Tonga - Vava'u (TOVA34)

surveyed 2013-09-22



0 — 5

Coral Health Index: 4.24/5

What was done. Coral cover here was measured on in-situ benthic transects run by divers on the Living Oceans Foundation Global Reef Expedition 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
50%
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

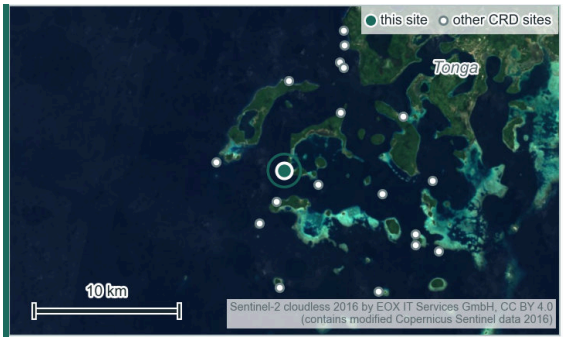
HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW)
8.1°C-weeks
NOAA annual peaks averaging 8–12°C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH
30.5 m
dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)
26.4°C
CTD-cast midpoint of 26.1–26.7°C
-0.8°C vs the 2013 mean sea temperature (27.2°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS
6 in the gallery · 37 on file

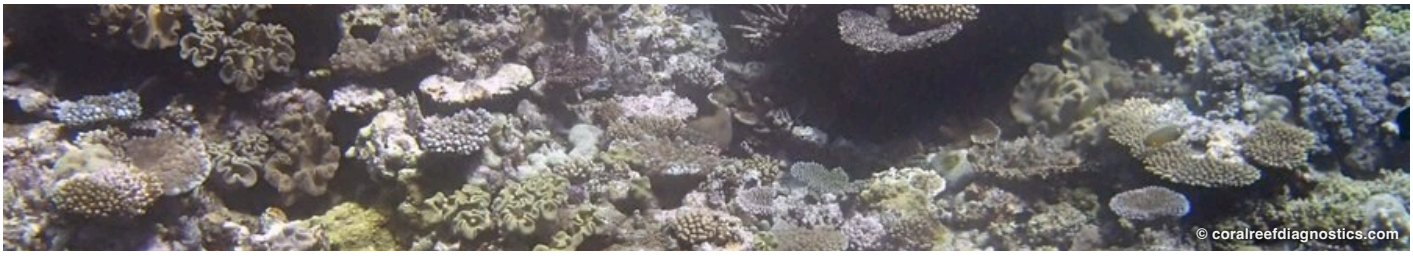
POSITION
-18.7244, -174.1064
Coordinate from the supporting data of Mayfield et al. (2017, PLoS ONE).





Nicknamed Pete's Paradise, this sheltered lagoonal fringing reef in Vava'u has wide spurs of built-up *Acropora* and deeper mounds up to 5 m tall covered in huge staghorn and bottlebrush stands. All seven *Pocillopora* colonies Anderson sampled were 20–80% bleached, although the station's Coral Health Index is 4.24 out of 5. The survey notes also record dead, turf-covered staghorn branches up to a meter wide, where damselfish farm their algal gardens. Surveyed on the Living Oceans Foundation's Global Reef Expedition.

lea faka-Tonga. ʻOku ui ko Pete's Paradise, ko e hakau matafonua ʻi he namo (lagoonal fringing reef) ko ʻeni ʻi Vavaʻu ʻoku maluʻi, ʻoku ʻi ai hono ngaahi spurs fālahi ʻo e *Acropora* kuo langa hake pea mo e ngaahi puke loloto ange ʻoku aʻu ki he 5 m hono māʻolunga kuo ʻufiʻufi ʻe he ngaahi vao staghorn mo e fakapulumu (bottlebrush) lalahi ʻaupito. Ko e kulupu *Pocillopora* kotoa ʻe fitu naʻe toʻo sīpinga mei ai ʻe Anderson naʻe hinehina ʻaki ʻa e 20–80%, neongo ʻoku 4.24 mei he 5 ʻa e Coral Health Index ʻo e siteisoni. ʻOku lēkooti foki ʻe he ngaahi nouti ʻo e savea ʻa e ngaahi vaʻa staghorn mate kuo ʻufiʻufi ʻe he limu nounou (turf) ʻo aʻu ki he mita ʻe taha hono fālahi, ʻa ia ʻoku tauhi ai ʻe he damselfish ʻenau ngaahi ngoue limu. *AI translation of this summary; the English is authoritative. (low confidence)*



Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 2 on this card; 6 in the gallery · 37 on file; watermarked · Full site record: https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/gre-tonga-vava-u-tova34.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.