

Chagos Archipelago - Victory Bank (BIVB108)

Victory Bank · surveyed 2015-04-30



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

46%

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

24.6 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

30.2°C

+1.2°C vs the 2015 mean sea temperature (29.0°C)

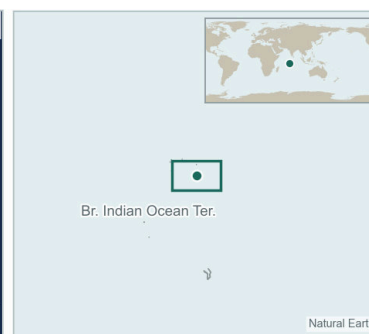
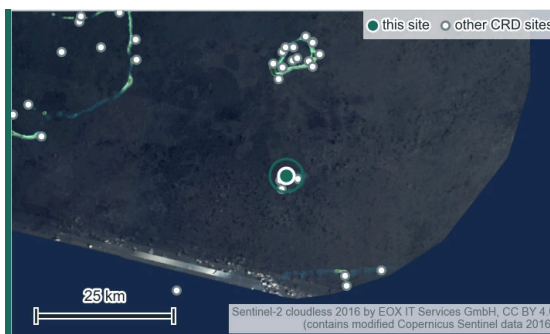
PHOTOGRAPHS

19

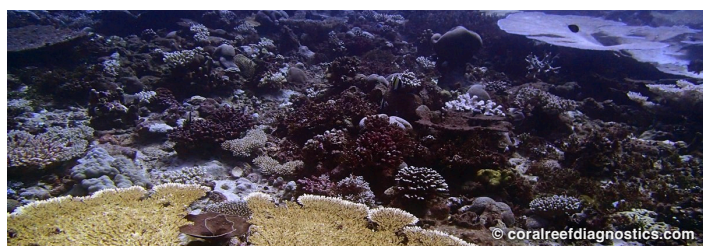
on file for this site

POSITION

-5.5265, 72.2265



A sheltered Victory Bank reef at 26.5 m where coral cover nearly doubles below the silty shallows, reaching about 54% deeper down under *Acropora* dominance, with 28 genera including the Chagos-endemic *Ctenella chagius*. Bleaching is conspicuous: at least five of 15 frames show chalk-white tables beside fully pigmented neighbors. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 45.7 · [CoralNet](#) 25.1 · In-house DINOv3 23.9 · CoralSCOP edited 28.2 · Claude 11.7

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 19 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-victory-bank-bivb108.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.