Dharanboodhoo, Faafu Atoll: a complete island guide

Dharanboodhoo, Faafu Atoll

Everything worth knowing about Dharanboodhoo in Faafu Atoll - how to get there, what is on the island and what to expect.

ISLAND
Dharanboodhoo

ATOLL
Faafu Atoll

NEAREST AIRPORT
None in the atoll; nearest is Dhaalu (DDD)

ATOLL CAPITAL
Nilandhoo

CURRENCY
Maldivian Rufiyaa

LANGUAGE
Dhivehi, English widely used

Complete travel guide - 2026 / 2027 Edition

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Your complete guide to Dharanboodhoo, Faafu Atoll

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1. WELCOME TO DHARANBOODHOO

Dharanboodhoo is one of the inhabited islands of Faafu Atoll.

2. ESSENTIAL FACTS

Atoll	Faafu Atoll (F)
Population	455 (2022 census)
Size	1.3 km long and 400 m wide
Distance from Malé	139 km southwest of Malé
Atoll capital	Nilandhoo
Nearest airport	None in the atoll; nearest is Dhaalu (DDD)
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

Reaching Faafu Atoll from Malé: no public ferry and no scheduled speedboat - private charter only, 2.5-3.5 hrs open ocean.

4. BEFORE YOU GO

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

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.

5. WHEN TO VISIT

January to April

6. AROUND THE ATOLL

This island is part of Faafu 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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