

Coronavirus Prevention at Amilla Maldives: FAQs

How safe is it to go on holiday to the Maldives in 2020?

At Amilla Maldives Resort and Residences, the health and safety of our guests and team members is our top priority. Our teams have stepped up our hygiene and safety measures in response to the pandemic for your peace of mind and safety. While there are no coronavirus cases in at Amilla Maldives, our team remains vigilant and continues to adhere to strict hygiene protocols. Fortunately, Amilla is a private island which is completely isolated from the general public. As such, we have complete control over who we permit to enter our resort and implement health screenings such as temperature checks of every staff member and guest on arrival and departure.

What precautionary measures does the resort have in place to prevent a possible coronavirus outbreak?

COVID-19 testing is conducted for all of our team members. We carry out no-touch temperature readings and implement 14-day post-arrival quarantine for any team members returning from leave to resume their roles at Amilla. Face masks have been made available along with hand sanitiser stations in all our common areas. Doorknobs, counter tops and other high touch areas are disinfected frequently. Team members have been instructed to wash their hands thoroughly every 30 minutes and have their temperatures taken daily. All guests and staff arriving on the island are required to declare their country of residence and recent travel history. Cutlery, crockery and glassware is disinfected frequently and baby chairs are sanitised after every use.

We have a comprehensive disinfection protocol in place as well as stocks of masks, hand sanitizer and disinfectant. Experienced doctors and nurses are present on the island to attend to any concerns and also to answer any questions you may have.

What kind of physical distancing does the resort have?

Amilla is a large island with a small number of rooms and extensive private facilities at each Villa and Residence. There is also a large amount of space between each Villa and Residence. So it is easy for us to ensure all our guests have sufficient space between them. We are utilising our outdoor dining spaces as much as possible and have increased spaces between tables. Breakfast is a la carte or delivered to guest villas (check out our luxurious Floating Breakfasts option!). We are encouraging in-villa for all meals by removing the delivery charge. This helps reduce risk factors even further. All our Villas and Residences are beautiful indoor and outdoor spaces for dining in private. The Residences even feature private kitchens and BBQ terraces.

How else is Amilla Maldives reducing the risk of coronavirus transmission over surfaces and human touch?

We have a COVID-19 hygiene committee which looks in detail at every aspect of reducing risks. We have substituted handshakes for an alternative warm welcome. We are also directing guests to browse menus via their own mobile phones. Bills and any other documents can be reviewed at the end of your stay.

What is your protocol if a guest is suspected of having the virus while at the resort?

Any guest with a suspected case of COVID-19 will be escorted by a trained team member to a dedicated quarantine on the island while the resort contacts the local health authority. Contact tracing will be conducted within the resort and appropriate measures will be taken, in accordance with the guidelines stipulated by Maldivian government.

What should I do if there's a confirmed case of another guest with COVID-19 while I'm staying at the resort?

We will maintain close contact with the local authorities to ensure close monitoring of the situation and will take appropriate action according to their guidance.

I am going on a holiday to a country with no cases of coronavirus before I visit the Maldives, but what if a case is confirmed while I'm on holiday there?

Read the travel advisory by the country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs before leaving for your holiday and register with them to receive updates so that you are always aware of any developments. If a case of the virus is confirmed while you're on holiday in another country, follow the instructions of the local authorities there and email or call us if you will need to postpone your visit to the Maldives to a later date.

Do you have COVID-19 testing and quarantine facilities?

There are COVID-19 testing and quarantine facilities in Male' and we have a dedicated quarantine room at Amilla. We are well prepared and equipped to deal with any emergency situation including an outbreak of COVID-19. The Maldives has several state and private hospitals and at Eydhafushi (the neighbouring island to Amilla) there is a 20-bed ICU available, which was never used even during the height of the pandemic.

What if I want to cancel my reservation?

We want to help you by remaining as flexible as possible for all bookings outside of the festive period. Please contact our reservations staff directly and we will look to alleviate any concerns that you may have.

What if I become sick while staying at Amilla?

If you are staying with us and develop any symptoms such as sore throat, headache, fever, shortness of breath or feel unwell in any way it's imperative that you remain in your room and phone the General Manager and or Resort Doctor immediately.

What will happen if a guest shows symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19?

We have set up five quarantine rooms for guest showing symptoms or testing positive and will conduct contact tracing to ensure the safety and protection of everyone on the island.

What is I am suspected of showing coronavirus symptoms at Velana International airport?

If you show a high temperature upon arrival in the Maldives, you will be required to undertake a PCR test (nasal swab). The cost of the test will be borne by the resort. You will be temporarily held in quarantine facilities at the airport. If you do test positive, you will be transferred to a government quarantine facility on its own dedicated island. In this case, the resort will take care of your expenses and we will issue a credit voucher for your return to Amilla Maldives.

Scuba Diving and Covid-19

Amilla's dive centre is vigilantly following PADI and WRSTC Covid-19 guidelines regarding sanitation of scuba equipment and areas, check-in procedures, temperature checks and social distancing. If you have recovered from Covid-19 we politely request for your own safety that you undergo a medical examination and present a letter from a doctor/pulmonary specialist to us to certify it's okay for you to scuba. This is because anyone who's had Covid-19 may still be suffering from prolonged damage, even if their health appears to have returned to normal. Please read on for more details.

What is Amilla's Dive Centre doing to reduce risks of Covid-19?

The health and safety of our divers is our top priority. Amilla's Dive Centre team has been fully briefed on the most [recent PADI](#) and [WRSTC protocols](#) for Covid-19 prevention. Our staff are trained in Covid-19 disinfection techniques for scuba equipment, wetsuits and communal areas. We have also revised our check-in procedures, which include temperature checks. In addition, we have limited the number of guests on each dive boat to increase physical distancing between guests on our vessels.

I've recovered from Covid-19. Can I scuba dive at Amilla?

We're sorry to hear you had Covid-19. You might be able to dive at Amilla but before you come to the Maldives, you'll first need to see a doctor trained in dive medicine for an assessment. This is for your own safety, since many people who've had Covid-19 can have pulmonary damage, even they had mild symptoms and/or appear to have returned to normal health. This damage could put you at higher risk of lung barotrauma injuries while scuba diving, so we want to ensure you're fit to dive before you dive with us. None of our dive centre staff can offer guests medical advice. But the [Divers Alert Network \(DAN\)](#) can help advise you on finding a qualified dive doctor in your area. If your doctor says it's safe for you to dive, that's great news. Please bring the statement from the doctor with you to present to dive centre staff. On the standard PADI medical statement everybody fills in and signs before a dive, you'll need to tick "yes" in the box under the question, "have you ever had to do you currently have any form of lung disease?". Then we'll arrange for the Resort Doctor to see you and give approval for you to dive.

I have more questions regarding your COVID-19 management plan. Who can I contact?

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