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# Republic of Maldives

Visa Options for Bangladeshi Nationals

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## **Maldives: Visa Options for Bangladeshi Nationals**

Maldives maintains a resident diplomatic mission in Dhaka.

### **Address:**

#### **High Commission of the Republic of Maldives**

House # 20, Road # 4,  
Baridhara Diplomatic Zone,  
Dhaka 1212

Email: [admin@maldivesbd.org](mailto:admin@maldivesbd.org)

Website: [www.maldivesbd.org](http://www.maldivesbd.org)

Telephone: (+88) 02 8832199

Fax: (+88) 02 9899986

### **General required documents checklist for Visa application:**

#### **1. Passport:**

Original Passport with validity of minimum six months after the intended date of departure and minimum two blank pages for visa stamp.

#### **2. Photo Specification:**

Two recent passport size photographs with matt or semi matt finish, **60-80% face coverage**, white background and without border (**Size: 35mm x 45mm**)

Please Note: Photograph should not be more than 3 months old, scanned/stapled and should not be used in any of the previous visas.

#### **3. Financials:**

Sufficient means to support the living costs during your stay in Maldives such as cash, International credit card, etc.

#### **4. Ticket Itinerary:**

Confirmed return ticket for onward journey back to the home country.

#### **5. Hotel Reservation:**

Pre-paid hotel reservation of the accommodation arranged during your stay in Maldives.

### **Types of visas:**

#### **1. Tourist Visa**

Weblink: <https://immigration.gov.mv/tourist-visa/>

Tourist visa is granted for all nationalities on arrival to Maldives. As such, a foreigner travelling to Maldives as a tourist does not require pre-approval for the visa. However, the person must satisfy the basic entry requirements to get immigration clearance upon arrival. The basic entry requirements are as follows;

1. A passport or a travel document with Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) with at least 6 months validity. [Changes being made to general entry requirements to Maldives due to Coronavirus (Covid-19), effective from 1st of July 2020. Foreign Passports holders passport and other documents accepted for entry must be valid for a minimum of 01 month (30 days) from the arrival date].
2. A pre-paid hotel booking/accommodation.
3. Sufficient funds to last for the intended period of stay in Maldives.
4. Confirmed onward/return tickets to home country or to country of residence (not applicable for valid resident permit holders).
5. Entry facilities to their onward destinations; for example, the visa.
6. Traveller Health Declaration (THD) must be filled in and submitted by all travelers travelling to and from Maldives, within 24 hours prior to their travel. You may submit the form electronically via <http://imuga.immigration.gov.mv>
7. Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate, if applicable.
8. COVID-19 negative PCR test result, attached while completing Traveler Health Declaration form (sample taken 96 hours prior to departure to Maldives, counting from the first port of embarkation en-route to the Maldives).

## **2. Work Visa**

Weblink: <https://immigration.gov.mv/work-visa/>

Work Visa is the permit issued for a foreigner to stay in Maldives for the purpose of employment.

A person traveling to the Maldives for the purpose of employment will be given 15 days from the date of arrival. In order to acquire this pre period, the foreign national should possess a valid Employment Approval, which does not exceed 90 days from date of issue. Moreover, the foreign national should provide the same passport on arrival for which the Employment Approval was issued. Re-entry on Employment Approval without obtaining a visa is possible unless the Employment Approval remains valid (within 90 days from date of issue).

Work Visa process includes a medical check-up which needs to be completed from a permitted hospital/clinic, and health insurance should cover within this period to apply for work visa.

The consequences for not obtaining visa within the mentioned period results in penalization under the Immigration Act 1/2007, which include deportation from Maldives for overstaying. The issuance of Work Visa service is decentralized and is provided from Male' (Visa Division, Huravee Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Orchid Magu), Hithadhoo Immigration Office (Addu City),

Fuvahmulah Immigration Office (Fuvahmulah City) and Kulhudhuffushi Immigration Office (H. Dh. Kulhudhuffushi).

### **Entry Requirements for Work Visa**

1. A machine readable (MRZ) Passport Bio-data page copy of the applicant (At least 1 Year validity)
2. A valid Employment approval not exceeding 90 days from date of arrival
3. Traveler should provide the same passport mention in the Employment approval
4. Completed Disembarkation/Embarkation Card approved by Maldives Immigration
5. Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate, if applicable

### **Applying for Work Visa**

The following documents are required to apply for Work Visa and the employer or a representative of the employer shall submit the application for visa:

1. Passport of the employee
2. Copy of the Employment Approval
3. Work Visa card fee, MVR50
4. Passport size photo (Photo shall comply with Maldives Immigration passport photo standard and must be a recent photo)
5. Medical health screening report of the employee issued from a Hospital/Clinic authorized by the relevant government authority
6. Work Visa submission receipt (IM29)

Maldives Immigration introduced online Work Visa service on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Hence, the employers and recruitment agencies shall apply for the service through Xpat Online System (Web URL: <https://bit.ly/350hwNZ>).

With this enhancement, visa will be processed within 48 hours of submission. When the application is processed, applicants can request for an online appointment to submit the passport(s) for visa. Visa process will take 3 working days and the applicant will be notified when the passport is ready for collection. An online appointment shall be fixed once again for passport(s) collection.

Instructional video: <https://bit.ly/3gNrLah>

**Note:**

- Expatriates should be registered under the “Expatriate Medical Insurance” issued from Allied Insurance Company, before applying for visa.
- Work Visa fee should be paid for a minimum of 3 months from the date of submission of the application.
- The existing employees while returning to Maldives after been abroad must make sure their visa is valid or at least the Employment Approval should remain valid.
- The application for work visa has to be submitted online, via [workpermit.egov.mv](http://workpermit.egov.mv)

The maximum number of days granted on arrival would be 30 days, unless agreed by any bilateral means or treaty. This period of stay is not for the visitor to claim, but lies at the discretion of the Maldives Immigration to grant any number of days less than or equal to 30.

The period of stay granted is shown on the endorsement in the passport. Visitors are advised to check their passport for the arrival endorsement and take note of the number of days granted to stay in Maldives. Once arrived as a tourist, the visitor is not permitted to engage in any form of business, occupation, profession or paid employment while in Maldives.

Categories like; social visitors, friends, family visitors or media and business visitors, who are not considered as genuine tourists, are highly advised to declare sponsorship prior to their arrivals (if applicable), in order to facilitate the flow of passage.

All travelers are also reminded that it is a punishable offence to overstay in Maldives beyond the number of days given.

**3. Marriage Visa**

Weblink: <https://immigration.gov.mv/marriage/>

Marriage Visa is the permit to remain in the Maldives granted to a foreign national who is married to a Maldivian national.

A foreigner travelling to Maldives to marry with a Maldivian, or a foreigner who is married to a Maldivian and travels to Maldives to register their marriage in Maldives, shall be sponsored prior to the arrival. After the arrival, the foreigner must complete the legal marriage process, and apply for Marriage Visa within the given period of 30 days. If the foreigner is already residing in the Maldives, visa transfer has to be made to Marriage Visa once the legal procedure of the marriage is completed.

**Applying for Marriage Visa**

The following documents are required to apply for Marriage Visa:

1. Application for Permit Extension Form (IM23)
2. Passport of the applicant
3. Signature and seal from the Family Court in the application form

4. Original and copy of Marriage Certificate
5. Identity Card copy of the Maldivian national
6. Passport size photo (Photo shall comply with Maldives Immigration passport photo standard and must be a recent photo)
7. Visa card fee, MVR50
8. Medical health screening report of the employee issued from a Hospital/Clinic authorized by the relevant government authority
9. Copy of Expatriate Medical Insurance Policy Schedule

Marriage Visa applications shall be submitted via email to [permitvisa@immigration.gov.mv](mailto:permitvisa@immigration.gov.mv). When the application is processed, submitter will be notified via email, to submit the passport for visa.

**Note:**

Applicant should be registered under the “Expatriate Medical Insurance” issued from Allied Insurance Company.

Marriage Visa is issued for 1 year, if it is a new application. However, Marriage Visa extensions are issued to the validity of the passport from March 2020.

**4. Dependent Visa**

The following documents are required to apply for Dependent Visa:

1. Application for Permit Extension From (IM23)
2. A passport or Travel Document with Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) with at least 6 months validity
3. Passport size photo (Photo shall comply with Maldives Immigration passport photo standard and must be a recent photo)
4. Dependent Visa card fee, MVR50
5. Dependent Visa fee, MVR750 for each 3 months
6. Employment Approval copy or Visa Card copy of the foreigner holding the Work Visa
7. Proof of the dependent status (marriage certificate or birth certificate)

8. Letter from the respective embassy explaining the living situation, if it is the mother or the father of the employment visa holder
9. Medical health screening report of the employee issued from a Hospital/Clinic authorized by the relevant government authority
10. Copy of Expatriate Medical Insurance Policy Schedule
11. Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate, if applicable

Dependent Visa applications shall be submitted via email to [permitvisa@immigration.gov.mv](mailto:permitvisa@immigration.gov.mv). When the application is processed, submitter will be notified via email, to submit the passport for visa.

**Note:**

Applicant should be registered under the “Expatriate Medical Insurance” issued from Allied Insurance Company.

**5. Co-operate Resident Visa**

Weblink: <https://immigration.gov.mv/co-operate-resident-visa/>

Cooperate Resident Visa is a permit issued to a foreign investor, who had invested \$50M (Fifty Million U.S. Dollars) or more in Maldives, or who had invested \$1M (One Million U.S. Dollars) or more in a Maldivian Bank as a security deposit, or who had invested \$1M (One Million U.S. Dollars) or more in a government approved real estate project.

Cooperate Resident Visa has to be applied to Ministry of Economic Development, and thus, visa will be granted after the approval from the Ministry. It has to be renewed in every five years (if the permitted period exceeds more than five years) and the visa fee for Cooperate Resident Visa is \$2000 (Two Thousand U.S. Dollars).

**Applying for Co-operate Resident Visa**

The following documents have to be submitted to process the visa:

1. Document from a relevant Government Authority proving the investment in Maldives.
2. Passport of the applicant
3. Passport size photo (Photo shall comply with Maldives Immigration passport photo standard and must be a recent photo)

**6. Business Visa**

Weblink: <https://immigration.gov.mv/business-2/>

Business visa is the permit issued to a foreign national to stay in Maldives for the purpose of business or work, approved by the concerned Government authority. This visa is issued for a

specific period of time, and it does not allow the foreigner to work as an employee in the Maldives.

Business Visa application was previously a manual process. However, for the convenience of the public, the application process was made online on 17th January 2018. This enhancement to the application process enabled the submission 24hrs a day, via [bv@immigration.gov.mv](mailto:bv@immigration.gov.mv). With further improvements to the process, the approval process was shortened to 48hrs and expanded to Addu City on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019. As such, Business Visa entry is being granted at Gan International Airport as well.

The foreigner shall not board to flight to travel to Maldives before the visa is approved, as the entry to Maldives will not be granted before the visa approval.

### **Applying for Business Visa**

To obtain the Business Visa, application has to be emailed to [bv@immigration.gov.mv](mailto:bv@immigration.gov.mv) by the sponsor. Emailed applications should be named with the name and passport number of the foreigner and all the related documents should be attached separately to the email.

When the Business Visa is approved and informed via email, the original form set of the application should be submitted to the Immigration Office at Velana International Airport and pay the visa fee of MVR750, at least prior to an hour of the arrival of the foreigner. Foreigners subjected to arrive from Gan International Airport could pay to the Immigration Office at Gan International Airport.

The following documents have to be emailed (in the mentioned file format) to Immigration:

1. Business Visa application form (form IM24) (PDF format)
2. A machine readable (MRZ) Passport Bio-data page color copy of the applicant (At least 6 months validity) (PDF format)
3. Registration copy of the applicant (PDF format)
4. Passport size photo (JPEG format)
5. Supporting Documents such as Qualification certificates or letter of experience (PDF format)
6. Copy of Expatriate Medical Insurance Policy Schedule (PDF format)
7. A letter from sponsor, stating the foreigner's period of stay in Maldives (PDF format)
8. Visa Applicant Information Form (IM30), if applicable (PDF format)



**Note:**

Applicant should be registered under the “Expatriate Medical Insurance” issued from Allied Insurance Company.