

Chagos Archipelago - Peros Banhos (BIPB112)

Peros Banhos · surveyed 2015-05-02



Coral Health Index: TBD

What was done. Coral cover here was measured on in-situ benthic transects run by divers on the [Living Oceans Foundation Global Reef Expedition](#) — a diver measurement, not an estimate read off photographs. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

45%

Benthic surveys

TODAY'S HEAT LOAD

28.9°C **0.0°C-weeks**

16 Sep 2026 · -0.1°C vs the annual mean (29.0 °C)
· NOAA No heat stress

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

4.4°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 4–8 °C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

30.9 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.8°C

+0.7°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (29.1°C)

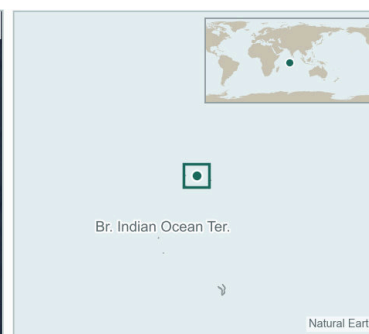
PHOTOGRAPHS

15

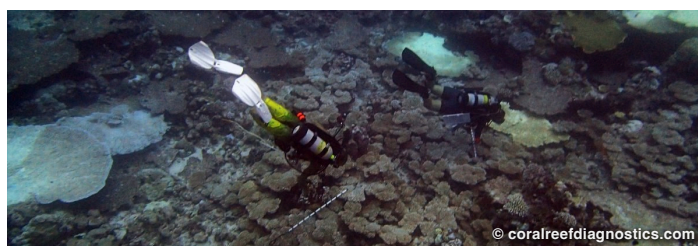
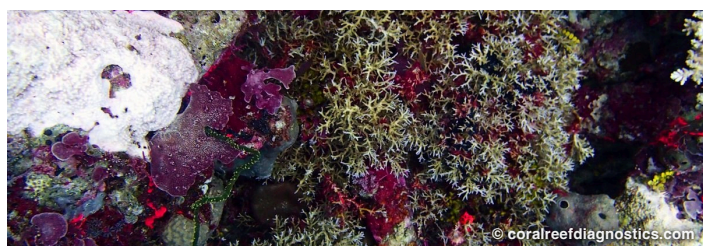
on file for this site

POSITION

-5.2373, 71.9620



An exposed outer forereef of Peros Banhos surveyed at 32.7 m, with 30 coral genera and *Acropora*-dominated shallows (45% cover) that hand over to *Porites* and *Montipora* deeper down. Bleaching is the headline: the canonical estimate of 38% is the highest of any Chagos site, and photos show meter-scale tables gone bone-white beside pigmented neighbors. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 45.0 · In-house DINOv3 44.3 · CoralSCOP edited 37.7 · Claude 28.7

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 15 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/grc-chagos-archipelago-peros-banhos-bipb112.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 (Chagos) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.