Tonga - Ha'apai (TOHA13)

surveyed 2013-09-15



0 — 5

Coral Health Index: 2.15/5

Scored from two colonies only.

What was done. Coral cover here was measured on in-situ benthic transects run by divers on the Living Oceans Foundation Global Reef Expedition over 5 transects — a diver measurement, not an estimate read off photographs. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs, the author's sampling sheet, and the expedition's survey records, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

23%

Benthic transects+photo-quadrats

MOST RECENT HEAT LOAD RECORD

24.3°C **0.0°C-weeks**

26 Oct 2026 · -2.5°C vs the past-365-day mean (26.8°C) · NOAA No heat stress

HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW)

8.1°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 8–12°C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

31.7 m

dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

24.4°C

CTD-cast midpoint of 24.1–24.7°C

-2.2°C vs the 2013 mean sea temperature (26.6°C)

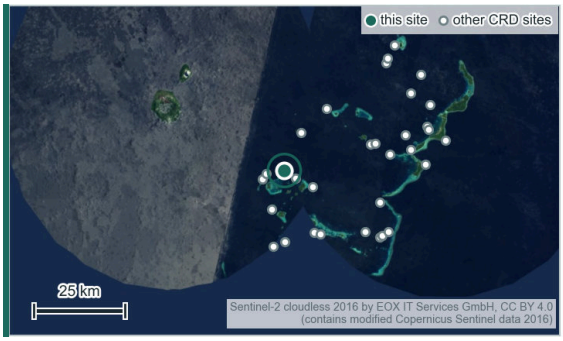
PHOTOGRAPHS

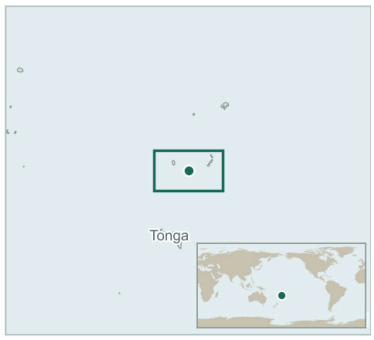
8 in the gallery · 19 on file

POSITION

-19.9071, -174.7584

Coordinate from the supporting data of Mayfield et al. (2017, PLoS ONE).

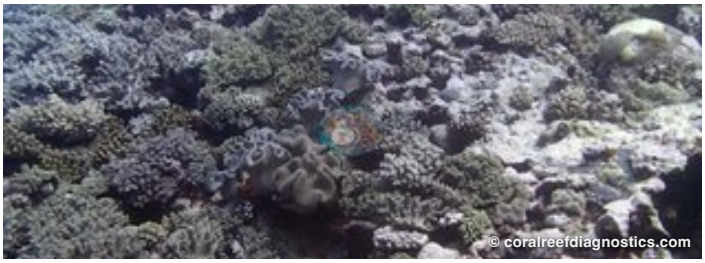




Spur tops in Ha'apai where gray-green, cream, and mustard-yellow soft corals grow intergrown with a near-continuous carpet of small branching, digitate, and encrusting stony corals and a few small tables, beneath blocky, undercut ledges. The photographs show no visible bleaching, though the survey noted an orange coralline-algal disease at this site. Surveyed on the Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition.

lea faka-Tonga. Ko e ngaahi funga ‘o e spurs ‘i Ha‘apai ‘oku tupu fefiofiofi ai ‘a e feo molū (soft corals) lanu efuefu-mata, kulimi, mo e engeenga-mastati (mustard-yellow) mo ha takafi meimei hokohoko ‘o e ki‘i feo fefeka fakava‘ava‘a (branching), fakatuhu (digitate), mo piki (encrusting), mo ha ki‘i tēpile si‘i, ‘i lalo ‘i ha ngaahi tafungofunga fakapoloka (blocky) kuo keli ‘i lalo (undercut ledges). ‘Oku ‘ikai hā ha hinehina (bleaching) ‘i he ngaahi tā, neongo na‘e fakatokanga‘i ‘e he savea ha mahaki lanu moli ‘o e limu feo (orange coralline-algal disease) ‘i he potu ni. *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)*





Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 on this card; 8 in the gallery · 19 on file; watermarked · Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-tonga-ha-apai-toha13.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 (Southern Tonga) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.