MAGIC MALDIVES · TRAVEL GUIDE

Faafu Atoll

One of the smallest and least visited atolls, with an important archaeological site.

CAPITAL ISLAND **Nilandhoo**	INHABITED ISLANDS **5**
FROM MALé **no public ferry and no scheduled speedboat —**	BEST MONTHS **January to April**
AIRPORT **None in the atoll; nearest is Dhaalu (DDD)**	

Known for

The Nilandhoo Foamathi ruins — a pre-Islamic temple site, among the oldest archaeological remains in the Maldives.

About Faafu Atoll

Faafu is small, quiet and hard to reach. Come for the archaeology and the emptiness, not for facilities.

Getting here

There is neither a public ferry from Malé nor a scheduled speedboat. Realistically that means a private charter of two and a half to three and a half hours across open ocean, or a flight to neighbouring Dhaalu and a boat from there. Plan this before you fly to the Maldives, not after.

Highlights

- Nilandhoo Foamathi — pre-Islamic ruins, among the oldest in the country
- Reefs that see essentially no tourist traffic
- No airport in the atoll, so arrival needs planning

Getting there and getting around

Domestic flight, then boat

From Malé: no public ferry and no scheduled speedboat — private charter only, 2.5–3.5 hrs open ocean

There is no practical public ferry from Malé. The realistic route is a domestic flight, then a short boat transfer.

On a local island

Almost no tourism infrastructure. Arrange everything in advance. No alcohol on the islands.

Common questions

How do you get to Faafu Atoll?

There is no public ferry and no scheduled speedboat from Malé. You need a private charter, which is a long open-ocean crossing, or a flight to Dhaalu followed by a boat.