



**SQMV-NS 001**

**01 February 2018**

## **SILKAIR MOUNTS MORE FLIGHTS FROM MALDIVES**

SilkAir will be operating four additional weekly flights to Maldives from 27 March 2018. Together with Singapore Airlines, there will be a total of 18 weekly flights to Maldives.

SilkAir launched its inaugural flight to Maldives in October 2015, starting with a four times weekly frequency, before increasing to daily flights from October 2016. With the upcoming additional flights in March, SilkAir will be operating 11 times weekly to Maldives, reinforcing its strong confidence in inbound travel to Maldives.

With 18 weekly flights, passengers will now have more opportunities to connect to over 130 destinations in the combined Singapore Airlines, SilkAir and Scoot network. These additional flights will provide more options for a seamless connection to several destinations, including Adelaide, Perth, Wellington, Canberra, Shanghai and Tokyo.

Adil Moosa, Managing Director of Maldives Airport Company Limited, welcomed the additional flights, saying it will offer an excellent increase in connectivity for international visitors to Maldives and to the many well-known resorts which Maldives is famous for. Velana International Airport (VIA) is currently going through an investment of over USD 1 billion to transform VIA into a world class airport and we are looking for future growth of airline business in the coming years.

“To hear that this level of frequency is going to become part of their year-round schedule from 27<sup>th</sup> March is very good news. The SilkAir service has grown in strength since it commenced in October 2015 with four return flights per week. It attracts Chinese, South East Asians, Japanese and Australian passengers, which account for almost 40 per cent of all international visitors to Maldives”

SilkAir’s Chief Executive, Mr Foo Chai Woo, said: “The Maldives is a popular travel destination offering great beauty both above and below the water, with its stunning white sand beaches and equally beautiful underwater world. We are glad to be able to join the Singapore Airlines Group network to bring travellers from around the world to this picturesque island destination. We are confident that passenger traffic to Maldives will continue to grow steadily with the additional flights.”

Details of flight numbers and schedules for services between Singapore and Male are as follows (timings listed are local):

#### Services from 27 March 2018

<b>Singapore (SIN) to Male (MLE) Flights</b>				
<b>Flight</b>	<b>Days of Operation</b>	<b>Departure</b>	<b>Arrival</b>	<b>Operated by</b>
MI482	Daily	SIN 1005	MLE 1150	SilkAir
MI484	Tue Wed Thu Sat	SIN 1100	MLE 1235	SilkAir
SQ452	Daily	SIN 2045	MLE 2210	Singapore Airlines

<b>Male (MLE) to Singapore (SIN) Flights</b>				
<b>Flight</b>	<b>Days of Operation</b>	<b>Departure</b>	<b>Arrival</b>	<b>Operated by</b>
MI481	Daily	MLE 1250	SIN 2040	SilkAir
MI483	Tue Wed Thu Sat	MLE 1335	SIN 2140	SilkAir
SQ451	Daily	MLE 2325	SIN 0710 +1	Singapore Airlines

\* END \*

## About SilkAir

As the regional wing of Singapore Airlines, SilkAir operates the Singapore Airlines Group's narrowbody fleet and extends the Group network by seeding and developing new, exciting destinations in Asia Pacific.

The airline took to the skies in February 1989 as Tradewinds the Airline, before evolving into SilkAir in 1992. In its early days, the airline catered to passengers holidaying in exotic destinations in the region, including Phuket and Tioman. As the carrier developed, regional business destinations such as Phnom Penh, Yangon and Kuala Lumpur were added.

Today, the full service airline operates about 400 weekly flights to 52 destinations in 16 countries. Recent additions to the network include Colombo (Apr 2017) and Hiroshima (Oct 2017). The airline currently has a fleet of 33 aircraft, comprising 3 Airbus A319s, 10 Airbus 320s, 17 Boeing 737-800s and 3 Boeing 737 MAX 8.

For more details on SilkAir, visit [silkair.com](http://silkair.com) or <http://www.facebook.com/SilkAir>

For further information, please contact:

### **SilkAir Branding and Communications Department**

Tel: (65) 6540-6497

Email: [SilkAir\\_PA@singaporeair.com.sg](mailto:SilkAir_PA@singaporeair.com.sg)

Website: [silkair.com](http://silkair.com)

Facebook.com/SilkAir 

Instagram.com/SilkAir 

Twitter.com/SilkAir 

MyNewsDesk.com/sg/pressroom/SilkAir 

## **About Maldives Airports Company Ltd**

Maldives Airports Company Limited (MACL) is a 100% government owned limited liability company incorporated under the Companies Act of the Rep of Maldives. MACL is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Privatisation & Corporatisation Board of the Maldives. The Corporate Office of MACL is on the island of Hulhule', Republic of Maldives

Maldives Airports Company is the operator of Velana International Airport and has been massively involved in destination marketing and bringing in new airlines to the Maldives to boost up the tourism industry. MACL has embarked on one of the biggest projects in the history of Maldives in developing the future Velana International Airport such as the development of a brand new international passenger terminal, a new code F runway, a new cargo terminal complex and a new fuel farm along with hydrant system and major infrastructure developments at Velana internationals Airport.

For further information, please contact

Mr. Hassan Areef  
Associate General Manager – Corporate Communication,  
Maldives Airport Company Ltd  
Email: [hassan.areef@macl.aero](mailto:hassan.areef@macl.aero)  
Website: [www.macl.aero](http://www.macl.aero)  
Twitter: @MACLmedia