

# 11. Turret Point

62°05'00" S, 57°55'00" W  
Eastern end of King George Island

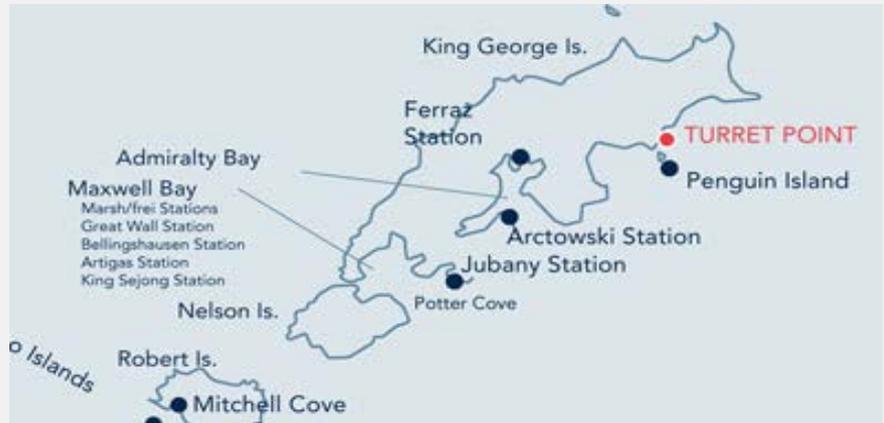
## ANTARCTIC TREATY

visitor site guide



### Key Features

- Southern Giant Petrels
- Blue-eyed Shags
- Chinstrap and Adélie Penguins
- Southern Elephant Seals
- Glacial Outwash Plain



### Description

#### TOPOGRAPHY

Turret Point is marked by conspicuous rock stacks that form the eastern limit of King George Bay west of Three Sisters Point. There is a cobble beach on the southern coast and melt pools inland. The beach gently slopes to an extensive, heavily crevassed glacier.

#### FAUNA

Snowy sheathbill - Suspected Breeders, Skua - Suspected Breeders, Weddell seal - Regularly haul out, Southern Elephant Seal - Regularly haul out, Antarctic fur seal - Regularly haul out, Southern giant petrel - Confirmed breeders, Kelp gull - Confirmed breeders, Chinstrap Penguin - Confirmed breeders, Blue-eyed shag - Confirmed breeders, Antarctic tern - Confirmed breeders, Adélie penguin - Confirmed breeders

#### FLORA

Swards of moss species, the lichens *Xanthoria* spp., *Caloplaca* spp. and other crustose lichens.

### Visitor Impact

#### KNOWN IMPACTS

None.

#### POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Trampling of vegetation en route to the glacier and disturbance of wildlife, particularly southern giant petrels.

### Landing Requirements

#### SHIPS

Max pax on board: 200

Ships per day: 2

#### VISITORS

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

Visitors per guide: 20

Curfew time period (from/to), in order to establish a rest period for wildlife: 22:00-04:00

Comments: One ship at a time. Maximum 2 ships per day (midnight to midnight).

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

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### Visitor Area

#### LANDING AREA

Primary: along an exposed broad cobble beach to the south, which may be packed with ice.

Secondary: to the west. If this is used, be sure to stay clear of nesting sites for southern giant petrel at both ends of the beach (Closed Areas A and B).

#### CLOSED AREA

Closed Area A: Biodiverse fragile area including nesting southern giant petrels, kelp gulls, chinstrap penguins, blue-eyed shags and elephant seals wallows.

Closed Area B: Nesting southern giant petrels.

Closed Area C: Elevated area above the beach with nesting southern giant petrels.

#### GUIDED WALKING AREA

Visitors to the glacier should be guided in small groups following the streambed to avoid trampling of vegetation.

#### FREE ROAMING AREA

Visitors may roam freely, but under supervision, between the landing beaches, avoiding the closed areas.

### Visitor code of conduct

#### BEHAVIOUR ASHORE

Do not walk on any vegetation.

When on the same level as, or higher than, nesting southern giant petrels, maintain a precautionary distance of at least 50 metres. Increase this distance if any change in the birds' behaviour is observed.

Walk slowly and carefully. Maintain a precautionary distance of 5 metres from wildlife and give animals the right-of-way. Increase this distance if any change in behaviour is observed.

Be careful near Antarctic fur seals, they may be aggressive.

#### CAUTIONARY NOTES

While weather conditions can change rapidly anywhere in the Antarctic, this location is particularly prone to such changes.



Turret Point from above - towards the primary landing beach

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The glacial melt stream is clearly visible in times of limited snow and ice cover



Vegetation is scattered across the site

## TURRET POINT

