

Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Cocos (Keeling) Islands became an Australian Territory in 1955. An Administrator appointed by the Governor-General is the most senior Australian Government representative and is responsible for the law, order and good governance of the Territory.

Location

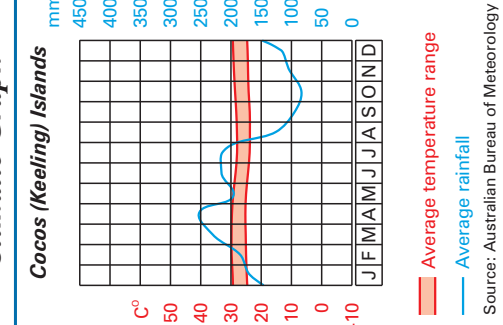
The Cocos (Keeling) Islands are located in the Indian Ocean, approximately 2,050 km north-west of Perth, 3,700 km west of Darwin and 900 km south-west of Christmas Island. There are twenty-seven coral islands in the group with a total land area of approximately 1,454 km.

Geography & Climate

In 2006 the population numbered 621 people, with approximately 80% residing on Home Island, which is a single horseshoe-shaped atoll about 1,250 km. There are 26 islands in the southern atoll of which two, Home Island and West Island, are inhabited. Both atolls are the typical horseshoe shape formation and are affected by the prevailing winds and oceans. The islands are situated in the Indian Ocean, approximately 2,050 km north-west of Perth, 3,700 km west of Darwin and 900 km south-west of Christmas Island. There are twenty-seven coral islands in the group with a total land area of approximately 1,454 km.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands is home to some unique endemic species of wildlife. The northern atoll of North Keeling Island and the marine area extending 1.5 km around the island form the Pulu Kambing Biosphere Reserve. The island is home to a wide range of flora and fauna, including a variety of birds, reptiles, and marine life. The climate is tropical with high humidity. Temperatures range from 23° to 30°C and the average rainfall is 2,000 mm per annum, falling mainly from January to August. The south-east trade winds blow most of the year producing pleasant weather conditions.

Climatic Graph



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Map Reliability

Topographic information checked in 2008 using satellite imagery, and supplemented using other sources in 2009. Limited field checking has been undertaken on this map and therefore some information may not be accurate.

Your feedback is Welcome

If you discover errors or omissions on the map, please let us know via the map amendments page on our website: email mapfeedback@ga.gov.au or send your annotated map to us.

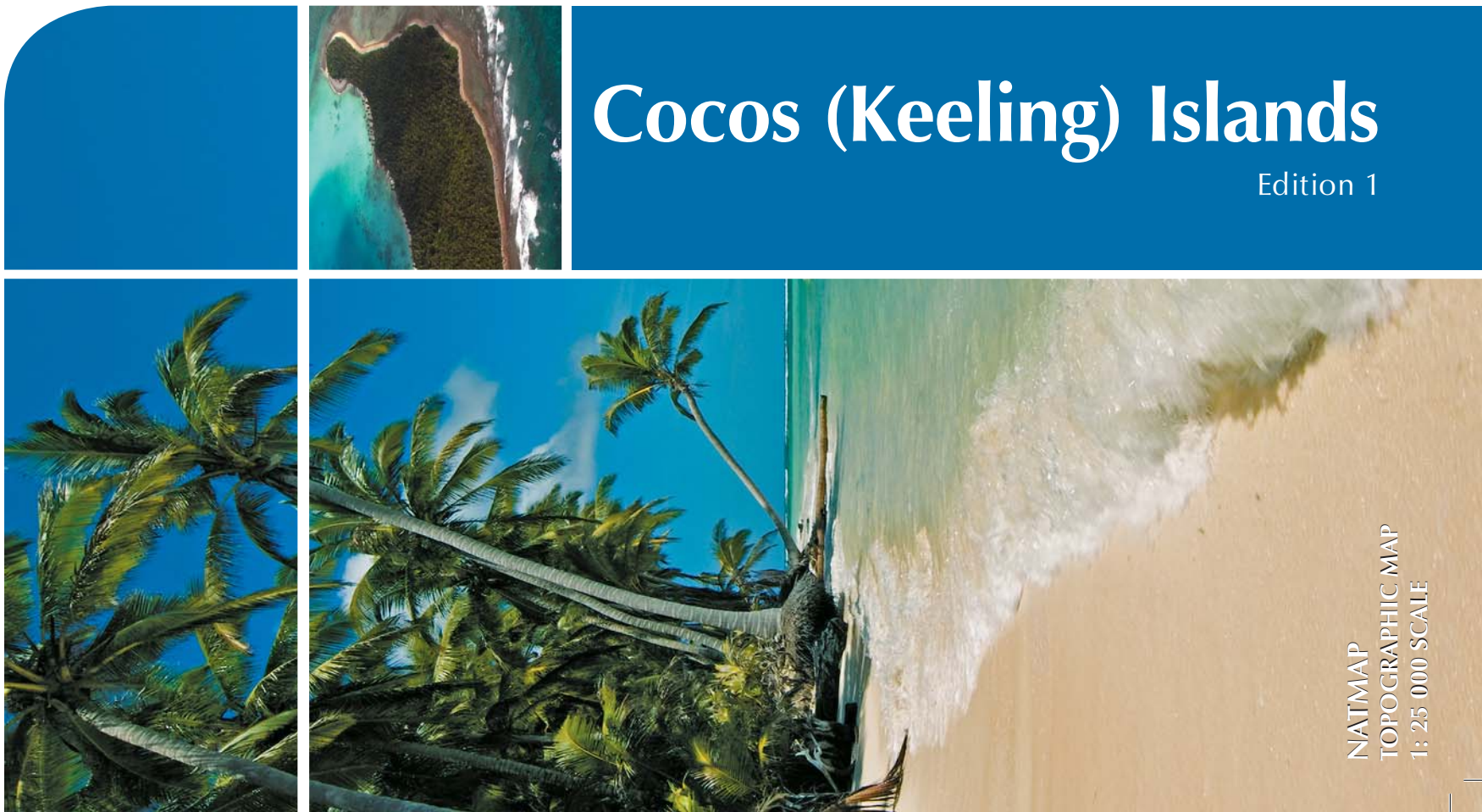
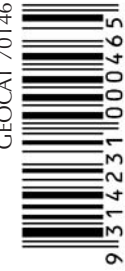
Co-contributors

Information and assistance was supplied by the Attorney-General's Department (Territories of Australia) and Department of Geoscience Australia. Geoscience Australia gratefully acknowledges contributions to map content.

Contact

Geoscience Australia
GPO Box 278 Canberra ACT 2601
Freecall: 1 800 800 173 (Australia only)
www.ga.gov.au

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Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Edition 1

NATMAP
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
1:25 000 SCALE