

TRAVEL & TOURISM NEWS



Mauritius welcomes first wave of tourists after lifting quarantine restrictions

The Republic of Mauritius officially reopened its borders on the 1st of October 2021, as it lifted restrictions for fully vaccinated travellers. Visitors will be able to freely explore the paradise island's beaches, mountains, waterfalls and lagoons from the moment they land (MTPA, 01-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Mauritius launches a streamlined solution, All-In-One-Form for new arrivals

The Republic of Mauritius has launched a new streamlined digital solution to help visitors to the country navigate their travel document requirements with ease (Travel Daily News International, 19-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)



Maldives records over 100,000 tourist arrivals in October

Over 100,000 tourists have visited the Maldives in the month of October, the state-owned PSM News citing data from the Ministry of Tourism reported here Tuesday (Xinhua, 25-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Seychelles tourist arrivals decline 33% in Sep-2021, compared to Sep-2019

Seychelles National Bureau of Statistics reported (08-Oct-2021) the following tourism highlights for Sep-2021:

- Tourist arrivals: 16,609, -33.2% compared to Sep-2019;
- Germany: 2256, -57%; France: 1974, -12.9%; Israel: 1949, +875%; UAE: 1160, 15.8%.
(Source CAPA)



Sri Lanka records over 7,000 tourist arrivals in October

Over 7,000 tourists have arrived in Sri Lanka so far this month, giving a boost to the country's tourism industry which took a blow due to the COVID-19 pandemic, local media reported Monday (Xinhua, 18-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Caribbean Travel & Tourism sector recovering faster

The Caribbean's Travel & Tourism sector is recovering at a faster rate than any other region in the world, with its contribution to GDP expected to rise more than 47% this year, compared to just 30.7% globally, reveals new research from the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) (Travel Daily News, 21-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)



OTHER TOP NEWS

Mauritius crowned leading adventure destination & leading wedding destination in Indian Ocean

Mauritius has been honoured with the titles of the Indian Ocean's Leading Adventure Destination and the Indian Ocean's Leading Wedding Destination among several top prizes at the World Travel Awards (Breaking Travel News, 25-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Mauritius named in Lonely Planet's top three countries to visit in 2022

London – Lonely Planet, one of the world's most renowned travel guide producers, has unveiled its top 10 countries to visit in 2022 with Mauritius named in its top three (MTPA, 29-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Mauritius reopens borders for international travellers, reports 'huge demand'

Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority (MTPA) confirmed (01-Oct-2021) the reopening of Mauritius' borders for fully vaccinated travellers on 01-Oct-2021. The first groups of tourists arrived at Mauritius Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport on the morning of 01-Oct-2021. MTPA stated airline and hotel bookings have "soared" in recent weeks and extra air services to Mauritius have been added to meet demand. MTPA stated 83% of Mauritius' adult population is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and the country is recording "huge demand from international travellers". Airlines operating to Mauritius include Air Mauritius, Air Austral, Air France, Air Seychelles, Austrian Airlines, British Airways, Edelweiss, Emirates, Kenya Airways, South African Airways and Turkish Airlines. ([Source CAPA](#))

Mauritius is offering luxury trip for two to mark reopening of borders on 1 October

The Indian Ocean nation of Mauritius is offering a luxury trip for two to the paradise island, in an exciting new global social media flash campaign to mark the reopening of its borders to international travellers from 1 October (Travel Daily, 30-Sep-2021). [Read More](#)

Air Mauritius to increase Johannesburg, London, Paris and Reunion frequency

Air Mauritius reported (15-Oct-2021) "a surge in bookings" for travel to Mauritius following the reopening of the country's borders, according to the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority (MTPA). The airline will increase capacity to the following destinations in response to growing demand:

- Johannesburg: Seven times weekly from 07-Nov-2021, operating with A330-900 and A350-900 aircraft;
- London Heathrow: Three times weekly from 12-Nov-2021, increasing to five times weekly from 20-Dec-2021 to 15-Jan-2022;
- Paris CDG: Daily from 01-Nov-2021, operating with A350-900 equipment in codeshare with Air France. Air France will also operate daily Paris-Mauritius service in codeshare with Air Mauritius from the same date;
- Reunion: Three times daily from 01-Nov-2021, operating with a combination of ATR 72-500 and widebody aircraft. MTPA stated Air Mauritius plans to add other routes "soon". ([Source CAPA](#))

Avoris announces weekly flight to Mauritius

Avoris has announced that it will launch a weekly flight to Mauritius in June 2022, which will run through to October to meet demand from Spanish and Portuguese markets (MTPA, 20-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Air Austral is gradually restoring its regional network

After several months of suspension due to the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, the airline company Air Austral is gradually resuming flights on its regional network for the end of the year period, between its base in Reunion Island and Mayotte, Mauritius and Madagascar, then South Africa and India. Seychelles and Comoros will have to wait until December (Air Journal, 25-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives is ready to welcome over 1 million travellers in 2021

Last year, Maldives was one of the first destinations to open borders for international travellers. We entered 2021 with hope and optimism, and in a few weeks, we will welcome the millionth traveller to visit the Maldives this year (Visit Maldives, 21-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Maldives wins 4 awards in the Indian Ocean category

Maldives has won 4 prestigious awards in the Indian Ocean category in World Travel Awards - the most prestigious honors programme in global travel and tourism, established in 1993 and recognized globally as the ultimate hallmark of industry excellence (Visit Maldives, 21-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives partners up with Madame Figaro to promote Maldives in the French market

Visit Maldives conducts an exciting media campaign with Madame Figaro, a French high-end lifestyle magazine. Conducted from 14th October, the month-long campaign will promote the Maldives as a leading safe haven destination targeting the high-end market in France. Ultimately, the campaign aims to ensure Maldives remains the top of the mind destination when borders re-open for French travellers (Visit Maldives, 21-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Maldives promoted as a safe haven and luxury destination for affluent travellers from US market

Visit Maldives launches a campaign with Worth Magazine to promote the destination as a safe haven and luxury destination for travellers from the USA market. The campaign will commence during the month of October 2021 (Visit Maldives, 27-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Russians are ahead of Europeans in the number of trips to the Maldives

In the first half of 2021, 124.6 thousand tourists from Russia visited the Maldives – 2.9 times more than in the same period of 2019 (42.9 thousand) (The Goa Spotlight, 20-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives launches destination promotion campaign with Condor

Visit Maldives launches a campaign with one of Germany's largest leisure airlines, Condor, as part of the efforts to increase the popularity of Maldives amongst German travellers. The six-month long campaign will reach an impressive number of travel enthusiasts and travel trade from the German market (Visit Maldives, 21-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Media team from Middle East arrives in the Maldives for a familiarization trip

The team consists of writers, journalists, and editors from Travel & Tourism News – TTN, Al Press, Al Bayan and Travel Trendz International. These diverse outlets target all key segments of the Middle East audience from high-end affluent segments to budget travellers. They are published on print, online and social media on a frequent basis (Visit Maldives, 20-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives hosts high tea for media and influencers from Indian Market

Visit Maldives hosts high tea for media and influencers from the Indian market, following the conclusion of the MILT Congress, held in Grand Hyatt Mumbai Hotel and Residences. The high tea was held on 6th October as part of the effort to strengthen the relationship between Visit Maldives and the Indian media and influencers (Visit Maldives, 17-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives takes part in TTG travel experience 2021 to maintain destination momentum in the Italian market

TTG Travel Experience is Italy's key B2B show for global tourism promotion. Over three days, the event brings together international operators and key players in the industry (Visit Maldives, 14-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Visit Maldives launches "redefining MICE" global campaign

Visit Maldives launches "Redefining MICE" global campaign to promote the country as a preferred MICE destination (Visit Maldives, 10-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Maldives promoted on 384 screens in Dubai mall

Visit Maldives begins to promote Maldives on 384 screens in Dubai Mall, as part of a visibility campaign. This campaign, which coincides with the commencement of Expo 2020, will be carried out for a period of one month, starting 1st of October (Visit Maldives, 01-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Dubai's Emirates extends its long-standing partnership with Maldives

Emirates has reaffirmed its long-standing partnership with the Maldives by extending a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Tourism earlier this week (Dubai Media Office, 27-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Italian airline, Neos resumes flights to Maldives

The airline will be operating an aircraft with a 350-person capacity on Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays (Raaje.mv, 25-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

33 international airlines currently operating flights to Maldives

A total of 33 airlines are currently in operating flights to the Maldives as the tourism peak season approaches (Edition.mv, 23-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Dubai Expo 2020 puts Seychelles in the spotlight, celebrates Creole culture

Seychelles basked in the spotlight at the Dubai Expo 2020 on Thursday as the island nation celebrated a National Day that coincided with International Creole Day (Seychelles News Agency, 28-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Italian guests expected in Seychelles after quarantine policy change

Seychelles is set to reach its target of 189,000 visitors in 2021, especially now that Italians can again travel to the island nation without having to quarantine when they return home, said a top government official (Seychelles News Agency, 30-Sep-2021). [Read More](#)

Seychelles dazzles luxury travel experts from Spain

Organized in partnership with Qatar Airways, Constance Hotels and Resorts Seychelles and with the support of trade partners in Seychelles, the 5-days visit, which took place beginning of October, aimed at increasing the visibility for the destination (News AKMI, 27-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Special return flight to Seychelles for UAE National Day

Air Seychelles, the national airline of Seychelles, will operate a special return flight from Dubai to the Indian Ocean archipelago during the upcoming public holiday marking Commemoration and National Day in the UAE (eTurboNews, Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Air France returns to Seychelles, linking island nation to Paris

Air France resumed direct flights linking Seychelles to Paris, the French capital when it touched down on Sunday at the international airport of Pointe Larue (Seychelles News Agency, 24-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Charter airline Condor returns to Seychelles, linking islands to Germany

Condor, a German charter airline, resumed its non-stop flights linking the Seychelles islands to Frankfurt on Saturday when its Boeing 767/300 touched down at the island's international airport (Seychelles News Agency, 03-Oct-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 (TTN, Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Sri Lanka removes mandatory airport PCR testing on arrival for fully vaccinated pax

Colombo Bandaranaike International Airport, via its official Twitter account, announced (29-Sep-2021) Sri Lanka's Government no longer requires fully vaccinated international and domestic passengers to undergo a PCR test upon arrival at airports in Sri Lanka, provided the passenger presents a negative COVID-19 test certificate, with the test undertaken within 72 hours of boarding their departure flight (*Colombo Page/Economy Next*, 28-Sep-2021). (Source CAPA)

Sri Lanka relaxes guideline for foreigners, dual citizens

Sri Lankan authorities said on Monday foreign nationals and dual citizens holding foreign passports will no longer be required to obtain approval from the local Civil Aviation Authority and the Foreign Ministry to arrive in the country following the easing of the COVID-19 pandemic (Xinhua, 04-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Sri Lanka welcomes vaccinated tourists without quarantine

Since September 29, the country's borders have reopened without quarantine and without testing on arrival for tourists vaccinated against Covid with 2 doses for at least 14 days and can leave the airport immediately without constraint (Gavroche, 05-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Sri Lanka to launch tourism promotion campaigns in 5 countries to boost arrivals

Sri Lankan Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga on Monday said the government will launch a special tourism promotion program in five countries to boost tourism (Xinhua, 25-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Sri Lanka invites tourism professionals to a big reunion

Since August, the destination is no longer on the list of red countries of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, again facilitating travel between the two countries. It was well worth a celebration and a reminder of the country's strengths (29-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Sri Lanka resumes direct flights with France after 6-year hiatus

Sri Lanka resumed direct flights between Colombo and Paris on Monday after a six-year hiatus. Airport officials said a Sri Lankan Airlines flight from Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris arrived at Bandaranaike International Airport in Katunayake on Monday morning, with 200 passengers on board (01-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Updated entry protocols for October and November in the Caribbean

With the majority of Caribbean countries on par to reach their vaccination targets by year's end, according to the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), some have decided to relax entry protocols to visitors (Loop Cayman News, 22-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

St Maarten to waive testing requirement for fully vaccinated travellers

Beginning Nov. 1, fully vaccinated visitors will no longer require a test, antigen or PCR, to enter St Maarten (Caribbean Journal, Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

Emirates to increase Dubai-Lyon frequency effective Oct-2021

VINCI Airports confirmed (30-Sep-2021) Emirates Airline will increase scheduled Dubai-Lyon frequency to four times weekly effective 04-Oct-2021. The carrier is the sole scheduled operator on the route, according to OAG. (Source CAPA)

Emirates launch offer on flights to Seychelles, Maldives, Mauritius

Emirates has just announced that passengers can now book a special deal and get flights to tropical destinations for bargain prices. Perfect for any seasonal getaway, find out what's available here and be sure to book your next holiday today (Daily Express, 06-Oct-2021). [Read More](#)

OAG: Global airlines seats sitting at around 79m per week

OAG reported (27-Sep-2021) there were 79 million global scheduled airline seats on sale for the week commencing 27-Sep-2021, an increase of just 0.2% week-to-week. Most regional markets reported only minor capacity changes, with North America down week-on-week by just 40,000 seats and North East Asia up by over 271,000. Southeast Asian capacity rose 7.4%, up 200,000 seats, with the easing of some border restrictions. ([Source CAPA](#))

WTTC outlines measures to improve travel and tourism recovery

World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) stated (06-Oct-2021) the contribution of the travel and tourism to global GDP and the recovery in employment could be more positive in 2021 and 2022, if the following measures are met:

- Allow fully vaccinated travellers to move freely, irrespective of their origin or eventual destination, removing complex tiered systems;
- The implementation of digital solutions which enable all travellers to easily prove their COVID-19 status, so in turn speeding up the process at borders around the world;
- Recognition of all vaccines authorised by the World Health Organisation and/or any of the stringent regulatory authorities;

Agreement from all relevant authorities that international travel is safe with enhanced health and safety protocols. ([Source CAPA](#))

IATA: European booking to the US spike following reopening announcement

IATA reported (01-Oct-2021) European bookings for travel to the US increased by a multiple of 2.4 week to week, following the announcement that the US would open to fully vaccinated European travellers from 01-Nov-2021. In comparison, the news "did not have a significant impact" on US bookings for travel to Europe, as the continent was already partly open to them. As a result, airlines are expected to increase their capacity across the Atlantic. Scheduled airline capacity is planned to reach around 65% of 2019 levels in Nov-2021 and around 75% in Dec-2021, up from roughly 45% in Sep-2021. ([Source CAPA](#))

WTM London 2021: Industry gathers as tourism recovery begins

Thousands of travel industry professionals from more than 140 countries are preparing to visit WTM London this week. Organisers claim the event will be the largest industry gathering since the Covid-19 pandemic began (Breaking Travel News, 01-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Bali to reopen to select international travellers from 14-Oct-2021

Indonesia's Senior Cabinet Minister Luhut Pandjaitan confirmed Bali will reopen to international travellers from select countries, including China, New Zealand and Japan, from 14-Oct-2021 (Reuters/Bloomberg/9 News/Stuff, 04/05-Oct-2021). Visitors will be required to quarantine for eight days at their own expense, with the reopening and easing of social restrictions to be conducted in stages. ([Source CAPA](#))

'Visit Thailand Year 2022' at World Travel Market, London

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) introduced the latest tourism marketing campaign, the 'Visit Thailand Year 2022' with a number of strategic activities to promote the reopening of the kingdom's 'Amazing New Chapters' of new normal tourism at one of the world's leading travel trade shows, the World Travel Market (WTM), from 1-3 November, 2021 (Pattaya Mail, 03-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)

Tourists will be allowed back to Australia before year-end

Tourists will be able to enter Australia without quarantine by the end of the year, but they must be double vaccinated, according to Scott Morrison (Travel Daily Media, 02-Nov-2021). [Read More](#)



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