MAGIC MALDIVES · TRAVEL GUIDE

Haa Alif Atoll

The far north, closer to India than to the southern Maldives, with fourteen inhabited islands and very few visitors.

CAPITAL ISLAND **Dhidhdhoo**	INHABITED ISLANDS **14**
FROM MALé **no ferry from Malé; fly to Hanimaadhoo or**	BEST MONTHS **January to March; the north is the driest part**
AIRPORT **Hanimaadhoo (HAQ) and Hoarafushi (HRF)**	

Known for

Utheemu Ganduvaru — the wooden palace of the sultan who drove out the Portuguese in 1573.

About Haa Alif Atoll

Haa Alif is the northern tip of the country. It has real history, real villages and almost no visitors.

Getting here

There is no ferry from Malé — the network is regional and this is the furthest zone from the capital. Fly to Hanimaadhoo or Hoarafushi.

Utheemu

The wooden palace on Utheemu is the birthplace of Sultan Mohamed Thakurufaanu, who ended Portuguese rule in 1573. It is one of the few pre-modern buildings in the Maldives you can still walk through.

Highlights

- Utheemu Ganduvaru — a preserved 16th-century wooden palace
- Fourteen inhabited islands and almost no tourism
- The driest corner of the Maldives

Getting there and getting around

Domestic flight, then boat

From Malé: no ferry from Malé; fly to Hanimaadhoo or Hoarafushi

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

On a local island

A small guesthouse scene on a handful of islands. Confirm arrangements with your guesthouse in advance. No alcohol on the islands.

Common questions

Is there a ferry from Malé to Haa Alif?

No. The public ferry network runs within regions and Haa Alif is the furthest region from Malé. Fly to Hanimaadhoo or Hoarafushi.