

BOATING INSIDER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY NBAM



Management of NBAM meets Ministry of Transport

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Lürssen superyacht Nord Graces the Maldivian Waters

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South Asian Travel Awards (SATA) opens nominations for 2022

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Boating Insider by NBAM
Monthly Newsletter

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Cover Photo : Members from the newly elected executive board for 2021 - 2023, holds their first meeting of the year 2022, in order to discuss the current issues faced by the boating industry and to develop the industry to greater heights



National Boating Association of Maldives (NBAM)
www.boating.mv

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Minister of Tourism, Dr. Abdulla Mausoom meets with NBAM Executive Board Members to address key concerns faced by the boating sector of Maldives



KEY POINTS DISCUSSED FROM NBAM:

1. Shared concerns on the issue of Boating industry issues being not well promoted and communicated.
2. Raised issue of Boating industry still not having a feasible harbor or even a proper jetty for embarkation and disembarkation.
3. Raised concerns regarding the issues with major stop over islands of safari boats such as Fuvahmulah, Addu, Gdh. Vaadhoo etc. and requested the Ministry of Tourism to travel to play a role in trying to achieve a win-win for all parties.
4. Raised concerns regarding the domestic connectivity issue and requested Minister to facilitate and intervene to find a solution for the said issue for tourists travelling to down south and upper north of the Maldives. Having extremely unfair fares and being unable to secure seats from the National airlines, with very poor communication from their side nor sharing their schedule.
5. Raised very serious concerns regarding the current HPA protocols for quarantine measures with regard to safari boats and its effects on the industry and what it might end up doing to the industry. The main concern being the whole boat crew being quarantined.
6. The Life Jacket – Wear It Campaign details were shared and NBAM raised concerns with regard to how we are not getting enough cooperation from the Ministry of Education.

MINISTERS RESPONSE WITH REGARD TO THE CONCERNS RAISED BY NBAM:

1. Minister assured that the Boating industry will be well represented from now on and will be given priority in promotions and such.
2. Minister informed that the Harbor development at Dhiyaneru is well under way and he has already sat with the taskforce and shared his views on the plans. Minister also informed that he will update us on the timeline of the project.
3. Minister agreed that the issue with regard to the stop over islands needs to be taken seriously and they need to be educated and informed of how the industry works. They will be helping us in this task.
4. Minister assured that he will assist and communicate with Maldivian to find a solution for the concerns raised by NBAM
5. Minister stated that he will propose to reduce the quarantine period to 5 instead of the current period. He will revert to us after discussions with HPA officials.
6. Minister assured that he will provide Tourism Ministry's full support in the Life Jacket – Wear It Campaign and to start with private schools and move ahead with the campaign.



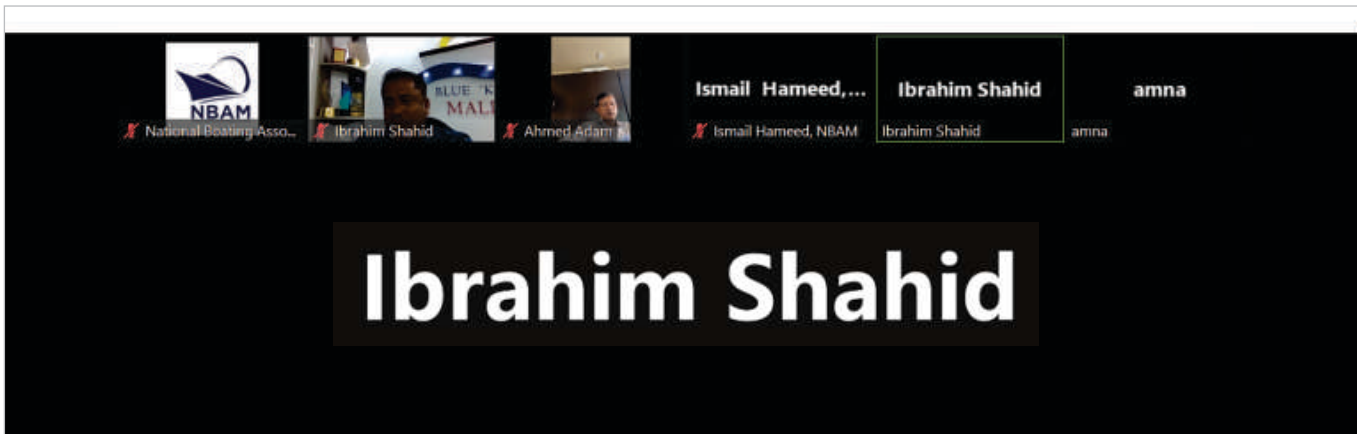
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**MALDIVES
MARINE
EXPO**



NBAM Meets with Maldivian to discuss about how to improve key concerns by the boating industry stakeholders



Key points discussed between NBAM and Maldivian Executive team;

UNFAIR PRICING FOR TOURIST DIVERS / SURFERS TRAVELLING DOMESTIC TO GO ON SAFARI TRIPS

NBAM raised concerns about the issue regarding the unfair pricing for tourist divers / surfers travelling domestic to go on Safari trips. NBAM stressed the importance of the pricing being fair for the tourist divers / surfers whether they are traveling to a Safari boat or whether they are traveling to a guesthouse. Most of the time the tourist traveling to a Safari boat is being charged more compared to the tourist traveling to a guesthouse. Additionally, there have been cases where the tourist books their flight indicating that they are traveling to a guesthouse and misuses the advantage of the low-priced ticket in order to go to the Safari boat. Therefore, NBAM urged that Maldivian look into this issue and revert back to us with a proper solution for us all.

SCHEDULING ISSUE

Additionally, NBAM members spoke about the issue of the flight schedule not being finalised in advance, which creates a difficulty in selling trips to down south. It becomes a huge loss for the boat operators due to the advances that has been taken and the scheduled bookings which has been made months in advance.

TICKET THROUGH ONLINE PORTAL:

NBAM members requested Maldivian to check whether it can be possible to make the bookings and ticket through their online portal / platform.

After the thorough discussion of the main points which were discussed during the meeting, Maldivian MD & DMD assured that they will revert back to us on the price difference issue, which we take positively that it will change. Moreover, Maldivian team gave us the assurance that they will discuss all the matters raised by NBAM and revert back to us with an appropriate solution.

Key points discussed between NBAM and Maldivian Operations team;

The main objective of the meeting was in regards to the scheduling issue, unavailability of seats and the lack of communication from Maldivian side.

POINTS TAKEN FROM NBAM:

NBAM stressed that some members are already trying to get chartered flights for the bookings they have made in advance.

NBAM had raised the concern of there being no seats available to GAN and that the response which we get from Maldivian side is that they are fully booked for the month of March. Shahid had requested Maldivian to check whether they can provide seats for the 5th of March.

NBAM stated that they have been trying to make the bookings through Maldivian's online portal however, we are unable to see the remaining slots.

Adam had stated that we make sure to send our schedules to Maldivian beforehand and that we understand the capacity issues however, while having our schedules in advance, Maldivian should be able to provide us with the flight schedule.

POINTS TAKEN FROM MALDIVIAN :

They assured that they can share with us the schedule however, they don't get the slots from MACL so it becomes difficult for them to inform days before.

For Shahid's request, Maldivian had stated that they can arrange a flight for 5th of March and that they will share the needed details. NBAM had also suggested that Maldivian share with us details of a focal point so that we can provide them all the documents needed from our side. Maldivian assured that they will send us the contact details today.

Maldivian stated that through the online portal the max number of seats which can be booked is 9

They had also stated that after checking closer to the date needed, they can work to divert everyone to one destination (Maavaaruraa or Kooddoo).

✓ REMINDERS ;

A friendly reminder that your company annual fee will be due on 31st March.

Lürssen superyacht Nord Graces the Maldives Waters



Superyacht Nord has been sighted in the Maldives last week. Built at the German shipyard Lürssen in Bremen, Nord is the 142-metre superyacht, encompassing six decks and accommodation up-to 36 guests across 20 cabins.

Formally known as Project Opus, the vessel was renamed and introduced as Nord in 2021. One of the largest in the fleet at 10,154 GT, it's interior and exterior combined was designed by the Italian studio Nuvolari Lenard.

It consists of a large helicopter landing on the bridge deck level with fold-down side platforms providing shelter for Nord's helicopter that can be stowed away in a retractable hangar that slides neatly into the superstructure when not in use.

Nord also features a large sports and diving centre on the lower deck in addition to an oversized swimming pool on the main deck and a fleet of custom tenders on the vessel.



The Commonwealth Secretariat welcomes people from across the Commonwealth to share their connections with the ocean via video

Join the Sea of Voices

Tell your story: how do ocean issues impact you and your community?

- Record a short video (30-90 seconds) showing enthusiasm for the ocean, highlighting your connection to it and linking to the Commonwealth Blue Charter themes.
- Use a DSLR camera with a microphone or mobile phone that does quality videos. We have more tips on our [website](https://bluecharter.thecommonwealth.org/sea-voices).
- Upload your video via the submission portal: <https://bluecharter.thecommonwealth.org/sea-voices>

Please don't forget to include your usernames/handles so we can tag you! Contact webteam@commonwealth.int for any queries.

The Commonwealth
Blue Charter

Sea of Voices is a collection of videos illustrating the importance of, and connections with, the ocean. People from around the Commonwealth discuss their personal, work and/or cultural connections to the ocean and share how working together is important for protecting, sustainably using and creating awareness of ocean challenges and successes.

Share your story!

Please use the form on their website : <https://bluecharter.thecommonwealth.org/sea-voices/upload/> to submit a short video. Approved videos will be published on the [Blue Charter website](https://bluecharter.thecommonwealth.org) and the Commonwealth Secretariat's [Twitter](https://twitter.com/seaofvoices) and [Facebook](https://facebook.com/seaofvoices) accounts.

The Commonwealth Blue Charter

Sea of Voices

Contribute to the Commonwealth Sea of Voices

Etihad Airways Launches Global Sale with Exclusive Offers



Etihad Airways has launched a Global Sale with exclusive offers for travellers looking to explore new destinations or visit friends and family overseas in 2022.

From Abu Dhabi, guests can fly to any of Etihad's select destinations, such as London, Paris, New York and more, with fares starting as low as AED 795 in Economy and AED 3,995 in Business. The Global Sale will run until 21 January 2022, for travel until 31 May 2022.

Travellers wishing to explore London in Etihad's Business class can take advantage of the sale from as little as AED 9,995, or travel in Economy from AED 1,995. Economy fares to Amman start at AED 995 and Islamabad start at AED 795.

Guests travelling with Etihad can make use of the airline's innovative service to simplify the process of authenticating travel documents. With Verified to Fly, travellers can validate their documents before arriving at the airport, giving them the confidence that they have met all essential government and airline travel requirements before travelling to the airport.

Those wishing to book are advised to visit etihad.com or the Etihad app to view the latest sale fares, and to remain informed on the appropriate entry regulations at their end destination.

President Reveals Expansion Plan of Maafaru International Airport



President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih has revealed that Noonu Atoll Maafaru Airport is set to undergo expansion works this year. Addressing the people of Maafaru island, President Solih said that Maafaru International Airport expansion project has been planned to commence this year following the needs and concerns of the island community.

The airport will include an extended runway, a newly developed airport hotel and improved refueling services in addition to other essential services by the end of the development project. During President Solih's visit to Maafaru Island as part of his two-day tour of South Miladhunmadulu Atoll, he assured that the administration stands committed to delivering its pledges.

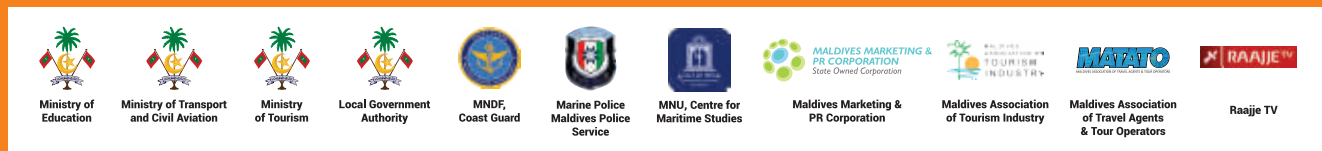
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Life Jacket. Wear it!

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH



South Asian Travel Awards (SATA) Opens Nominations for 2022



South Asia's most anticipated tourism and hospitality recognition award has opened nomination for the year 2022. The award which was launched in 2016 recognizes the best of South Asia's hospitality and travel industry. The prestigious annual event honours stellar organizations and individuals in a wide array of categories.

SATA opened the nominations with over 52 categories for properties and brands to compete, in addition to Visitors Choice Awards and Special Recognition Awards.

The SATA event planned for 2021 was cancelled and nominees had been carried forward to 2022 due to the global pandemic and travel restrictions. SATA hopes 2022 to be more favourable to the Hospitality Industry and the wishes the travel industry to boom this year.

SATA has been endorsed by over 15 International and government agencies for its work to elevate tourism and hospitality in the region.

- Association of Professionals in Tourism (APT),
- Association of Tourism Trade Organizations, India (ATTOI),
- Association of Travel Agents (ATA),
- Colombo Chamber of Commerce (CCC),
- Confederation of Accredited Tour Operators (CATO),
- Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry of Sri Lanka (FCCISL)
- Hotel and Restaurant Association of Bhutan (HRAB)
- Kerala Hotel General Manager Club (KHGMC),
- National Boating Association of Maldives (NBAM),
- Maldives Association of Travel Agents and Tour Operators (MATATO),
- Maldives Marketing & PR Corporation (MMPRC),
- Nepal Tourism Board (NTB),
- Sri Lanka Association of Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO),
- The Hotels Association of Sri Lanka (THASL),
- Bangladesh International Hotel Association (BIHA),
- The Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO)

This year SATA celebrates its 6th year in recognizing the regions Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Industry. Despite all the challenges, SATA 2020 was held virtually. The previous editions being held at Amari Galle, Sri Lanka (2019), Taj Mahal Palace, India (2018), Equator Village, Maldives (2017) and Mount Lavinia Hotel, Sri Lanka (2016).

The SATA Team believes that a nation must go on. The travel industry, especially, must prevail by working together during one of the most difficult times the world is facing. The market would be tough, however, lifting ourselves up and standing strong will only speed up recover. The impact is global and how we act locally would benefit the tourism industry of South Asia and around the globe.

Properties can now nominate online via their web link; www.southasiantravelawards.com until April 10, 2022.



Revised Guidelines on Quarantine and Isolation Durations



The Director of Public Health has revised the isolation period of people positive for Covid-19 and the quarantine period for contacts of Covid-19 cases as follows;

Isolation period for positive cases of COVID-19

- * Individuals who test positive for Covid-19 and are asymptomatic are required to be in Isolation for a period of 07 (seven) days from the date of sample collection. However, those who exhibit covid symptoms at the end of the isolation period specified are required to continue their isolation until 24 hours after symptoms have cleared.
- * However, those working in health facilities, educational establishments and residential care facilities will need to additionally submit a negative Antigen Test done at the end of SEVENTH DAY before starting work. The said antigen test must be done through an approved service provider and as per the set

Quarantine duration for those identified as direct contacts

- * Individual who are identified as a direct contact of a positive case and who have completed the prescribed dose of a Covid-19 vaccine will have to undergo quarantine for a period of 10 days from the date of sample collection and can be released without a PCR test if the individuals do not exhibit any symptoms of Covid-19 at the end of the 10-day period.
- * Alternatively, asymptomatic contacts of Covid-19 positive case can be released from quarantine if they test negative from a PCR test done at the end of FIFTH DAY of quarantine.
- * The ease mentioned in 2.1 and 2.2 is strictly applicable for those direct contacts who are quarantined separately.
- * Individual(s) who are identified as a direct contact of a positive case and who have not completed the prescribed doses of a Covid-19 vaccine must complete 14 (fourteen) days of quarantine followed by a negative PCR test result at the end of this quarantine period.

Those who are currently under isolation or quarantine at the time of this announcement and have fulfilled the above criteria can be released from their isolation or quarantine.

Maldives to Launch an International Advertising Campaign with BBC Global News



The Maldives Marketing and Public Relations Corporation (MMPRC) has signed a global advertising agreement with BBC Global News, incorporating their in-house commercial content studio, BBC Storyworks. The agreement was signed by the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Thoyyib Mohamed, on behalf of MMPRC, and the Senior Vice President, Commercial Operations, BBC Studios, Mr Nick Charlton, on behalf of BBC Global News. The agreement will see MMPRC launch an international advertising campaign with BBC Global News, designed to showcase the nation as a safe, prepared and welcoming luxury destination, through the voices of the people of the Maldives.

Speaking about the agreement signed with BBC Global News, MD Thoyyib noted that this campaign aligns with MMPRC's global strategies for the year, which focuses on maintaining the visibility of the Maldives as a holiday destination. He stated that this campaign would assist MMPRC in promoting the Maldives as a safe haven prepared to welcome tourists, adding that the different aspects and segments of Maldivian tourism, including the stories of our people, would be shared globally online on BBC Travel, the dedicated features site of BBC.com.

Alistair McEwan, SVP Commercial Development APAC, BBC Global News says: "As consumers continue to dream about their next travel opportunities and choices of destination, audiences are seeking clear information on safe travel and tourism, as well as wanting to be inspired by amazing destinations, cultures and experiences. With decades of experience in premium storytelling heritage within BBC. StoryWorks, we are delighted to be partnering with MMPRC to be able to showcase their wonderful stories to our global audiences."

Activities within this campaign are further aligned with MMPRC's global marketing strategies, focused on maintaining tourism sustainability, from December 2021 through to March 2022. During the campaign, relevant and engaging content about the people, places and culture that make the Maldives so wonderfully diverse and unique will be circulated on the international digital platforms of the BBC. This will include specially commissioned brand stories and videos created by BBC StoryWorks as well as social media promotion.

The campaign aims to further promote the Maldives as the ideal travel destination that caters to the needs and wants of travelers in the era of the new normal. It will focus on marketing the destination as a safe haven and promote the experiences unique to the Maldives while providing information on the stringent measures in place for Maldivian tourism products such as resorts, hotels, guesthouses and liveaboards. It will also highlight the geographically scattered nature of the island nation, which provides natural social distancing for travelers.

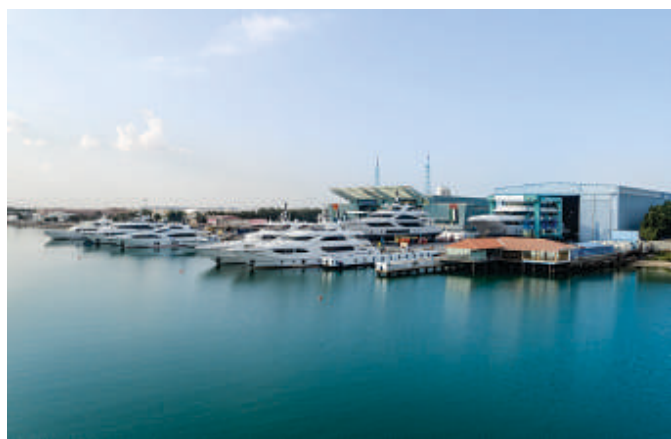
Garmin acquires Vesper Marine



Garmin Ltd. announced it has acquired Vesper Marine, a privately-held provider of AIS, VHF and vessel monitoring solutions for the marine industry. This acquisition is expected to bolster Garmin's industry-leading lineup of marine products and technology designed to provide peace of mind and enhanced situational awareness for boaters.

Vesper Marine is headquartered in Auckland, New Zealand and will join Garmin's existing team and facility located in Auckland. Financial terms of the acquisition will not be released.

Gulf Craft announces commitment to IMMA conservation programme



The support of Gulf Craft further underlines the industry's engagement with scientifically rigorous conservation plans. "This programme will deliver a new path to nurturing both ocean and human vitality through transformative marine ecosystem conservation projects at scale," said Vienna Eleuteri, initiator and vice-chair of Water Revolution Foundation at the time of the launch, continuing: "By doing so, we are connecting an entire business sector to the scientific community and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

boot Düsseldorf show cancelled for 2022, rescheduled for January 2023



The show will not go on in Germany. Due to the spread of the Omicron virus variant, Europe's largest boat show and trade fair has been cancelled for 2022 due to the measures decided by the state government.

Recreational Boating industry to boom in 2022 with significant growth



Global "Recreational Boating Market" is expected to exhibit significant growth potential between 2022 and 2026, The report (by *marketwatch.com*) considers the present scenario of the global Recreational Boating market and its market dynamics, It also covers a detailed overview of several growth enablers, restraints, and trends in the market. The study includes the volume and value sales with segment analysis of the Recreational Boating market.

COVID-19 can affect the global economy in three main ways: by directly affecting production and demand, by creating supply chain and market disruption, and by its financial impact on firms and financial markets.

NEW YORK BOAT SHOW 2022



26th -30th January 2022

Running since 1905, the New York Boat Show is the world's oldest and longest-running boat show. The five-day event serves the lucrative New York boating market with a wide display of the industry's latest products, plus interactive workshops and wide media coverage to draw boating enthusiasts from across the region.

More information on the events' official website, www.nyboatshow.com

BÅTMÄSSAN – GOTHENBURG BOAT SHOW 2022



5th -13th February 2022

Here at The Swedish Exhibition & Congress Centre we can certainly say which way the wind's blowing. At Båtmässan you will find everything to make life on water better, more enjoyable, easier, safer and more fun. Here you will find a large range of boats, accessories and equipment for your boat and crew.

At Båtmässan, there's something for everybody who enjoys the life at sea; boat owners, boat enthusiasts, families, fishing enthusiast, water lovers and curious beginners. Seminars will be held every day at Stora Scenen, that addresses themes like sport fishing, sailing, outdoor life, general boat life and much more.

For 59 years the boat show has been announcing the spring and the time to get back in the water.

More information on the events' official website, www.batmassan.se

MIAMI INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW 2022



5th -13th February 2022

The Miami International Boat Show and the Miami Yacht Show have joined forces to create the Discover Boating Miami International Boat Show, the largest boat and yacht event in the world. Life is better on a boat. Discover everything from kayaks to superyachts to the latest aquatic innovations.

The on-land portion of the event will take place at the newly reimagined Miami Beach Convention Center and Pride Park. The in-water components of the show will take place at Sea Isle Marina, One Herald Plaza, Museum Park Marina, and IGY Yacht Haven Grande at Island Gardens.

Historically, the Miami International Boat Show and Miami Yacht Show have attracted hundreds of thousands of attendees to South Florida and generated an estimated combined annual economic impact of \$1.34 billion.

More information on the events' official website, www.miamiboatshow.com

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7TH EDITION

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MARINE
EXPO 2022

4TH, 5TH, 6TH AUGUST 2022

CENTRAL PARK, HULHUMALÉ

4PM - 10PM

SAVE THE DATE
4-6 AUG 2022



EXHIBITION



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DISCUSSIONS



MARINE FOODS



EQUIPMENT
& BOAT DISPLAY



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