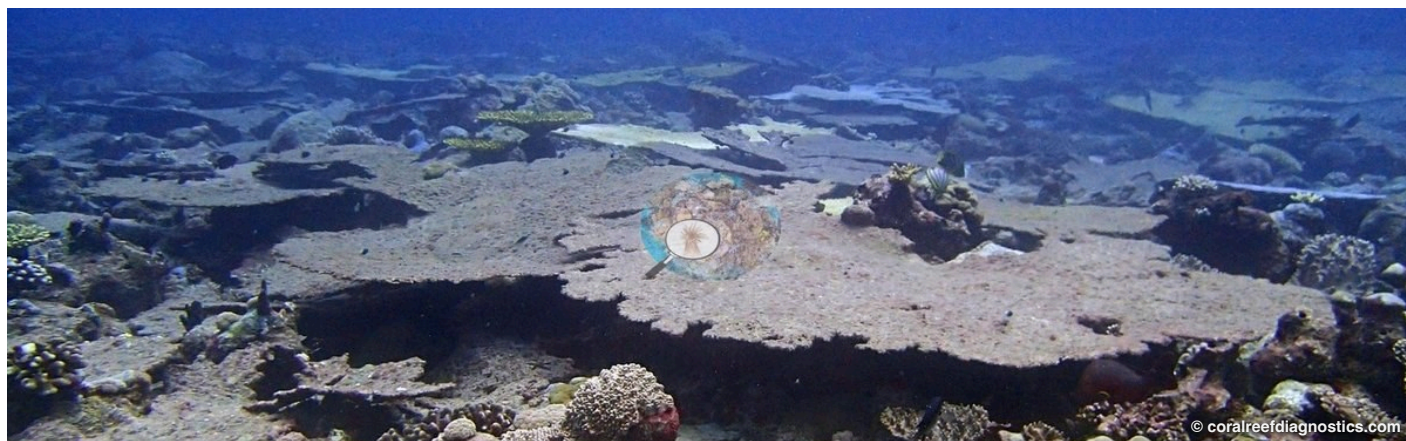


Chagos Archipelago - Peros Banhos (BIPB76)

Peros Banhos · surveyed 2015-04-19



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

36%

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

21.3 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

30.0°C

+0.9°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (29.1°C)

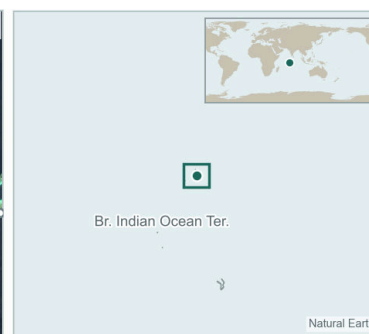
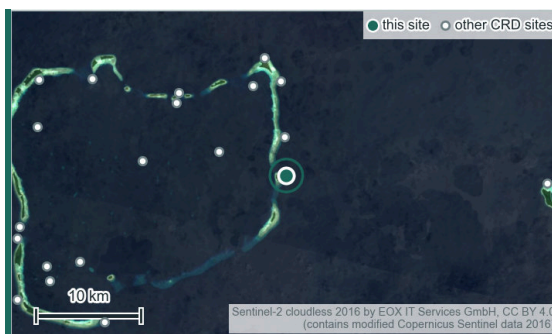
PHOTOGRAPHS

22

on file for this site

POSITION

-5.3377, 71.9806



An exposed Peros Banhos forereef with the least coralline algae of all 109 Chagos sites, where black corals stud the upper slope above an extensive field of large, intact but dead table corals coated in turf and silt, at 36% cover. Bleaching was among the highest in the archipelago (22%), with bone-white tables and branching colonies in at least seven frames. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 35.9 · [CoralNet](#) 29.9 · In-house DINOv3 31.5 · CoralSCOP edited 29.0 · Claude 20.9

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 22 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-peros-banhos-bipb76.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.