Angolhitheemu, Raa Atoll: a complete island guide

Angolhitheemu, Raa Atoll

Most of the registered population lives in Malé or on other islands.

ISLAND	ATOLL
Angolhitheemu	**Raa Atoll**
NEAREST AIRPORT	ATOLL CAPITAL
Ifuru (IFU)	**Ungoofaaru**
CURRENCY	LANGUAGE
Maldivian Rufiyaa	**Dhivehi, English widely used**

Complete travel guide - 2026 / 2027 Edition

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Your complete guide to Angolhitheemu, Raa Atoll

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Magic Maldives

1. WELCOME TO ANGOLHITHEEMU

Most of the registered population lives in Malé or on other islands.

People work either in resort jobs or government jobs, while most of the women earn locally.

2. ESSENTIAL FACTS

Atoll	Raa Atoll (R)
Population	373 (2014 census, including foreign residents)
Size	34 hectares, 850 m long and 500 m wide
Distance from Malé	187 km north of Malé
Atoll capital	Ungoofaaru
Nearest airport	Ifuru (IFU)
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 Raa Atoll from Malé: no public ferry; scheduled speedboat about 3.5 hrs, four mornings a week.

4. HISTORY AND HERITAGE

This is considered one of the islands where the earliest settlers of the Maldives lived. Koimala, a prince presumed to have come from South India, sailed here with his Sinhalese wife and ships of slaves and treasure, stopping first at Rasgetheemu with his slaves settled on Angolhitheemu; the king is said to have named the two islands King's Island and Slaves Island.

5. HOW THE ISLAND LIVES

People work either in resort jobs or government jobs, while most of the women earn locally.

6. BEFORE YOU GO

Small guesthouse scene. Bikini beaches exist on the tourist islands but are not universal - check with your guesthouse before you book. 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

January to March; the north is drier than the national average

8. AROUND THE ATOLL

This island is part of Raa 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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