

Global Change Data Encyclopedia

Andaman Islands, India

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Andaman Islands is the main part of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It belongs to the Indian Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and its geo-location is 10°30'39"N–13°40'36"N, 92°11'55"E–94°16'38"E^[1]. It is located between the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea (Figure 1). It is separated from Coco Islands^[2] by Coco Chanel at its north, and from Nicobar Islands^[3] by Ten Degree Chanel at its south. The Andaman Islands consists of Great Andaman Archipelago^[4], Little Andaman Group^[5], Ritchie's Archipelago^[6], East Volcano Islands^[7] and Sentinel Islands^[8] (Figure 2), with a total of 211 islands (islets, rocks)^[1]. The total area of the Andaman Islands is 5,787.79 km², and the coastline is 2,878.77 km.

Great Andaman Archipelago is the main part of Andaman Islands, and is the largest Archipelago in Andaman Islands. Its geo-location is 11°8'26"N–13°40'36"N, 92°30'48"E–93°6'14"E. It lies in the east of Bay of Bengal and in the west of the Andaman Sea, East

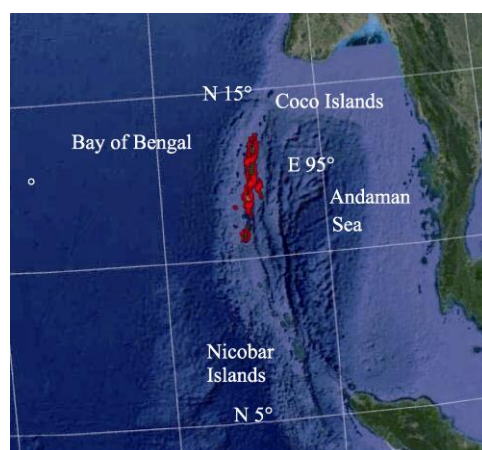


Figure 1 Map of Andaman Islands
(.kmz format)

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Volcano Islands, and Ritchie’s Archipelago. It is separated 40 km away from Coco Islands by the Coco Channel at its northeast. Great Andaman Archipelago is consisted of North Andaman Island^[9], Cleugh Passage Group^[10], Aerial Bay Islands^[11], Stewart Sound Group^[12], Interview Group^[13], Middle Andaman Island^[14], Baratang Island^[15], East Baratang Group^[16], West Baratang Group^[17], South Andaman Island^[18], Napier Bay Islands^[19], Defence Islands^[20], Port Blair Islands^[21] and Rutland Archipelago^[22], with a total of 175 islands (islets, rocks). Great Andaman Archipelago is in a long and narrow shape, from the Landfall Island of the Cleugh Passage Group at the north end to the West Sister Island of the Rutland Archipelago at the south end. It is 282 km from north to south and 40 km from west to east. The total area of Great Andaman Archipelago is 4,774.10 km², and the coastline is 2,325.16 km (Table 1).

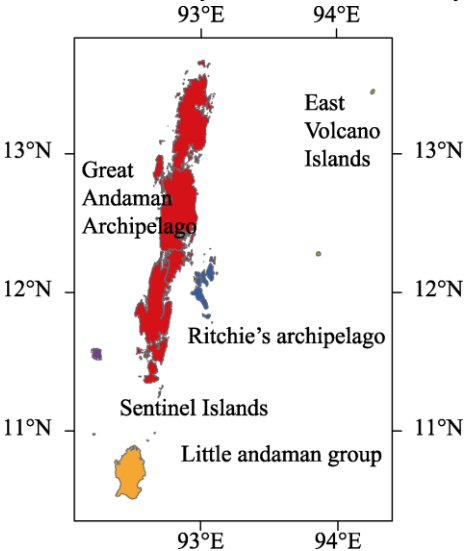


Figure 2 Visualization map of Andaman Islands (.shp format)

Table 1 Geo-location, area, and coastline of main islands of the Great Andaman Archipelago

Name of the islands	Name of the island	Center location of the island	Area (km ²)	Coastline (km)
Cleugh Passage Group	West Island	13°35'19"N, 92°53'33"E	2.71	8.31
	East Island	13°38'20"N, 93°3'13"E	3.18	10.73
	Landfall Island	13°39'11"N, 93°0'19"E	16.56	24.18
	Others		7.83	28.04
	Subtotal		30.28	71.26
Aerial Bay Islands	Excelsior Island	13°26'1"N, 93°5'59"E	0.38	3.18
	Smith Island	13°20'36"N, 93°3'40"E	20.26	29.23
	Table Island	13°24'52"N, 93°5'29"E	0.71	3.92
	Others		5.39	30.34
	Subtotal		24.94	66.67
Interview Group	Anderson Island	12°46'27"N, 92°42'34"E	15.59	36.14
	Interview Island	12°53'36"N, 92°41'15"E	100.08	76.20
	Murga Island	12°54'15"N, 92°47'16"E	3.71	11.43
	South Reef Island	12°46'13"N, 92°39'16"E	0.39	2.77
	Others		22.60	97.85
	Subtotal		142.37	224.39
Stewart Sound Group	Aves Island	12°54'57"N, 92°56'3"E	0.23	2.02
	Curlew Island	13°0'13"N, 92°54'41"E	0.04	0.83
	Karlo Island	12°56'10"N, 92°53'28"E	0.08	1.25
	Sound Island	12°57'55"N, 92°58'36"E	13.14	37.83
	Stewart Island	13°0'42"N, 92°55'48"E	7.04	13.26
	Others		4.53	24.4
	Subtotal		25.06	79.59

(To be continued on the next page)

(Continued)

Name of the islands	Name of the island	Center location of the island	Area (km ²)	Coastline (km)
East Baratang Group	Colebrooke Island	12°14'9"N, 92°53'28"E	10.45	23.75
	Long Island	12°23'47"N, 92°56'16"E	14.06	23.25
	North Passage Island	12°16'17"N, 92°55'19"E	13.09	29.90
	Porlob Island	12°23'34"N, 92°52'6"E	10.33	19.23
	Strait Island	12°12'43"N, 92°55'57"E	2.90	8.81
	Others		5.05	32.51
	Subtotal		55.88	137.45
West Baratang Group	Belle Island	12°12'33"N, 92°44'40"E	22.43	35.24
	Bluff Island	12°14'49"N, 92°41'52"E	0.22	1.91
	Boning Island	12°16'46"N, 92°45'39"E	3.01	8.33
	Spike Island	12°16'4"N, 92°42'43"E	9.78	19.80
	Others		4.83	34.51
	Subtotal		40.27	99.79
Napier Bay Islands	James Island	11°57'0"N, 92°43'43"E	0.90	5.30
	Kyd Island	11°57'23"N, 92°45'7"E	5.38	10.32
	Others		0.28	3.55
	Subtotal		6.56	19.17
Defence Islands	Clyde Island	11°54'42"N, 92°35'52"E	0.65	3.75
	Defence Island	11°57'11"N, 92°35'57"E	5.01	13.44
	Others		0.43	4.58
	Subtotal		6.09	21.77
Port Blair Islands	Chatnam Island	11°41'17"N, 92°43'27"E	0.10	1.24
	Ross Island	11°40'32"N, 92°45'47"E	0.34	3.27
	Vipe Island	11°39'42"N, 92°41'49"E	0.33	2.58
	Others		0.51	6.00
	Subtotal		1.28	13.09
Rutland Archipelago	Boat Island	11°31'43"N, 92°33'36"E	2.47	7.78
	East Sister Island	11°8'44"N, 92°43'51"E	0.40	2.81
	East Twin Island	11°23'39"N, 92°33'34"E	0.41	2.73
	North Cinque Island	11°19'1"N, 92°42'48"E	1.97	12.25
	Passage Island	11°11'0"N, 92°40'36"E	0.44	3.73
	Rutland Island	11°25'28"N, 92°38'19"E	120.84	73.81
	South Cinque Island	11°16'4"N, 92°41'53"E	4.60	13.69
	Tarmugli Island	11°34'48"N, 92°32'51"E	12.27	21.72
	West Sister Island	11°8'32"N, 92°43'27"E	0.08	1.11
	West Twin Island	11°23'43"N, 92°32'55"E	0.20	1.77
	Others		13.94	51.59
	Subtotal		157.62	192.99
	North Andaman Island	13°13'49"N, 92°55'39"E	1,308.68	425.32
	Middle Andaman Island	12°36'23"N, 92°49'52"E	1,488.10	369.22
	Baratang Island	12°11'53"N, 92°48'35"E	240.44	116.57
	South Andaman Island	11°51'20"N, 92°39'38"E	1,246.49	486.96
Others			0.04	0.92
Total			4,774.10	2,325.16

Vertically, there are four large islands in the Great Andaman Archipelago, which are North Andaman Island, Middle Andaman Island, Baratang Island, and South Andaman Island from north to south. The area of North Andaman Island is 1,308.68 km², and the coastline is 425.28 km. Middle Andaman Island is the largest island in Andaman Islands, with the area of 1,488.10 km² and the coastline of 369.22 km. Baratang Island is located in the middle of the Andaman Islands, with the area of 240.44 km² and the coastline of 116.57 km. South Andaman Island has an area of 1,246.49 km² and the coastline of 486.96 km, where the Port Blair, the capital of the Indian Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, is located.

Cleugh Passage Group is located in the north end of the Great Andaman Archipelago, and its geo-location is 11°8'26"N–13°40'36"N, 92°30'48"E–93°6'14"E. There are 10 islands (islets, rocks) in the Cleugh Passage Group, with the main islands including Landfall Island, East Island, and West Island. Landfall Island is only 1.1 km far away from East Island at its east, and 10 km away from the West Island at its Southwest. Landfall Island is the largest island in the Cleugh Passage Group, with the area of 16.56 km² and the coastline of 24.18 km. The total area of the Cleugh Passage Group is 22.45 km² and the coastline is 43.22 km.

Aerial Bay Islands is located in the northeast of North Andaman Island, and its geo-location is 13°17'36"N–13°26'18"N, 92°57'56"E–93°6'14"E. The Aerial Bay Islands consists of 22 islands (islets, rocks), with the main islands including Smith Island, Excelsior Island, and Table Island. Among them, Smith Island is the largest island, with the area of 20.26 km² and the coastline of 29.23 km. The total area of the Aerial Bay Islands is 24.94 km², and the coastline is 66.67 km.

Interview Group is located in the northwest of the Middle Andaman Island, and its geo-location is 12°31'19"N–13°12'10"N, 92°38'56"E–92°48'1"E. There are a total of 31 islands (islets, rocks) in the Interview Group, with the main islands including Interview Island, Anderson Island, Murga Island, and South Reef Island. Among them, the area of Interview Island is the largest island, with the area of 100.08 km² and the coastline of 76.20 km. The total area of Interview Group is 142.37 km², and the coastline is 224.39 km.

Stewart Sound Group is located in the southeast of North Andaman Island, and its geo-location is 12°53'51"N–13°4'1"N, 92°51'30"E–93°0'25"E. Stewart Sound Group belongs to the North and Middle Andaman administrative district of the Indian union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. There are 18 islands (islets, rocks) in the Stewart Sound Group, and the main islands are as follows: Sound Island, Swamp Island, Stewart Island, Curlew Island, Aves Island, and Karlo Island. Among them, Sound Island is the largest, with the area of 13.14 km² and the coastline of 37.83 km. The total area of Stewart Sound Group is 25.06 km² and the coastline is 79.59 km.

East Baratang Group is located in the middle-east of Andaman Islands, northeast of Baratang Island, southeast of Middle Andaman Island, and northwest of Ritchie's Archipelago. Its geo-location is 12°8'52"N–12°26'7"N, 92°49'45"E–92°57'37"E. East Baratang Group consists of 27 islands (islets, rocks), with the main islands including Long Island, Strait Island, North Passage Island, Colebrooke Island, and Porlob Island. Among them, Long Island is the largest one, with the area of 14.06 km² and the coastline of 23.25 km. The total area of the East Baratang Group is 55.88 km², and the coastline is 137.45 km.

West Baratang Group is in the middle-west of Andaman Islands, west of Baratang Island,

south of Middle Andaman Island, and north of South Andaman Island. Its geo-location is $12^{\circ}6'24''\text{N}$ – $12^{\circ}17'57''\text{N}$, $92^{\circ}40'48''\text{E}$ – $92^{\circ}46'17''\text{E}$. West Baratang Group includes 18 islands (islets, rocks), and the main islands are as follows: Bluff Island, Spike Island, Talakaicha Island, Boning Island, and Belle Island. Among them, Bluff Island is the largest island, with the area of 22.43 km^2 and the coastline of 35.24 km . The total area of West Baratang Group is 39.96 km^2 , and the coastline is 95.40 km .

Napier Bay Islands is located in the Napier Bay, middle-east of South Andaman Island, and its geo-location is $11^{\circ}56'29''\text{N}$ – $12^{\circ}1'5''\text{N}$, $92^{\circ}43'25''\text{E}$ – $92^{\circ}46'34''\text{E}$. Napier Bay Islands consists of 5 islands (islets, rocks), and the main islands include James Island and Kyd Island. Among them, James Island has the largest area, 5.38 km^2 , and its coastline is 10.32 km . The total area of Napier Bay Islands is 6.56 km^2 , and the coastline is 19.17 km .

Defence Islands is located in the middle-west of South Andaman Island, and its geo-location is $11^{\circ}54'17''\text{N}$ – $11^{\circ}58'55''\text{N}$, $92^{\circ}33'49''\text{E}$ – $92^{\circ}36'32''\text{E}$. Defence Islands consists of 5 islands (islets, rocks), and the main islands are Defence Island and Clyde Island. Among them, the area of Defence Island is the largest, 5.01 km^2 and its coastline is 13.44 km . The total area of Defence Islands is 6.09 km^2 and the coastline is 21.77 km .

Port Blair Islands is located in the Port Blair, southeast of South Andaman Island, and its geo-location is $11^{\circ}35'44''\text{N}$ – $11^{\circ}42'11''\text{N}$, $92^{\circ}41'7''\text{E}$ – $92^{\circ}45'58''\text{E}$. There are 10 islands (islets, rocks) in the Port Blair Islands, with the main islands including Chatnam Island, Ross Island, and Vipe Island. The total area of Port Blair Islands is 1.28 km^2 , and the coastline is 13.09 km .

Rutland Archipelago is located in the south of Andaman Islands. It is separated from the Little Andaman Group by Duncan Passage at its south, and separated from the South Andaman Island by Macphersons Strait at its north. Its geo-location is $11^{\circ}8'26''\text{N}$ – $11^{\circ}36'21''\text{N}$, $92^{\circ}31'39''\text{E}$ – $92^{\circ}44'4''\text{E}$. The main island(s) in Rutland Archipelago are as follows: Rutland Island, Passage Island, Labyrinth Islands^[23], Cinque Islands^[24], and Sisters Islands^[25]. There are a total of 24 islands (islets, rocks). Among them, Labyrinth Islands is located in the west of South Andaman Island and Rutland Island, including Tarmugli Island, Boat Island, and Twin Islands (West Twin Island and East Twin Island)^[26]. Cinque Islands is 2.5 km far away from the southeast of Rutland Island, and its geo-location is $11^{\circ}14'32''\text{N}$ – $11^{\circ}19'59''\text{N}$, $92^{\circ}41'14''\text{E}$ – $92^{\circ}43'26''\text{E}$. Cinque Islands consists of North Cinque Island and South Cinque Island, with only 1.36 km between the two islands. Sisters Islands is 11 km away from the Cinque Islands at its northwest, and its geo-location is $11^{\circ}8'26''\text{N}$ – $11^{\circ}8'58''\text{N}$, $92^{\circ}43'22''\text{E}$ – $92^{\circ}44'4''\text{E}$. Sisters Islands consists of East Sister Island and West Sister Island, with only 250 m between the two islands. Rutland Island is the largest island in the Rutland Archipelago, with the area of 120.84 km^2 and the coastline of 73.81 km . The total area of Rutland Archipelago is 157.62 km^2 and the coastline is 192.99 km .

Little Andaman Group is located in the south end of Andaman Islands. It belongs to the South Andaman administrative district of the Indian Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It lies in the east of Bay of Bengal, west of Andaman Sea, southwest of Ritchie's Archipelago, and south of the Great Andaman Archipelago. Its geo-location is $10^{\circ}30'39''\text{N}$ – $10^{\circ}59'33''\text{N}$, $92^{\circ}22'18''\text{E}$ – $92^{\circ}40'10''\text{E}$. Little Andaman Group consists of the Little Andaman Island and the Brother Islands^[27] which consists of North Brother Island and South Brother Island. Among them, Little Andaman Island is the largest island, with the area of 692.26 km^2 and coastline of 196.30 km . The total area of the Little Andaman Group is

694.39 km² and the coastline is 204.31 km (Table 2).

Table 2 Geo-location, area and coastline of main islands of the Little Andaman Group

Name of the island	Center location of the island	Area (km ²)	Coastline (km)
Little Andaman Island	10°42'8"N, 92°29'8"E	692.26	196.27
South Brother Island	10°55'58"N, 92°36'47"E	1.09	4.31
North Brother Island	10°59'15"N, 92°39'50"E	1.04	3.73
Total		694.39	204.31

Ritchie’s Archipelago is located between the Great Andaman Archipelago and the Barren Island. It is 80 km away from the Barren Island at its east, and is separated from Baratang Island and South Andaman Island (around 15 km) by Diligent Strait at its west. It belongs to the South Andaman administrative district of the Indian Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The geo-location of Ritchie’s Archipelago is 11°46'46"N–12°19'7"N, 92°55'30"E–93°7'24"E. There are 23 islands (islets, rocks) in the Ritchie’s Archipelago, and the main islands are as follows: North Button Island, Middle Button Island, South Button Island, Outram Island, Henry Lawrence Island, John Lawrence Island, Wilson Island, Nicholson Island, Sir William Peer Island, Havelock Island, Neill Island, and Rose Island. North Button Island, Middle Button Island, and South Button Island together are called Button Islands^[28]. Havelock Island is the largest island in the Ritchie’s Archipelago, with the area of 91.47 km² and the coastline of 59.71 km. The total area of the Ritchie’s Archipelago is 251.05 km² and the coastline is 262.07 km (Table 3).

Table 3 Geo-location, area and coastline of main islands of the Ritchie’s Archipelago

Name of the island	Center location of the island	Area (km ²)	Coastline (km)
Havelock Island	11°58'5"N, 92°59'33"E	91.47	59.71
Henry Lawrence Island	12°8'48"N, 93°4'2"E	54.29	40.89
John Lawrence Island	12°6'14"N, 93°1'35"E	34.75	36.00
Middle Button Island	12°16'35"N, 93°1'33"E	0.30	2.38
Neill Island	11°49'52"N, 93°2'35"E	13.55	19.59
Nicholson Island	12°6'2"N, 92°57'9"E	1.51	8.01
North Button Island	12°19'2"N, 93°4'7"E	0.18	2.58
Outram Island	12°14'4"N, 93°5'7"E	14.08	27.53
Rose Island	11°47'4"N, 93°4'54"E	0.66	3.36
Sir William Peer Island	12°4'42"N, 92°58'59"E	23.76	29.57
South Button Island	12°13'26"N, 93°1'13"E	0.02	0.52
Wilson Island	12°7'51"N, 92°58'40"E	14.41	16.91
Others		2.07	15.02
Total		251.05	262.07

East Volcano Islands is located in the Andaman Sea, and its geo-location is 13°25'46"N–13°27'53"N, 94°14'56"E–94°16'38"E. It belongs to the North and Middle Andaman administrative district of the Indian union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. East Volcano Islands consists of Barren Island and Narcondam Island, with 132.5 km away from each other. The Barren Island is an active volcano, with the most recent eruption in

2017. The Narcondam Island is a dormant volcano. The total area of the East Volcano Islands is 15.85 km² and the coastline is 27.50 km (Table 4).

Table 4 Geo-location, area and coastline of main islands of the East Volcano Islands

Name of the island	Center location of the island	Area (km ²)	Coastline (km)
Barren Island	12°16'48"N, 93°51'42"E	8.25	14.05
Narcondam Island	13°26'49"N, 94°15'48"E	7.60	13.45
Total		15.85	27.50

Sentinel Islands is located in the southwest of Andaman Islands, and it belongs to the South Andaman administrative district of the Indian Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Its geo-location is 11°31'3"N–11°35'47"N, 92°11'55"E–92°16'29"E. Sentinel Islands consists of North Sentinel Island and South Sentinel Island, with 60 km between the two islands. North Sentinel Island is 30 km away from Labyrinth Islands of the Rutland Archipelago, with the area of 49.34 km² and the coastline of 42.21 km; while South Sentinel Island is located in the northwest of Little Andaman Island and southwest of Rutland Island, with the area of 1.92 km² and the coastline of 5.55 km. The total area of Sentinel Islands is 51.26 km² and the coastline is 47.76 km (Table 5).

Table 5 Geo-location, area and coastline of main islands of the Sentinel Islands

Name of the island	Center location of the island	Area (km ²)	Coastline (km)
North Sentinel Island	11°33'27"N, 92°14'18"E	49.34	42.21
South Sentinel Island	10°58'37"N, 92°13'14"E	1.92	5.55
Total		51.26	47.76

The dataset was developed based on the Google Earth and related maps and references, and its spatial vector data is from AS_I_shoreline_m_gg_2015shp.rar of the “Global multiple scale shorelines dataset based on Google Earth images (2015)”^[27]. The dataset is consisted of 15 data files and archived in .kmz and .shp^[28] data formats with the data size of 12.0 MB (compressed to 4.21 MB in two files).

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