

Saudi Red Sea - Long Reef (Thuwal)

Thuwal · surveyed 2023-11-17



Coral Health Index: TBD

What was done. The figure is the author's own manual point count, annotated by hand over 90 photographs. 2 further methods were run on the same frames and are reported on the site page. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER

14%

manual point count (90 photos) · other methods on the site page

TODAY'S HEAT LOAD

33.4°C

3.6°C-weeks

16 Sep 2026 · +2.9°C vs the annual mean (30.5 °C)
· [NOAA](#) Bleaching Warning

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

14.3°C-weeks

[NOAA](#) annual peaks averaging 12–16 °C-weeks

MAX. DEPTH

20.0 m

WATER TEMP. (SURVEY)

—
not logged

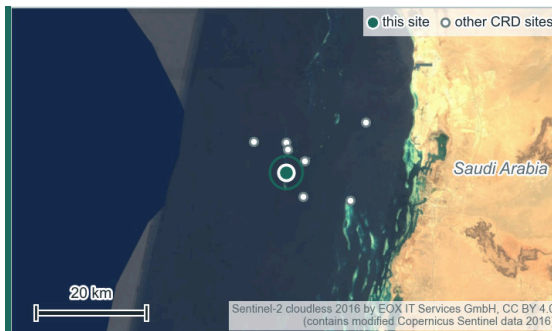
PHOTOGRAPHS

50

on file for this site

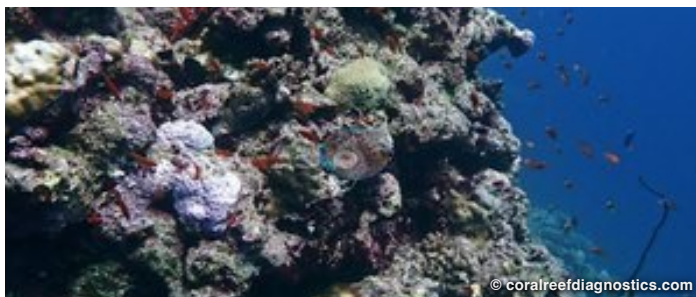
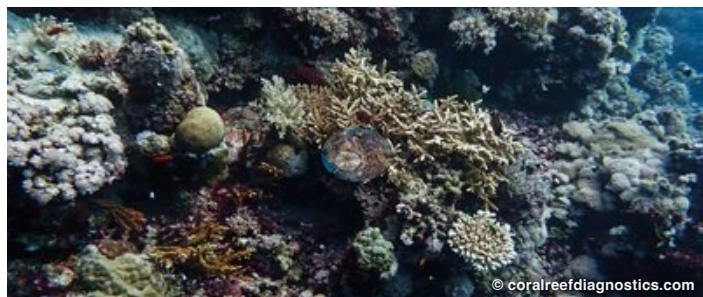
POSITION

22.3497, 38.8572



Long Reef is a steep-sided ridge with two very different faces - a densely mixed reef top (*Porites*, *Astreopora*, *Goniastrea*, table, and corymbose *Acropora*, bound together by heavy pink coralline algae) and a sparser, more sculptural wall dropping into blue water. A single November 2023 visit measured 14% cover with about 20% of coral tissue bleached, and the photographs show a cluster of pale blue-white colonies on the wall plus a few frankly white branching corals on the reef top.

العربية. الشعبة الطويلة حيد شديد الانحدار من الجانبين وله وجهان مختلفان جداً: سطح شعبة مختلط بكثافة (*Porites* و *Astreopora* و *Goniastrea* و *Acropora* الطولي والعنقودي المسطح، تربطها طحالب مرجانية وردية غزيرة)، وجدار أكثر تنائراً وأشد نحتاً يهبط في الماء الأزرق. ترجمة هذا الملخص بالذكاء الاصطناعي: النص الإنجليزي هو المعتمد.



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): Manual (published) 13.9 · In-house DINOv3 47.5 · Claude 23.9

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 50 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/saudi-red-sea-long-reef-thuwal.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 (Makkah-Madine Saudi Arabia) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.