

TRAVEL & TOURISM NEWS



Message from Mauritius: 'the island is open and safe'

Mauritius' deputy prime minister and minister of tourism, Louis Steven Obeegadoo, gave a keynote speech to global travel industry professionals to mark the return of tourism to the island (ABTA Magazine, 17-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

"Mega Fam Trip": 109 professionals from 12 countries discover Mauritius

Mauritius, on the initiative of the MTPA, hosted, from the 15th to the 19th, a "Mega Fam Trip" which allowed no less than 109 professionals (tour operators and specialized press) to discover the destination from all angles. This "Mega Fam Trip", essential for the visibility of Mauritius on the international level, has achieved the objectives set, estimates the MTPA (Ile Maurice Tourisme & Lifestyle, Nov-2021). [Read More](#)



Maldives inches closer to tourist arrival target for 2021 as figure reaches 1,092,105

79,177 arrivals have been recorded so far this month. A daily average of 4,657 tourists are visiting Maldives this month, with their stay period recorded at an average of eight days. The tourist arrivals figure recorded so far in November 2021 is a 1.2 percent increase from the same period in 2019 and a 345 percent increase from the previous year (Raajje.mv, 20-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

The islands of Seychelles are open and welcoming French visitors

Sights and sounds of Seychelles have hit the French market with full force through a multi-channel campaign orchestrated by Tourism Seychelles. The campaign, which started in September, is running over a four-month period bringing a torrent of sunshine, outstanding locations and dreams of the warmth of the exotic Indian Ocean island destination to France as this key tourism source market heads into autumn and winter (eTurbo News, 01-12-2021). [Read More](#)



Sri Lanka expects 200,000 tourists during rest of 2021

Sri Lanka's tourism industry is expecting over 200,000 tourists in the last two months of the year, banking on greater air connectivity, promotional activities, eased travel restrictions and successful vaccination rollout efforts (FT.LK, 12-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Caribbean tourism expected to grow by \$10 billion in 2022

While the global economy is set to receive a modest 30.7 per cent year on year increase from Travel & Tourism in 2021, representing USD 1.4 trillion, the Caribbean region can expect a year-on-year increase of 47.3 per cent, representing an increase of nearly USD 12 billion, driven by both international and domestic travel spend, says new research from the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) (Cayman Loop News, 15-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)



OTHER TOP NEWS

Mauritius halts flights over new COVID-19 variant

Mauritius is suspending commercial flights from a number of Southern African countries following the emergence of the B.1.1.529 coronavirus variant (CAJ News Africa, 26-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Travellers and Newlyweds are choosing Mauritius

Mauritius has been honoured with the title of the Indian Ocean's Leading Adventure Destination, and the Indian Ocean's Leading Wedding Destination, at the World Travel Awards 2021 (Africa.com, 01-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Mauritius pavilion at Expo 2020 logs 10,000 daily visitors

The Mauritius pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai, which not only focuses on travel and tourism and its natural charms, but also new economic opportunities in the country, has recorded 10,000 visitors in one day for the first time. In addition to welcoming tourists, commercial traveller numbers are also up thanks to Mauritius's launch at Expo 2020 Dubai for a new 10-year working visas for people looking for work or to start a new business (TTN Worldwide, Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

TUI sees above-average booking growth in summer 2022

Long-distance travel trends are already emerging for summer, with higher demand for trips to the U.S., Maldives, Mauritius and the Dominican Republic, it added (KFGO, 22-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Air Belgium launches new route from Brussels to Mauritius

Air Belgium has commenced services between Brussels Airport and Mauritius. It was a festive occasion with a new airline and a new destination for Brussels (Anna.aero, 01-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

India remains top source market for Maldives tourism as year draws to a close

252,551 tourist arrivals have been reported from India so far. Arrivals from India plummeted after being hit by a disastrous wave of Covid-19, earlier this year. Minister Mausoom anticipated that arrivals from India would continue to grow to top the markets by year end (Raajje.mv, 26-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Maldives restricts travel from southern Africa over COVID variant

Maldives has banned the entry of people from seven countries as a first precautionary measure against the new Covid-19 variant Omicron (Edition.mv, 27-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Holidays to the Maldives and gold coins to be won at Expo 2020 Dubai

A weekly draw where lucky Expo 2020 Dubai visitors can win holidays to the Maldives and raffles that include gold coins and a Nissan X-Terra SUV as prizes are set to attract crowds to the world's fair (The National News, 12-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

910 tourist facilities operational across Maldives by Wednesday

160 are resorts, 596 are guesthouses, 10 are hotels and 144 are liveaboard vessels. The number of operational beds increased to 51,922. Over the past week, one guesthouse each, resumed services in Haa Dhaal, Alif Alif and Seenu atoll (Raajje.mv, 26-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives successfully concludes live event with Singapore airline targeting the South Korea Market

Visit Maldives successfully concludes a destination marketing LIVE event with Singapore Airlines on Naver Live Shopping - South Korea's one of the largest E-Commerce Websites. The event was held on 17th November 2021 (Visit Maldives, 18-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Influencer couple from India arrive in Maldives with family for a familiarization trip

Influencer couple from India arrive in the Maldives with family for a familiarization trip upon invitation by Visit Maldives. The influencer couple visiting the Maldives for this trip, Karanvir Bohra and Teejay Sidhu, along with their 3 children and production team will be staying in the Maldives from 21st November to 26th November (Visit Maldives, 21-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Conrad Maldives Rangali Island to unveil grand relaunch in February 2022 following an expansive multi-million dollar renovation

The award-winning Conrad Maldives Rangali Island turns the page to write its next chapter after an expansive multi-million-dollar refurbishment, revealing plans to debut its Grand Relaunch in February 2022 (Visit Maldives, 18-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives commences first physical activities in Qatar Travel Mart 2021 and Maldives roadshow in Doha

Maldives is showcased at Qatar Travel Mart 2021 (QTM), one of the leading international travel and tourism markets held in the GCC region. QTM is held from November 16-18th. Coinciding with QTM, a Maldives Roadshow in Doha was held on November 16th (Visit Maldives, 17-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives begins a marketing campaign with one of the top Tour Operators from Russia, Annex Tour

Visit Maldives begins a marketing campaign with one of the top tour operators from Russia, Anex Tour. The one-month campaign will be conducted from October to November 2021 (Visit Maldives, 10-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives begins a marketing campaign with Italy's largest travel agency brand, Bluvacanze

Visit Maldives launches a destination marketing campaign with Italy's largest travel agency brand, Bluvacanze and Vivere & Viaggiare. The campaign will be held till the end of March 2022 (Visit Maldives, 08-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives kicks off campaign with Yatra and Go First to increase Maldives' popularity in the Indian Market

Visit Maldives launches a campaign with India's Online Travel Agency, Yatra and Go First airline. The campaign will be held for a period of 3 months from 8th November onwards. This campaign is aligned with the India market strategy and would help to further boost arrivals from the Indian market and reach pre-pandemic targets. The campaign aims at creating buzz and destination awareness for potential travellers from India to Maldives (Visit Maldives, 10-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives begins "Lead Generation Campaign" with Australia's signature media

The campaign with Signature Media is held as part of Visit Maldives' efforts to make Maldives the go-to destination in the Australia Market, to build media and PR contacts and to increase engagement with tourists from Australia. The campaign will target three segments of travellers, including luxury, family and standard travellers with distinct messaging for each. [Read More](#) Likewise Visit Maldives begins an ambitious campaign with TUI Group targeting the Austrian market. The campaign will be held from November 2021 to January 2022 (Visit Maldives, 02-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

International flights: Maldivian Airlines announces non-stop flights from Delhi to Male

International Flights Latest News Today: According to the details shared by the airline, the Maldivian Airlines will operate the flight services three times a week with an Airbus A320 aircraft (India.com, 10-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

There's a new five-star private island retreat opening in the Maldives

The Maldives is welcoming a new resort that will not only allow you to immerse yourself in Mother Nature but will also help you to reconnect with your inner being (Travel & Leisure, 11-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Agoda to boost Maldives' loyalty programme

Maldives Border Miles, a loyalty programme initiated by Maldives Immigration, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with global digital travel platform Agoda to boost tourism in the country (TTR Weekly, 26-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Seychelles closes borders to southern African countries due to new COVID-19 variant

Visitors from seven southern African countries will not be permitted to enter Seychelles from Saturday November 27 until further notice under new travel measures announced by the local health authorities on Friday due to a new variant of COVID-19 (Seychelles News Agency, 26-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Seychelles again opens doors to all countries, dropping 5 from the restricted list

The island nation is open to visitors from all countries again after travel restrictions were removed for India, Brazil, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. The five were removed from the restricted list in a revised travel advisory released Friday by the Ministry of Health (Seychelles News Agency, 16-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Seychelles – one of the safest tourism destinations

Seychelles remains one of the safest destinations, says a top government official on Saturday (Seychelles News Agency, 27-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Tourism Seychelles in Spain's new edition of the Dive Travel show

Maintaining its visibility on the Spanish Market, the Tourism Seychelles team was present at the Dive travel show 2021, which took place from November 20 to 21, 2021 in Madrid (eTurbo News, 01-12-2021). [Read More](#)

Seychelles has the potential to become a fashion destination

The island destination was placed in the spotlight as the annual Seychelles Fashion Week launched its fourth edition on Friday November 26, 2021, at L'Escale Hotel on Mahe. With two fashion shows taking place on Saturday, November 27, the event saw the presence of international fashion designers and influencers from destinations such as Paris, Qatar, the UK and USA (eTurbo News, 01-12-2021). [Read More](#)

Emirates renews commitment to Seychelles at Expo 2020

Emirates has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Seychelles Tourism Board at Expo 2020. The agreement reaffirms the airline's commitment to the island-nation and outlines joint initiatives to promote trade and tourism to the country (Trade Arabia, 31-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Air Seychelles to Resume Flights to Mumbai

Air Seychelles has today confirmed that the national airline will resume scheduled passenger flights between Mumbai, India and the Seychelles effective 2 December 2021 (Rus Tourism News, 25-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Sri Lanka gears up to launch global tourism campaign

The Sri Lankan government is preparing to launch a tourism promotion campaign in key source markets in coming weeks ahead of the forthcoming winter season (TTG Asia, 25-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Travel to Sri Lanka: travel pros testify

At a time when few Asian destinations are accessible to international tourists, Sri Lanka is an exception. The destination is restarting, slowly, thanks to the reopening of a direct Paris-Colombo flight by SriLankan Airlines and Air France, with three weekly frequencies (Wednesday, Friday, Sunday). And it can represent an alternative to those who planned to fly to southern Africa, now cut off from France (L'echo Touristique, 30-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Emirates supports Sri Lanka's tourism revival with two more flights a week from 15 November

Emirates has announced it will operate two additional flights a week to Colombo from 15th November to support the resurgence of Sri Lanka's tourism industry as more key source markets relax travel restrictions (Ada Derana Biz, 15-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Nepali Travel agents arrive to promote Sri Lanka

A 30-member team of leading travel agents from Nepal are arriving in Colombo today (15) to promote Sri Lankan Leisure, Mice, Adventure and Pilgrimage travel to Nepal (Daily News, 15-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Boost for tourism in France with direct flights

The Minister was addressing the gathering at the meeting participated by the media, tour operators and travel agents in France yesterday. The meeting was held in Shangri-La hotel in France. The meeting has been organized targeting to attract more French tourists to Sri Lanka during the upcoming winter season in Europe (Daily News, 11-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Bahamas wins 2021 Caribbean Journal Travellers' Choice Awards

The Bahamas won Best Caribbean Golf Destination and Best Caribbean Meetings Destination. The Bahamas also takes great pride in the fact that Atlantis Paradise Island received Caribbean Journal Travellers' Choice Award for Best Family Resort in the Caribbean (Eyewitness News, 19-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Caribbean tourism is on the comeback trail

Caribbean tourism leaders are cautiously optimistic about the revival of the industry with preliminary data suggesting the region outperformed the rest of the world in the first half of 2021 (Cayman Compass, 10-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Jamaica makes it easier for vaccinated tourists to visit with new travel rules

Jamaica has begun to relax more of its pandemic-related travel rules by removing quarantine for vaccinated visitors staying outside its "resilient corridor" zones (Lonely Planet, 18-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

St. Kitts and Nevis rolls out the welcome vaccinated visitors

The country is open to fully vaccinated travellers, much like Anguilla, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, St. Barts, Turks and Caicos, Trinidad and Tobago and -- starting Nov. 20 -- the Cayman Islands (Travel Weekly, 09-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Cuba is rolling out the welcome mat for visitors

Cuba will reopen to all international tourism on Nov. 15, the start of its high season, according to Juan Carlos Garcia, minister of tourism (Travel Weekly, 02-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Vaccinated travellers don't need a test to visit St Maarten

St Maarten's newest travel rules have officially taken effect — meaning fully vaccinated travellers from the United States don't need a test to enter the island. The island is now waiving its pre-testing requirements for fully vaccinated visitors, making St Maarten the only Caribbean destination to do so (Caribbean Journal, Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Unvaccinated? Here are some Caribbean islands you can travel to

Travelling the region unvaccinated does mean though that you are subject to quarantine and have to fulfil a number of requirements that could be costly (Loop Cayman News, 02-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Air France announces new Caribbean routes from N.Y. and Montreal

Air France is expanding its flight schedule to leisure destinations this winter with the introduction of two North American routes to the Caribbean. Starting November 23, 2021, travellers can fly from Montreal (YUL) and New York (JFK) to Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe (Caribbean Journal, 23-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

More UK airlines are flying to Jamaica

More United Kingdom-based air carriers are serving Jamaica this season. That includes a total of at least 16 flights per week beginning later this month, according to Jamaica Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett (Caribbean Journal, Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

American Airlines launches daily flights to St Kitts

The carrier is now operating daily nonstop flights between Miami and St Kitts. That's along with the soon-to-debut addition of a second daily flight on Dec. 18, according to St Kitts tourism officials (Caribbean Journal, Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Thailand sees a readjusted tourism landscape during its slow recovery

Thailand was among the first countries in Asia to reopen for foreign arrivals, and it is seeing a slow recovery, including new hotels touting longer stays for individual travellers (Skift, 25-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

New hotel opens in Phuket Island

Courtyard by Marriott today announced the opening of its newest hotel on the tropical island of Phuket, Thailand. Located in the heart of Phuket's old town, the 248-room Courtyard by Marriott Phuket Town is set to provide a sophisticated yet comfortable environment for guests as they explore the rich culture and heritage of southern Thailand (Rus Tourism News, 10-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

COVID-19: Saudi Arabia extends flight ban to 7 more countries

Dubai: Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Interior halted flights from and to Malawi, Zambia, Madagascar, Angola, Seychelles, Mauritius and the Comoros Islands on Sunday owing to concerns related to the spread of the new COVID-19 strain, state news agency SPA reported on Twitter (Gulf News, 28-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Saudi plans first offshore platform tourism project

Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund (PIF) has announced the launch of 'The Rig.', the world's first tourism destination on offshore platforms. Inspired by offshore oil platforms, 'The Rig.' will be located in the Arabian Gulf and will span a combined total area of more than 150,000 sq m featuring a number of touristic attractions, including three hotels, world-class restaurants, helipads, and a range of adventurous activities, including extreme sports (TTN Worldwide, Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Understanding the slow aviation recovery in South East Asia

Travel restrictions put in place to protect citizens in many of the countries of South East Asia and Southwest Pacific have remained longer than in most parts of the world. The result has been particularly damaging for air travel to, from and within the countries of this part of the world (OAG, 24-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Slow recovery, but future is bright for African tourism

WTTC says travel restrictions imposed by key source markets such as the UK, which saw countries such as South Africa, Tunisia, Mauritius, Seychelles, Egypt and Kenya on its damaging 'red list' for travel, have prevented people from travelling, hindering the sector's recovery across Africa (IT-Online, 19-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Kenya Airways and SAA hope new Pan-African partnership will save them

Kenya Airways and South African Airways (SAA), two of Africa's financially challenged state-owned carriers, have come together under a new strategic partnership to create the new "Pan African Airline Group" by 2023 (Airline Weekly, 24-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)



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