

BOATING INSIDER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY NBAM



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Cover Photo :
A snap from the inauguration ceremony of Maldives Marine Expo 2024.

Image Courtesy of Gulf Craft Inc.



National Boating Association of Maldives (NBAM)
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Maldives Marine Expo 2024 inaugurated with important product launches & updates



The anticipated Maldives Marine Expo 2024 commenced from February 8th and run through till February 11th, Sunday at Central Park Hulhumalé. The event will be open from 1600 hrs till 2200 hrs in the evening.

The event was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation, Minister Mohamed Ameen along with other senior government officials, executives and industry stakeholders today at 1530 hrs, Central Park Hulhumalé'. Marine Expo organised by MEDIUM Events Pvt Ltd is the longest running and the largest commercial event in the Maldives for the marine industry. The event will host all the prominent boat builders, engine brands, international marine brands, watersports and dive brands. The show features multiple opportunities for both participants and visitors to engage in, such as new product launches, product highlights, boat & equipment display and showcase area, food experience area exclusively with seafood, commercial activities, and more.

The event will further enhance its excitement with the chance to win grand lucky draws for stall and registered visitors, offered by the exhibitors at Maldives Marine Expo. Some exciting lucky draws include the chance to win an iPhone 15, offered by MTCC stall and a guesthouse stay for two people for two days by Solarelle Insurance stall. Sponsors of Marine Expo 2024 include Gulf Craft as the Main Sponsor, Hotels and Resorts Investments (HARIM) and Maldives Transport and Contracting Company Plc (MTCC) as Co-Sponsors. Al Shaali Marine as the Official Boat Builder, Sea Gear as the official Watersports Partner, Palm Tree Marine as the official Supplier, Hassan Marine Engineering Solutions as the Official Product, Marine Equipments as the Official Boat Yard, Ocean Group as the Recreational Sports Brand, Marine Vibe as the Official Marine Engine, and the Find Group as the Official Yacht Broker. Partners include NTV as the Broadcast Partner, Ooredoo as the Digital Partner, Print Lab as the Print Partner, Taurus Holding as the Catering Partner, Maldives State Shipping as the Official Logistics Partner, The Islandchief as the Tabloid Partner, Asaree Services as the Setup Partner, Maldives Moments as the Sound and Light Partner, Shott Beverages as the Beverage Partner, Fish People as the Apparel Partner, Maagiri Hotel and Beehive Hotels as the Accommodation Partners, and SSI Maldives as the Official Diving Partner.

With over 60 exhibitors, Maldives Marine Expo comes back stronger showcasing a diverse range of products and services related to luxury boating, luxury and affordable transportation, watersports equipment, training programmes, and insurance services.

MTCC Roadha Promo for 2024 launched at the Maldives Marine Expo 2024



MTCC launched their "Roadha Promo 2024" at the Maldives Marine Expo 2024. The promotion was launched by the CEO of MTCC, Mr. Abdulla Ziyad. The promotion will run from 8th February until the 9th of April 2024, offering very special discounts on numerous marine products. Customers who made purchases over 5,000/- are able to participate in the lucky draw and have a chance to win an Umra trip for two!



Gulf Craft Maldives Showcases Revolutionary Vessels at the Maldives Marine Expo 2024



Gulf Craft Maldives, the Maldivian arm of Gulf Craft, the world's premier fully integrated boat and yacht manufacturers, is thrilled to announce its participation at the highly anticipated Maldives Marine Expo 2024.

Taking place from February 8 - 11 at Central Park, Hulhumale, Male, Maldives. As a premier exhibitor, Gulf Craft Maldives is set to showcase its latest innovations, including the debut of the ground-breaking Grand Touring 46 VIP, a new multi-hull design offering an alternative to mono-hull Touring vessels, and the SC32 CC. The Grand Touring 46 VIP, featuring a multi-hull design, promises unparalleled flexibility and comfort, setting a new standard for luxury marine transport. This revolutionary vessel, making its debut at the Maldives Marine Expo, boasts a VIP layout, offering an exquisite experience for discerning clientele. Additionally, alternative layouts such as Ferry, Diving, and Coastguard are available, catering to diverse needs and applications.

The SC32 CC, a sporty and versatile centre console model, offers a dynamic experience for enthusiasts and adventurers alike. With its sleek design and powerful performance, the SC32 CC is perfect for leisure cruising and exhilarating water sports activities. "The Grand Touring 46 VIP and the SC32 CC represent a significant milestone in Gulf Craft Maldives' journey of innovation and excellence," said Mohammed Alshaali, Chairman of Gulf Craft. "With their unique designs and versatile capabilities, these vessels embody our commitment to meeting the diverse needs of our clientele. We are excited to debut these ground-breaking models at the Maldives Marine Expo and set a new benchmark for luxury marine transport in the region."

Gulf Craft Maldives' participation at the Maldives Marine Expo 2024 underscores its ongoing collaboration with the Maldives hub to develop and expand offerings for the Southeast Asian market. With a rich heritage of craftsmanship and innovation dating back to 2002 when Gulf Craft first established its presence in the Maldives, Gulf Craft Maldives remains a driving force in the region, committed to delivering unparalleled experiences on the water.

Introducing the game-changers: Mercury V10 and Avator Electric Outboard Engines



Hassan Marine Engineering Solutions (HMES) has debuted in grandeur the all new Mercury V10 Outboard engine series and the much awaited Mercury Avator electric outboard engine series during the Maldives Marine Expo 2024 main event.



Al Shaali Marine Set to Unveil Exciting New Series at Maldives Marine Expo 2024



Al Shaali Marine, renowned as the official boat-building partner and a leading name in marine craft manufacturing, is poised to introduce an enigmatic new product at the upcoming Maldives Marine Expo 2024. The highly anticipated launch, scheduled to take place at Central Park Hulhumale from 8th to 11th February 2024, is expected to captivate attendees with its blend of innovation and craftsmanship.

While specific details of the new product remain shrouded in mystery, it is understood that the target market includes enthusiasts of pleasure fishing, as well as guesthouses and resorts seeking high-quality options for excursion and fishing activities. This strategic move is set to reinforce Al Shaali Marine's already formidable presence in the marine industry.

In addition to this exciting launch, it is noteworthy that Al Shaali Marine has a distinguished track record in boat manufacturing, including the construction of ferries for the Maldives Transport and Contracting Company (MTCC). This proficiency is further highlighted by their significant role in the Rajje Transport Link (RTL) project, where Al Shaali Marine has been commissioned to build 65 boats.

The partnership between MTCC and Al Shaali Marine was formalised in a ceremony, marking a MVR 537 million contract for the production of 65 speedboats required for phase two and phase three of the RTL ferry service. This ambitious project, set to be completed within a two-year timeframe, underscores Al Shaali Marine's expertise and commitment to enhancing marine transportation in the Maldives.

As the Maldives Marine Expo 2024 approaches, the maritime community eagerly anticipates the unveiling of Al Shaali Marine's latest offering, poised to make a significant impact on the industry. The event promises to be a showcase of cutting-edge marine technology and innovation, with Al Shaali Marine at the forefront of this exciting new chapter.

Honda Marine 350 HP launched at Maldives Marine Expo 2024 by Marine Vibe Pvt Ltd



Marine Vibe Pvt Ltd, the authorized dealer for Honda Marine Outboard engines has unveiled the Honda Marine 350 HP outboard engines in the Maldives, available to order now. The engine was launched at Maldives Marine Expo 2024 by Mr. Ibrahim Fazul Rasheed, Managing Director of HDC.





NEW MEMBERS OF 2023



NBAM NEW MEMBERS LIST 2023

National Boating Association of Maldives started membership renewal for the year 2023, New Members have joined to our Association this past month.

- MarineDo (NEW MEMBER)
- Blue K Safari Maldives
- Blueshark Enterprises
- Carpediem Maldives
- CASA Retreat
- Damas Company
- DIMO Coastline
- Dune Maldives
- Floating Asia
- Happy Market Trading Company Pvt Ltd
- Island Institute of Tertiary Education
- JLS Yachts
- Liveaboard Marine Management Pvt Ltd
- Maldicare
- Maldives Boat Club
- Maldives Island Reat
- Maldives Publications
- Marine Equipments
- Mariyam Rozlyn Saleem (Noah)
- Marselia Maldives
- Palm Tree Marine
- Paradise Safari Tours
- Quick Ezy Maldives
- Radiantheat Travel Pvt Ltd
- Sachika Maldives
- Sea Gear
- Seagull Group
- Silver Sands Boatyard
- Southern Cross
- Top Class Cruising Maldives Pvt Ltd
- Voyages Maldives
- Yacht Maldives

17 MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS OF

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| 1 Referrals to Potential Customers | 2 Free Consultation about Industry | 9 Safety Training Opportunities for Crew | 10 Invitation to NBAM Events and Gatherings |
| 3 Free Listings for Member Boats on Liveboards of Maldives Magazine | 4 Free website listing for Liveboards | 11 Special Rates for Members to Participate in Maldives Marine Expo | 12 Exclusive Benefit in nominating to Maldives National Boating Awards |
| 5 Free website listing for Service Providers and Marine Equipment Sellers | 6 Special Member Packages on Insurance Premiums from Allied Insurance Company (Exclusive for NBAM) | 13 Members to Members Networking | 14 Logo on Brochures and address cards / promotions |
| 7 Special Terms and Prices on Fuel Suppliers | 8 Special assistance on Regulations and Guidelines | 15 Partnership Programme Discounts | 16 Special Discounts from Boating Privilege Partner Businesses |

NATIONAL BOATING ASSOCIATION OF MALDIVES

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17 Opportunity to communicate with government and authorities as a team and comment on Regulations

Hong Kong Airlines Restarts Direct Flights to the Maldives



Hong Kong Airlines has recommenced its direct flights to the Maldives, reconnecting the two destinations after a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Initially introduced as chartered services, the airline began its scheduled flights to the Maldives in 2018, operational until the global health crisis brought about an unforeseen interruption. Hong Kong Airlines will operate three weekly flights, establishing a regular link between Male and Hong Kong. These flights are scheduled every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, providing convenient options for travellers. The flight itinerary is set as follows: departing from Hong Kong at 3:40 pm and arriving in Male at 7:35 pm, with the return flight leaving Male at 9:20 pm and reaching Hong Kong at 6:35 am the following day.

This resumption is a welcome development for the tourism industry in the Maldives, renowned for its stunning beaches and luxury resorts. The first flight under this resumed service landed at Velana International Airport at 7:17 pm Friday, symbolising strengthening ties between Hong Kong and the Maldives and boosting international travel and tourism. Hong Kong Airlines' decision to restart these flights reflects the growing confidence in the safety and demand for international travel as the world gradually recovers from the pandemic. This route not only facilitates easier travel for tourists and business travellers but also plays a crucial role in the economic recovery efforts of both regions. The Maldives, heavily reliant on tourism, is set to benefit significantly from the increased accessibility and potential influx of visitors from the East Asian market.

MMPRC promotes the Maldivian waters at Moscow Dive Show 2024



Maldives Marketing and Public Relations Corporation (MMPRC/ Visit Maldives) showcased the underwater world of Maldives at the Moscow Dive Show 2024, alongside 4 industry partners. The event took place from 8th to 11th February 2024 at the "Gostinyi Dvor" Exhibition Centre in Moscow, Russia. The Moscow Dive Show provides an opportunity for engaging with both the B2B and B2C clientele in the dive and underwater segments of Russia. The event is the main exhibition in Russia and CIS that focuses on equipment, tourism, and training for individuals passionate about an active lifestyle and water-based sports. Diving, spearfishing, freediving, and underwater photography form the core activities at the exhibition, attracting a diverse audience of industry professionals and enthusiasts alike.

The event serves as a crucial platform for industry partners to unveil their latest plans, establish collaborations with new partners, and strengthen existing ties within the Russian and CIS markets. It also allows for wholesale equipment purchases and direct hotel and safari yacht bookings, as well as engagement between industry professionals and consumers.

In 2022, the Maldives welcomed 201,954 visitors from Russia, securing its position as the top source market. The trend continued in 2023, with 208,041 arrivals, which was the 2nd top source market of the year.

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The Maldives Yacht Rally: Savaadheetha Dhathuru 2024 to Commence this February



This year's 'Savaadheetha Dhathuru' is a sailing event hosted by the Maldives Integrated Tourism Development Corporation (MITDC), welcoming yachtsmen and sailors from around the world to embark on a remarkable journey through the Maldivian seas. This event offers participants the unique opportunity to visit local islands, immersing themselves in the rich traditions and culture of the Maldives.

This year's rally, encapsulated by the theme 'Maldives: Small Country with a Big Heart', draws inspiration from a participant's quote from last year. The rally has already attracted ten boats and aims to host fifteen boats for its third edition. The journey commences at Kudagiri Picnic Island with a grand opening ceremony on February 10th. The itinerary includes stops at V. Fulidhoo, M. Muli, L. Gan, L. Fonadhoo, and the serene L. Baresdhoo for a picnic. The participants will navigate the challenging Huvadhoon Kandu (1./, Channel) and visit Ga. Kolamaafushi and Gdh. Hoan'dehdhoo, culminating their voyage at the southernmost points of S. Hithadhoo and S. Gan, where a Gala Night will celebrate the conclusion of this year's Savaadheetha Dhathuru: The Maldives Yacht Rally.

A primary objective of the Savaadheetha Dhathuru is to foster diversification and integrate the local community within the tourism sector. The rally focuses on promoting Local Island Tourism, Culture & Heritage Tourism, and Nautical Tourism, with the invaluable support of island Councils and communities. This collaboration ensures an authentic local experience, leaving an indelible impression on every participant.

The 2024 Maldives Yacht Rally is proudly endorsed by several ministries, including the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Cities, Local Government and Public Works, Ministry of Sports Fitness and Recreation, Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy, Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Information and Arts, Ministry of Dhivehi Language, Arts, Culture and Heritage, Ministry of Economic Development & Trade, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Additional endorsements come from the Maldives Marketing & PR Corporation, Maldives Association of Tourism Industry (MATI), Maldives Association of Travel Agents and Tour Operators (MATATO), Maldives Association of Yacht Agents (MAYA), and the Business Center Corporation.

For this year's edition, the Maldives Transport and Contracting Company (MTCC) continues as the Main Sponsor for the third consecutive year. Visit Maldives joins as the Destination Partner, and Housing Development Corporation (HDC) as the Hosting Partner. We are also grateful for the extensive support from our partners, including STELCO, STO, MPL, MTDC, Maldivian, and Voyages Maldives, who are our additional sponsors for this event.

Jalboot Marine Services Expands Luxury Yacht Charter Services with Mazarin in the Maldives



Jalboot Marine Services, a distinguished leader in the marine leisure industry, is delighted to announce a significant expansion of its services, proudly introducing spot charter offerings featuring the exquisite Mazarin motor yacht in the captivating Maldives. A marvel of engineering, the Mazarin, a meticulously crafted 66ft motor yacht, stands ready to redefine the Maldives holiday experience. With the ability to host up to 23 guests, this lavish vessel ensures an unforgettable journey through the crystal-clear waters of the Maldivian archipelago.

Key Features of Mazarin:

Luxurious Accommodations: The interior of the Mazarin unveils a sanctuary of elegance, featuring a master bedroom, a guest bedroom with an attached bathroom, and intricately designed crew members' quarters. This unique layout ensures comfort for everyone on board.

Gourmet Galley: Culinary excellence takes center stage in the galley area, equipped with a fully functional kitchen, oven, coffee machine, sink, dish washing machine, refrigerator, and an elaborate bar counter. Complimentary soft drinks will only enhance an unforgettable culinary experience throughout the voyage.

Deck Salon: The chic deck salon features L-shaped seating, providing a cozy spot for guests to socialize and soak in the stunning Maldivian surroundings.

Sunbed Area: Mazarin features a dedicated sunbed area, allowing passengers to bask in the warm Maldivian sun while enjoying the serenity of the ocean.

Open Seating Area: Passengers are invited to revel in relaxation within the open seating area, providing the perfect backdrop for indulging in delectable meals and snacks while surrounded by the awe-inspiring beauty of the Maldives.

With Jalboot's marine experience, an expansion into spot charter services signifies Jalboot Marine Services' commitment to providing unparalleled luxury experiences for travelers seeking a unique and personalized way to explore the Maldives.

"We are excited to introduce Mazarin as part of our Spot Charter Services, offering a blend of luxury, comfort, and unparalleled views of the Maldivian paradise," said R J Reddy, CEO at Jalboot Group. "We believe this jewel addition from our fleet will redefine the way travelers experience the Maldives, providing an unforgettable journey filled with opulence and natural beauty."

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