

# GSGSSI BIOSECURITY DOG SEARCH

**The aim of the biosecurity dog search is to check vessels and cargo bound for South Georgia for rodents (rats and mice), thus keeping South Georgia rodent-free.**

**Meet Sammy...**



## **WHAT NEXT?**

**Once you have applied for your visitor permit you will be contacted by the dog team to arrange an inspection.**

## **1. NO PETTING PLEASE!**

**During the search please don't pet the dog.**

## **2. NO TREATS!**

**Please don't offer Sammy food.**

## **3. SAY HI AFTERWARDS!**

**Sammy will be happy to meet & greet once the search is finished!**

**#SGSSIBiosecurity**

**See over for FAQs or contact [biosecurity.doghandler@gov.gs](mailto:biosecurity.doghandler@gov.gs) for queries & feedback.**



# FAQs

## Where does the search take place?

Vessels are searched **in the Falklands**, before departure to South Georgia.

## Which vessels need an inspection?

**ALL vessels visiting South Georgia** will be required to make themselves available for inspection if they transit via the Falklands.

## Which parts of the ship does the dog team need access to?

The dog team will contact you beforehand to explain what areas of the vessel they need to access. **This may include but is not limited to: cargo receiving and storage areas, waste storage, dry stores, moorings and zodiac decks.** The dog team must have access to all areas of the vessel if needed but will not normally search passenger cabins.

## What is expected of you?

- It is helpful to have a member of crew available to guide the dog team around the vessel.
- Please refrain from conversing with the handler and touching the detector dog during the search. Absolutely no treats for the dog please!
- The dog team will manage all aspects of safety and navigate obstacles; please only help if you are asked to.
- Once an area has been cleared by the dog, the handler may hide a training aid for the dog to find which helps keep the dog motivated and alert.

## How long will the search take?

The length of the search depends on the size of the vessel. **Allow up to 2 hours.**

## How long is it valid for?

**The search is valid for one trip only.** It will not always be possible to complete an inspection but the vessel must make itself available for inspection in Stanley every time it re-enters South Georgia waters.

## Can we pet the dog and take photos?

**Yes, after the inspection is complete.** Our detector dog is friendly and would be happy to meet you and take photos once the search is completed.