

# Notification on Recent Amendments Taxation Acts



## INTRODUCTION

On 5th November 2024, new amendments to three taxation acts were ratified and published in the Government Gazette. The amendments include the Seventh Amendment to the Goods and Services Tax Act, the Fourteenth Amendment to the Maldives Tourism Act, and the Second Amendment to Airport Taxes and Fees Act.

These amendments to the taxation acts primarily increase the relevant tax rates. Details of the changes, including the revised tax rates, are outlined in the following paragraphs.

## GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

There are two significant changes brought to the GST Act by the Seventh amendment to the Goods and Services Tax Act. First, the GST rate applied to the tourism sector will be increased from 16% to 17% effective from 1 July 2025. The change in rate aligns with the taxable period commencing on 1 July 2025 (i.e. taxable periods July 2025 and the 3rd Quarter of 2025).

Secondly, supplies made by cafes that are established on a tourism establishment operating exclusively to employees of such a tourist establishment are excluded from the definition of tourism goods and services. Prior to the seventh amendment, only staff shops established on a tourism establishment operating exclusively for the staff of such establishments were excluded from the tourism sector goods and services definition. Therefore, effective from the 5 November 2024 supplies made in such staff cafes, in addition to the staff shops, would fall under general sector goods and services and apply the GST rate of 8%.

## GREEN TAX (GRT)

The fourteenth amendment to the Maldives Tourism Act introduces the following changes to the green tax rates, effective from 1 January 2025.

Details	Current Rates	Revised Rates (1 January 2025)
Tourist resorts, integrated tourist resorts, resort hotels, tourist vessels	USD 6	USD 12
Hotels and guesthouses located in uninhabited islands	USD 6	USD 12
Hotels and guesthouses located in inhabited islands with more than 50 rooms	USD 6	USD 12
Hotels and guesthouses located in inhabited islands with less than 50 rooms	USD 3	USD 6

Additionally, the amendment introduces an exemption for infants under the age of 2 from GRT, effective from 1 January 2025.

## DEPARTURE TAX & AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT FEE

The Airport Taxes and Fees Act was updated through the second amendment to the Act, and starting from 1 December 2024, passengers who purchase tickets to travel out of Maldives or change their travel dates will be subject to revised rates for the Airport Development Fee and Departure Tax. This applies to all travels on or after this date.

### a. Departure Tax

Travel Class	Maldivian Passengers		Foreign Passengers	
	Current Rates	Revised Rates	Current Rates	Revised Rates
Economy class	USD 12	USD 12	USD 30	USD 50
Business class	USD 60	USD 120	USD 60	USD 120
First class	USD 90	USD 240	USD 90	USD 240
Private jet	USD 120	USD 480	USD 120	USD 480

### b. Airport Development Fee

Travel Class	Maldivian Passengers		Foreign Passengers	
	Current Rates	Revised Rates	Current Rates	Revised Rates
Economy class	USD 12	USD 12	USD 30	USD 50
Business class	USD 60	USD 120	USD 60	USD 120
First class	USD 90	USD 240	USD 90	USD 240
Private jet	USD 120	USD 480	USD 120	USD 480

The amendment does not affect the departure tax and airport development fee levied on Maldivian passengers traveling in economy class.

The amendment further brought changes on how registered persons may request for refund from MIRA in respect of excess tax collected from passengers and paid to MIRA, if the amount is later paid back to the passenger.



G. Billoorijehige, 1st Floor, Majeedhee Magu, Male', Republic of Maldives  
+960 334 8234 | [info@camaldives.org](mailto:info@camaldives.org) | [www.camaldives.org](http://www.camaldives.org)