

Earth Data Encyclopedia

Maldives Islands

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The Maldives Islands, the Asian country, is located in the Indian Ocean, 426 km southwest from Indian mainland. Its geolocation is from 0°42'17"S in south to 7°6'23"N in north, from 72°38'19"E in west to 73°45'35"E in east (Figure 1). Because of the location nearing the equator, most areas of the islands are in tropical monsoon climate environment, hot, humid and rainy. The tropical rainforest covers most southern area of the Islands. There are total 1,359 islands in 30 natural atolls and 20 administrative atolls, which distribute a long north-south.

The 30 natural atolls are: South Thiladhunmathee Atoll, Maamakunudhoo Atol, North Miladhunmadulu Atoll, South Miladhunmadulu Atoll, North Maalhosmadulu Atoll, Alifushi Atoll, Faadhippoihi Atoll, South Maalhosmadulu Atoll, Goldhoo Atoll, South Male Atoll, North Male Atoll, Gaafaru Atoll, Kaashidhoo Atoll, North Ali Atoll, Rasdhoo Atoll, Thoddoo Atoll, South Ali Atoll, Felidhu Atoll, Mulaku Atoll, North Nilandhu Atoll, South Nilandhu Atoll, Kolmuhadulu Atoll, Hahdhunmathee Atoll, North Huvadhoo Atoll, South Huvadhoo Atoll, Fuvahmulah Atoll, Addu Atoll, Ihawan-dhippolhu Atoll, North Thiladhunmathee Atoll and Vattaru Atoll.

There are 20 administrative atolls in Maldives; they are listed at the Table 1.

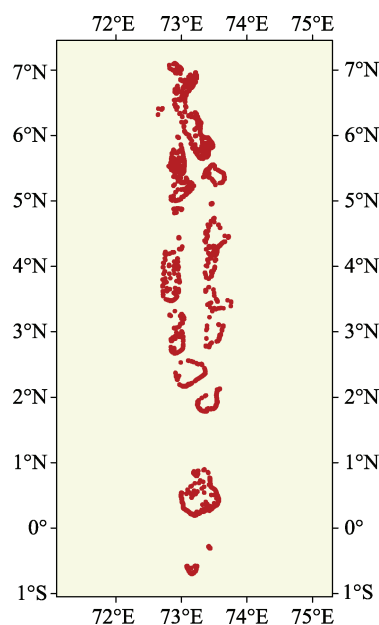


Figure 1 Coastline Data of Maldives Islands

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The total area of Maldives is 236.82 km², consisted of 1,359 islands. In which, three of them are larger than 4 km², 41 islands are larger than 1 km², 1,196 islands are larger than 2,500 m². The biggest island is the Gan Island, with the area of 6.99 km².

The dataset was developed based on integration among the Google Earth images in meter and related maps and records. The dataset is archived in both .kmz and .shp data formats with the compressed data size of 5.18 MB.

Table 1 Administrative Atolls of Maldives

	Administrative Atoll	Natural Atoll	Capital
1	Haa Alifu Atoll	Ihawandhippolhu Atoll	Dhidhdhoo
2	Haa Dhaalu Atoll	North Thiladhunmathee Atoll South Thiladhunmathee Atoll Maamakunudhoo Atoll	Kulhudhuffushi
3	Shaviyani Atoll	North Miladhunmadulu Atoll	Funadhoo
4	Noonu Atoll	South Miladhunmadulu Atoll	Manadhoo
5	Raa Atoll	North Maalhosmadulu Atoll Alifushi Atoll	Ugoofaaru
6	Lhaviyani Atoll	Faadhippoihi Atoll	Naifaru
7	Baa Atoll	South Maalhosmadulu Atoll	Eydhafushi
8	Kaafu Atoll	Goldhoo Atoll North Male Atoll South Male Atoll Gaafaru Atoll Kaashidhoo Atoll	Thulusdhoo
9	Alifu Alifu Atoll	Rasdhoo Atoll North Ali Atoll Thoddoo Atoll	Rasdhoo
10	Alifu Dhaalu Atoll	South Ali Atoll	Mahibadhoo
11	Vaavu Atoll	Felidhu Atoll Vattaru Atoll	Felidhoo
12	Meemu Atoll	Mulaku Atoll	Muli
13	Faafu Atoll	North Nilandhu Atoll	Magoodhoo
14	Dhaalu Atoll	South Nilandhu Atoll	Kudahuvadhoo
15	Thaa Atoll	Kolmuhadulu Atoll	Veymandhoo
16	Laamu Atoll	Hahdhunmathee Atoll	Fonadhoo
17	Gaafu Alifu Atoll	North Huvadhoo Atoll	Viligili
18	Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll	South Huvadhoo Atoll	Thinadhoo
19	Gnaviyani Atoll	Fuvahmulah Atoll	Fuvahmulah
20	Seenu Atoll	Addu Atoll	Hithadhoo
Maldives			Male