

Date	6 August 2020
Monthly Unique Users	19,000
Value	£63

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94% of Maldives resorts to open by October

by Laura Gelder

The Maldives Marketing and PR Corporation (MMPRC) has announced that 146 of its 156 resorts will reopen to guests by the end of October 2020, after implementing health and safety measures set out by the Ministry of Tourism.

Following the reopening of Maldivian borders to international visitors on July 15, there are 44 resorts already open in the Maldives, including Kudafushi Resort & Spa, Lily Beach Maldives, LUX* North Male Atoll, OBLU by Atmosphere, Soneva Fushi, Angsana Resort & Spa, VARU by Atmosphere, Jumeirah Vittaveli, Velaa Private Island, both properties owned by Four Seasons, Centara's Maldivian portfolio of resorts as well as the recently launched Emerald Maldives Resort and Spa.

Budget-friendly guesthouses situated on local inhabited islands in the Maldives were also permitted to open to guests as of August 1.

Throughout September, 29 Maldivian resorts will safely welcome back tourists, including Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa, four of Aitken Spence Hotels' Maldivian properties and The Nautilus.

An additional 46 resorts will open in October, including Outrigger Konotta Maldives Resort, Reethi Faru Resort and Niyama Private Islands Maldives.

This will mean 94% of resorts in the Maldives will be open for business ahead of the key 'winter sun' travel months.

All 156 resorts in the island nation are required to take protective measures in line with the COVID-19 safe tourism guidelines and hygiene certification programme issued by the Maldivian Ministry of Tourism.

The flip side for travelling Brits is that although the Maldives' borders are open to tourists, and there is now travel between the islands, the country is not on the FCO's exemption list.

That means that when returning to the UK, travellers will need to provide journey and contact details and self-isolate for 14 days.

In addition, on arrival in the Maldives, screening procedures are in place for passengers, with quarantine facilities set up to isolate any suspected cases of Covid-19.

Travellers who ignore FCO advice will unlikely be covered by travel insurance.

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