

## Sandefjord Bay (Draft) – Marine Only

60° 37' 00" S, 46° 02' 59" W

Southwest corner of Coronation Island

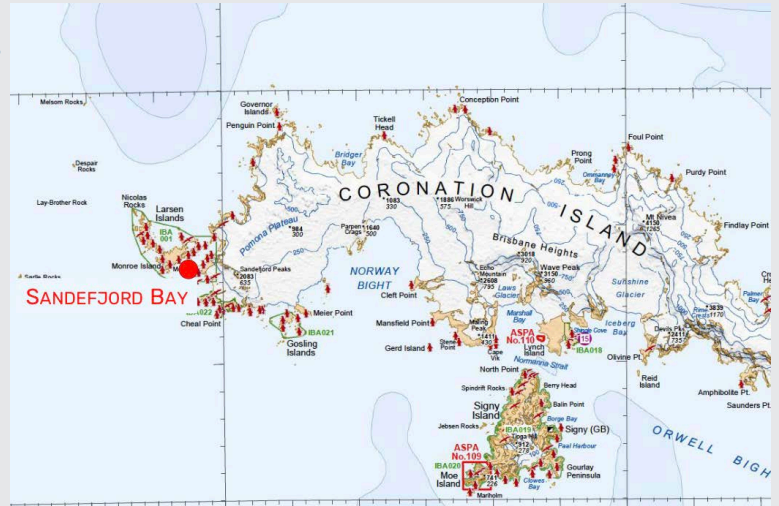
# IAATO

visitor site guide



### Key Features

- No landing. Marine Site only
- Small boat cruising and watersports
- Chinstrap penguins and Antarctic fur seals
- ASPA No. 114 in vicinity.



### Description

#### TOPOGRAPHY

Sandefjord Bay is located on the southern portion of the west coast of Coronation Island. The borders of the bay is comprised of Monroe Island to the northwest, and the Sandefjord Peaks of Coronation Island to the east.

Monroe Island can provide a lee from northerly winds during a Scotia Sea crossing.

Coronation Island is the largest of the South Orkney Islands and is composed predominantly of regionally metamorphosed rocks. In Sandefjord Bay, the bordering coastline is made of quartzo-feldspathic and micaceous schists. There are reported inaccessible bands of marble in the cliffs along the eastern border of the bay.



#### FAUNA

**Confirmed breeders:** Chinstrap penguins, Cape petrel.

**Common visitors:** Antarctic fur seals, Southern Elephant seals, Leopard seals.

**Other wildlife:** Cape petrel, South Georgia shag, Humpback whales, Fin whales, Adelie penguins, Weddell seals, Giant petrels, Wilson's storm petrels, Macaroni penguins, Black browed albatross, Kelp gulls, Snow petrel, Southern fulmar.



## Visitor Impact

### POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Possible disturbance of wildlife.

Possible glacier calving and wave creation over sand bars and morainal materials.

## Activity Requirements

### SHIPS\*

Maximum passengers onboard: 500

Ships per day: 3

\* A ship is defined as a vessel which carries more than 12 passengers

### ACTIVITY AREA

Numerous rocky ledges with chinstraps entering and exiting the water exist throughout the bay.

Visible moraine at the face of a glacier coming down from Sandefjord Peaks is a common resting place for Southern Elephant seals, Fur seals, and Chinstrap penguins.

Leopard seals are often found in the bay.

### RESTRICTED ZONES

Swell and surge wrapping around Monroe Island from the north and west should be monitored closely by the Mother vessel as well as small boat drivers.

Small boat drivers should avoid small, confined areas in the presence of sizeable pieces of ice.

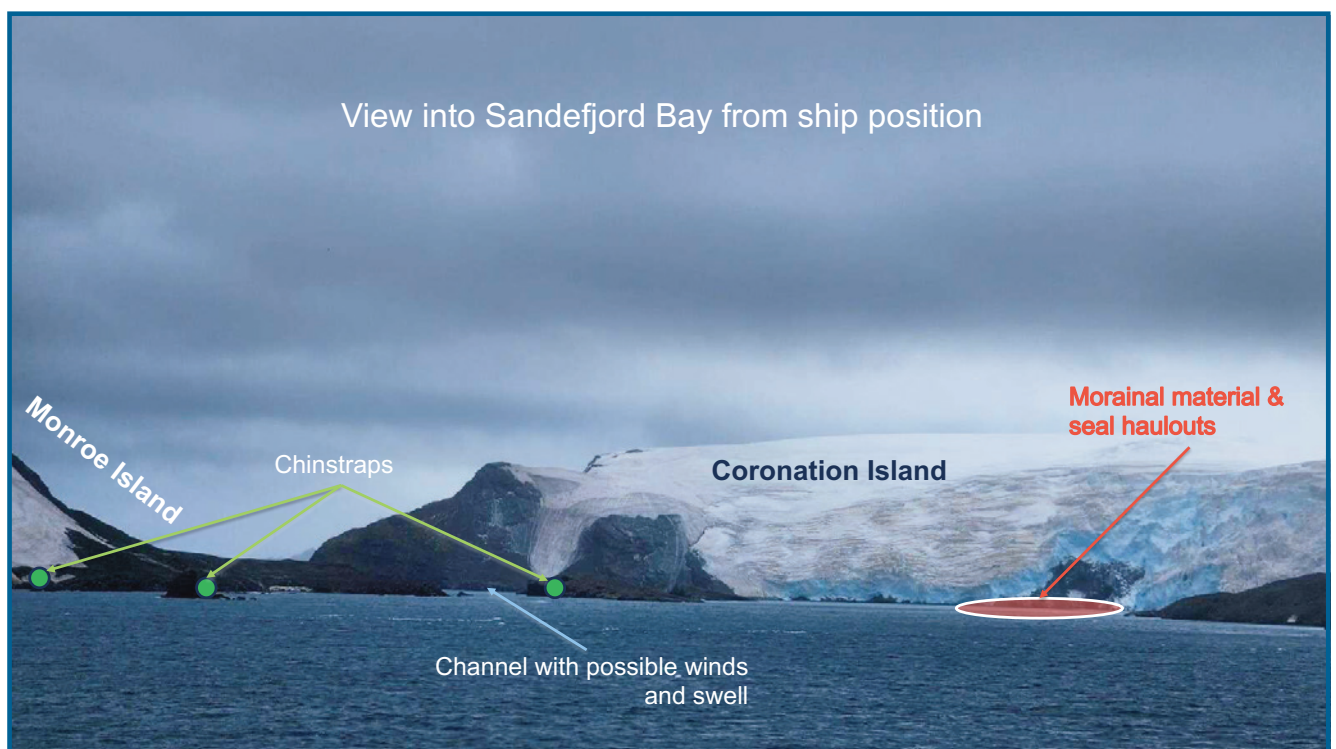
Avoid approaching tidewater glaciers within the boundaries of visible morainal material.

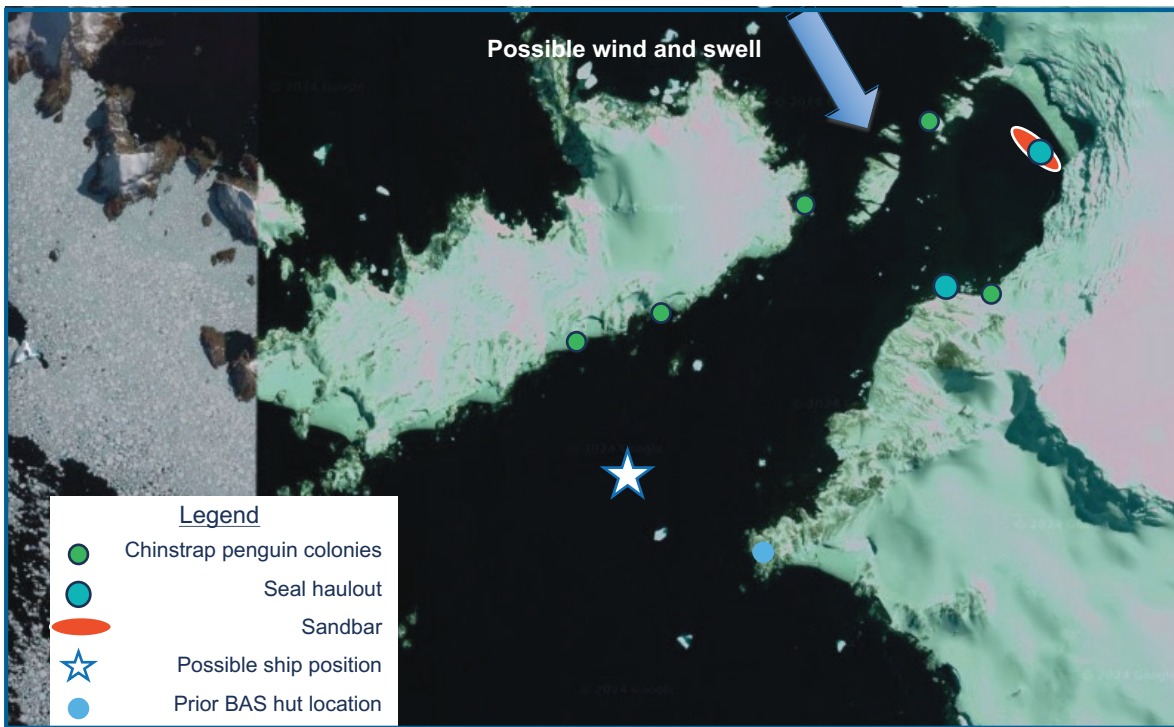
Northern Coronation Island between Conception Point and Foul Point, and inland to Wave Peak is designated as Antarctic Specially Protected Area no. 114 under the Antarctic Treaty.

### FREE ROAMING AREAS

Swell and surge wrapping around Monroe Island from the north and west should be monitored closely by the Mother vessel as well as small boat drivers.

Small boats cruising in the vicinity of tide water glaciers should keep at least 200 meters (600 ft) from tide water glaciers to avoid both direct hits and the largest waves.





## Historical Information

Remains of BAS (UK) Hut at Moreton Point unofficially known as Station P.

Summer-only BAS research base located on Signy Island nearby.

Year-round DNA (Arg) research base Orcadas located on Laurie Island nearby.

Coronation Island was named by British sealer George Powell, who discovered the island in 1821 – the year of the coronation of King George IV.

Monroe Island was named by American sealer Nathaniel Palmer for his sloop named James Monroe.

In 1945 a hut was built by BAS at Moreton Point, although there were insufficient personnel to occupy it. This has since been referred to as Station P, although there is no evidence for this in the official records. It was replaced by a new hut at Cape Geddes, Laurie Island (which became known as Station C) in 1946.

The hut was last seen standing 6 September 1950. Collapsed (possibly blown down) by 1 Feb 1995.