

General Notice No. 359 of 2023

GUIDELINES FOR SPA (OUTSIDE HOTEL PREMISES)

1. Definition of Spa

A place which offers treatment and other related services devoted to enhancing and relaxing the overall well-being of a person in a nurturing, safe, clean and serene atmosphere.

2. Location

The spa shall be preferably located in an area that is easily accessible to any guest, including persons with disabilities.

3. Staff

- a. There shall be adequate number of well-groomed and courteous staff.
- b. All staff involved in the administration of treatments shall hold the relevant certification(s) with respect to the proposed spa therapies.
- c. Staff who perform advanced techniques and/or use advanced technology shall be appropriately trained and certified and shall comply with the manufacturer's instructions and guidelines.
- d. During operating hours, at least one member of staff shall be holder of a valid first aid certificate from a recognized institution.
- e. All staff shall wear clean and proper uniform at all times.

4. Waiting area

- a. The spa shall have a waiting area which shall accommodate:
 - i. A reception counter/desk attended by qualified staff;
 - ii. Adequate and comfortable seating facilities for the guests (which shall be commensurate with the size of the spa);
 - iii. Up-to-date reading materials such as magazines and newspapers;
 - iv. Spa Menu list clearly setting out the services and treatment products provided and applicable rates (in Mauritian Rupees and any other currency);
 - v. Medical sheet with disclaimer, including enquiry for allergies as well as current and past health history;
 - vi. Provision of drinking water facilities and a selection of herbal tea;
 - vii. A logbook (in hard or soft copy) to register clients' visits, including the names, national identity card number and contact details of clients;
 - viii. Soft background music (optional).
- b. The waiting area shall be appropriately lit with soothing light effects.
- c. The waiting area shall be well ventilated to provide a serene atmosphere.
- d. Eco-friendly diffusers or alternative means to ensure a soothing scent at all times.
- e. The waiting area shall reflect the theme/ concept of the spa (optional).
- f. The reception/waiting areas shall be covered by CCTV cameras and footage shall be stored for at least 30 days from date of recording.

5. Treatments/Related Services

- a. Spa services or treatments include different types of massage (such as swedish, thai, lymphatic drainage and reflexology, etc.) and body treatments (such as body packs and wraps, exfoliation, cellulite, body toning/contouring, etc.).

- b. Services such as laser facelift, carbon/chemical peeling, permanent make-up, microdermabrasion, among others, are **not** included.

6. Treatment Rooms (Cabins)

- a. The minimum number of treatment rooms shall be two, one being a double cabin.
- b. The dimension of treatment rooms shall be of a minimum size of 8 m² for a single treatment room and 14 m² for a double treatment room (excluding toilet/bathroom) except for existing licensees.
- c. At least one treatment room shall be accessible to a person with disabilities.
- d. The treatment rooms shall be properly ventilated by way of natural or mechanical ventilation so as to eliminate any odour. The use of air purifiers is recommended.
- e. Hot and cold running water must be provided for showers and wash basins.
- f. There shall be at least one water treatment such as water jets, bathtubs, steam room, hammam, sauna, water baths and aqua massage. The steam, sauna and water baths shall be maintained to an optimum level of temperature. Fish spa shall **not** be considered as a water treatment.
- g. Safety signs shall include information on the maximum temperature allowed, the duration of stay and a guide for the operation of the temperature regulator of the different services.
- h. The following shall be provided:
 - i. Clean and large 100% cotton towels to be provided and replaced by fresh ones after use by a customer;
 - ii. Adjustable light depending on preference of customer;
 - iii. Hand sanitizer;
 - iv. Massage treatment table/couch (depending on the type of massage);
 - v. Accessories such as soap, slippers, towels, bath robes, disposable panties and hygienic pads (optional);
 - vi. Soothing and appropriate music;
 - vii. 'Do not disturb' signs.

7. Changing rooms/ toilets/shower

- a. There shall be:
 - i. at least two changing rooms, with toilet and shower, one for male and one for female;
 - ii. Lockers for the use of guests and commensurate with the number of guests;
 - iii. Full length mirror in each changing room, for male and female;
 - iv. Adequate and proper lighting;
 - v. Provision of shower gel and shampoo;
 - vi. Basket bins to dispose of used towels;
 - vii. Pedal operated bins in ladies' toilet;
 - viii. Disposable shower caps (preferably) made of biodegradable materials and to be made available upon request only, to avoid wastage;
 - ix. Disposable panties (preferably packed in biodegradable material);
 - x. A weight scale shall be provided upon request.
- b. Shower cubicle shall be free from hazards, with non-slippery flooring.
- c. A good natural ventilation system to be preferred over artificial ventilation.
- d. The changing rooms shall be accessible to a person with disability.
- e. There shall be controlled access to changing and locker rooms.

8. Linen

- a. A clean set of linen shall be provided for each guest.
- b. The linen shall be properly washed to remove any odour and traces of oil/ products.

9. Treatment products

- a. The licensee shall ensure that all products used are of high standard.
- b. Proper labeling with the name of the manufacturer and ingredients shall be displayed on all products.
- c. The licensee shall ensure that no expired items are used.

10. Decor

- a. The decor shall be in harmony with the theme of the spa and well maintained.
- b. The exterior (where applicable) shall complement the natural environment.

11. Maintenance

- a. The spa shall be kept clean, well-maintained and shall comply with all sanitary measures of the Ministry of Health and Wellness.
- b. Records shall be kept of all maintenance works effected at the spa.
- c. Pest control shall be carried out at regular intervals of two months.

12. Parking

Provision of parking shall be in line with the requirements of the local authorities.

13. Insurance

The licensee shall hold an insurance cover as requested by the Tourism Authority.

14. Illicit activities

The licensee shall ensure that no illicit activities are carried out within the premises.

15. Sanitary measures

The licensee shall comply with all sanitary measures in force or as may be directed by the Ministry of Health and Wellness or the Tourism Authority, in order to avoid risks of contamination during any pandemic.

16. Others

- a. Minors below the age of 3 shall not be allowed in a spa.
- b. Minors aged from 3-12 shall not be allowed in the spa unless accompanied by parents.
- c. Minors aged from 13-17 in the spa can be allowed in the spa without their parents for individual treatments only, provided written parental consent has been obtained.
- d. First Aid kit (with no expired items) shall be readily available.
- e. The operator of the spa shall ensure that all equipment used are disinfected after each treatment.

17. Restrictions

No person shall use the word 'spa' in any form of advertisement unless he is holder of a Tourist Enterprise Licence authorising that person to operate a spa.

18. Clearances/Licenses/Permits

The following clearances/licenses/permits are prerequisites for the issue of a Tourist Enterprise Licence:—

- i. Building and Land Use Permit for spa from respective Local Authorities;

- ii. Fire Certificate issued by Fire Services; and
- iii. Health Clearance issued by the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

09 January 2023

Ministry of Tourism/Tourism Authority

General Notice No. 360 of 2023

HIGH RISK COUNTRY

Identification of high risk country by the Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance under section 17H(1) of the Financial Intelligence and Anti-Money Laundering Act

1. Section 17H(1) of the Financial Intelligence and Anti-Money Laundering Act (Act) provides that where a jurisdiction is identified by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) as having significant or strategic deficiencies in its anti-money laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism and proliferation measures (AML/CFT measures), the Minister to whom responsibility for the subject of money laundering is assigned (Minister) may, on the recommendation of the National Committee for Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism (National Committee) identify that jurisdiction as a high risk country.
2. On 21 October 2022, FATF issued the following statement: “High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to call for action”.
3. In the light of the jurisdictions identified by FATF in the statement, the Minister has, on the recommendation of the National Committee, identified the following countries as high risk countries -
 - Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) – unchanged since February 2020
 - Iran – unchanged since February 2020
 - Myanmar since 21 October 2022
4. Reporting Persons are reminded that they are required, under section 17H(2) of the Act, to apply such enhanced due diligence measures which are prescribed in the Financial Intelligence and Anti-Money Laundering Regulations 2018 with respect to business relationships or transactions involving those high risk countries. In addition, reporting persons shall, where applicable and proportionate to the risks, apply one or more of the following additional mitigating measures to persons and legal entities carrying out transactions involving those high risk countries –
 - (a) the application of additional elements of enhanced due diligence;
 - (b) the introduction of enhanced relevant reporting mechanisms or systematic reporting of financial transactions;
 - (c) the limitation of business relationships or transactions with natural persons or legal entities from those high risk countries.
5. Against this background, reporting persons shall –
 - (a) consult the FATF public documents which are published on the website of the FATF (<https://www.fatf-gafi.org/>) at least 3 times a year, namely in February, June and October, and apply the countermeasures recommended by the FATF in those documents;
 - (b) give special attention to business relationships and transactions with persons (both natural and legal persons) in those high risk countries, including companies, legal arrangements/trusts and financial institutions based in those countries;
 - (c) strengthen systems and controls in managing their exposure to the vulnerabilities identified by FATF; and