Eydhafushi, Baa Atoll: a complete island guide

Eydhafushi, Baa Atoll

The capital of Baa Atoll.

ISLAND	ATOLL
Eydhafushi	**Baa Atoll**
NEAREST AIRPORT	ATOLL CAPITAL
Dharavandhoo (DRV), 20 min flight from Malé	**Eydhafushi**
CURRENCY	LANGUAGE
Maldivian Rufiyaa	**Dhivehi, English widely used**

Complete travel guide - 2026 / 2027 Edition

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Your complete guide to Eydhafushi, Baa Atoll

1. Welcome to Eydhafushi
2. Essential facts
3. Getting there
4. History and heritage
5. How the island lives
6. On the island
7. Before you go
8. When to visit
9. Around the atoll

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1. WELCOME TO EYDHAFUSHI

The capital of Baa Atoll.

Fishing was the historic mainstay. Today people work in the resorts and in construction, and the island has more than twenty shops and markets serving the whole atoll - food, hardware, electronics, building materials, fabric, boutiques and even car showrooms.

2. ESSENTIAL FACTS

Atoll	Baa Atoll (B)
Population	2,581 (2022 census)
Size	57 hectares after the 2015 reclamation, 1.22 km long and 600 m wide
Distance from Malé	114 km northwest of Malé
Atoll capital	Eydhafushi
Nearest airport	Dharavandhoo (DRV), 20 min flight from Malé
Language	Dhivehi; English is widely understood where there are guesthouses
Religion	Sunni Islam. This is an inhabited island, so alcohol is not sold and modest dress is expected away from the tourist beach.
Currency	Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR); US dollars are accepted by most guesthouses
Time zone	UTC+5, no daylight saving

3. GETTING THERE

Regular ferries and speedboats link it to the other islands of the atoll and to Malé. The nearest airport is Dharavandhoo, a short boat ride away, with flights to Malé.

Reaching Baa Atoll from Malé: no direct public ferry; scheduled speedboat 4 days a week, or fly to Dharavandhoo in 20 min.

4. HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Little is known of its early history; the present community is relatively recent, with islanders from nearby settling here between the 17th and 19th centuries. In 1968 the people of Maaddoo, Funadhoo and Undoodhoo were moved here under government supervision.

5. HOW THE ISLAND LIVES

Fishing was the historic mainstay. Today people work in the resorts and in construction, and the island has more than twenty shops and markets serving the whole atoll - food, hardware, electronics, building materials, fabric, boutiques and even car showrooms.

6. ON THE ISLAND

Baa Atoll Education Centre, the first government school built outside Malé, opened on 24 February 1978 and teaches to grade 12. Baa Atoll Hospital provides general and some specialist care, alongside private clinics.

7. BEFORE YOU GO

Dharavandhoo and the Goidhoo islands have bikini beaches. No alcohol on the islands. Hanifaru Bay is a protected area - you may snorkel only, with a licensed guide, in timed groups. No diving and no fins-first entries.

Inhabited islands follow local rules rather than resort rules. Swimwear belongs on the designated tourist beach only, alcohol is not sold, and shops and offices pause for about fifteen minutes at each of the five daily prayers.

Bring cash in small notes. Card acceptance is patchy outside the larger islands, and not every island has an ATM.

8. WHEN TO VISIT

Mantas at Hanifaru from May to November, peaking July to September - the opposite of the usual Maldives advice

9. AROUND THE ATOLL

This island is part of Baa Atoll. The atoll guide covers every inhabited island and every resort island in it, how the ferries run, and what the atoll is known for.

Everything in this guide is bookable with local Maldivian operators.

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