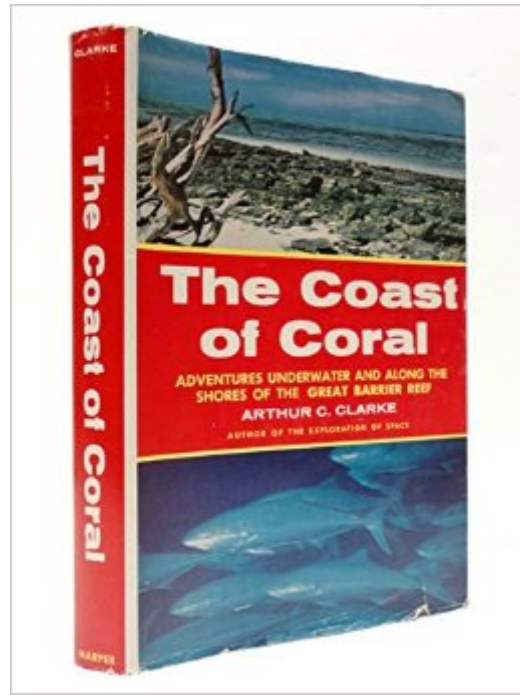


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# The Coast Of Coral



## Synopsis

World-famous science and science-fiction author Arthur C. Clarke and photographer Mike Wilson spent two adventurous years exploring the Great Barrier Reef, the mightiest coral formation in the world. Presented here are "the adventures and mishaps, successes and failures" of that underwater expedition, as recorded by Clarke himself. Illustrated with rare underwater photographs, here is a unique look into a region of mystery, of boundless beauty and danger -- one of the most intriguing frontiers on our planet.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 206 pages

Publisher: Harper & Brothers; First edition (1956)

Language: English

ASIN: B0000CJH5Z

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.4 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,451,350 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #58 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Ecosystems > Coral Reefs](#) #3363 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Oceans & Seas](#)

## Customer Reviews

Arthur C. Clarke traveled to Australia at a time when scuba diving was just beginning. He brought with him two French designed Aqua Lungs (Cousteau-Gagnan process). When he arrived he discovered that the French Aqua Lung was already dated and the new single hose scuba was in use. It had been invented by Ted Eldred in Melbourne, Australia. The book tells of his adventures both in and out of the water. The book is the first time the modern single hose scuba ever appears in an international diving book. Clarke appears to have completely lost interest in the Aqua Lungs he brought with him and continued his adventure with the Australian Porpoise underwater breathing apparatus. From a historical perspective this book is significant, as it is the first time the rare Porpoise scuba is ever mentioned in scuba and in hookah form (surface supplied). The book tells of his diving adventure and gives some insight into the Australia of the time.

Originally published in 1955, *The Coast of Coral* is an account of Arthur C. Clarke's exploration of the Great Barrier Reef off the eastern coast of Australia. He describes the large variety of coral

found during his many dives there, along with fish and other inhabitants of the reef, including several shark encounters, all accompanied by sixteen pages of B&W photos. The book is somewhat of a look into the past, as much of the reef has now been destroyed by careless tourists, some fishing methods, pollution, and the more natural ravages of weather. Also dated is activity like eating sea turtle eggs, and walking on the reef, which the author retracts in his recently written introduction. Clarke touches on Australian culture and there are several chapters on pearl diving. Unfortunately there are a few typos, seemingly common in ebooks publications. An example from page 32 shows editors can't just rely on spellcheckers: "...if the hark did appear, I was chiefly anxious to get him in the game picture as Mike..." While the reader should be able to determine what is meant, these errors are irritating and could easily have been eliminated with better proofreading.

love it!!!!happened upon it in a small bookstore in providence ri.....big fan of marine historical stories and this is definately one of them!!!!plus i am a a.c.clarke science fiction fan too...so great to see different side of the man....quite humourous to see the differences in tech and thinking about diving...love it.....cannot wait for the third in the series to be reprinted!!!!!!

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The History of the World's Largest Coral Reef National Geographic Readers: Swim Fish!: Explore the Coral Reef Over in the Ocean: In a Coral Reef A City Under the Sea: Life in a Coral Reef

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