

Oman - Cave Site (Muscat)

surveyed 2024-05-20



Reef Check



سلطنة عمان
SULTANATE OF OMAN
هيئة البيئة
ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY



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Coral Health Index: TBD

What was done. The figure is the author's own manual point count, annotated by hand over 170 photographs. 7 further methods were run on the same frames and are reported on the site page.

HARD CORAL COVER

51%

manual point count (170 photos) · other methods on the site page

TODAY'S HEAT LOAD

30.4°C

4.6°C-weeks

16 Sep 2026 · +1.9°C vs the annual mean (28.5 °C)
· NOAA Alert Level 1

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

11.0°C-weeks

NOAA annual peaks averaging 8–12 °C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

—

not logged

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

—

not logged

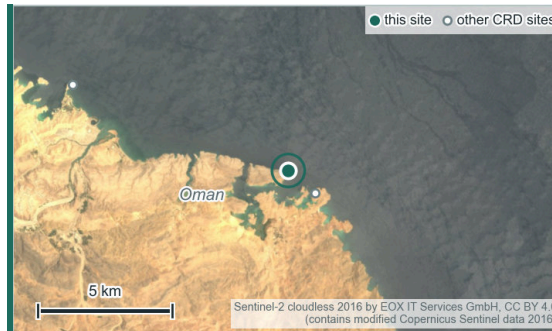
PHOTOGRAPHS

49

on file for this site

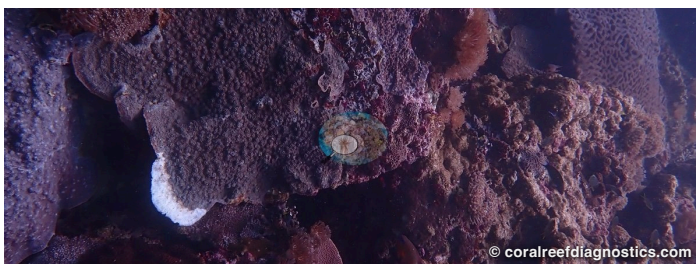
POSITION

23.5287, 58.7403

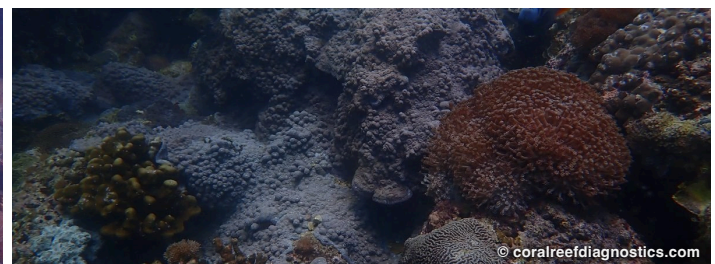


Cave Site, named for the sand gullies and overhangs cutting through its coral framework, had the highest measured cover of the seven 2024 Oman survey sites - 62.7% hard coral from manual point counts, with colonies packed so tightly that coral-on-coral contact is the norm rather than bare rock. Clark's anemonefish, a honeycomb moray, and a camouflaged scorpionfish were among the fauna, and no bleaching was observed, a pre-stress baseline recorded weeks before the region's July 2024 bleaching event.

العربية. موقع الكهف (Cave Site)، الذي سُمي بهذا الاسم نسبة إلى الأخاديد الرملية والتوءات الصخرية المتدلية التي تخترق هيكله المرجاني، سجل أعلى نسبة تغطية مقاسة من بين مواقع المسح السبعة في عُمان لعام 2024 - بنسبة 62.7% من المرجان الصلب وفق العد النقطي اليدوي، حيث تتكدس المستعمرات بكثافة تجعل تلامس المرجان مع المرجان هو القاعدة وليس الصخر العاري. ترجمة هذا الملخص بالذكاء الاصطناعي: النص الإنجليزي هو المعتمد.



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CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Manual (published) 51.4 · CoralNet 48.7 · In-house DINOv3 31.2 · CoralSCOP unedited 49.0 · CoralSCOP edited 50.5 · Claude 69.9

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 49 on file; Watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/oman-cave-site-muscat.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 (Gulf of Oman) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.