



GETTING PREPARED  
FACTSHEET

Kurumba

MALDIVES



### AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Please check with your agent that they have forwarded through your flight details. If you would like to double check your transfers, please feel free to email [reservations@kurumba.com](mailto:reservations@kurumba.com) to reconfirm.

### ARRIVING

When arriving into the Maldives, you will notice the airport is a separate Island called Hulhule and the approach is quite spectacular to see if you have a window seat through the day. The airport does not have air bridges and you can expect to feel an average of 30 degrees Celsius as soon as you leave the plane, so we advise not to put on additional layers. Once you have completed your immigration form and cleared immigration, you will pass customs. Please note the very strict rules on alcohol (will confiscate and not return), pork and other restrictions as mentioned below. Once you have cleared customs, walk outside and one of our team members will be waiting outside with a Kurumba sign. If the person is assisting another guest, please walk straight towards the Universal Resorts counter on the first row (Number 4). When all the guests on that flight have cleared customs, our team will take you to the Kurumba speed boat and your transfer will take approximately 10 minutes. When checking in, we will need your passport and if the accommodation expenses have not been prepaid, we kindly request you to settle within 24 hours of your arrival. If you have booked via an online travel agent, please ensure that you pre register or email us your flight details.

### CHILDREN FACILITIES

Children are welcome to Kurumba and many room types allow having children. Facilities include Majaa Kids Club, 2 children's pools, play area, children's menus in restaurants, high chairs, baby changers, cots & bottle warmers. Babysitting is available at reception and subject to some conditions.

### CLOTHING

Casual clothing is normal in the Maldives. Lightweight cottons and linen clothes are recommended. Items for Ladies would be sundresses, kaftans, light shirts, sarongs, shirts & skirts. If you plan to visit a local Island or Male', it is advisable to have your thighs and shoulders covered if visiting the inhabited local islands. For the men, light cotton shirts, shorts, pants, board shorts and some light and comfortable smart casual for evening wear.

Whilst at Kurumba, most guests wear comfortable clothes throughout the day and night. Board shorts and bikinis are more than acceptable on the beach. Ladies can dress more freely and relaxed without feeling that you are offending anyone. Many guests wear slides or slippers are more than acceptable at any time of the day. High heels are not required.

### CLIMATE

Generally warm and humid. The sun shines all year round. The average temperature is around 29/32° Celsius. The wetter times are normally between May to June and September to November. These periods can be daily patchy light showers to good thunderstorms. The water temperature ranges from 24/30° Celsius. Umbrellas are in every room so there is no need to pack an umbrella. During this time the water is warm and the fish do not seem to mind the rain.

### CURRENCY

The Maldivian currency is the Rufiyaa and comes in denominations of 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 500 notes. A Rufiyaa consists of 100 Laarees. The American dollar is the most commonly used foreign currency at Kurumba and in Male' so there is no real reason to exchange or bring Maldivian Rufiyaa. It is important that the USD are crisp new notes as local banks do not accept old or torn notes.



### DEPARTURE

Our Kurumba team will send you a letter the day prior to your departure. It is recommended to complete the checkout the day prior if you have an early checkout to avoid any cashiering delays. It is recommended by the airline companies to be at the airport 2.5 hours prior to departure and we schedule our transfers three hours prior to ensure that you make your flight.

### DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

At Kurumba, we are able to cater of a number of requests. Vegetarians, Vegans, Gluten Free, Halal and Jain can be catered for. Not all dishes are suitable for all guests .If you have any dietary requirements, please feel free to email [kurumba@kurumba.com](mailto:kurumba@kurumba.com) to advise your requirements.

### DISABLED GUESTS

Please see the disabled fact sheet on the website.

### DRONE POLICY

The privacy and safety of our guests, employees and property is of primary concern for Kurumba Maldives. The unauthorized use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), including but not limited to drones and radio controlled aircraft and devices, for personal use is not allowed within or around the island.

Kurumba Maldives may use drones for commercial purposes on sporadic occasions. In these instances, much care will be taken to minimize the impact on guests and to protect their privacy.

### ELECTRICITY

The electrical current is 230 volts, 50Hz. This is a European three pin sockets in use.



### HEALTH

Health care such as a doctor's surgery, dentist and optometrists are available in Male'. Kurumba has an in-house doctor that is on the Island 45 weeks of the year. A decompression chamber for dive incidents is available within easy reach of Kurumba. We do recommend wearing mosquito repellent and sunscreens. In terms of Vaccinations, we recommend that you research your countries government travel advice website.

### HOURS OF BUSINESS MALÉ

From Sunday to Thursday 7:30 – 14:30 in the Government sector and generally 9:00 to 17:00 in the private sector, although most offices in the private sector open for a half day on Saturday. The weekend comprises Friday and Saturday.

### LANGUAGE

Dhivehi is the language spoken in all parts of the Maldives. English is widely spoken by Maldivians. Kurumba has staff with alternative languages.

### LAUNDRY

Laundry can be completed at the resort either with a wash and iron or dry cleaning. The best value is certainly the bag wash for wash and iron. The turnaround is completed within 24 hours.

### LEGALITIES IN THE MALDIVES IN BRIEF

#### *Entry and Exit Requirements*

- A completed Disembarkation/Embarkation card. Blank cards are usually handed out on the inward flight, but otherwise they are available in the Immigration Hall. You will need to enter your passport number so it is a good idea to have this handy on the flight.



- A no-cost 30 day Visitor Visa. This is issued on arrival, with the date stamped in your passport. Requests for extensions to this visa (up to a total of 90 days) should be made to the Department of Immigration and Emigration. These are generally approved provided there is evidence of sufficient funds to finance the extension and you are staying on a resort island.
- If you are travelling from a Yellow Fever Infection area, a current Immunization Certificate is required.
- If you arrive without a hotel reservation, you must have at least \$100 + \$50 per day at your disposal.
- A Departure Tax is payable, but this is usually included in your airline ticket.
- For the most up to date tourist visa information, please visit <http://www.immigration.gov.mv>

### Importing/Exporting Goods

All luggage is x-rayed by Customs, after immigration. The following items may not be brought into the Maldives:

- Narcotics : The Maldives has strong anti-drug laws. Possession of drugs can result in serious repercussions. It is a good idea to carry either a Doctor's letter or a copy of a current prescription, if carrying medicines.
- Alcohol : This is readily available on the resort islands. It is not available in Male or at the airport. If you have bought Duty Free on your inward flight, it will be confiscated at immigration and will not be returned.
- Religious Materials : If deemed contrary to Islam, including "idols for worship" will be confiscated. A bible for personal use is acceptable.
- Pork and pork products
- Pornographic material
- Explosives, weapons, firearms and ammunition

*There is a very long list of items that may not be exported which can be summarised as:*

- Coral
- Fish
- Shells
- Any shark items

*The following are also forbidden in the Maldives:*

- Fishing from beaches, an island and with rods. This is illegal. If you wish to fish, you may do so by booking one of the fishing trips organised and run by the resort islands.
- Collection of Marine items.
- Nudism and topless sunbathing. Bikinis, board shorts and Speedos whilst on the island is more than acceptable when you are on the beach.

### LOCAL TIME

Kurumba Maldives is 9 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time, 12 hours ahead of Pacific Standard and UTC/GMT + 5 hrs.

### PAYMENT & MONEY

Please note that we accept USD, Pound, Euro and Maldivian Rufiyaa, Visa, MasterCard and American Express cards. There is no need to exchange your currency into Maldivian Rufiyaa prior to arrival at the resort as this may not be able to be converted back into your own currency. In the Maldives, there is quite a difference between the buying and selling rates. If you intend to pay in cash, the Maldives Banks are pedantic about the quality of the tender, hence cash will need to be free of tears, fading or any other defects to be accepted. Maldivian banks no longer accept travelers cheques as legal currency, therefore the resort is unable to accept these for payment. Please use alternative methods of payment, such as credit cards and cash.

### PRE-REGISTRATION

Please feel free to pre register and tell us about your dietary requirements, other preferences and reconfirming your travel times. This can also make the check in process a little more efficient; Please feel free to click here. <http://www.kurumba.com/pre-register/>



### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2019

At the time of writing, this is the known public holidays in the capital Male. You will only notice this if you visit Malé the capital city where some shops will be closed.

01 Jan (Tue)	New Years Day
01 May (Wed)	Labour Day
05 May (Sun)	Beginning of the Holy Month of Ramadan
04 Jun (Tue)	Fit'r Eid Day
26 Jul (Fri)	Independence Day
08 Aug (Thu)	Hajj Day
11 Aug (Sun)	Al'h'aa Eid Day
30 Aug (Fri)	Islamic New Year Day
03 Nov (Sun)	Victory Day
08 Nov (Fri)	Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) Birthday
09 Nov (Sat)	National Day
11 Nov (Mon)	Republic Day
28 Nov (Thu)	The Day Maldives Embraced Islam

### RELIGION

Islam was introduced around 800 AD and the moderate form practiced in the Maldives has remained virtually unchanged. Government regulation does not allow any form of other religious statues, monuments or celebrations within the Maldives. During the holy month of Ramadan (July/August), Muslims are required to fast between sunrise and sunset. They are expected to use this period of abstinence for prayer and contemplation. In practice, guests on Kurumba are unlikely to be affected by Ramadan but there may be some periods where a few extra staff have left for a quick meal break.

### ROOM AMENITIES

In all guest rooms are soaps, shampoos, conditioner, moisturizer, cotton buds and pads, bath towels, beach towels, umbrellas, hair dryers, safes, tea and coffee making facilities, 1.5 liters of drinking water per room and a mini bar. As your room grade is improved, the amenities become more expansive such as beach slippers, beach bags, hot chocolate, espresso coffee etc. Sun Loungers on the beach and around the pools are provided. For personal toiletries, please pack your toothbrush, toothpaste as well as shaving equipment, hair products, water resistant high rating sunscreen and your other personal hygiene items.

### SHOPPING

The capital, Male' stores are open between 08:30 and 22:00 and close during prayer times. On Friday, they open at 14:00 and close at 22:00. Kurumba's Nala boutique in reception offers a range of swimwear, resort wear, gifts, toiletries, snacks, entertainment items, local arts and crafts and prices similar if not lower than Male.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE

The reality is that with any holiday, we should all consider travel insurance. It's probably a good idea to think about holiday insurance for your Maldives trip.

### TELEPHONES

If you've got a mobile phone, then we should say that it seems that only the major islands are covered by Dhiraagu (telecom company). This operator uses a GSM 900 network, which is well-suited with many international cell phone operators. However, please check your roaming costs as this can be expensive. You can purchase a pre-paid sim card at the airport just outside of arrivals. Skype or similar programs can be used however the internet speeds can be intermittent throughout the Maldives.



## WHAT TO PACK LIST

### Toiletries

- Sunscreen with high SPF
- Insect repellent
- Lotion (Aloe Vera) or after sun
- Your own skin care or face wash cream
- Vital medications
- Normal home toiletries such as toothbrush and paste, razor and cream, deodorant etc
- Make Up – if you just cannot do without

### Clothing & Attire

- Sunglasses, Hat or Cap for shade from the sun
- Light cotton clothing, sarongs, sun dresses, light shorts or pants, light shirts
- Bathing suits. Board shorts, bikinis etc
- Slides, slippers & comfortable shoes
- Smart casual for evening meals

### Other Items

- Digital camera or video camera
- Reading and personal entertainment
- Rucksack for day trips
- Other special personal effects you may need
- Diving certificates, ticket and log book, or required doctors letters if you have a medical condition and want to dive

### Travel Documents

- If you have special medications – a doctors certificate
- Credit Card (Visa, Bankcard or American Express)
- US dollars (Local Maldivian Currency is not really required)
- Passport
- Flight tickets
- Hotel booking vouchers
- Travel itineraries
- Travel insurance details

## KURUMBA QUICK CONTACTS

Guest Services	<a href="mailto:kurumba@kurumba.com">kurumba@kurumba.com</a>
Reservations	<a href="mailto:reservations@kurumba.com">reservations@kurumba.com</a>
Spa	<a href="mailto:veli.spa@kurumba.com">veli.spa@kurumba.com</a>
Euro Divers	<a href="mailto:kurumba@euro-divers.com">kurumba@euro-divers.com</a>
Watersports	<a href="mailto:kurumba@extrememaldives.com">kurumba@extrememaldives.com</a>
Food and Beverage	<a href="mailto:fnb.admin@kurumba.com">fnb.admin@kurumba.com</a>
Sales	<a href="mailto:sales@kurumba.com">sales@kurumba.com</a>

This is not a comprehensive list on the getting prepared fact sheet, however we hope that it is helpful to your enjoyment when staying on Kurumba.