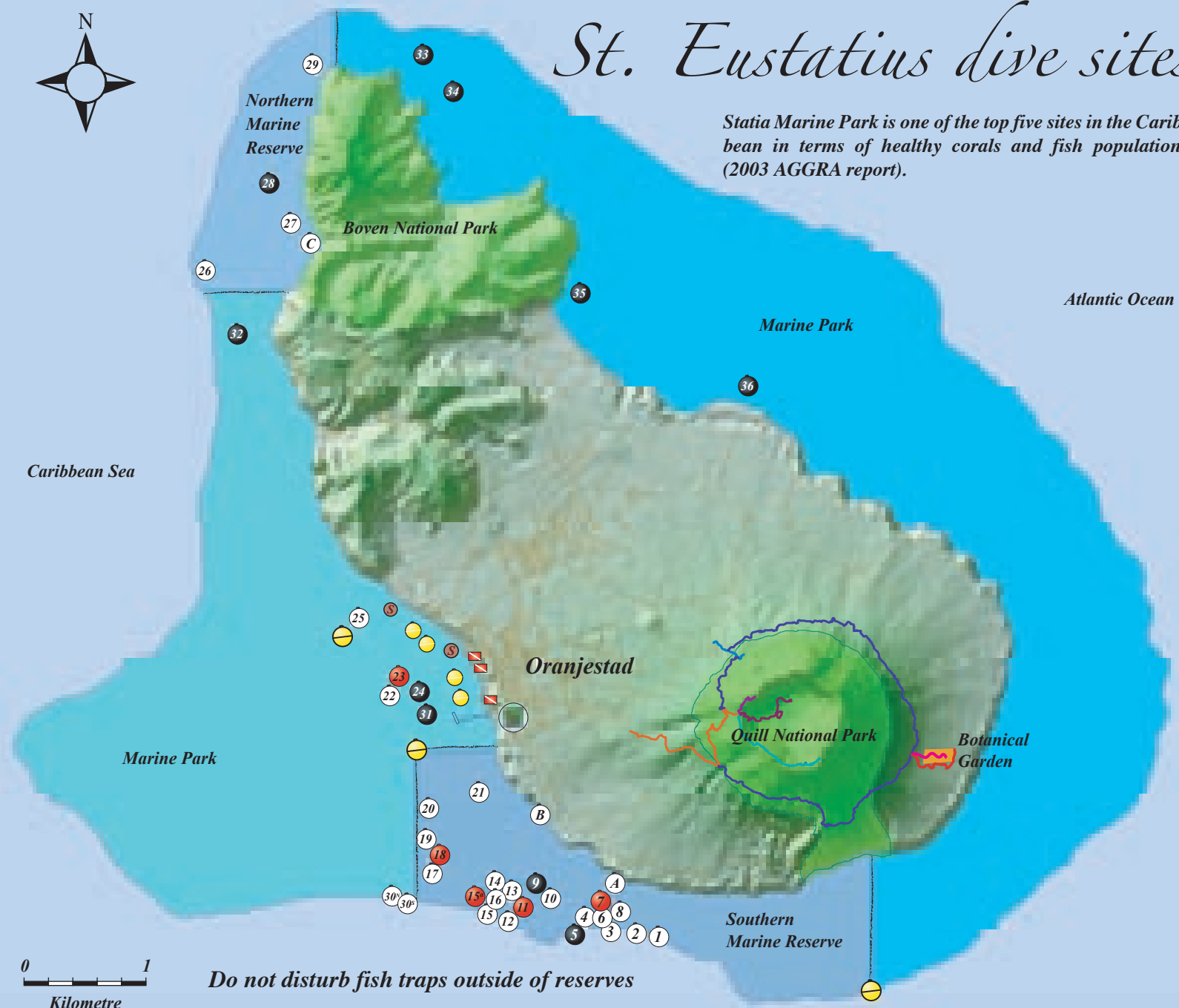




St. Eustatius dive sites

Statia Marine Park is one of the top five sites in the Caribbean in terms of healthy corals and fish populations (2003 AGGRA report).



1. Drop Off East (21m / 69ft)	15. Anchor Point West (18m / 62ft) (H)
2. Drop Off West (29m / 96ft)	16. Anchor Point North (19m / 62ft) (H)
3. Grand Canyon / Off the Wall (26m / 86ft)	17. Twin Peaks (22m / 71ft)
4. The Cliffs / Down South (20m / 67ft)	18. Barracuda Reef (23m / 74ft) (N)
5. Coral Gardens (30m / 99ft)	19. Nursing Station (19m / 62ft)
6. Mushroom Garden (16m / 52ft)	20. Blair's Reef (19m / 62ft) (N)
7. The Humps (13m / 43ft) (N)	21. Crooks Castle (11m / 35ft)
8. Valley of the Sponges (13m / 43 ft)	22. Triple Wreck (17m / 55ft) (W) (H) (N)
9. Five Fingers North (14m / 47ft)	23. Double Wreck (20m / 67ft) (W) (H) (N)
10. Five Fingers South (16m / 52ft)	24. Stingray City (15m / 50ft) (W) (H) (N)
11. The Ledges (19m / 61ft)	25. STENAPA Reef (17m / 56ft) (W) (N)
12. Anchor Reef (23m / 74ft) (H)	25 ^o Chien Tong (17m / 56ft) (W)
13. The Blocks (17m / 55ft)	26. Doobie's Crack (29m / 94ft)
14. Hangover (17m / 55ft) (N)	27. Outer Jenkins Bay (12m / 40ft)
15. Anchor Point South (18m / 62ft) (H)	28. Twin Sisters (18m / 58ft)
Dive site for vessels < 30 tonnes Dive site for all vessels 30-50 tonnes Dive site with no buoy Reserve boundary marker Yacht mooring Snorkel site Dive centre Wreck dive Night dive Historical dive National Parks office Marine reserve boundary line	29. Gibraltar / North Point (18m / 59ft) 30 ^{north} The Charles L. Brown (31m / 102ft) (W) 30 ^{south} The Charles L. Brown (31m / 102ft) (W) 31. Blue Bead Hole (17m / 55ft) 32. Aquarium (18m / 58ft) 33. North Man (30m / 99ft) 34. Five Canyons (26m / 86ft) 35. The Cave (20m / 67ft) 36. English Quarter (10m / 33ft) Snorkel sites A. Blind Shoal (6m / 19ft) B. Twelve Guns (6m / 17ft) (H) C. Inner Jenkins Bay 6m / 19ft)

A selection of Statia's dive sites.

Mushroom Gardens dive site 6 (19 m)

On the plateau above the drop off that demarcates the Marine Park boundary, volcanic activity has left boulders that have become encrusted with corals and sponges. Here mushroom-like colonies of the Mountainous Star Coral (*Montastrea faveolata*) grow in massive mounds and sheets with knobby bumps and skirt-like edges. Groupers, such as Coneys, Red- and Rock Hinds, have become a common sight since these reefs were protected in 1996.



A typical mushroom-shaped colony

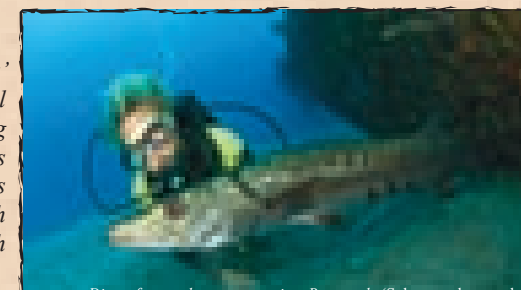
Grand Canyon dive site 3 (30-40 m)

This site is a drop-off similar in habitat and morphology to Sites 1, 2, 4 and 5. A spur and groove system has shaped the walls along this drop-off creating coral fingers and sand chutes. Plate corals, deep water sea fans and black corals flourish on the deep canyon walls. Look out for passing Spotted Eagle Rays, Reef Sharks and shoals of Crevalle Jack and Dolphin Fish.

Hangover dive site 14 (17 m)

Volcanic activity has created a series of lava 'fingers' extending seaward from the Quill. These coral encrusted 'fingers' provide a number of interesting dives (Sites 8-16). Complex overhangs and ledges create shelter for juvenile and nocturnal creatures, as well as Nurse Sharks. A spectacular array of fish includes four species of angelfish and pelagics such as Bar Jack and shoals of Horse-Eye Jack.

This cryptic Seahorse blends in with its colourful surroundings.



Divers frequently encounter giant Barracuda (*Sphyraena barracuda*).

Barracuda Reef dive site 18 (23 m)

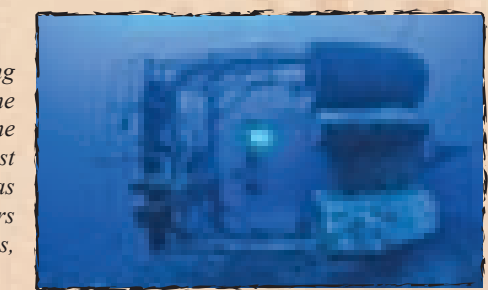
Renowned for large numbers of Barracuda around the mooring line, Barracuda Reef is the name given to two dive sites (18-19) on a large sloping basalt plate. This dive is attractive for its pristine and diverse reef and fish life, such as Black Coral and Spotted Drumfish. Divers meander along the long undulating walls and ledges that hide huge numbers of lobster.

Double Wreck dive site 23 (20 m)

Historic remains of two 18th century trading ships have created an interesting reef. The structure has long since rotted but coralline algae and coral have cemented the ballast stones to form the reef habitat which has attracted fish and invertebrates. Divers frequently encounter stingrays, garden eels, morays and sharks.



Flying Gurnard (*Dactylopterus volitans*)



The Charles L. Brown dive site 30 (31 m)

This 100m long cable laying vessel built in Italy in 1954 was sunk in 2003 as a new wreck dive site for Statia. Divers can enjoy shoals of over 100 Horse-eye Jack cruising the wreck. The Charles Brown has most of its superstructure intact and great opportunities for easy and more advanced penetration.