

# Chagos Archipelago - Peros Banhos (BIPB72)

Peros Banhos · 2 visits, 2015-04-18 – 2015-05-01



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**Coral Health Index: 2.75/5**

**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.

HARD CORAL COVER

**72%**

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

**21.2 m**

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

**30.3°C**

+1.2°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (29.1°C)

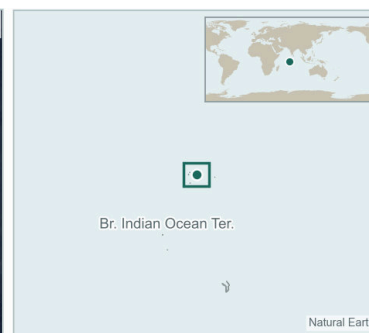
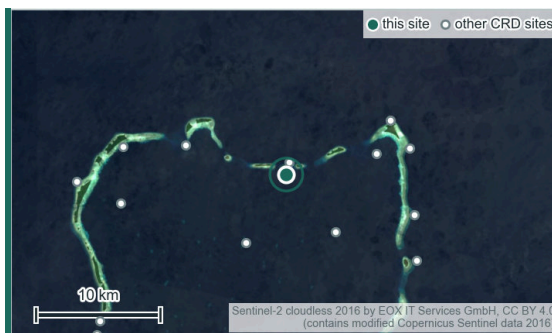
PHOTOGRAPHS

**49**

on file for this site

POSITION

**-5.2761, 71.8866**



A back-reef pinnacle inside the Peros Banhos lagoon with the second-highest coral cover of all 109 Chagos sites (72.4%). Bleaching jumped from 10% to 37.5% in 13 days, and one photo shows a near-continuous field of white table corals running to the limit of visibility, while *Pocillopora* slopes paled rather than turning fully white. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



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**CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %):** Transect (published) **72.4** · [CoralNet](#) 56.1 · In-house DINOv3 49.2 · CoralSCOP edited 39.9 · Claude 44.3

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 49 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-peros-banhos-bipb72.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.