

Why are Heard Island and McDonald Islands vulnerable?

Heard Island and McDonald Islands and the surrounding ocean ecosystem are subject to various pressures due to their isolation, unique geography, and vulnerability. This report describes these pressures including from climate change, pollution, tourism, scientific research, and fisheries.

Where are heard and McDonald Islands?

Introduction Welcome to the guide for Heard and McDonald Islands, a remote archipelago in the Southern Indian Ocean.

Why should you visit heard and McDonald Islands?

Welcome to the guide for Heard and McDonald Islands, a remote archipelago in the Southern Indian Ocean. These islands are an untouched paradise offering unique landscapes, diverse wildlife, and rich history. Please note that tourism is highly regulated due to the fragile ecosystem and the territorial disputes. 2. Geography and History

What's happening on Heard Island & McDonald Islands?

Landing stores, Atlas Cove, Heard Island with Rogers Head in background Photo: Alan Campbell-Drury Due to the extreme isolation of Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI), together with the persistently severe weather and sea conditions, human activities in the region have been, and remain, limited.

Does Heard Island have a volcano?

Geography and History Heard Island is the largest and most volcanically active of the two islands. It has a glacier-covered central volcano, Big Ben, which last erupted in 2019. The island's unique landscape features ice caps, active volcanoes, and a wide variety of birdlife.

Are there scientific studies on Heard Island?

Although hindered by the extreme isolation and unfavourable working conditions, scientific studies have been carried out on Heard Island since the first research visit by scientists from the HMS Challenger in 1874. See the Research Expeditions pages in the History section of this website for more information.

The Australian Government is proposing to expand the Heard and McDonald Island (HIMI) Marine Reserve by over 300,000 km<sup>2</sup> to around 379,000 km<sup>2</sup>. The expanded reserve would cover nearly 90 per cent of the Exclusive Economic Zone around the islands and bring the proportion of Australian waters protected through marine reserves to 51 per cent.

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Mawson Peak on Heard Island is the highest Australian mountain (at 2,745 meters, it is taller than Mt. Kosciuszko in Australia proper), and one of only two active volcanoes located in Australian territory, the other being McDonald Island; in 1992, McDonald Island broke its dormancy and began erupting; it has erupted several times since, most ...

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The Heard and McDonald Islands marine reserve will quadruple in size, an increase of almost 310,000 km<sup>2</sup> - an area larger than Italy - and will provide greater protections for an environment unlike anywhere else in the world. ... "While today"s announcement is notable, the government has missed an opportunity to do the same for Heard and ...

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Heard Island and McDonald Islands are located in the Southern Ocean, approximately 1,700 km from the Antarctic continent and 4,100 km south-west of Perth. As the only volcanically active subantarctic islands they "open a window into the earth", thus providing the opportunity to observe ongoing geomorphic processes and glacial dynamics. ...

Terrestrial habitat connectivity for foraging, breeding and migratory seabirds and marine mammals - Heard Island and McDonald Islands are home to numerous nesting seabirds and breeding ...

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Early scientific visits. The first recorded scientific visit to Heard Island was by the Challenger in 1874, when a brief landing was made at Atlas Cove and a few scientific samples were collected. Poor weather limited the visit to 3 hours. Later the same year, the Arcona brought a German expedition to Heard Island, looking for suitable sites for observing a transit of Venus.

The Australian Government has prepared a report to inform the review of the marine reserve and its management plan: the Conservation values in the marine environment surrounding Heard Island and the McDonald Islands report.

The subantarctic island group of Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI) is located in the southwest Indian Ocean at about 53°S, 73°30"E. The islands are around 4,000 kilometres southwest of Western Australia, 4,700 kilometres southeast ...

Current local time in Australia - Heard and McDonald Islands - Heard Island. Get Heard Island's weather and area codes, time zone and DST. Explore Heard Island's sunrise and sunset, moonrise and moonset.

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