

Top Facts about the Indian Ocean

Covers 20% of the Earth Surface

it does not just look huge, it is huge. Covering almost 20% of earth's total surface, Indian Ocean makes a huge contribution to the water load of the world. Indian Ocean has a whopping volume of 292,131,000 cubic kilometers, with an average depth of 3890 meters.

Several Continents by its sides/ Unique Location

Indian Ocean is bound by a number of continents on each side with Indian subcontinent towards the north, Africa towards west, The Sunda islands and Australian lands towards east and Antarctica towards south.

The Highest Point is at the Sea Level Itself

Owing to the depth of this ocean, it is interesting Indian Ocean information that the lowest part this ocean is about 7,258 m deep lying on the Java Trench of the Sunda Shelf while its highest point is at the sea level.

Limited Marine Life

This ocean is the warmest ocean of the world and offers little scope to plankton and other species for growth. A rather interesting bit of information on the Indian Ocean is its limited marine animal life which is due to higher water temperature of this ocean

Has Unique Chemical and Physical Properties

the water here has highest concentration of dissolved and floating hydrocarbons, has maximum negative water balance and is single source of water of highest and lowest salinity levels.

Has Lowest Oxygen Content

Waters in the Indian Ocean have one of the lowest oxygen content of the world owing to greater evaporation rate in this ocean than its run off or precipitation influx. This makes life growth in Indian Ocean rather unique.

Has World's Most Important Ports

Indian Ocean has ports that belong to different continents. Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata are the Indian ports of this ocean while Colombo of Sri Lanka, Durban and Richards Bay in South Africa, Jakarta in Indonesia and Melbourne in Australia make the other important ports of this ocean.