

IAATO General Vessel Booking Protocols

The following protocols should be taken into consideration when preparing your itinerary for the IAATO Ship Scheduler Derby Day and In-Season Live Ship Scheduler.

General Protocols:

- All Antarctic Treaty and IAATO Site Guidelines will be observed when booking sites.
- No vessel shall book a landing site for the entire day (midnight to midnight inclusive).
- Vessels will only utilize the site which is booked.
- When possible, vessels running activities such as helicopters or submersibles should do so in areas of low traffic in order to keep other landing sites available for general landing purposes. Please see additional activity specific guidelines for helicopters and submersibles in the FOM (Section 07 Activity Guidelines).
- Vessels will be conscious of running activities near/within transit channels (Errera, Neumayer, Paradise Harbour, etc), and ensure activities do not interfere with other vessels ability to transit freely.
- All IAATO SOLAS vessels or yachts with lengths greater than 50m and/or over 300GT should utilize the ship scheduler platform for coordination of activities.
- Yachts with lower bandwidth are encouraged to use the Offline Ship Scheduler to make bookings and/or access schedules.
- It is the Operator's responsibility to manage users who have access via their login to the IAATO Ship Scheduler; only those who work for an IAATO Operator may have access to the Ship Scheduler.
- Use of an IAATO Operator's access to the Ship Scheduler, while working for a non-IAATO Operator, is prohibited.
- With appropriate coordination a SOLAS vessel and a Yacht (12 passengers or less and/or less than 50m/300GT) may share a
 landing site as long as there are no more than 100 passengers ashore, and all other applicable Antarctic Treaty and/or IAATO
 guidelines are followed.
- Vessels will not book both prime landing spots (07:31 and 13:01) during IAATO Derby Day or at any time prior to the season starting.
- During the season, booking of a second prime slot can be done on an opportunistic basis 48 hours in advance.

Vessel Category Specific Protocols:

Category 1¹ Vessels

Category 1 vessels should make every effort to book only one landing slot per site. If booking more than one time slot, the second time slot will be a shoulder (early AM or late PM) landing slot.

A second primary (07:31 or 13:01) time slot will only be booked opportunistically 48 hours in advance.*

Category 2² Vessels

Category 2 vessels will make every effort to only book two landing slots per site, one if appropriate. If booking more than one time slot, the second time slot will be a shoulder (early AM or late PM) landing slot.

A second primary (07:31 or 13:01) time slot will only be booked opportunistically 48 hours in advance.*

Cruise-Only³ Vessels

Cruise-Only vessels may only book a site in a non-landing capacity. As cruise-only vessels do not land, another vessel may utilize the same site for a landing opportunity at the same time.



When possible, yachts should not book more than one time slot. If booking more than one time slot, the second time slot will be a shoulder (early AM or late PM) landing slot, not a prime landing slot.*

A second primary (07:31 or 13:01) time slot will only be booked opportunistically 48 hours in advance.*

¹ Category 1 vessels are those which carry 13 – 200 passengers.

²Category 2 vessels are those which carry 201 – 500 passengers.

³Cruise-Only vessels are those which carry over 500 passengers.

⁴ Yachts are vessels which carry 12 passengers or less.

⁵ For ship scheduling purposes, the IMO Polar Code 2 definition of yacht will also be applied: Yachts over 300GT and/or 50m in length.

Time slots

The site visit time slots are as follows:
22:01 - 04:00
04:01 - 07:30
07:31 - 13:00
13:01 – 18:30
18:31 - 22:00

Important Notes:

- *The exception to this guideline is short-overnight stays. In this instance a Category 1 or 2 vessel may book a main slot and then several shoulder overnight slots in a row (e.g. 22:01, 04:01) to accommodate overnight-stays (where Site Guidelines allow).
- Good communication between yachts and ships is essential at any time during the Antarctic season. As an IAATO member, Yachts do participate in the ship scheduler. However, there are situations that arise where a time slot could be freed up, if Category 1 / Category 2 vessels and Yachts coordinate at a landing site. In this scenario a Category 1 or 2 vessel allow the yacht to make a landing with them, generally at the end of a vessel landing. This does not violate Antarctic Treaty Guidelines, as long as 100 guests ashore is not exceeded. This opportunistic interaction often is greatly appreciated by guests on all vessels, as they learn more about other types of travel and activities to the Antarctic. Communication and coordination will be key to making a ship/yacht landing a success.

