

# MARINE INVERTEBRATES OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

**Antique ark**  
*Anadara antiquata*  
Infaunal, muddy to sandy bottoms; intertidal to 10 m.  
Max. shell length: 10.5 cm

**Pacific asaphus**  
*Asaphis stoliczkae*  
Infaunal, between rocks and mixed sand; intertidal to 5 m.  
Max. shell length: 11 cm

**Blacklip pearl oyster**  
*Pinctada margaritifera*  
Various bottoms, mainly in current; intertidal to over 20 m.  
Max. shell height: 25 cm

**Ducal thorny oyster**  
*Spondylus squamosus*  
Various bottoms; intertidal and shallow water to 30 m.  
Max. shell height: 10 cm

**Striate beach clam**  
*Atactodes striata*  
Infaunal, sandy beaches; intertidal.  
Max. shell length: 4 cm

**Comb venus**  
*Gastropium pectinatum*  
Sandy muddy bottoms; intertidal to 10 m.  
Max. shell length: 4.8 cm

**Bear paw giant clam**  
*Hippopus hippopus*  
Inside lagoons subtidal to 10 m.  
Max. shell length: 40 cm

**Reflexed jewel box**  
*Chama pacifica*  
Attached to pavement and rocks; intertidal to 30 m.  
Max. shell length: 8 cm

**Elongate giant clam**  
*Tridacna maxima*  
Reefs, partially embedded in corals; subtidal and shallow water to 15 m.  
Max. shell length: 35 cm

**Fluted giant clam**  
*Tridacna squamosa*  
Reefs, in moderately protected areas; subtidal to 20 m.  
Max. shell length: 40 cm

**Youthful venus**  
*Periglypta puerpera*  
Sandy to muddy bottoms; intertidal to 20 m.  
Max. shell length: 12.5 cm

**Common octopus**  
*Octopus cyaneus*  
Various coral and dead rubble habitats, in clear waters; to at least 25 m.  
Total length to over 1 m.

## BIVALVES

**Leopard cone**  
*Conus leopardus*  
Sandy areas; intertidal to 10 m.  
Max. shell length: 22 cm

**Serpent's head cowrie**  
*Cyprina caputserpentis*  
Rock platforms exposed to wave action.  
Max. shell length: 4.5 cm

**Tiger cowrie**  
*Cyprina tigris*  
Various lagoonal habitats; intertidal to 10 m.  
Max. shell length: 15 cm

**Shoulderblade sea cat**  
*Dialohula aurivindata*  
Seagrass flats in shallow water, especially in sheltered bays and lagoons.  
Max. body length: 15 cm

**Common spider conch**  
*Lambis lambis*  
Seagrass and rubble bottoms; subtidal to 10 m.  
Max. shell length: 20 cm

**Filamentous horse conch**  
*Pleurophos filamentosa*  
Coral reefs and rocky bottoms; subtidal, mainly in shallow water.  
Max. shell length: 15 cm

**Gold ring cowrie**  
*Cyprina annulus*  
Various habitats, even sandy bottoms; in shallow water.  
Max. shell length: 4 cm

**Plicate nerite**  
*Nerita plicata*  
Upper shores, in tidal pools, on damp and submerged rocks.  
Max. shell length: 3.5 cm

**Polished nerite**  
*Nerita polita*  
Upper shores, in tidal pools, on damp and submerged rocks.  
Max. shell length: 4 cm

**Oxpalate nerite**  
*Nerita albicollis*  
Upper shores, in tidal pools, on damp and submerged rocks.  
Max. shell length: 3.5 cm

**Strawberry conch**  
*Strombus lolianus*  
Rocky shores and reef flats; intertidal to 10 m.  
Max. shell length: 8 cm

**Belligerent rock shell**  
*Thais arrigera*  
Rocky shores and reef flats; intertidal and subtidal.  
Max. shell length: 9 cm

**Gibbose conch**  
*Strombus gibberulus*  
Sand and seagrass bottoms; intertidal to 5 m.  
Max. shell length: 7 cm

**Pyramid top shell**  
*Tectarius pyramis*  
Coral reef zone; subtidal to 10 m.  
Max. shell length: 15 cm

**Silvermouth turban**  
*Turbo argyrostomus*  
Coral reef areas, in moderately exposed habitats; subtidal.  
Max. shell length: 10 cm

**Rough turban**  
*Turbo strombus*  
In the reef crest wave zone.  
Max. shell length: 8 cm

**Trochus**  
*Trochus nitidus*  
Reef flats and edges exposed to water flow; intertidal to 15 m.  
Max. shell length: 15 cm

## GASTROPODS

**Coconut crab**  
*Birgus latro*  
Terrestrial hermit crab; mostly in rocky limestone areas; spawns at sea.  
Max. carapace length: 15 cm

**White-spotted hermit crab**  
*Dardanus megistos*  
Various bottoms; intertidal to 10 m.

**Caledonian slipper lobster**  
*Pteribrachius caledonicus*  
Reefs, usually on the exposed side and in surge channels; shallow water to 5 m.  
Max. body length: 18 cm

**Brown land crab**  
*Cardisoma carnifex*  
Terrestrial crab, in back mangroves or similar brackish-water habitats; spawns at sea.  
Max. carapace width: 12 cm (males)

**Spotted reef crab**  
*Cardisoma maculatus*  
Reefs, mostly in clear waters; subtidal to 5 m.  
Max. carapace width: 18 cm

**Smooth redefyed crab**  
*Erythraeus sebaeus*  
Rocky shores and reefs; intertidal.  
Max. carapace width: 8 cm

**Mud crab**  
*Scylla serrata*  
Soft muddy bottoms, mostly in mangroves; migrates offshore to spawn; intertidal to 5 m.  
Max. carapace width: 28 cm (males)

**Stripe-leg spiny lobster**  
*Panulirus longipes bipinnatus*  
Shallow coral or rocky reefs, in clear waters with moderate currents; shallow water to 10 m.  
Max. body length: 35 cm

**Pronghorn spiny lobster**  
*Panulirus penicillatus*  
Exposed reef crest and slope; shallow water to 5 m.  
Max. body length: 40 cm

**Painted spiny lobster**  
*Panulirus versicolor*  
Lagoonal reefs; shallow water to 10 m.  
Max. body length: 40 cm

**Common banded mantis shrimp**  
*Stomatopoda maculata*  
Burrows in sandy level bottoms near shore; intertidal to 5 m.  
Max. total length: 38 cm

## CRUSTACEANS

**Surf redfish**  
*Actinopops mauritiana*  
Reef flats, edges and pools exposed to water flow; intertidal to 10 m.  
Max. length: 40 cm

**Lollyfish**  
*Holothuria atra*  
Various habitats; shallow water to 10 m.  
Max. length: 65 cm

**Black teatfish**  
*Holothuria whitmanii*  
Reef flats, slopes, and shallow seagrass beds; subtidal to 20 m.  
Max. length: 50 cm

**Hairy blackfish**  
*Actinopops militaris*  
Seagrass bottoms of fringing and lagoon reefs; intertidal to 10 m.  
Max. length: 40 cm

**White teatfish**  
*Holothuria fuscogilba*  
Outer reefs and passes, in current; 10 to 40 m.  
Max. length: 57 cm

**Greenfish**  
*Stichopus chloronotus*  
Various habitats; intertidal to 10 m.  
Max. length: 38 cm

**Leopardfish**  
*Bokadachia argus*  
Lagoons, on sand near reefs; subtidal to 20 m.  
Max. length: 60 cm

**Sandfish**  
*Holothuria scabra*  
Burrows in inner coastal sandy areas, near mangroves, under terrigenous influence; intertidal to 5 m.  
Max. length: 35 cm

**Curryfish**  
*Stichopus hermanni*  
Sandy areas in sheltered lagoonal reefs; subtidal to 20 m.  
Max. length: 55 cm

**Chalkfish**  
*Bokadachia similis*  
Burrows in inner coastal sandy areas, near mangroves, under terrigenous influence; intertidal to 5 m.  
Max. length: 35 cm

**Brown sandfish**  
*Bokadachia vitensis*  
Burrows in soft sandy bottoms of lagoons; intertidal to 20 m.  
Max. length: 45 cm

**Dragonfish**  
*Stichopus horrens*  
Inshore areas, reefs and seagrass beds (nocturnal); subtidal to 10 m.  
Max. length: 40 cm

**Coarse spined urchin**  
*Echinolittorina diadema*  
Reefs, in crevices or under rocks during daytime; subtidal to 5 m.  
Max. test diameter: 12 cm

**Striped sea urchin**  
*Thalassoma gestella*  
Seagrass and rubble areas; intertidal to 5 m.  
Max. test diameter: 14 cm

**Prickly redfish**  
*Thalassoma ananas*  
Reef slopes and near passes; subtidal to 25 m.  
Max. length: 80 cm

## ECHINODERMS