

Chagos Archipelago - Peros Banhos (BIPB61)

Peros Banhos · surveyed 2015-04-14



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

20%

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

30.2 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.9°C

+0.9°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (29.0°C)

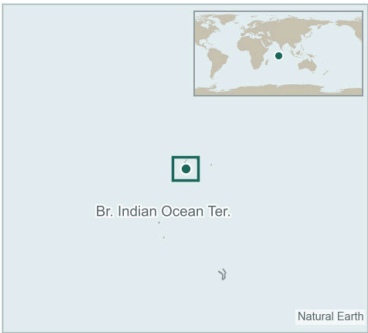
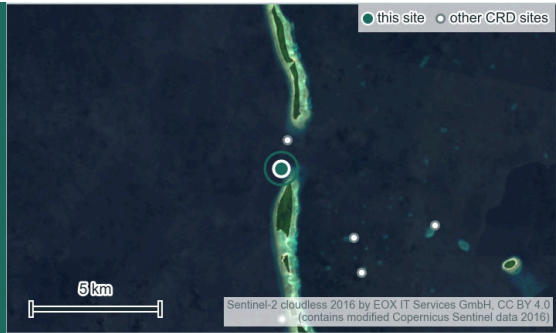
PHOTOGRAPHS

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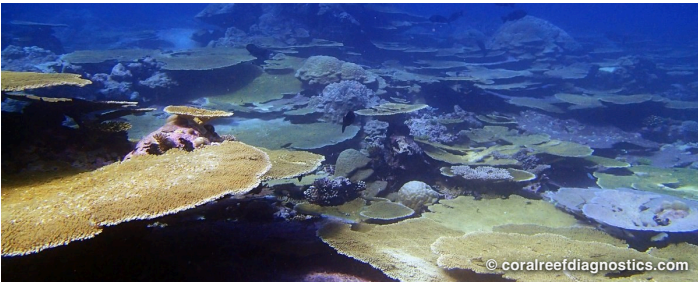
on file for this site

POSITION

-5.3912, 71.7497



A low-cover, algae-dominated channel forereef on the windward rim of Peros Banhos, with just 20% coral against 50% algae and the second-highest turf cover of all 109 Chagos sites. Its slopes carry dense stands of large yellow-green sea fans and whip corals, which the coral transects never recorded. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 20.0 · In-house DINOv3 22.1 · CoralSCOP edited 32.5 · Claude 17.0

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 28 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-peros-banhos-bipb61.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.