Bonaire - The Cliff

surveyed 2017-02-20



0 — 5

Coral Health Index: 1.00/5

What was done. No diver transect was run at this site. The figure is a blind Claude computer-vision point classification of 58 photographs by the author, read without sight of any other method's result; other computer-vision methods are compared on the site page. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs and of the author's dive notes, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

31%

Claude computer vision (58 edited photos) · median 28%

MOST RECENT HEAT LOAD RECORD

28.8°C **2.1°C-weeks**

26 Oct 2026 · +1.0°C vs the past-365-day mean (27.8°C) · NOAA Bleaching Warning

HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW)

17.3°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 16–20°C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

31.7 m

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

26.2°C

-1.6°C vs the 2017 mean sea temperature (27.8°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS

50 in the gallery · 61 on file

POSITION

12.1734, -68.2894

Position from the published dive-site listing for The Cliff; an online dive-site atlas places it 20 m away; no GPS fix was logged on the dive.





The Cliff is one of Bonaire's steep drop-off walls, thickly layered with plate, brain, and star corals, fire coral, and sea rods, with living elkhorn coral in the sandy shallows above. Two enormous tarpon (about 2 m long, Anderson's log), spotted morays, parrotfish, and grunts work the reef, which carries substantial live tissue apart from some old scars on the big colonies.

Nederlands. The Cliff is een van de steile wanden van Bonaire, dik bedekt met plaat-, hersen- en sterkoralen, vuurkoraal en zeestaven, met levend elandsgeweikoraal in het zandige ondiepe water erboven. Twee enorme tarpons (ongeveer 2 m lang, volgens het logboek van Anderson), gevlekte murenen, papegaaivissen en grombaarzen zoeken het rif af, dat veel levend weefsel draagt, afgezien van enkele oude littekens op de grote kolonies. *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative.*





CV model comparison (hard coral cover, %): CoralSCOP edited 27.8 · **Claude (edited photos) 30.5** CoralSCOP (edited photos) reads 27.8%, within 2.7 pp of Claude's blind point count (30.5%).

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 on this card; 50 in the gallery · 61 on file; watermarked · Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/bonaire-the-cliff.html · Heat stress is the mean of the latest five annual maxima of NOAA Coral Reef Watch degree-heating weeks for this reef's NOAA CRW virtual station (Aruba, Curacao, and Bonaire) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.