

However, the site's isolation assists in reducing anthropogenic impacts upon the site's values. 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.

Where are Heard Island and McDonald Islands located?

The islands are a territory (Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands) of Australia administered from Hobart by the Australian Antarctic Division of the Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

Is there a threat to Heard Island and the McDonald Islands?

Ongoing and accelerating climate change poses an increasing risk of fundamental alterations in biodiversity. Geological processes (primarily volcanism and glacial retreat) continue undisturbed. The overall assessment is that there is a low threatto the World Heritage values of Heard Island and the McDonald Islands if visitation remains low.

How big is Heard Island & McDonald Islands?

The group's overall land area is 372 km 2 (144 sq mi)and it has 101.9 km (63 mi) of coastline. Discovered in the mid-19th century,the islands lie on the Kerguelen Plateau in the Indian Ocean and have been an Australian territory since 1947. Heard Island and McDonald Islands contain Australia's only two active volcanoes.

Does Heard Island have a harbour?

Heard Island and the McDonald Islands have no ports or harbours; ships must anchor offshore. The coastline is 101.9 km (63.3 mi) in extent,and a 12 nmi (22 km) territorial sea and 200 nmi (370 km) exclusive fishing zone are claimed. [2]

How big is Heard Island?

Heard Island, by far the largest of the group, is a 368-square-kilometre (142 sq mi) mountainous island covered by 41 glaciers [22] (the island is 80% covered with ice [2]) and dominated by the Big Ben



massif.



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Heard Island is a 368-square-kilometre (142 sq mi) bleak and mountainous island located at 53?06???00???S 73?31???00???E. Its mountains are covered in glaciers and dominated by Mawson Peak, a 2,745-metre (9,006 ft) high complex volcano which forms part of the Big Ben massif.



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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.



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Heard Island and the McDonald Islands are free from introduced predators and provide crucial breeding habitat in the middle of the vast Southern Ocean for a range of birds. The surrounding waters are important feeding areas for birds ???



The Proposal to expand Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve ??? Public consultation paper ("proclamation proposal") has been prepared to support public consultation on the proposed design of an expanded Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI) Marine Reserve.



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Heard Island and the McDonald Islands are free from introduced predators and provide crucial breeding habitat in the middle of the vast Southern Ocean for a range of birds. The surrounding waters are important feeding areas for birds and some scavenging species also derive sustenance from their cohabitants on the islands.



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