Dhevvadhoo, Gaafu Alif Atoll: a complete island guide

Dhevvadhoo, Gaafu Alif Atoll

A sizeable round island almost in the centre of Huvadhu Atoll.

ISLAND	ATOLL
Dhevvadhoo	**Gaafu Alif Atoll**
NEAREST AIRPORT	ATOLL CAPITAL
Kooddoo (GKK)	**Viligili**
CURRENCY	LANGUAGE
Maldivian Rufiyaa	**Dhivehi, English widely used**

Complete travel guide - 2026 / 2027 Edition

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Your complete guide to Dhevvadhoo, Gaafu Alif Atoll

1. Welcome to Dhevvadhoo
2. Essential facts
3. Getting there
4. History and heritage
5. What there is for visitors
6. Before you go
7. When to visit
8. Around the atoll

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1. WELCOME TO DHEVVADHOO

A sizeable round island almost in the centre of Huvadhu Atoll.

Several unexcavated mounds survive, including Dhevvadhoo Usgadu on the northeast, about 87 m from the shore and measuring 61 by 29 m. None of them have been properly investigated.

2. ESSENTIAL FACTS

Atoll	Gaafu Alif Atoll (GA)
Population	505 (2014 census)
Size	600 m long and 520 m wide
Distance from Malé	401 km south of Malé
Atoll capital	Viligili
Nearest airport	Kooddoo (GKK)
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 Gaafu Alif Atoll from Malé: no public ferry; fly to Kooddoo in about 65 min.

4. HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Some of the old kings of the Maldives traced their ancestry to families of this island, among them Dhevvadhoo Rasgefaanu, Al-Sultan Mohamed Ibn Haji Ali Thukkalaa, who ruled from 1692 to 1701. There are many Buddhist remains, which suggests it was an important island in that period.

5. WHAT THERE IS FOR VISITORS

Several unexcavated mounds survive, including Dhevvadhoo Usgadu on the northeast, about 87 m from the shore and measuring 61 by 29 m. None of them have been properly investigated.

6. BEFORE YOU GO

Small guesthouse scene. Arrange transfers in advance - distances inside Huvadhu are large. 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.

7. WHEN TO VISIT

The far south is wetter overall; February to April is the driest stretch

8. AROUND THE ATOLL

This island is part of Gaafu Alif 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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