

Marine protected areas

A marine protected area (MPA) is an area of coastline or ocean that is protected to some degree for the long-term benefit of both people and nature. The role of MPAs as a tool to conserve and rebuild fish stocks has been demonstrated worldwide. Prior to 2019, South Africa had 25 formally declared MPAs (24 around mainland South Africa and one around the Prince Edward Islands). The 24 MPAs around South Africa covered only 0.43% of the total ocean area, of which only 0.16% was considered 'no-take', where no fishing is allowed. In May 2019, 20 new MPAs were gazetted, increasing the protection of South Africa's mainland ocean territory to 5%. As a result, 87% of the 150 marine ecosystem types identified around South Africa now have some protection.

For more information, see <https://www.marineprotectedareas.org.za>

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|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Orange Shelf Edge | 22 Stilbaai |
| 2 Namaqua Fossil Forest | 23 Agulhas Bank Complex |
| 3 Namaqua National Park (NP) | 24 SW Indian Seamounts |
| 4 Childs Bank | 25 Goukamma |
| 5 Benguela Mud | 26 Robberg |
| 6 Cape Canyon | 27 Tsitsikamma |
| 7 Rocherpan | 28 Agulhas Front |
| 8 Malgas Island | 29 Port Elizabeth Corals |
| 9 Marcus Island | 30 Sardinia Bay |
| 10 Jutten Island | 31 Addo Elephant NP |
| 11 Langebaan Lagoon | 32 Amathole |
| 12 Sixteen Mile Beach | 33 Amathole Offshore |
| 13 Robben Island | 34 Dwesa-Cwebe |
| 14 Table Mountain NP | 35 Hluleka |
| 15 Helderberg | 36 Pondoland |
| 16 Betty's Bay | 37 Trafalgar |
| 17 Walker Bay | 38 Protea Banks |
| 18 SE Atlantic Seamounts | 39 Aliwal Shoal |
| 19 Browns Bank Corals | 40 Uthukela Banks |
| 20 Agulhas Mud | 41 Isimangaliso |
| 21 De Hoop | 42 Prince Edward Islands |



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