

# Baa Atoll, Maldives

A UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of 75 coral islands, Baa Atoll is home to Hanifaru Bay — one of Earth's greatest manta ray and whale shark feeding grounds. No cruise terminal here: just open turquoise water, a tender ride, and one of the most biodiverse reefs on the planet.

 Tender port (no pier)  Typical call: 6-8 hrs  MVR / USD accepted at resorts  Dhivehi & English

 Best May–Nov for mantas

## MY DAY IN PORT

|                  |               |                   |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Ship/Date: _____ | Arrive: _____ | All aboard: _____ |
| Excursion: _____ | Notes: _____  |                   |

## GETTING ASHORE

**Docking:** Anchor & tender — no cruise terminal in Baa Atoll

**UNESCO Status:** Biosphere Reserve since 2011; 250 coral species, 1,200 fish species

**Best For:** Manta ray & whale shark encounters at Hanifaru Bay

**Don't Miss:** Hanifaru Bay snorkel; lacquerwork at Thulhaadhoo island

 Getting around:

## TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Hanifaru Bay Manta Ray Snorkel** — Snorkel alongside hundreds of manta rays — and sometimes whale sharks — at this legendary protected feeding ground.
- **Scuba Diving — Thilas & Channels** — Baa Atoll has 30+ dive sites including Dhigali Haa, Nelivaru Haa, and Muthafushi Thila — dramatic coral formations...
- **Island Hop — Thulhaadhoo & Local Villages** — Thulhaadhoo is renowned across the Maldives for its traditional lacquerwork (laajehun).
- **Sunset Dolphin & Whale Watching Cruise** — Spinner dolphins are a near-daily sight in Baa Atoll's deep channels, especially at dusk.
- **Private Sandbank Picnic** — Temporary white-sand banks appear between tidal cycles throughout the atoll.

## BEST WALKS

- **Eydhafushi Town Wander** 30–45 min | Easy | Flat — Eydhafushi is the administrative capital of Baa Atoll.

## WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

|  CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS) |      |     |      |  DAYLIGHT &  MONEY |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Mon                                                                                                               | High | Low | Rain | Apr 6:01AM–6:14PM · Jun 5:55AM–6:20PM · Aug 6:03AM–6:20PM · Sep 5:58AM–6:07PM · Oct 5:53AM–5:53PM                                                                                          |  |
| Apr                                                                                                               | 84°  | 81° | 15d  |  MVR / USD accepted at resorts                                                                          |  |
| Jun                                                                                                               | 84°  | 81° | 18d  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| Aug                                                                                                               | 83°  | 80° | 18d  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| Sep                                                                                                               | 83°  | 79° | 19d  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| Oct                                                                                                               | 83°  | 79° | 22d  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |

## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Manta season matters: May to November (peak July–October) brings massive manta ray aggregations to Hanifaru Bay. Outside this window, sightings are possible but not guaranteed.
- Book excursions before sailing: Hanifaru Bay access is capped and permits are regulated. Shore excursion spots fill quickly —