

Curtiss Bay (Draft) – Marine Only

64° 02' 57" S, 060° 45' 48" W

Centre of Curtiss Bay

IAATO

visitor site guide



Key Features

- No landing. Marine site only
- Small boat cruising and watersports
- Glacial landscape
- Chinstrap penguins on small islands in the north of the bay
- ASPA No. 134 in vicinity (8nm)



Description

TOPOGRAPHY

A broad (approx. 5 nm) glacial bay exposed to the Bransfield Strait in its outer approaches. Behind Seaplane Point good shelter can be found for small boats.

The bay borders the Wright Ice Piedmont to the southeast. Significant amounts of glacial ice can be found in the bay.

Numerous small islands are found in the north of the bay and amongst these some small chinstrap penguin colonies can be found.

There are very limited opportunistic landing opportunities on small rock ledges on the mainland to the north of the cove behind Seaplane Point.

There is granite which is likely related to those intrusions found in Charlotte Bay, Neko Harbour etc.

FAUNA

Confirmed breeders: Antarctic shag, Chinstrap penguin

Present: Kelp gull, Brown skua, Wilson's storm petrel, Antarctic tern



Activity Requirements

SHIPS'

Maximum passengers onboard: 500

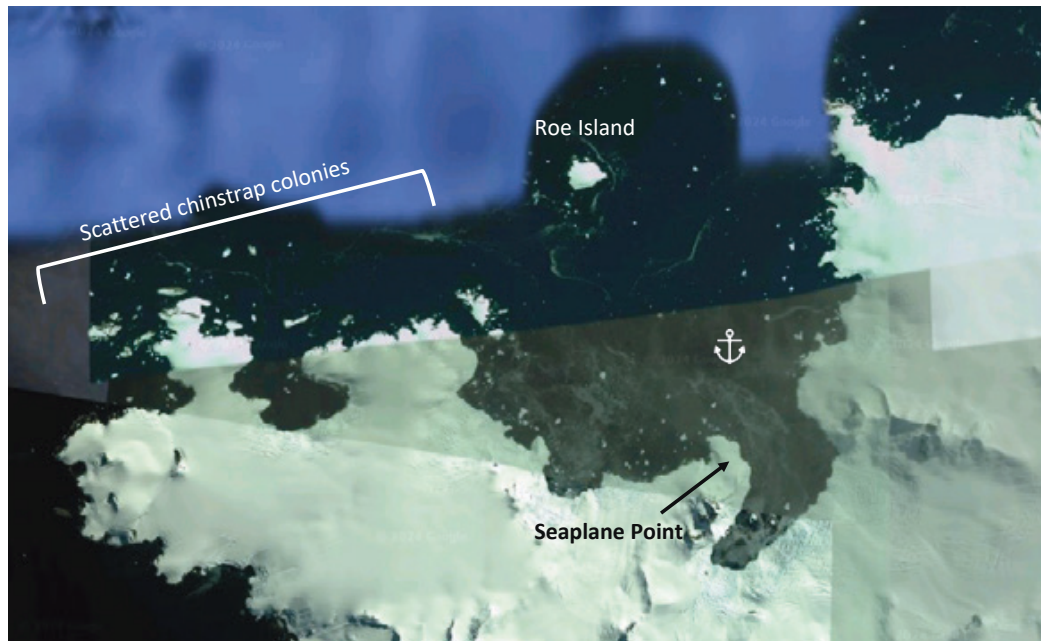
Ships per day: 3

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

RESTRICTED ZONES

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. For high activity glaciers this should be increased to 400 meters (1200 ft).

Cierva Cove is designated as Antarctic Specially Protected Area no. 134 under the Antarctic Treaty.



Historical Information

As with many sites in this part of the peninsula it is named for an aviation pioneer. Glenn Curtiss was an American aeronautical engineer who designed and built seaplanes.