



MALDIVES CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY
Republic of Maldives

AIR TRANSPORT CIRCULAR
AT 01/2024 - Issue 01

**CUSTOMS REQUIREMENTS FOR PASSENGER AND CREW AT ENTRY,
TRANSIT AND DEPARTURE**

15th December 2024

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This circular informs airlines/aircraft operators, travelling passengers and crew, sales agents and relevant airport operators of the laws and regulations governing the import and export of goods and currencies in and out of the Maldives.

2.0 Purpose

2.1 The purpose of this Issue is to advise relevant parties of the recent amendments to the customs requirements applicable to passengers and crew at international airports in the Maldives.

2.2 The recent changes include:

- Prohibition of vapes, E-cigarettes and related products and devices (ref. 3.1.4);
- Goods imported for personal use which may be exempt from Customs Duty (ref 3.1.6).

3.0 Requirements

3.1 Arriving Passengers and Crew:

3.1.1 All incoming passengers and their baggage are subject to Customs inspection and/or examination. Exclusions to this mandate will be granted solely to the baggage of passengers eligible for diplomatic immunity, provided that the respective baggage has been previously identified and cleared as such.

3.1.2 Articles included in the baggage are subject to release after Customs inspection and/or examination.

3.1.3 Alcoholic beverages, pork and their by-products, dogs and dangerous animals, plants and animals that fall under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, gun powder and explosives, weapons, firearms, ammunition and spear guns and certain type of chemicals will not be permitted to be carried into the country by passengers/crew unless they possess a valid permit or licence.

3.1.4 The following items are totally prohibited:

- Materials contrary to Islam;
- Narcotics and psychotropic substances;
- Vapes, E-cigarettes and related products & devices;
- Pornographic material;
- Idols (for worship);
- Pigs.



Airline operators are advised to make inflight announcements reminding disembarking passengers that the above-mentioned items are strictly prohibited from being imported into the Maldives under national regulations.

- 3.1.5 Import duty will be levied on all imported items, other than those considered by the Customs to be solely for personal use.
- 3.1.6 The following goods imported for personal use may be released without Customs Duty:
- Goods not exceeding MVR 10,000 or equivalent (based on FOB value);
 - 200 cigarettes or 35 cigars or 250g tobacco for passengers over the age of 18 entering into Maldives on tourist visa;
 - Cloths, toiletries, personal laptop, appropriate amount of jewellery.
- 3.1.7 Currency and monetary instruments, value equivalent or more than USD 10,000 in any currency must be declared to Customs. Currency declaration can be submitted online through Customs website: <https://www.customs.gov.mv/CashDeclaration/Index>.

3.2 Departing Passengers and Crew:

- 3.2.1 All outgoing passengers/crew and their baggage are subject for Customs inspection and/or examination. Exclusions to this mandate will be granted solely to the baggage of passengers eligible for diplomatic immunity, provided that the respective baggage has been previously identified and cleared as such.
- 3.2.2 Export prohibited or restricted items such as black corals, Corals and Sea anemones, Triton shells, Pearl Oysters, Lobsters, Turtles and Turtle shells, Conches/Sangu, Giant Clams, Shark/Shark fins, will not be permitted to be carried out of the country by passengers/crew unless they possess a valid permit or licence.
- 3.2.3 Articles included in the baggage are subject to release after Customs inspection and/or examination.
- 3.2.4 Passengers/crew will not be allowed to take any item which requires an export licence (or a special permission from any Government Authority) except in limited quantities as determined by the Customs.
- 3.2.5 Currency and monetary instruments, value equivalent or more than USD 10,000 in any currency must be declared to Customs. Currency declaration can be submitted online through Customs website: <https://www.customs.gov.mv/CashDeclaration/Index>

4.0 Applicability

- 4.1 The requirements in this Circular apply to all international airlines and aircraft operators operating to and from the Maldives, travelling passengers and crew, relevant airport operators and sales agents.

5.0 Effectivity

- 5.1 This Circular will come into effect from 15th December 2024 and will supersede the following Air Transport Circulars:
- 69-CA-C/CIR/95/01 dated 06th February 1995;
 - 69-CA-C-CIR/98/01 dated 11th June 1998;
 - 69-CA-C/CIR/2003/01 dated 17th February 2003;
 - 88-CA-C/2005/02 dated 23rd November 2005;
 - AT 01/2011-Issue 01 dated 30th January 2011.



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