

Bongrain Point, Pourquoi Pas Island

Located on southwest corner
within Dalgliesh Bay

Possible ship location:
67° 42' 59.14"S, 67° 44' 52.22"W

Possible landing: 67° 43' 26.93"S, 67° 44' 12.20"W

IAATO

visitor site guide



Key Features

- Adelie penguins
- Glacial scenery and ice
- 27km by 17km (17 mile-long, 5-11 mile-wide) mountainous island lying between Bigourdn and Bourgeois Fjords off the west coast of Graham Land.



Description

TOPOGRAPHY

Gravel and small rocks, with a small 2m berm from landing to walk over to get to main visitor area.

Granite sheets and veins at the landing with diorite throughout surrounding inclines from the Andean Intrusive suite. Mount Verne.

FAUNA

Confirmed breeders: Adelie penguins, Antarctic fur seals, skuas, Wilson's Storm petrels, Kelp gulls.

Occasional visitors: Crabeater seals, Weddell seals, Humpback whales, Killer whales and various Beaked whales.

FLORA

Usnea, spp., Xanthoria, spp., multiple moss spp. especially on ridge top of lateral moraine.



Visitor Impact

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Destruction of lichen and moss species found on top of lateral moraine ridge.

Erosion.

Disruption to nesting and moulting bird species.

Landing Requirements

SHIPS*

Maximum passengers on board: 500

Ships per day: 3

Comments: Maximum 3 ships per day (midnight to midnight), of which no more than 2 can carry over 200 passengers.

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

VISITOR NUMBERS

Maximum 100 persons ashore (excluding guides).

LANDING AREA

Some shallow rocks with grounded bergy bits and growlers to navigate – be aware of seals hauled out on bergy bits.

Fur seals behind initial gravel berm from landing beach.



CLOSED AREA

Cliffs with skua and Wilson's Storm petrel nesting sites above the landing and Adelie colonies – ensure all persons ashore are maintaining adequate distance.

GUIDED WALKING AREA

A large free roaming area with clear boundaries set up around the scattered colonies of Adelies.

Any walks up on the moraine or approaching the glacier should be in guided groups. This is for

- safety,
- erosion control, and
- wildlife sensitivity (a lot of limpet piles around). Consider not allowing walks up to the moraine or approaching glacier depending on distribution of nesting and/or moulting bird species.

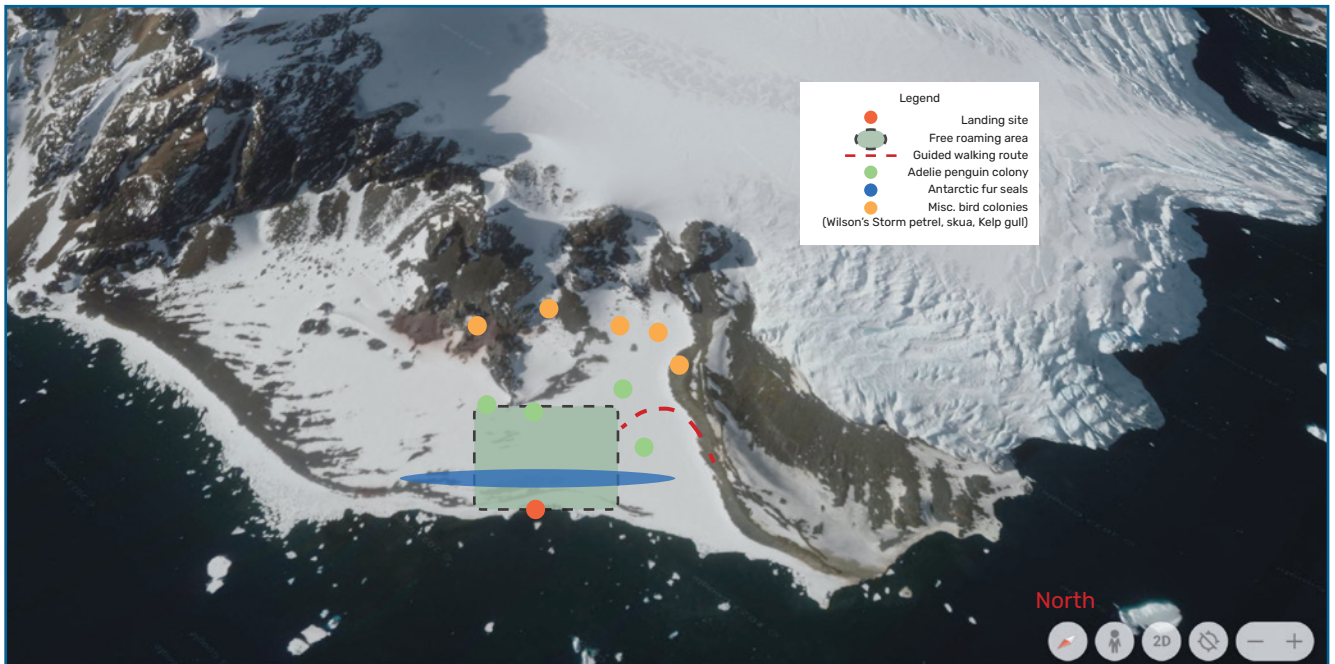
During the breeding season (November – January) fur seals are especially sensitive to human presence, sight, and smell. Human presence near harems may illicit an extremely aggressive response from either females or males.

Visitor Code of Conduct

BEHAVIOUR ASHORE

Look out for and give appropriate distance to nesting skuas.

On the lateral moraine, look out for and give appropriate distance to nesting gulls.



Historical Information

Discovered by Jean Baptiste Charcot's French Antarctic Expedition in 1908-10.

Named after Maurice Bongrain, FO and surveyor of the Pourquoi Pas ship.