

Macquarie Island

July 26, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



Macquarie Island Latest News

An earthquake of magnitude 6.0 on the Richter Scale jolted the West of Macquarie Island recently.

About Macquarie Island

- It is located around 1,500 km **southeast of Tasmania, Australia, in the Pacific Ocean.**
- It is located about **halfway between Australia and Antarctica.**
- The island is about 34 kilometers (21 miles) long and 5 kilometers (3 miles) wide.
- **No people live there permanently** today.
- The island is the **exposed crest of the undersea Macquarie Ridge, raised** to its present position where the **Indo-Australian tectonic plate meets the Pacific plate.**
- It is a site of major geoconservation significance, being the **only place on earth where rocks from the earth's mantle** (6 km below the ocean floor) are being actively **exposed above sea level.**
- Macquarie Ridge is **one of only 3 such ridges that impede the Antarctic Circumpolar Circulation.**

- This results in **distinct differences between the west and east sides of the ridge**, which are used in different ways by different species.
- Although the **island is treeless**, there are a variety of native vegetation types, including **grasses and many species of moss**.
- There are a few **small glacial lakes**.
- **Fauna**: It is home to **4 species of penguins and 4 species of albatross**, the island recorded 57 seabird species.
- Regionally part of Oceania and **politically a part of Tasmania, Australia**, since 1900, it became a Tasmanian State Reserve in 1978 and was inscribed as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997**.

Source: ZEEB

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/macquarie-island/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.