# South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands



Office of the Commissioner Government House Stanley Falkland Islands

July 2021

Dear Permit Holder,

I'd like to take the opportunity to welcome you to South Georgia, whether it's your first time here, or you are a regular visitor, please feel free to get in touch with questions or feedback. If you'd like to meet in person, let me know and we can arrange a suitable time when you next pass through Stanley.

The enclosed USB contains a wealth of resources – from the essential (but mundane!) reporting forms to the more interesting films, guides, resources and information. Please take your time to review the documents carefully. I have pulled out some of the new items for the 2021/22 visitor season below. If you have any questions do not hesitate to get in touch.

**Film:** We are delighted to share our **'South Georgia – A Visitors Guide' film** narrated by Sir David Attenborough! The film remains mandatory viewing for every person going ashore – but I'm sure you will agree, that it's no hardship to watch this beautifully put together film.

**Biosecurity Information**: With the retirement of the old briefing film over this winter we have also been working on an educational resource to help you and your guests effectively biosecure outdoor clothing, equipment and boots. We hope this will be a useful resource for briefing guests, and will improve standards of biosecurity (and help you score well in the biosecurity audit).

**Biosecurity Audit:** There will be no change to the pass rate for 2021/22 biosecurity audit, although thanks to the great results we had over 2018/19 and 2019/20, we are in a position to reduce the sample size which will help make disembarkation at Grytviken more efficient. Please remember to maintain the same incredibly high standards for all the sites you and your guests visit outside of Grytviken as well.

**Prion Island:** We are planning some extensive works to the boardwalk on Prion Island, which will make it safer and more appealing, however the site will be closed to all visitors for the duration of the season – apologies for any disappointment this may cause. Zodiac cruising in order to glimpse the enigmatic wandering albatrosses is of course still possible.

**Health Declaration:** There is a mandatory three-part Health Declaration system in place to screen vessels for symptoms of Covid.

We wish you an enjoyable and safe visit.

Kind regards,

**Ross James** 

Visitor Management & Biosecurity Officer
Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands

Email: ross.james@gov.gs Tel: (+500) 28207

#### 2021-22 Visit Permit Holder USB contents:

## 01 Welcome letter (this)

# 02 Information and Biosecurity Documents & Declarations

- Visiting South Georgia
- Visit Permit Holder Landing Declarations
- GSGSSI Biosecurity Handbook
- Visitor Biosecurity Self Audit Declaration
- Information for Yachts

## **03 Visitor Briefing Films**

South Georgia – A Visitor's Guide

#### 04 Visitor Site Guides & Extended Walks

- Grytviken
- Cape Rosa
- Cooper Bay (macaroni colony)
- Fortuna (Whistle Cove)
- Godthul
- Godthul to Sandebugten Extended walk
- Gold Harbour & Extended Walk
- Maiviken Extended Walk
- Ocean Harbour Extended Walk
- Prion Island (restricted site)
- Rookery Point Extended Walk
- Salisbury Plain
- Shackleton Walk
- St Andrews Bay
- Stromness to Leith Extended Walk
- gpx files for Extended Walks

## **05 Bird Strike and Post Visit Reports**

- Bird Strike Report form
- Completing Bird Strike Report form notes
- Post-Visit Report form
- Completing Post-Visit Report notes

## **06 Grytviken Arrival Information**

- Grytviken Visitor Map
- Happy Whale

Email: admin@gov.gs Tel: (+500) 28206