airport of Hulule).
29	Transport	[...] A punctual transport service connects Malé with Hulule international airport (every 15 minutes in both directions) and the island of Hulumale (every 30 minutes), where local and foreign craft park or wait for cruising permits in the	[...] A punctual transport service connects Malé with Hulule international airport and the island of Hulumale (both every 15 minutes), where local and foreign craft park or wait for cruising permits in the lagoon. Air transport is rapidly increasing.

		<p>lagoon. Air transport is rapidly increasing. There are five airports already in operation: K. Hulule, HDh. Hanimadhoo, L. Kadhdhoo, GDh. Kaadhedhdhoo and S. Gan. A further three airports are under construction (Adh. Maamigili, LH. Madivaru, GA. Vilingili), with a further four at the design stage (SH. Farukholu, DH. Kudahuvadho, TH. Thimarafushi, GDh. Maavendhdhoo). Maldivian (3335544, www.island.com.mv) is the national-flag airline and connects the domestic airports with Malé offering a good number of daily flights. The alternative in air transport to Maldivian is provided by two seaplane companies operating in the archipelago, punctually connecting Hulule to the more distant tourist villages: the excellent Maldivian Air Taxi (3315201, www.mat.com.mv) and Trans Maldivian Airways (3325708, www.tma.com.mv). There are taxi services on the main islands. Taxis in the Maldives can be recognised by their yellow number plates, differing from the black number plates used for private vehicles.</p>	<p>There are ten airports already in operation: K. Hulule, HDh. Hanimadhoo, L. Kadhdhoo, GDh. Kaadhedhdhoo, Adh. Maamigili, GA. Koodhoo, TH. Thimarafushi, GN. Fuammulak, B. Dharavandhoo and S. Gan. A further four airports are under construction (LH. Madivaru, SH. Farukholu, DH. Kudahuvadho, GDh. Maavendhdhoo). Maldivian (3335544, www.island.com.mv) is the national-flag airline and connects the domestic airports with Malé offering a good number of daily flights and seaplane transfers. The alternative in air transport to Maldivian atolls is provided by another domestic flights operator, Flyme (3010350), and by a seaplane company, punctually connecting Hulule to the more distant tourist villages: Trans Maldivian Airways (3325708, www.tma.com.mv). There are taxi services on the main islands. Taxis in the Maldives can be recognised by the sign board on the vehicles' roof and by their yellow number plates, differing from the black number plates used for private vehicles.</p>
30	Customs formalities and cruising permits	<p>Vessels entering Maldivian waters must communicate their arrival to the Maldives Ports Authority at least 2 hours in advance. Custom units for inward clearance are established in five points of the archipelago: at Malé, at Uligan in the Ihavandhippolhu Atoll and at the <i>Regional Ports</i> of Kuludhufushi, in Haa Dhaalu Atoll, Vilingili in Gaaf Alifu Atoll, and Hithadhoo, in Seenu Atoll. [...]</p> <p>Among the more efficient and best-equipped local agents we can mention the excellent and punctual <i>Holserv Pvt Ltd</i> (+960 7784769, www.yachtmaldives.com), specialised in providing assistance for small and mediumsized cruising yachts. <i>Holserv</i> has an international team and can offer the following services: vessel clearing (inward and outward); fuel, water, bunkering and lubricants; cruising permits for tourism zones including major ports; guide information and advice for navigation in the Maldivian atolls; crew and passenger visa application and extension; full provisional service; crew placement,</p>	<p>Vessels entering Maldivian waters must communicate their arrival to the Maldives Ports Authority at least 2 hours in advance. Custom units for inward clearance are established in four points of the archipelago: at Malé, at Uligan in the Ihavandhippolhu Atoll, and at the <i>Regional Ports</i> of Kuludhufushi in Haa Dhaalu Atoll and Hithadhoo in Seenu Atoll. [...]</p> <p>Among the most efficient and best-equipped local agents we can mention the excellent and punctual <i>Antrac Maldives</i> (+960 3310096, VHF 14, mhameed@antracmaldives.com) specialised in providing assistance for small, mediumsized, and large cruising yachts. <i>Antrac</i> offers the following services: vessel clearing (inward and outward); fuel, water, bunkering and lubricants; cruising permits for tourism zones including major ports; guide information and advice for navigation in the Maldivian atolls; crew and passenger visa application and extension; full provisional service; crew placement, organizing sea and air transport; crew and</p>

		<p>organizing sea and air transport; crew and passenger air reservation and confirmation; hotel and resort booking; crewed yacht private charter; photo flights charter; dive guide and instructional service; diving equipment rental, compressor rental and technical service; storing facilities; passenger receiving and handling at airport; full office facilities; insurances, surveys and accountancy services; mobile phone rental; laundry facilities;</p>	<p>passenger air reservation and confirmation; hotel and resort booking; crewed yacht private charter; photo flights charter; dive guide and instructional service; diving equipment rental, compressor rental and technical service; storing facilities; passenger receiving and handling at airport; full office facilities; insurances, surveys and accountancy services; mobile phone rental; laundry facilities;</p>
31	<p>Customs formalities and cruising permits</p>	<p>assistance in repairing main engine, generator, autopilot, water maker and shaft; spare parts and supporting tools supply; full time and part time professional crew agency. <i>Antrac Maldives</i> (+960 3310096, VHF 14, mhameed@alliancemarine.com.mv) is another valid agent who also extends services to cargo ships. [...]</p> <p>A new law was applied in March 2008 which includes the following points for obtaining a cruising permit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. foreign vessels wishing to enter and navigate Maldivian territory must contact an authorised local agent; 2. the agent will obtain the necessary documents on behalf of the vessel from the respective local authorities; 3. documents for the permission to stay and the cruising permit must be presented 2 days prior to the vessel's arrival in the Maldives; 4. the vessel will be granted permission to stay in the Maldives for 30 days from the moment when the customs authorities have completed the envisaged inspection; 5. in cases where the vessel wishes to extend its stay in Maldivian waters it is possible to request an extension for the permit for a maximum of 14 days, on payment of a tax which is proportional to the size of the craft and the number of days requested for the extension; 6. in cases where an emergency situation prevents the vessel from leaving the Maldives after a total of 44 days, the vessel's agent is required to inform the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Defence with at least 7 days advance notification; [...] 	<p>assistance in repairing main engine, generator, autopilot, water maker and shaft; spare parts and supporting tools supply; full time and part time professional crew agency. [...]</p> <p>A new law was applied recently which includes the following points for obtaining a cruising permit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. foreign vessels wishing to enter and navigate Maldivian territory must contact an authorised local agent; 2. the agent will obtain the necessary documents on behalf of the vessel from the respective local authorities; 3. documents for the permission to stay and the cruising permit must be presented two days prior to the vessel's arrival in the Maldives; 4. the vessel will be granted permission to stay in the Maldives up to 6 months from the moment when the customs authorities have completed the envisaged inspection; 5. crew will be granted a visa up to 90 days; 6. in cases where an emergency situation prevents the vessel from leaving the Maldives after 6 months, the vessel's agent is required to inform the local authorities with at least 7 days advance notification; [...]

33	Procedures for visiting the villages of the locals	It is always possible to visit the villages of the locals during the daytime, but forbidden from dusk to dawn, with the exception of Malé and Hulumalé. [...]	It is always possible to visit the villages of the locals. [...]
77	Alifu Dhaalu – Places of Interest	Fenfushi is without doubt a must for those in search of the fundamental aspects of Maldivian tradition. The inhabitants were skilful sculptors and carvers of coral and their art is still to be seen on the finely decorated walls of the island's mosque and the tombstones in the nearby cemetery. The Friday Mosque in the capital was engraved in madrepora by craftsmen from Fenfushi during the rule of the Sultan Mohamed Ibn Al Haj Ali (1692-1701). Another place of interest in South Ari is the Cultural Centre in the village of Dhangheti. The centre reproduces certain types of ancient Maldivian houses and exhibits numerous objects associated with daily life in the Maldives as it once was. Several deserted islands are suitable for a good swim or some excellent snorkelling. These include: Dhiggiri, Innafushi, Bulhalohi and Hurasdhoo, also known by the locals as <i>Pineapple Island</i> because, years ago, one of the locals tried to turn it into a pineapple plantation. [...]	Fenfushi is without doubt a must for those in search of the fundamental aspects of Maldivian tradition. The inhabitants were skilful sculptors and carvers of coral and their art is still to be seen on the finely decorated walls of the island's mosque and the tombstones in the nearby cemetery. The Friday Mosque in the capital was engraved in madrepora by craftsmen from Fenfushi during the rule of the Sultan Mohamed Ibn Al Haj Ali (1692-1701). Several deserted islands are suitable for a good swim or some excellent snorkelling. These include: Dhiggiri, Innafushi, Bulhalohi and Hurasdhoo, also known by the locals as <i>Pineapple Island</i> because, years ago, one of the locals tried to turn it into a pineapple plantation. [...]

Note for pages 45-92: A complete and up-to-date list of resorts which are operational, together with hotels and picnic islands, is available through the official website of the Maldivian Ministry of Tourism: www.tourism.gov.mv or through the Maldives Tourism Promotion Board website: www.visitmaldives.com.

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Page	Map name	Waypoints used to enter the inner lagoons of the maps
60	Rasfari	04°23.524'N, 73°21.482'E; 04°23.557'N, 73°21.431'E; 04°23.756'N, 73°21.416'E.
64	Embudhoo	04°05.124'N, 73°31.423'E; 04°05.226'N, 73°31.280'E; 04°05.407'N, 73°31.220'E; 04°05.601'N, 73°31.183'E.
65	Velassaru	04°05.744'N, 73°24.360'E; 04°05.921'N, 73°24.559'E; 04°06.084'N, 73°24.818'E.
66	Gulhi (from South)	03°59.130'N, 73°30.026'E; 03°59.226'N, 73°30.074'E; 03°59.288'N, 73°30.157'E; 03°59.351'N, 73°30.239'E.
67	Guraidhoo (from West)	03°54.030'N, 73°27.052'E; 03°53.952'N, 73°27.236'E; 03°53.925'N, 73°27.364'E.
71	Maayafushi	04°04.569'N, 72°52.641'E; 04°04.594'N, 72°52.731'E.
72	Vihamaafaru	04°07.108'N, 72°45.121'E; 04°07.466'N, 72°45.058'E.
72	Ran Faru (South)	04°00.298'N, 72°43.239'E; 04°00.391'N, 72°43.255'E
75	Dhangethi	03°35.458'N, 72°56.077'E; 03°35.574'N, 72°56.279'E; 03°35.650'N, 72°56.450'E; 03°35.731'N, 72°56.646'E; 03°35.802'N, 72°56.866'E; 03°35.821'N, 72°56.983'E.
76	Maavaru Faru (North)	03°52.144'N, 72°43.663'E; 03°52.086'N, 72°43.566'E; 03°52.029'N, 72°43.471'E; 03°51.973'N, 72°43.376'E.
76	Maavaru Faru (South)	03°49.844'N, 72°44.274'E; 03°50.046'N, 72°44.098'E; 03°50.260'N, 72°43.877'E.
76	Mandhoo	03°44.583'N, 72°42.372'E; 03°44.410'N, 72°42.392'E; 03°44.248'N, 72°42.506'E; 03°44.102'N, 72°42.580'E; 03°43.991'N, 72°42.644'E.
79	Kudadhiggaru Falhu	03°34.032'N, 73°29.446'E; 03°33.924'N, 73°29.521'E, 03°33.869'N, 73°29.622'E.