

7. Neko Harbour

64°51'00" S, 62°32'00" W
Located in Andvord Bay

ANTARCTIC TREATY

visitor site guide



Key Features

- Glacial scenery
- Gentoo Penguins
- Continental landing



Description

TOPOGRAPHY

A beach and small rocky outcrop on the shore of Neko Harbour, backed by towering peaks and surrounded by glaciers which are heavily crevassed. The glaciers surrounding the bay regularly calve.

FAUNA

Weddell seal - Regularly haul out, Skua - Confirmed breeders, Kelp gull - Confirmed breeders, Gentoo penguin - Confirmed breeders

FLORA

Swards of moss species, the green alga *Prasiola crispa* and snow algae.

OTHER

The foundations of an Argentine refuge hut are still visible. Following weather damage in 2010 the hut was removed and the site cleared.

Visitor Impact

KNOWN IMPACTS

None.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Disturbance to wildlife.

Landing Requirements

SHIPS

Max pax on board: 500

Ships per day: 3

VISITORS

Maximum number of passengers at any time, exclusive of expedition guides and leaders: 100

Visitors per guide: 20

Comments: One ship at a time. Maximum 3 ships per day (midnight to midnight), of which no more than two may be vessels carrying more than 200 passengers. No visitors ashore between 22:00hrs and 04:00hrs (local time), except for those engaged in organised overnight stays. This is in order to establish a resting period for the wildlife.

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

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Visitor Area

LANDING AREA

The preferred landing site is the cobble beach on the south-west side of the large boulder, by a small reef. Avoid the inner stretch of beach leading to the glacier due to the risk of dangerous waves resulting from glacier calving. Avoid also the sandy beach due west of the penguin colony which is an important access route for penguins.

CLOSED AREA

None.

GUIDED WALKING AREA

Walks up the permanent snow bank to the higher rocky outcrop overlooking the glacier and landing site must be guided or marked, as surrounding snow and ice areas are crevassed and dangerous.

FREE ROAMING AREA

Visitors can roam freely, but under supervision.

Visitor code of conduct

BEHAVIOUR ASHORE

All visits are to be conducted in accordance with the General Guidelines for Visitors to the Antarctic.

CAUTIONARY NOTES

Be aware that glacier calving may produce dangerous waves. Avoid the beach or be prepared to evacuate quickly up the hill. The route to the higher rocky outcrop skirts areas which are heavily crevassed and extremely dangerous.



Neko Harbour landing beach

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The refuge hut is slightly elevated above the beach, and often surrounded by nesting penguins.

