



Travel Weekly - The rise of shoulder season trips to The Maldives

All comments to be attributed to [Destination2's](#) travel expert Betty Bouchier-Hobin

- **Why do you think more people are heading to the Maldives during shoulder season?**

In the post-pandemic world, many customers are eager to visit bucket-list destinations like the Maldives whilst, at the same time seeking ways to make luxury travel more affordable.

Travellers are increasingly drawn to the Maldives during the shoulder season (April to June and September to November) because it offers a blend of cost savings, pleasant weather, and a more relaxed vibe.

With discounted rates on flights, accommodations, and activities. Many travellers find that they can stay at high-end resorts or book overwater villas at a great discount versus peak season cost.

The affordability of shoulder season makes luxury holidays more accessible, drawing budget-conscious travellers or those seeking to stay for longer periods.

- **What are some of the myths about shoulder season?**

A common misconception that we see among our customers is that September and October are excessively rainy months in the Maldives.

Although shoulder season may bring a chance of brief, scattered showers, the weather remains mostly warm and sunny. Travellers willing to handle the possibility of occasional rain often find that these showers are short-lived, with plenty of clear skies in between. In my opinion, the tropical warmth makes any short rain refreshing rather than inconvenient.

- **What are some advantages (beyond saving money) to going in shoulder season?**

The Maldives can be quite busy during peak season (December to March), when tourists from colder regions flock to escape winter. The shoulder season offers a quieter experience, which is ideal for those who want a more private and peaceful beach and excursion experience with fewer visitors.

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Shoulder season also coincides with favourable underwater conditions for activities like diving and snorkelling. For example, April and May are known for whale shark and manta ray sightings. The relatively calm seas and excellent water visibility make it an attractive time for marine enthusiasts.

- **Are there certain atolls and resorts which are especially great for shoulder season?**

Several atolls and resorts in the Maldives are particularly advantageous during shoulder season. The South Ari Atoll is a standout, featuring esteemed resorts such as [Lux south Ari atoll](#) and [Lily Beach Resort & Spa](#) on Huvahendhoo Island. [Vilamendhoo](#), one of the islands as part of Alif Dhaal Atoll, is also a great option. These regions have exceptional underwater marine biodiversity, making it a prime destination for diving and snorkelling enthusiasts.

These resorts not only provide the R&R which customers look for in a Maldivian holiday but also offer a range of water activities and access to vibrant house reefs. Strategically located in areas known for rich marine life, they enhance opportunities for wildlife encounters during shoulder season. This combination of tranquillity and adventure positions these atolls as ideal choices for customers looking to maximise their experience in the Maldives.

- **Within shoulder season, what are the cheapest months?**

The most affordable months to visit the Maldives during shoulder season are September and October. These months generally feature lower rates on accommodations and travel, allowing savvy customers to experience this idyllic destination without breaking the bank.

However, it's important to note that prices may rise around the mid-October half-term holiday, particularly during the peak week. By planning trips either earlier in September or after this peak period in late October, travellers can take full advantage of the budget-friendly options while still enjoying the stunning beauty and unique offerings of the Maldives.

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Notes to editors

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