

Saba - Tent Drift

surveyed 2026-02-21



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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 73 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
4.3%
Claude computer vision (73 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
30.8 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
51
on file for this site

POSITION
17.6157, -63.2553



A drift along low volcanic boulders and a wall in Saba National Marine Park, dominated by barrel sponges and gorgonians, with only sparse small corals such as flower and brain corals, some looking pale. The wildlife steals the show: a resting nurse shark, a green turtle, a buried southern stingray, and a dense garden-eel colony, plus one invasive lionfish.



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CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): In-house DINOv3 17.7 · CoralSCOP unedited 22.1 · Claude 4.3

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 51 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/saba-tent-drift.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.