

Saba - Man-of-War Shoals

surveyed 2026-02-21



Coral Health Index: TBD

What was done. No diver transect was run at this site. The figure is a blind Claude computer-vision point classification of 102 photographs by the author, read without sight of any other method's result; other computer-vision methods are compared on the site page. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER
3.7%
Claude computer vision (102 photos)

TODAY'S HEAT LOAD
29.5°C **4.7°C-weeks**
16 Sep 2026 · +1.3°C vs the annual mean (28.2 °C)
· [NOAA](#) Alert Level 1

HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW)
13.9°C-weeks 🔥
[NOAA](#) annual peaks averaging 12–16 °C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH
21.6 m
dive-log maximum

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)
26.5°C
-1.7°C vs the 12 months to 2026-08 mean sea temperature (28.2°C)

PHOTOGRAPHS
54
on file for this site

POSITION
17.6467, -63.2551



The high-relief dive of the Saba set: basalt spires and pinnacles split by narrow canyons, crowned by some of the biggest barrel and tube sponges of the trip, with corals present but secondary. Caribbean reef sharks patrol the walls, and a green turtle and a queen angelfish sheltering inside a barrel sponge were also seen.



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): In-house DINOv3 19.8 · CoralSCOP unedited 29.3 · Claude 3.7

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 54 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/saba-man-of-war-shoals.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 (Leeward Caribbean Islands) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.