

Chagos Archipelago - Victory Bank (BIVB99)

Victory Bank · surveyed 2015-04-27



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

56%

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

31.2 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

29.9°C

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

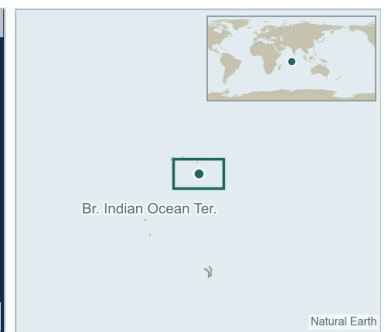
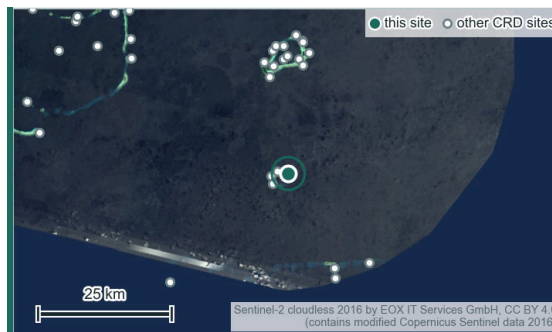
PHOTOGRAPHS

11

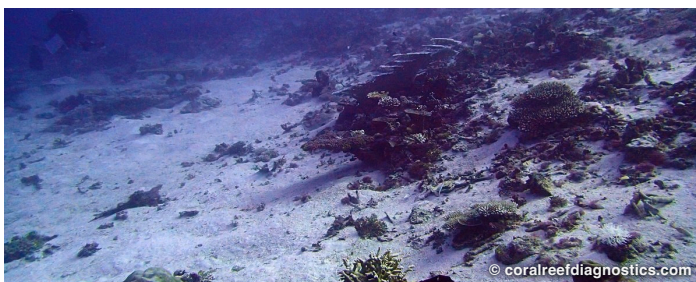
on file for this site

POSITION

-5.5310, 72.2451



The strongest blue-coral reef in Chagos: *Heliopora* makes up nearly four-fifths of all coral here, at 56% cover. Photos show dense thickets of upright folded blades standing at many heights, the best images of this habitat from the survey. Surveyed on the [Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition](#).



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Transect (published) 55.6 · [CoralNet](#) 20.8 · In-house DINOv3 24.5 · CoralSCOP edited 18.5 · Claude 35.4

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 11 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-chagos-archipelago-victory-bank-bivb99.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.