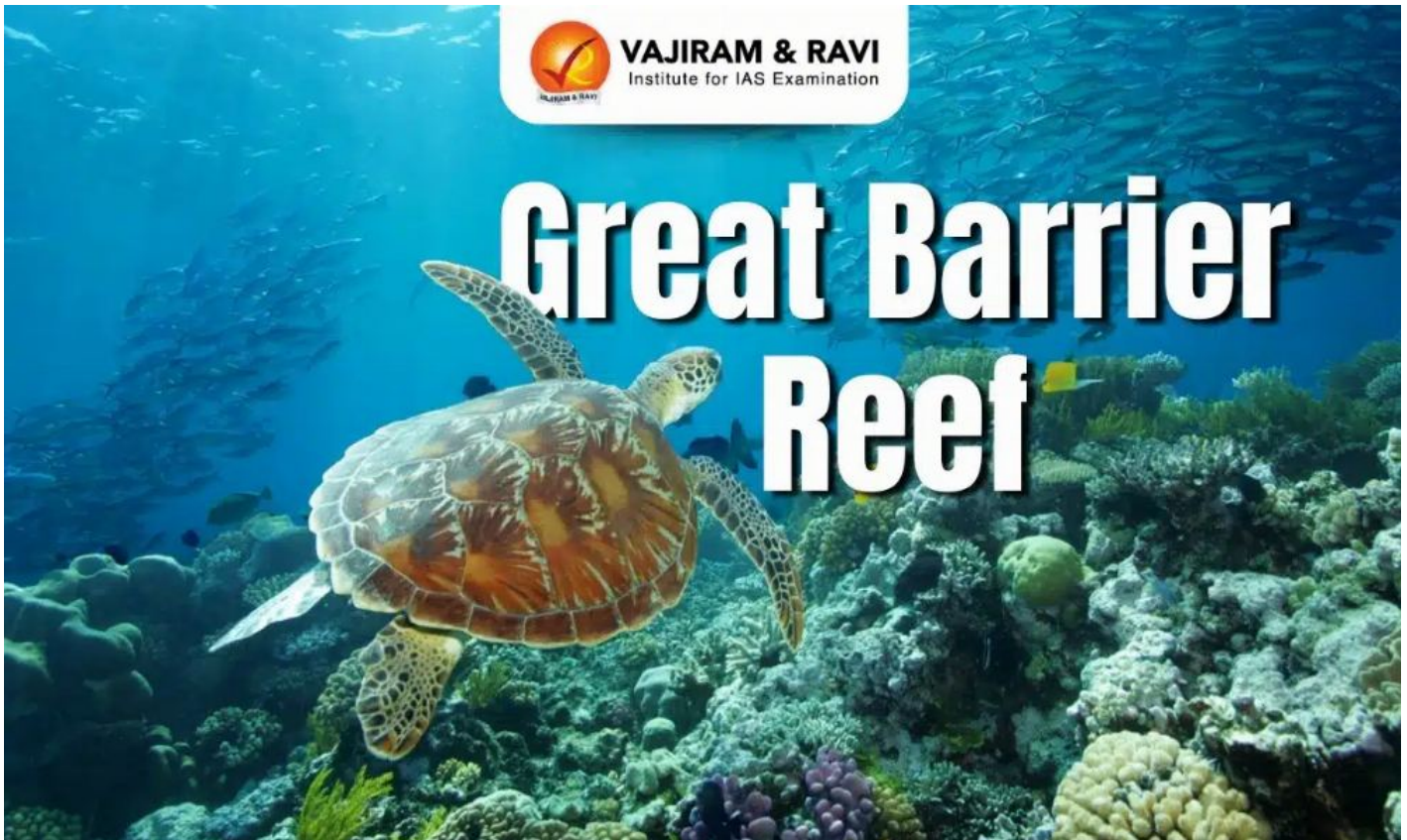


Great Barrier Reef

August 8, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



Great Barrier Reef Latest News

The Great Barrier Reef has recorded its steepest decline in hard coral cover in almost four decades, as climate change-induced heat stress, cyclones and outbreaks of coral-eating starfish drive the ecosystem to the brink.

About Great Barrier Reef

- It is a **complex of coral reefs, shoals, and islets** in the **Pacific Ocean** off the **northeastern coast of Australia** in the **Coral Sea**.
- It is the **longest and largest reef complex** in the world and is the **largest living structure on Earth**.
- It **extends** in roughly a northwest-southeast direction for more than **2,000 km**, at an offshore distance ranging from 16 to 160 km, and its width ranges from 60 to 250 km.
- It has an area of some **350,000 sq.km**. It makes up about **10 percent of the world's coral reef ecosystems**.
- The reef, which is **large enough to be visible from space**, actually consists of some **2,100 individual reefs and some 800 fringing reefs** (formed around islands or bordering coastlines).

- It contains **400 types of coral**, 1,500 species of fishes, and 4,000 types of mollusks species.
- The reef is also **home to six of the seven known species of sea turtles**, more than a dozen sea snakes, and nearly two dozen species of birds.
- It also holds great scientific interest as the **habitat of species such as the dugong ('sea cow')** and the large green turtle, which are threatened with extinction.
- Much of the Great Barrier Reef is a **marine protected area, managed by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority of Australia.**
- UNESCO declared the Great Barrier Reef a **World Heritage Site** in 1981.

Source: DTE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-the-great-barrier-reef/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.