

# Mauritius oil spill disaster

A ship that ran aground off the island is leaking tonnes of oil into the ocean, threatening coral reefs and the island's vital tourist economy



## MV WAKASHIO

**Type:** Bulk Carrier

**Built:** 2007

**Length/breadth:**  
300m/50m

**Registered:** Panama

**Owners:** Okiyo  
Maritime Corporation  
and Nagashiki Shipping  
Co. Ltd, Japan

**Route:** China-Brazil



**Wakashio route**

**Speed:** 11 knots  
(No sign of slowing  
before impact)

**Most vessels  
pass 12 nautical  
miles from shore**

## MAURITIUS (2019 data)

**GDP:** \$14.18bn

**Tourism:** 23.8% of GDP

**Tourists:** 1.41m

**Population:** 1.27m\*

**Jul 25, Pointe d'Esny:** Ship runs aground on coral reef

**Aug 6:** Breaks apart, spilling 900 tonnes of 3,600-tonne load of heavy bunker fuel oil

**Indian Ocean**

\*2018