

Visiting South Georgia 2024-25

Information for Visit Permit applicants
and holders



Image: ©Victoria Foster



Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, 2024. Visiting South Georgia 2024-25. Office of the Commissioner, Stanley, Falkland Islands.

This booklet is produced by the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. It is only valid for visits conducted between September 2024 and August 2025. All images unless otherwise noted are the copyright of the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and may not be reproduced in any form.

For further information contact: info@gov.gs.

Contents

Part 1 – Before You Visit	4
1. Introduction and background information	4
1.1. Trip Planning and Considerations.....	4
1.2. Voluntary Whale Slow Down	5
1.3. Planning your Itinerary	5
1.4. The Application Process	5
1.5. Specialist activities, Regulated Activity Permits and Expeditions	6
1.6. Preparations and contingency planning	7
2. Administration Fees and Charges	8
2.1. Customs Fees and charges	8
2.2. Harbour Fees (Cumberland East Bay)	8
2.3. Visitor Fees.....	9
2.4. Other Vessel Charges and Administrative Fees ..	9
2.5. Payment of fees	10
Part 2 – Your Visit	11
3. Arrival arrangements	11
3.1. Immigration requirements.....	11
3.2. Entering the South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) Maritime Zone (MZ)	11
3.3. Arrival at South Georgia.....	12
3.4. Packing guidelines for personal baggage	13
3.5. Pre-border biosecurity checks	14
3.6. Going ashore	16
3.7. Checks between sites.....	17
3.8. Additional measures for high biosecurity risk groups	17
3.9. General measures for prevention of rodents..	14
3.10. The Biosecurity Audit System.....	18
4. Shore and Harbour Facilities	19
4.1. Jetties.....	19
4.2. Water	19
4.3. Grytviken Whaling Station	19
5. Management and Safety of Visitors	19
5.1. Management of landings.....	19
5.2. Prohibited Areas	20
5.3. Unexploded ordinance	20
6. Code of Conduct Whilst Ashore	21
7. Wildlife Protection Guidelines	22
8. Departing from South Georgia	23
Annex 1	24
Annex 2	28
Annex 3	29

Part 1 – Before You Visit

Part 1 provides guidance on trip planning and the visit application process.

1. Introduction and background information

This document provides an overview of the South Georgia visit application process and current policies.

South Georgia has benefitted from a wide range of habitat restoration work, including eradication of invasive rats, mice and reindeer. Work continues to remove invasive plants, and to prevent the spread of diseases which may harm wildlife.

Visitors play a key part in protecting the unique natural environment of South Georgia by following some simple but essential biosecurity and mitigation measures.

All documents referred to in this document may be found at www.gov.gs, and via the following Dropbox link: <https://bit.ly/3nFfmvh>.

1.1. Trip Planning and Considerations

All travel has inherent risks, but due to the remote nature, lack of emergency and medical services, unpredictable and extreme weather, travelling to South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) requires extra care and planning. For this reason, vessels must be self-sufficient in every respect.

A list of suggested medical guidelines for cruise ships and yachts is available on the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (GSGSSI) [website](#). GSGSSI hopes that visit applicants will read the guidelines carefully, take advice as necessary and determine the level of medical care provision appropriate for their vessels.

Appropriate medical and travel insurance is required to visit SGSSI. This should cover all the costs of:

- i. emergency evacuation of all visitors for treatment of any medical condition or injury that cannot be adequately treated in the Territories to the nearest country where adequate and appropriate treatment can be provided, including the costs of transportation and medical care in transit; and
- ii. in the event of a visitor's death in the Territories, transportation of the deceased's mortal remains from the place of death to the County in which the deceased was ordinarily resident.

There is no independent transport from South Georgia to the Falkland Islands or to South America. Commercial vessel operators must ensure that clients are aware of the limitations about medical facilities and evacuation. Visit applicants must factor these considerations into their contingency planning.

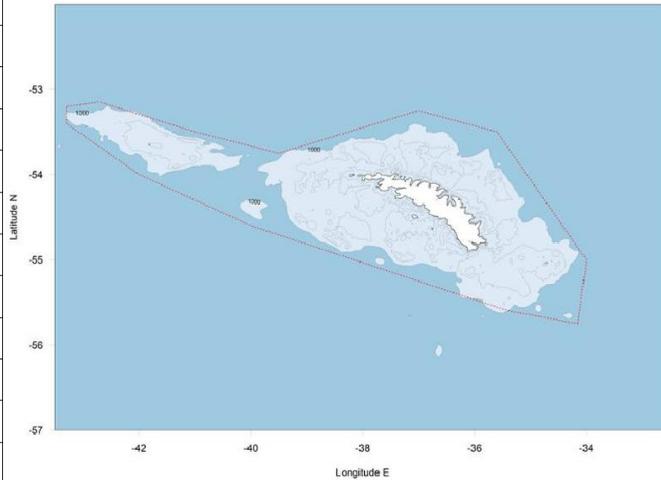
Except for some Government supported field parties, GSGSSI requires all visitors to be self-sufficient and have a dedicated support vessel in attendance throughout the duration of their visit.

The granting of a visit permit does not imply that the Government accepts responsibility for providing any additional support.

1.2. Voluntary Whale Slow Down

A voluntary 10-knot speed limit (to reduce the risk of whale strikes in South Georgia) was introduced during the 2022-23 season. This is routinely monitored by GSGSSI. The following waypoints define the speed restriction polygon and should be taken into consideration for

Wpt	Lat	Long
1	-55.75	-34.15
2	-55.60	-35.40
3	-54.60	-40.00
4	-54.00	-42.00
5	-53.40	-43.30
6	-53.20	-43.30
7	-53.15	-42.70
8	-53.50	-41.00
9	-53.75	-39.50
10	-53.25	-37.00
11	-53.50	-35.60
12	-55.00	-34.00



itinerary planning:

1.3. Planning your Itinerary

First landings must be made at Grytviken unless special dispensation has been granted by GSGSSI. Dispensation will only be considered if the vessel is an IAATO member.

Visit permit holders, without dispensation as outlined above, will receive a full briefing at KEP before shore excursions commence. This may take up to 2 hours and should be arranged with Government Officers before arrival. Yachts may be required to embark a GSGSSI

observer during their visit to observe at least one landing operation outside Grytviken. All new vessels and new vessel operators must call Grytviken first as the vessel will need to pick up an observer for their first call to the territory to observe at least one landing operation outside of Grytviken.

Regardless of your dispensation, at least one visit to Grytviken must be made during your visit to South Georgia.

Only approved landing sites (Annex 1) will be permitted. If you are an IAATO member, please note that you may only be able to book one key site in an area. This is to avoid overcrowding of vessels. Note that you must still detail the landing site visited in your PVR.

NOTE: Prion Island will remain closed to visitors for the 2024-25 season as the boardwalk is still in disrepair.

1.4. The Application Process

All vessels visiting SGSSI require a visit permit. The visit permit is issued to a visit 'Permit Holder', normally the Expedition Leader (EL) on a cruise ship or the Master / Skipper of a yacht. Individual passengers do not need to apply to visit but are covered on their vessel's visit permit.

Separate visit application forms must be used for vessels (load line length of 24 m or greater) and yachts (load line length no greater than 24m). The application form requirements vary depending the above classification.

For Yachts, the "Yacht" Application must be used.

For Vessels, the “Vessel” application must be completed once per season and the “Visit” application must be completed for each separate visit.

The GSGSSI vessel application documents to visit SGSSI must be completed in full and must be supported by the relevant information as detailed on the form. Please ensure that all necessary documentation has been submitted with the application. Failure to provide correct and supporting documents may result in substantial delays in processing the application.

Applications must be received no later than 90 days prior to the planned visit or a late processing fee will be charged (please see page 8-9 for details). GSGSSI cannot guarantee that late submissions will be processed in time for the visit due to the resources needed for application processing.

Applicants must study all parts of this document before submitting a visit application. Links to Visit application forms, and further information can be downloaded here: <https://gov.gs/information-documents-visit-application-form/>

In addition to reading all parts of this documentation and other associated documentation as outlined above, all permit holders (for cruise tour operators, this is usually the EL) must have:

- viewed the current season’s online briefing; and
- passed the current season’s GSGSSI online assessment prior to a permit being issued.

Submission of an application is taken to mean that the applicant has read and understood the provisions in this document and agrees to

abide by them. This responsibility extends to ensuring that visit permit holders, and their staff / crew are fully briefed and always adhere to current visit permit conditions, including Code of Conduct Whilst Ashore and Visitor Management Plans. Failure to comply with GSGSSI requirements could result in a permit being immediately revoked, suspended, or alterations made to the conditions of a permit (including the itinerary of a visit) and may preclude the possibility of, or place restrictions on, future permitting.

The Commissioner for South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands reserves the right to deny a permit.

1.5. Specialist activities, Regulated Activity Permits and Expeditions

The use of Human Occupied Vehicles (HOV) and Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) may be allowed if specific permit application criteria are met. These activities require the HOV or ROV application form to be completed and submitted along with the Vessel or Yacht Visit Permit Application. The Government’s policy on the use of HOV/ROV is available upon request.

Applicants undertaking other specialist activities (such as kayaking or scuba diving) will be required to submit additional information including risk assessments and details of standard and emergency operating procedures within their application. For IAATO member applicants, this should be, at minimum, to the level required by IAATO.

Some activities will require a Regulated Activity Permit (RAP). The RAP is a wholly separate application process. These activities include science projects, collection of biological material or interaction with wildlife, commercial media filming (including UAV operations, which

would otherwise be prohibited) and access to sites which are not normally open to visitors. The category of RAP permit will be determined by the activity or proposed project and its complexity. Applicants must refer to: www.gov.gs/visitors/regulated-activity-permit/ and contact the following email address: permits@gov.gs

Visits which require an overnight stay ashore are classed as expeditions and require a separate application and assessment procedure for an expedition permit. Expedition application information may be obtained at: www.gov.gs/visitors/expeditions/

1.6. Preparations and contingency planning

Visiting vessels are expected to be self-sufficient in all respects and contingency planning is an important part of your visit planning process. This must take into account:

- The extremely harsh and changeable conditions at sea and ashore;
- The remote location;
- The lack of search and rescue (SAR) capability; and
- The lack of medical facilities at King Edward Point (KEP).

KEP provides medical cover for station personnel only. Visitors taking prescription medication should ensure that they carry adequate supplies when going ashore to cover any unexpected delays.

A medical review commissioned by GSGSSI was completed in 2016 and guidelines developed for the Provision of Medical Care in South Georgia (and Antarctic Marine Areas). The review can be found here: www.gov.gs/information-documents-visit-application-form/.

Contingency planning must consider maritime incidents, SAR in the SGSSI Maritime Zone (MZ), safety plans for landings, medical response, and evacuation capability (including the management of trauma injuries ashore and at sea) and environmental protection plans. IAATO has published guidelines to assist with emergency contingency planning including the appropriate equipment to carry. It is strongly recommended that you always carry suitable equipment with you, whether ashore or at sea. You will be asked for evidence of this during the application process.

2. Administration Fees and Charges

Charges for vessel visits are normally invoiced to the vessel operator. Yacht visitors may elect to be invoiced or can pay by major debit or credit card in Pound Sterling to the Government Officer at King Edward Point upon arrival at Grytviken. All fees and charges listed are in Pound Sterling.

Note that South Georgia is now cashless and you can only pay using a major debit or credit card.

2.1. Customs Fees and charges

Customs fees and charges apply to all vessels and yachts:

Customs Entry Declaration: £36.00
 Customs Exit Clearance: £36.00

If an entry declaration and an exit clearance declaration are made during separate visits to the vessel by a customs officer, a fee of £36.00 is payable for each visit.

If an entry declaration and exit clearance declaration are made during a single visit to the vessel by a customs officer, one fee of £36.00 is payable for the visit

Customs fees @ £26.00 per hour, minimum charge 2 hours: £52.00

Customs fees are charged at a higher rate of £42.00 per hour outside normal working hours which are: 08:00-16:30 South Georgia time (GMT-2), Monday to Friday.

2.2. Harbour Fees (Cumberland East Bay Bay)

Harbour fees differ depending on whether you are classified as a yacht or a vessel.

Harbour Fees for yachts (with a load line length of up to 24 metres): £52.00

For vessels, these are calculated according to the net tonnage of the vessel and the number of passengers. Harbour Fees are charged on a daily basis for periods spent in Cumberland Bay, with the first 24 hours of any visit to the harbour being charged at the shown rate and subsequent 24-hour periods charged at half the rate.

Net Registered Tonnage	12 passengers or fewer	More than 12 passengers
Less than 100	£235.00	£470.00
100 or more but less than 800	£330.00	£660.00
800 or more but less than 1,000	£415.00	£830.00
1,000 or more but less than 1,500	£480.00	£960.00
1,500 or more but less than 2,000	£585.00	£1,170.00
2,000 or more but less than 5,000s	£705.00	£1,410.00
5,000 or more but less than 7,000	£875.00	£1,750.00
7,000 or more but less than 10,000	£1,300.00	£2,600.00
10,000 or more but less than	£1,590.00	£3,180.00

15,000		
15,000 or more but less than 20,000	£1,865.00	£3,730.00
20,000 or more	£1,960.00	£3,920.00

2.3. Visitor Fees

All visitors except for professional (paid) expedition staff, as outlined in the visitor’s ordinance, are charged a visitor fee. The duration of the visit determines the fee. This section sets out the Guidance issued by the Commissioner under section 5(A) of the Visitors Ordinance 1992, as amended.

A visit commences with the undertaking of any activity that requires a person to land in SGSSI, including by a small boat/zodiac landing as well as any additional specialist activities that require a person to land.

The following fee structure applies:

Visits of up to 3 days (midnight to midnight): £146.00

Visits more than 3 days: as above with additional £26.00 per started 24 -hour period, up to a maximum of £250.00.

For example, the visitor fee for a visit of up to 4 days would be:

$$£146.00 + £26.00 = £172.00$$

Beyond one calendar month the visitor fee structure is applied again, as if for a new visit.

Visit applicants will be required to indicate at the application stage whether a proposed visit will exceed 3 days. If a visit must extend for reasons of *force majeure*, then, at the discretion of GSGSSI additional fees will not be applied. If a vessel visit ends prematurely then the vessel operator can arrange a refund or credit with the GSGSSI.

2.4. Other Vessel Charges and Administrative Fees

Expeditions: Expeditions will be charged in accordance with the rates specified in Section 2.3 Visitors Fees, based on the length of the stay.

Marriages: £416.00

This fee covers the administration needs for your marriage and documents. For further information please visit www.gov.gs/getting-married/.

Penalty for late submission of visit application:

Visit applications should be submitted no later than 90 days before intended visit or a late submission charge will be made and GSGSSI cannot guarantee that applications will be processed in time for the visit.

Less than 90 days:	£110.00
Less than 60 days:	£260.00
Less than 30 days:	£520.00
Less than 7 days:	£1050.00

Amendment and Cancellation Charges:

Due to the administrative burden of amending invoices and cancelling permits and applications once invoices have been issued, GSGSSI may choose to levy these administrative charges. Invoices

will be issued based on the information provided in the permit application.

Amending Invoicing Details: £52.00
Cancellation Fees: the lower of £1,040.00 or 50% of your overall visit cost.

Biosecurity supplies:

Biosecurity supplies can be requested from GSGSSI and collected in Stanley.

- Replacement Rodent box (each): £10
- Non-toxic rodent bait (pack of 6): £5
- New vessels – 6 boxes + bait: £50

2.5. Payment of fees

Operators of cruise ships will be invoiced directly. Applicants for vessels carrying more than 12 passengers will be invoiced for 50% of the projected visitor fees in advance of their visit. This fee must be paid before the permit will be issued. Unless otherwise stipulated on the invoice, all invoices must be paid within 30 days from the invoice issue date. All bank fees are to be borne by the remitter.



© Chris Locke, 2024

Part 2 – Your Visit

Part 2 is about what to expect once you have received a permit and are visiting South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands.

3. Arrival arrangements

3.1. Immigration requirements

At least 72 hours before arrival in South Georgia, the vessel must supply the following information concerning all persons on board, ideally in Excel format, to the Government Officer:

1. Full names (and any other previous names)
2. Nationality/Nationalities
3. Passport details;
 - passport number
 - date of issue
 - date of expiry
 - country of issue
4. Date of birth
5. Confirmation that all persons on board the vessel have adequate travel and medical insurance as sighted by the Visit Permit holder.

Visitors intending to land must be in possession of a valid passport. All passports must be presented to the Government Officer (Immigration Officer) for stamping on arrival at Grytviken. The Immigration Officer may refuse to grant permission to enter if the information required is not provided.

3.2. Entering the South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands Maritime Zone (SGSSI MZ)

The South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands Maritime Zone includes all waters within 200nm of the territorial baselines around the islands. On entering the Maritime Zone, the vessel's Master or permit holder must report to the Government Officer who is based at King Edward Point (KEP) in Cumberland East Bay, unless special dispensation has been granted. SGSSI are rodent free, and to maintain that status all vessels must, prior to entry into the SGSSI MZ, thoroughly check for any signs of rodent activity (see

The results of these inspections must be reported to the Government Officer.

KEP Government Officer contact details:

- E-mail: go@gov.gs
- Telephone: 0044 1223 221781 (VOIP)
- Telex: 580 492 348 018 (Inmarsat C)
- Iridium: 00881 651 447 569

The Government Officer will require the following information:

- Vessel name and radio call sign
- Type of vessel e.g., cruise ship, yacht, fishing vessel etc.
- Date and time of intended arrival at Cumberland East Bay
- Purpose of visit
- Declaration that no rodents are on board
- Names and dates on the permit are correct

3.3. Arrival at South Georgia

All persons planning to go ashore must watch the film 'South Georgia – A Visitor's Guide' before arriving. This is available from the Dropbox and on our website.

On entering Cumberland Bay, contact the Government Officer on VHF Channel 16. Government Officers will board the vessel to carry out Customs and Immigration checks, including issuing invoices for fees and the receipt of any payments.

Government officers will require the Visit Permit Holder Landing Declaration as well as the Biosecurity Declaration Form signed by all persons going ashore. The Government Officer will undertake the Biosecurity Audit immediately prior to the shore landing at Grytviken.

The Government may request at any time that a Government Officer be embarked to monitor landings and biosecurity measures for periods while the vessel is at South Georgia.



© P M Lurcock, 2016

4. Biosecurity

Permit Holders must ensure all biosecurity measures are in place before departing for South Georgia. Failure to do so may constitute an offence under the Wildlife and Protected Areas Ordinance (2011) and could result in prosecutions as well as a permit being immediately revoked, suspended, or alterations made to the conditions of a permit (including the itinerary of a visit) and may preclude the possibility of, or place restrictions on, future permitting.

South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands has no native human population. Everyone is a visitor and has the responsibility to preserve the unique natural environment of the islands. One of the biggest threats to biodiversity is from invasive species and all visitors can help in preventing new non-native species arriving in the Territory or moving existing established non-native species between sites.

All persons arriving to South Georgia are visitors, regardless of the capacity of their visit, whether a scientist, government personnel, expedition staff, tourist or serving in HM armed forces. All visitors must meet their biosecurity obligations.

All visitors must receive appropriate briefings from their trip organiser and watch the GSGSSI visitor briefing film before arriving in the Territory. This is to fully understand the importance of biosecurity, and measures which must be taken before and during a visit to the islands. Where, due to technical difficulties, it is not possible to do so prior to arrival, it is possible for Government Officer to give a briefing by prior arrangement.

All guidelines provided here should be read in conjunction with the

Biosecurity Handbook.

4.1. Packing guidelines for personal baggage

Soil, seeds, organic material and small invertebrates can often be found inside personal baggage. These present a very high risk to biosecurity. Visitors are asked to follow these simple guidelines when packing their personal baggage to ensure that it is biosecure.

Purchasing considerations:

- Where possible, take new clothing and equipment, especially coats, over-trousers, boots and socks.
- Choose outdoor wear without Velcro, and boots that have open treads which will be easy to clean.

Before you pack:

- Used clothing and equipment should be washed before leaving home, and any remaining seeds, soil or organic material carefully picked off by hand. Pay particular attention to Velcro, fastenings, seams, folds and pockets.
- Day sacks, camera bags, tripods and walking sticks should be thoroughly cleaned.

Cleaning Tips:

- A vacuum cleaner will help remove dirt from the inside of pockets, bags, nooks and crannies.
- A needle is useful to pick out seeds stuck in Velcro or in seams.
- A screwdriver is useful to remove soil and seeds from the tread of boots.
- A stiff brush or sticky tape may help to remove seeds

from clothing.

After you pack:

- Once packed, bags should be stored in a clean area (not in a shed or garage). This will reduce the risk of invertebrates or mice crawling inside.

NOTE: It is not permitted to take any fresh produce ashore. Please make sure no such items are packed in your baggage. Poultry products are of particular concern since they may carry avian diseases.

4.2. Pre-border biosecurity checks

Often visitors travel to several other destinations before reaching South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. Therefore, even if the packing guidelines have been followed prior to leaving home, they will need to be repeated before making first landing in the Territory. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that all visitors carry out the following actions:

- Thoroughly inspect and clean all luggage and equipment to be brought ashore, such as daypacks and camera bags. Special attention should be paid to Velcro, footwear, gaiters, pockets, turn-ups in trousers and hoods of jackets (pockets to be turned inside out or vacuumed);
- Daypacks and camera bags must be brushed out and vacuumed to remove soil, seeds and organic material.

4.3. Prevention of rodents

The only way goods and people can access South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands is by ship. As a result, a wide variety of vessels operate within the Maritime Zone (MZ). The primary risk to terrestrial biodiversity associated with vessels is the potential for both the vessel and cargo to harbour rodents that are subsequently transferred ashore.



Prior to arrival in South Georgia, vessels may be subject to screening by a rodent detector dog. Be vigilant to signs of rodents on your vessel at every stage of your visit and undertake rigorous pre-departure inspections.

GSGSSI approved rodent monitoring stations must be checked prior to entering the SGSSI Maritime Zone, and the findings reported to the Government Officers at King Edward Point. The inspection of the

rodent monitoring station must be done by a competent member of the crew. The Government Officer at King Edward Point must be contacted immediately if there is ever any concern or suspicion about the presence of rodents on a vessel. Any vessel believed to have rodents on board will be required to satisfy GSGSSI that appropriate remedial action has been taken and will be required to leave the Territory until such time as this action has been taken. Rat guards should be always deployed when vessels are alongside at gateway ports.

Rodent monitoring stations may be collected from the GSGSSI offices in Stanley, Falkland Islands prior to departure for South Georgia. If arriving via other ports the vessel may provide their own rodent bait stations but must check that they comply with GSGSSI specifications.

The following measures apply to all vessels that operate in the Maritime Zone:

- A valid Ship’s Sanitation Certificate which must be in date on entry into the Territory and for the duration of the visit.
- Effective rat guards must be fitted to mooring lines when alongside at any port (Fig. 5). (NOTE: spot checks may be conducted at gateway ports).
- External doors and windows should be closed whenever possible.
- Rodent bait boxes must be carried on-board in each of the areas listed in the below table where present. This means that a vessel could require up to 6 bait boxes if each location is present and distinct.
- Rodent monitoring stations must be deployed on the vessel according to Annex 3 before entering the Maritime Zone.

These boxes should be checked, and the results reported to the Government Officers upon entry to the Maritime Zone.

- If rodents are discovered on board the vessel will be required to leave the Maritime Zone for remedial action and a new sanitation inspection. GSGSSI must be satisfied that the infestation is cleared before approval to re-enter the MZ is granted.

Location	Type
Foc'sle (mooring line locker or Bosun’s locker)	Rodent entry / exit point
Aft mooring deck	Rodent entry / exit point
Zodiac storage ,or shelter deck	Rodent entry / exit point
Cargo receiving areas	Rodent entry / exit point
Dry food and provision stores	Rodent harbourage
Waste storage areas	Rodent harbourage

NOTE: Rodent monitoring stations for vessels can be purchased from the GSGSSI office in Stanley, prior to departure for South Georgia, on their first call of the season. Vessels which do not enter the MZ via the Falkland Islands must make their own arrangements to purchase suitable rodent bait boxes. Costs are listed in Section 2.

Effective rat guards should not blow off in strong wind or allow rodents the opportunity to pass over/around them.



4.4. Going ashore

Biosecurity must be followed and repeated for all shore excursions and by all visitors including where there is a chance of a landing, such as zodiac cruising. Visit permit holders are responsible for ensuring that biosecurity procedures are followed.

All boats and tenders must be thoroughly inspected for rodents, invertebrates and organic material before embarking passengers, and again when departing shore to return to the ship.

No loose cargo should be landed (such as loose items in open bags or nets). All cargo should be inspected, boxed and sealed before landing.

Fresh fruit, vegetables, meat, eggs and unpasteurised dairy products are not to be taken ashore. Any permitted foodstuffs that are brought ashore must be in boxes that are robust and fully sealed. Boxes should be made from either plastic, metal or wood.

Boot washing is obligatory for all persons prior to arrival in South Georgia, between sites and when leaving South Georgia. Boots must be cleaned to remove dirt and seeds and then dipped in an approved biocide (e.g.: Virkon or BioGuard). Visit permit holders must ensure that they have adequate supplies of biocide.

Clothing inspections and boot washing must be overseen by a competent member of staff as appointed by the Permit Holder, for tourist visits this must be either a member of the expedition staff or an appropriate crew member. The Visit Permit holder is responsible for ensuring that this inspection is carried out. All external surfaces of footwear, which will be worn ashore, must be washed.

As far as possible, bags should not be left open and unattended ashore. Visitors should avoid putting day sacks or camera cases down on the ground where they may pick up soil, seeds and invertebrates which could be transferred between sites.

NOTE: Government Officers will inspect boot washing facilities and procedures on visiting vessels (including yachts) and will inspect visitors, including staff and crew before they disembark the vessel to ensure biosecurity protocols have been undertaken properly. The biosecurity audit results will be shared with the Operator, Permit Holder and IAATO (if you are a member).



Checks to undertake before first landing and between sites on South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands

4.5. Checks between sites

Different areas of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands are environmentally unique and it is important not to move material between regions. As well as potentially spreading alien plant or invertebrate species to uninvaded sites there is the potential to spread disease between colonies of seals and seabirds. We ask that these additional measures are followed between sites:

- Boot washing facilities should be cleaned and refilled for each new landing or every time personnel move between

regions;

- All persons (visitor, crew, staff, etc.) must inspect clothing, luggage and equipment between landings and repeat cleaning procedures to minimize the risk of intra-regional transfer; and
- All visitors are encouraged to check clothing and equipment for invertebrates and rodents after being on board any vessel..

4.6. Additional measures for high biosecurity risk groups

Activities that involve visitors spending a prolonged amount of time ashore, such as during science, media projects, overnight trips undertaken by mountaineering expeditions or by personnel based on South Georgia, present an increased biosecurity risk. Therefore, the following additional biosecurity procedures should be undertaken:

- Tents should be dry brushed inside and out to remove soil, seeds or invertebrates. If needed a damp cloth or hose should be used on heavily soiled areas. Pegs should be scraped clean and then dipped in an approved biocide (e.g.: Virkon or BioGuard)
- Field clothing should be thoroughly cleaned before being used in different areas of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. For personnel based at King Edward Point this should be done in the biosecurity facility.
- Scientific equipment should be thoroughly cleaned according to the manufacturer's instructions. For any equipment that has been in contact with wild birds or mammals or soil, cleaning protocols must involve a suitable biocide.

For particularly high-risk projects (such as some construction work, expeditions, science/monitoring in sensitive areas) a bespoke biosecurity plan is necessary. If this is required, it will be identified in the permit application process.

4.7. The Biosecurity Audit System

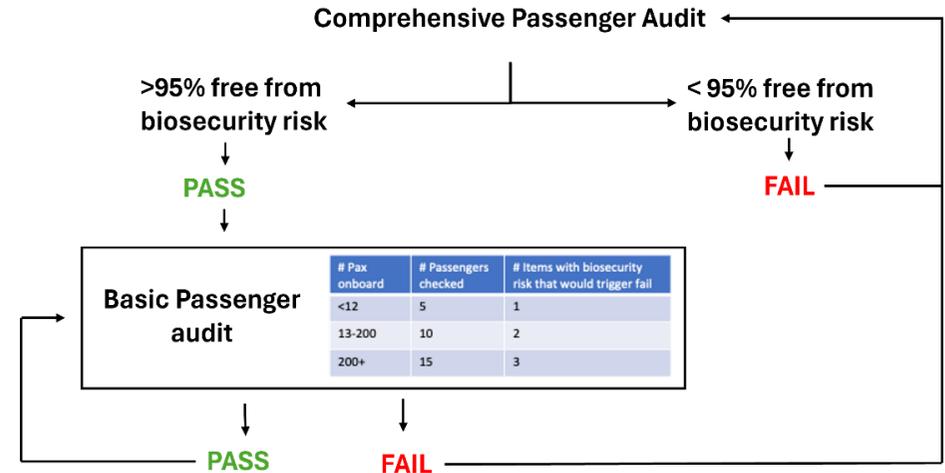
The Biosecurity Audit is a check undertaken by Government Officers on all vessels, in respect of their compliance with biosecurity procedures, or more specifically the effectiveness of the procedures in place to reduce biosecurity risk.

Government Officers conduct a standardised inspection of clothing, footwear and bags to check for biosecurity risks. From the 2023/24 season, a tiered system was introduced comprising of 'basic' and 'comprehensive' audit.

Both types of audit follow the same inspection procedure but for a basic audit the sample sizes and failure thresholds are not intended to be statistically significant, rather they are an early warning sign that a more comprehensive audit is required on the next visit. Therefore, they are scaled by vessel size but not directly proportional.

For a comprehensive audit, a statistically significant sample size will be calculated which will be directly proportional to the number of passengers on board. The failure threshold for a comprehensive audit is below 95%.

At the start of the season, all visiting vessels will have a 'comprehensive' passenger audit. Providing vessels get above 95% success in a comprehensive audit, for subsequent visits they can have a 'basic' audit. After all audits, feedback will be provided to the vessel (EL or responsible person).



If an audit (basic or comprehensive) is failed, a comprehensive audit will be undertaken on the next visit. However, there is no specific requirement to come to Grytviken first.

5. Shore and Harbour Facilities

There is no onshore accommodation for visitors to South Georgia. There are no public telephones or internet facilities. The only facilities for visitors ashore are at Grytviken, these public toilets are only accessible when the museum complex is open.

5.1. Jetties

Subject to biosecurity controls, visiting yachts and tenders may seek permission to use the jetty at Grytviken (the Tijuca jetty). For yachts they must be less than 24 m LOA to use the Tijuca jetty. However, private and commercial ships are not permitted to come alongside. Use of the KEP wharf will not be permitted.

5.2. Water

Water is available to yachts at the Tijuca jetty at Grytviken.

5.3. Grytviken Whaling Station

The Grytviken Whaling Station has a variety of working, exhibition and inaccessible buildings and structure. Those sites open to visitors include the South Georgia Museum, Main Stores, Church and Cemetery (burial place of Sir Ernest Shackleton). This site is a focal point for visitors.

Visits to the former Grytviken whaling station are only possible following a major Government project to remove hazardous materials and make the site safe to visit. The other former whaling stations at Husvik, Stromness, Leith and Prince Olav Harbour are prohibited areas and strictly closed to public access (see Conduct Ashore).

6. Management and Safety of Visitors

The management of visitors ashore is the responsibility of the Permit Holder, this must be in line with the below guidance and any other GSGSSI policies that may be relevant.

6.1. Management of landings

Landings may only be made at approved landing sites (Annex 1). Permit holders must abide by their permit. The below “Code of Conduct Whilst Ashore” and the “Wildlife Protection Guidelines”, must be strictly followed at all times.

In addition, Visit Permit Holders on IAATO vessels must ensure their staff, crew and visitors adhere to IAATO guidelines and bylaws.

It is the responsibility of Visit Permit Holders to ensure that all personnel on board the vessel including staff and crew are fully briefed and always adhere to current visit permit conditions, including Codes of Conduct and Visitor Site Guides. Failure to do so could result in a permit being immediately revoked, suspended or alterations made to the conditions of a permit (including the itinerary of a visit) and may preclude the possibility of, or place restrictions on, future permitting.

No overnight stays ashore are permitted, except by authorised expeditions. All permit holders must ensure that they and their visitors are self-sufficient at all times during their visit and that they carry suitable emergency contingency equipment.

There are several refuge huts located in South Georgia, which are for emergency use only. Any use of the huts and their contents must be

reported immediately to the Government Officer, who can arrange replenishment. Huts must be kept securely fastened at all times to prevent entry by wildlife and reduce damage from the elements. GSGSSI accepts no liability arising from their use and remind you that they are only for emergency use.

All cruise ship and charter vessel shore parties should stay in radio contact with the ship and have with them appropriate medical and emergency equipment and trained and experienced staff. Rapidly deteriorating weather or sea conditions may, for example, make return to the ship hazardous and necessitate a longer stay ashore than planned. Vessel operators and charterers should review all major incident and contingency plans on a regular basis.

Extreme care must be exercised at all times in proximity of seals, especially those in breeding colonies. Fur seals can be extremely aggressive from November to January.

6.2. Prohibited Areas

It is strictly forbidden to approach within 200m of the old whaling stations at Leith, Stromness, Husvik and Prince Olav Harbour. This includes approach from the sea and the use of old jetties at these stations is therefore prohibited. The buildings and jetties are in a highly dangerous state of disrepair and there is a high risk of exposure to airborne asbestos and flying debris.

The Prohibited Areas Ordinance (2010) makes it an offence to enter these areas without permission. Visit permit holders and visitors must refer to this legislation (available on the GSGSSI website) and to the maps attached to the Order if in any doubt about the demarcation of

these areas. Please see Annex 2 for more information.

6.3. Unexploded ordnance

Unexploded ordnance from the 1982 conflict and subsequent military exercises may be found on South Georgia. Visitors finding any item of unexploded ordnance or suspect item should carry out the following procedure:

1. **DO NOT TOUCH!**
2. Note its position and place a marker nearby; a GPS plot is ideal.
3. Make a note of its size, shape, colour, markings, condition and quantity, if possible take a digital photo.
4. Inform the Government Officer as soon as possible.

7. Code of Conduct Whilst Ashore

This code of conduct must be followed by all visitors and it is the Permit Holder's responsibility to ensure it is adhered to:

- Visitors must know their capabilities and the dangers posed by South Georgia's environment, and act accordingly. Plan activities with safety in mind at all times.
- Visitors should take note of, and act on, the advice and instructions from staff. Do not stray from the group.
- Be prepared for severe and changeable weather. Ensure that equipment and clothing are of sufficient strength and quality to withstand Antarctic conditions. South Georgia's weather is unpredictable, when ashore be prepared for the worst, however pleasant it may seem when setting out.
- Do not walk on to glaciers or snowfields without proper equipment and experience. Surface conditions are constantly changing, particularly in the present period of glacial retreat.
- Avoid walking on fragile vegetation; a footprint on a moss bank may remain there for many years. Trampling of vegetation, especially in wet and peaty soils, can cause significant erosion over time. Moss beds and the margins of streams and lakes are particularly fragile.
- Do not collect anything. This includes shells, stones, plants, skulls, bones, teeth and eggs. No items or scientific specimens may be removed from South Georgia without an export permit from GSGSSI. Under the Wildlife and Protected Areas Ordinance (2011) the removal of any item without a permit is an offence.
- Be careful when taking photographs or filming. Never disturb plants or animals to get better pictures. Do not use flash photography for animal photographs. Follow distances from wildlife as noted in this booklet, this includes the use of 'selfie sticks' and other equipment.
 - Always give wildlife the right of way (see wildlife protection guidelines).
 - Firearms must not be brought into South Georgia.
 - Remove all rubbish. Do not pollute lakes or streams.
 - Do not remove, disturb or destroy any historical artefacts.
 - Do not paint or engrave names or graffiti on rocks or buildings; or deface or vandalise any field huts or other structures.
 - Avoid marked sites where scientific experiments are being conducted and do not disturb any scientific equipment.
 - Do not smoke. Do not light campfires.

8. Wildlife Protection Guidelines

It is the responsibility of everyone to minimise their personal impact on the environment by observing the following guidelines. The guidelines are legally enforced through the Wildlife and Protected Areas Ordinance (2011, as amended). In addition, IAATO staff must ensure that IAATO codes of conduct are adhered to.

- Do not disturb marine mammals, birds or other wildlife and do not use vessels, small boats, or other means of transport in ways that disturb wildlife, whether at sea or on land.
- Always maintain a respectful distance and never approach more than 5 m to wildlife. Remain at least 10 m from nesting birds, 50 m from giant Petrels and 25 m from displaying albatross.
- Stay on the edge of animal groups, approaching slowly and quietly. Do not use flash photography. Avoid surrounding animal groups. Back-off immediately if mammals or birds show any sign of being disturbed. If animals are responding to your presence, you are too close.
- Never disturb territorial seals, or seals in breeding colonies to effect a landing, or cause disturbance by cruising offshore in close proximity.
- Do not offer food or feed any wildlife, this prevents the spread of diseases and protects from potential injury.
- Rigorously adhere to biosecurity measures as per the Biosecurity Handbook.
- Be alert whilst ashore, particularly in tussac grass. Take care to avoid stumbling inadvertently upon a fur seal or a nesting bird, or

causing damage to seabird burrows, both in tussac and on scree. Return to the shore if a high density of burrows is encountered.

- Do not touch animals. This may cause substantial stress and disturbance, and may jeopardize the bond between parent and offspring and lead to an aggressive response from the animal.
- The use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), (also known as drones and quadcopters) for recreational purposes is not permitted. UAVs can only be operated, if permitted in advance by GSGSSI (Regulated Activity Permit for approved use in support of either science or media).

The Wildlife and Protected Areas Ordinance (2011) is available online at www.gov.gs. Failure to comply with Wildlife Protection Guidelines and Biosecurity Protocols could result in prosecution for the individual(s) involved.

8.1. Bird Strike:

It is important that we collect accurate and complete data on bird strikes. The information collected is not used to penalise the reporting vessel, but will help us better understand the issue and develop appropriate mitigation measures. It is an infringement of your Visit Permit not to report bird strikes. All bird strikes (including birds released unharmed) must be recorded and reported in the form provided and for the 2024-25 season and emailed to the Government Officers each time a bird strike occurs.

Part 3 – After Your Visit

9. Departing from South Georgia

All vessels should notify the Government Officer at King Edward Point of their departure from South Georgia (ideally by email).

A Post Visit Report form should be completed and returned to GSGSSI by email to admin@gov.gs and denise.blake@gov.gs within 30 days of departing South Georgia.

Non-IAATO vessels:

Please complete the Post Visit Report provided for you from the Dropbox in Excel spreadsheet format. All columns must be completed.

IAATO member vessels:

Once you have finished entering your IAATO Post Visit Report onto the IAATO website you will need to convert to the GSGSSI Post Visit Report format. Information regarding how to convert the Post Visit Report has been sent out by IAATO, however please see below information in case this is helpful.

To convert the IAATO Post Visit Report form to the GSGSSI Post Visit Report format:

- Complete the IAATO PVR form and upload to IAATO database/website

- Use IAATO tool to download relevant South Georgia data to input into the GSGSSI PVR
- Email completed GSGSSI PVR to: denise.blake@gov.gs and admin@gov.gs



© Chris Locke, 2024

Annex 1: List Of Approved Visitor Sites

This list details the approved visitor landing sites on South Georgia. The position of each site is shown on the accompanying map. There are some “unofficial place-names” in current local use and these are indicated with quotation marks in the text.

IAATO members should use the ship scheduler to detail their itinerary. For non-IAATO members, please provide a detailed itinerary including any secondary or alternative sites and any intended extended walks. At approved sites where no landings are permitted and activities are limited to inshore small-boat / Zodiac cruising and / or ship cruises, visits must also be listed on the itinerary and the site details included (stating “No Landing”).

Note that this List does not include the place names of additional anchorages and landing sites used by specially permitted expeditions, or of geographic areas where mountaineering and scientific research activities may occur. However, these sites and their associated activities are to be listed on the Application Form and Post-Visit Report, using place-names given on the British Admiralty Marine Charts and/or the BAS 2017 map to describe the principal geographic features visited, and if appropriate, the site's latitude and longitude.

General area names such as Cooper bay, Bay of Isles, King Haakon Bay, Royal Bay, Fortuna Bay, and Possession Bay contain more than one landing site. You must use the specific landing site names rather than general names. For example:

Bay of Isles: Prion Island, Salisbury Plain, Rosita Harbour
Possession Bay: Possession Bay Brighton Beach, Possession Bay

King Haakon Bay: Brown Pt, Prince Olav Harbour
Fortuna Bay: Peggotty Bluff, Cape Rosa
Royal Bay: Whistle Cove, Anchorage Bay, Shackleton Walk Moltke Harbour, Little Moltke Harbour, Koppen Point, Royal Bay kings, Royal Bay macaronis
Cooper Bay: Cooper Bay Centre Cove, Cooper Bay Albatross Cove, Cooper Bay macaronis, Cooper Bay Main Beach, Cooper Bay chinstraps (NOTE: Cooper Bay chinstraps is currently closed)

Note also that Drygalski Fjord does not include Larsen Harbour (neither of which are landing sites).

The general name may be used for non-landing activities such as ship or small boat cruises.

Visits to Cape Rosa are restricted and subject to the conditions of the respective Site Visitor Management Plans

LIST OF APPROVED VISITOR SITES AT SOUTH GEORGIA

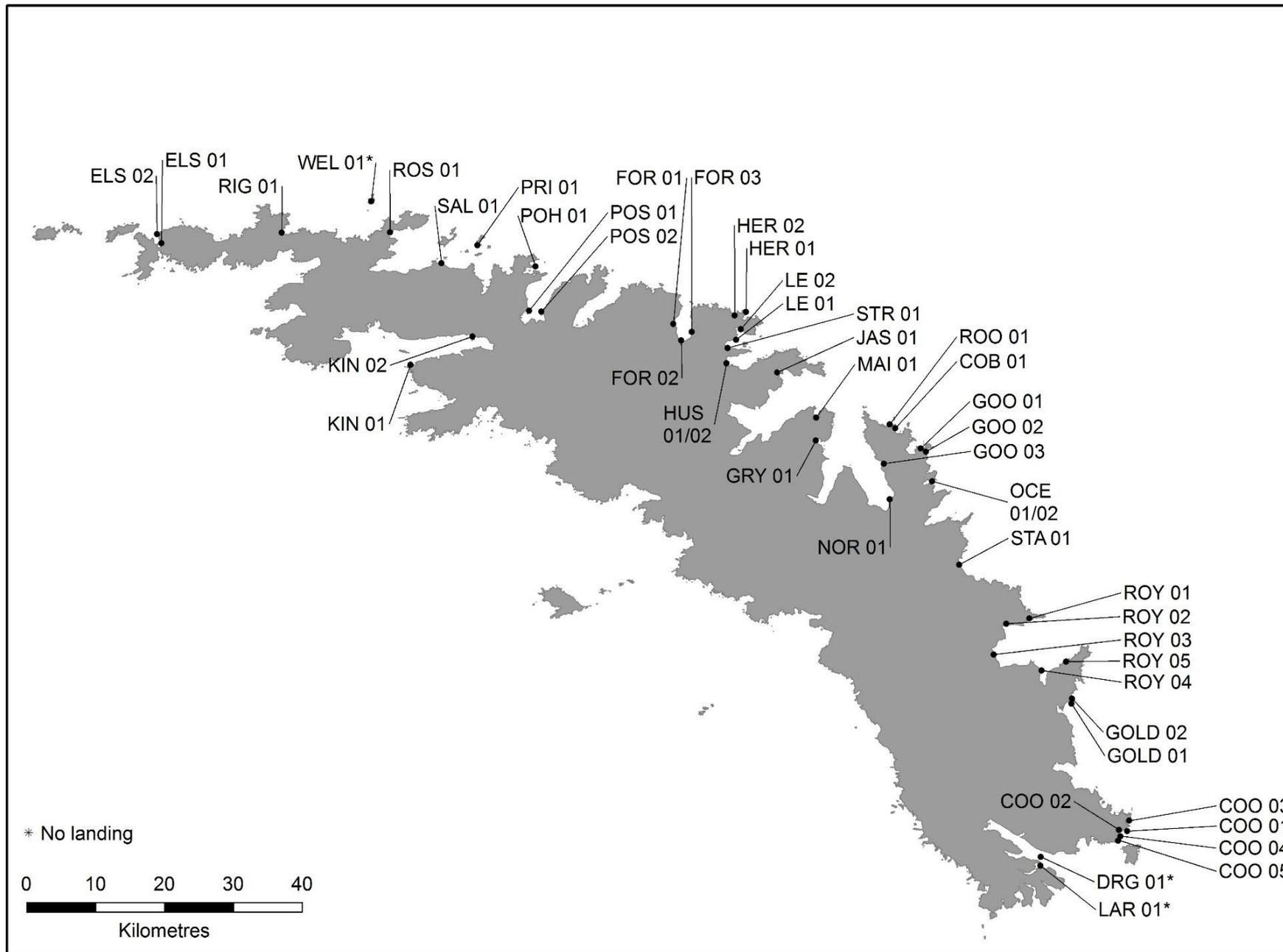
Sites marked (*) are appropriate for Category 2 vessel landings (more than 200 pax on board).

Sites marked (**) are not bookable on the IAATO Ship Scheduler and a nearby, bookable site should be booked instead. Note you may still visit these sites.

SITE CODE	SITE PLACE-NAME	LANDING SITE DESCRIPTION
COB01	Cobblers Cove	N shore of Cobblers Cove
COO01	Cooper Bay centre cove**	Beach of the centre cove of 3 coves comprising Cooper Bay
COO02	Cooper Bay "Albatross Cove"***	Beach of E'most of the 3 coves in Cooper Bay
COO03	Cooper Bay macaronis	Small beach lying between the macaroni landing beach and "Albatross Cove"
COO04	Cooper Bay main beach**	Beach of W'most and largest of 3 coves in Cooper Bay
COO05	Cooper Bay chinstraps	Beach in front of chinstrap colony close W of Cooper Bay (SITE CLOSED – NO LANDING)
DRG01	Drygalski Fjord	(no landing)
ELS01	Elsehul Inner Bay	Main beach below tryptots
ELS02	Elsehul**	(Outer bay, no landing)
FOR01	Fortuna Bay Anchorage Bay**	W shore of Fortuna Bay, N of Perruque Point
FOR02	Fortuna Bay Whistle Cove kings*	Head of Fortuna Bay, at W end of main beach near King Penguin colony
FOR03	Fortuna Bay Shackleton Walk	E shore of Fortuna Bay, close S of Hodson Point, for Shackleton Walk to Stromness
GOD01	Godthul	Beach below old whaling shore depot ruins
GOD02	Godthul walk	Beach at whaling shore depot for walk in Godthul to gentoos, lake and ridge
GOD03	Sandebugten Walk	Beach at Sandebugten for walk across Reindeer Valley to Godthul
GOL01	Gold Harbour	Beach at Gold Harbour in vicinity of King Penguin colony
GOL02	Gold Harbour Walk	Beach at Gold Harbour for walk to cliffs above Gold Head
GRY01	Grytviken*	Beaches between cemetery and Museum also including King Edward Point
HER01	Hercules Bay macaronis	N shore of Hercules Bay near Hercules Point, near macaroni landing site
HER02	Hercules Bay waterfall**	Head of Hercules Bay on small beach near waterfall
HUS01	Husvik	Shore 200m SE of whaling station
HUS02	Olsen Valley Walk	Extended walk from Olsen beach to Carlita Bay (SITE CLOSED – NO LANDING)

LIST OF APPROVED VISITOR SITES AT SOUTH GEORGIA continued, page 2

SITE CODE	SITE PLACE-NAME	LANDING SITE DESCRIPTION
JAS01	Jason Harbour	Beach close to N of Hut Point and hut
KIN01	Cape Rosa	S shore of King Haakon Bay on small beach in Cave Cove close to E of Cape Rosa
KIN02	Peggotty Bluff	N shore of King Haakon Bay on beach close to Peggotty Bluff
LAR01	Larsen Harbour	(No Landing)
LEI01	Leith Harbour Walk	Small beach on N shore of Stromness Harbour for walk to Leith Harbour
LEI02	Leith Harbour	Beach in front of football field 200 m S of whaling station
MAI01	Maiviken Walk	Beach at Grytviken for walk across Bore Valley to Poa Cove in Maiviken
NOR01	Nordenskjold Glacier	E shore of Cumberland East Bay near Nordenskjold Glacier and Sorling Valley
OCE01	Ocean Harbour	Beach at head of Ocean Harbour in front of whaling station ruins
OCE02	Ocean Harbour Walk	Ocean Harbour to Sorling Valley walk
POH01	Prince Olav Harbour	Beach 200 m from whaling station
POS01	Possession Bay Brighton Beach	W shore of Possession Bay on Brighton Beach, S of Purvis Glacier
POS02	Possession Bay Brown Point**	E shore of Possession Bay on large beach N of Brown Point
PRI01	Prion Island	Main beach, E coast, proceed directly to boardwalk (SITE CLOSED – NO LANDING)
RIG01	Right Whale Bay	Binder Beach in vicinity of King Penguin colony
ROO01	Rookery Point Walk	N shore of Cobblers Cove for walk to Rookery Point macaroni colony
ROS01	Rosita Harbour	Beach at head of Rosita Harbour in Bay of Isles
ROY01	Royal Bay Koppen Point **	N shore of Royal Bay on rocky shore below the ruins of the German 1882-83 station
ROY02	Moltke Harbour *	N shore of Royal Bay on beach at Moltke Harbour
ROY03	Little Moltke Harbour**	N shore of Royal Bay on beach at Little Moltke Harbour adjacent to Ross Glacier
ROY04	Royal Bay kings	S shore of Royal Bay on beach at W entrance point of "Brisbane Bay" in front of the Weddell Glacier, close
ROY05	Royal Bay macaronis**	to King Penguin colony (site often referred to as Will Point) S shore of Royal Bay on small beach close to macaroni colony, 5 km W of Cape Charlotte
SAL01	Salisbury Plain*	Beach in front of conspicuous tussac-covered bluff adjacent to King Penguin colony
STA01	St Andrews Bay *	Beach in vicinity of the King Penguin colony
STR01	Stromness*	Beach 200 m N of whaling station including walk up Shackleton Valley to waterfall.
WEL01	Welcome Islands	(No Landing)



Annex 2: Prohibited (Whaling Station) Areas

In accordance with Prohibited Areas Ordinance (2010) and the Prohibited Areas Order (2013), Prohibited Areas have been declared around the whaling stations at Husvik, Stromness, Leith and Prince Olav Harbours. This is necessary to protect persons from danger to their health and safety as well as to protect the heritage of the areas.

It is an offence to enter these areas, without the permission of the Commissioner.

The areas include the areas of sea, and the jetties shown on the plans.

In particular note that the following areas are within the prohibited areas and access is not permitted:

- All jetties at all four stations
- Both cemeteries and the football pitch at Leith Harbour
- Stromness cemetery
- The coastal walk into Stromness from Husvik

Boundaries are partially marked with signposts around the main approach routes. Visitors must ensure that they stay outside the areas marked on the plans.

Visitors should refer to the Prohibited Areas Ordinance 2010 and Prohibited Areas Order 2010. A copy of the Ordinance is available in South Georgia from the Government Officer at King Edward Point and may be downloaded at www.gov.gs.

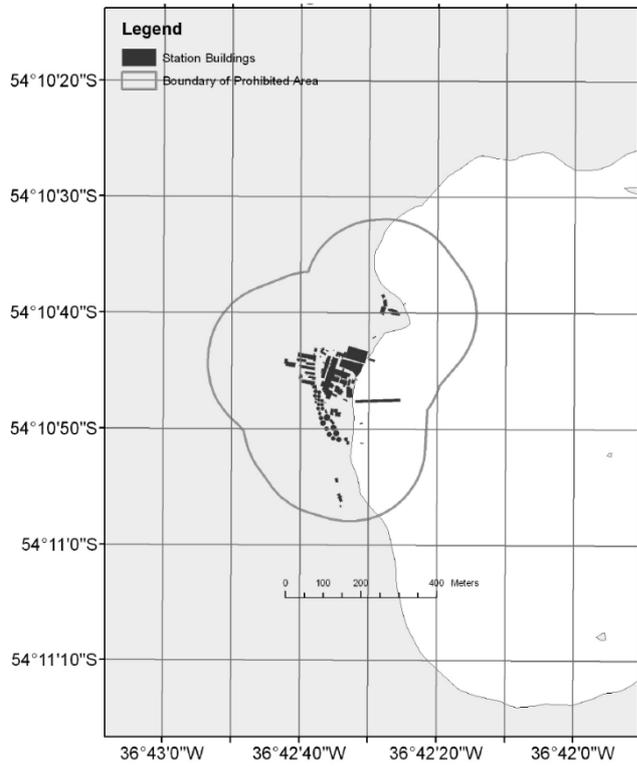
At Stromness the northern boundary limit of the exclusion zone is less than 200m subject to the following conditions:

(a) Visitors are only permitted to land at the demarcated northern boundary of the safety exclusion zone at the approved Stromness landing site in the absence of wind from the southwest (from the direction of the station buildings); and

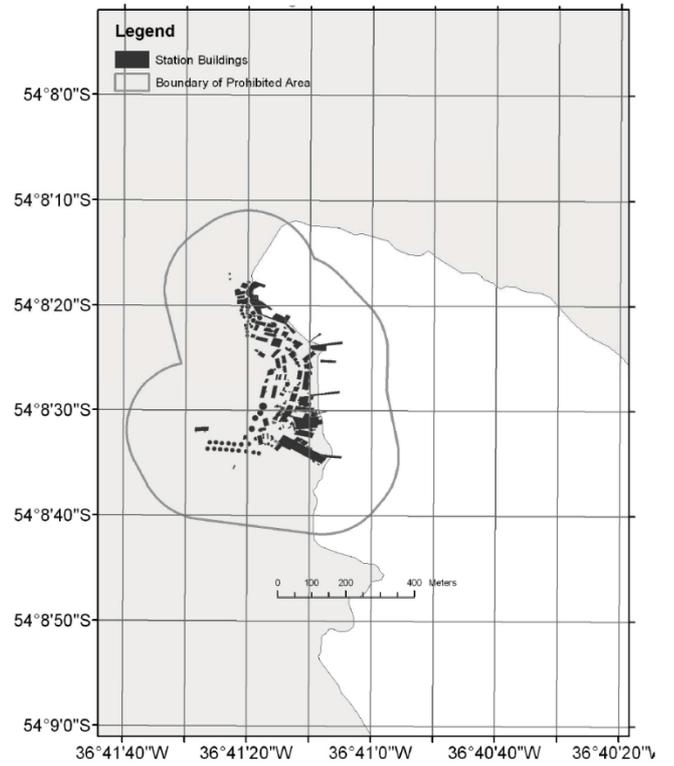
(b) The approved landing site is only to be used for landing and embarking and visitors must otherwise comply with the usual 200 metre exclusion zone.

All other landings must take place at the mouth of the stream (or further to the north of the approved site).

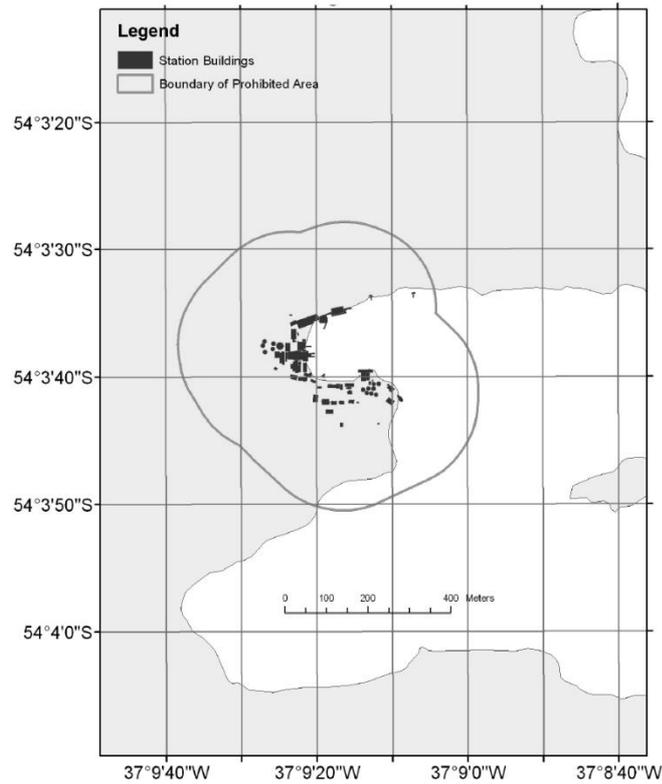
Husvik Whaling Station Prohibited Area



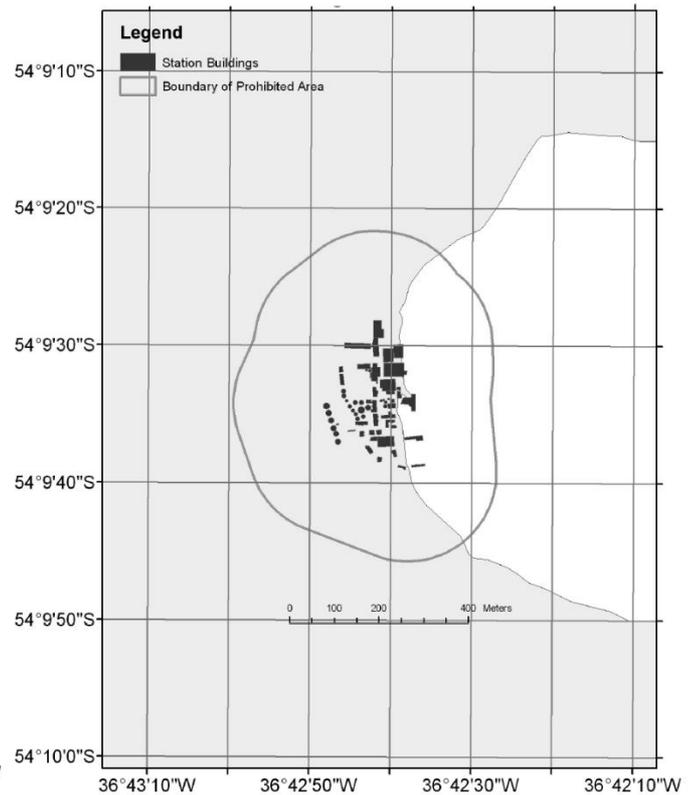
Leith Whaling Station Prohibited Area



Prince Olav Whaling Station Prohibited Area



Stromness Whaling Station Prohibited Area



Annex 3: Rodent Monitoring on Vessels

We have switched from traditional toxic rodent bait to a non-toxic formulation. The non-toxic bait is highly palatable to rats and mice. It is advantageous as it avoids the risk of non-target mortality, reduces the chance that animals become 'bait-shy'/de-sensitised to toxic bait if it is subsequently needed and reduces the amount of harmful toxins that could end up in the environment.

It is a safer and more effective method for monitoring however, **it should be noted that non-toxic bait will only indicate the presence of rodents and cannot be used to deal with a rodent problem.** The aim of monitoring is not to eliminate a rodent infestation. Monitoring tools are there to tell us if there is an issue – if a vessel has signs of rodents on board, further additional measures will be agreed upon with GSGSSI to manage the problem.

Minimising the risk of rodents getting on board is essential, and includes the use of well-fitting rodent guards to mooring lines at gateway ports prior to arrival in SGSSI.



The new non-toxic bait is yellow and has an ingredient which fluoresces under ultraviolet light; not only does this better show crumbs of bait, but also stains rodent faeces and urine so they may be more easily detected.

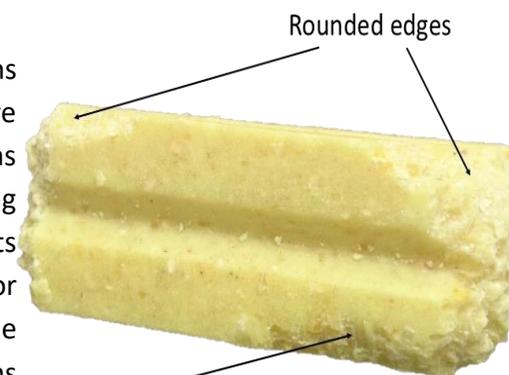
What to Do:

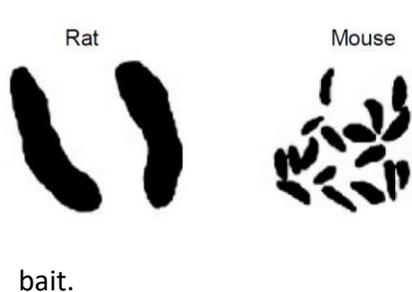
You must procure rodent bait boxes that conform with the descriptions in this documentation. The boxes should be deployed as soon as possible (according to the instructions overleaf), and at least 24 hours prior to entering the SGSSI Maritime Zone. The boxes should remain on board throughout your visit to South Georgia, and should remain in place for vessels which will return to South Georgia again during the season.

On entry to the SGSSI Maritime Zone you will be asked to declare if your vessel is rodent-free. To do that, you must first check all the bait stations and look to see if the bait has been nibbled or damaged. If it has you must report it. The yellow non-toxic bait is perfectly safe to handle. You should also check to see if there are any other signs of rodents on board such as chewed food packaging or droppings in the galley or waste storage area. On arrival to Cumberland East Bay, Government Officers will check the bait stations again.

What to Look For:

Check the bait block for any signs of chew marks; it should have fairly crisp edges; if it has become rounded something may have chewed it. Rodents may leave paired grooves or tooth marks in the surface of the bait. Look for other rodent signs nearby, such as faeces and chewed food, packaging and wood.





The picture (left) shows the relative size and shape of rat and mouse faeces, (right) shows a non-toxic block that has been nibbled by mice. Rats will leave heavier chew marks and take more (or all) of the

bait.

A number of discrete areas on vessels are more favourable to rodents for entry, exit or to live should they become established on board. These areas should be the focus of monitoring.

Rodent monitoring stations should be placed in quiet, sheltered areas, and fixed where necessary to prevent movement in heavy seas. Stations should not be placed on deck where they will get drenched by breaking seas.

Locations of Rodent Monitoring Stations (for vessels LOA >24 metres)

Location	Type
1 Foc'sle (mooring line locker or Bosun's locker)	Rodent entry / exit point
2 Aft mooring deck	Rodent entry / exit point
3 Zodiac storage or shelter deck	Rodent entry / exit point
4 Cargo receiving areas	Rodent entry / exit point
5 Dry food and provision stores	Rodent harbourage
6 Waste storage areas	Rodent harbourage

Vessels with a load line length of more than 24 metres: Rodent monitoring stations should be placed in each of the areas described in Table 1 where those distinct areas exist, such that a vessel may have up to a maximum of 6 rodent monitoring stations. Note that some vessels will not have all of these distinct areas, and will require fewer bait boxes.

Yachts less than 24 metres LOA: Yachts should place 1 rodent monitoring station inside the vessel in an area with suitable conditions for rodents, and 1 rodent monitoring station on a sheltered area of deck while at anchor or alongside.

Rodent bait boxes can be collected from the GSGSSI offices in Stanley, Falkland Islands, prior to departure for South Georgia.

If the vessel will not be calling in the Falklands prior to landing in South Georgia, it is the responsibility of the vessel to ensure that alternative rodent monitoring stations are in place, and that these are acceptable to GSGSSI.

If you need to source your own bait boxes and bait, you must use solid bait blocks, ideally non-toxic, for example [Detex with Lumitrack](#), otherwise traditional toxic solid wax bait blocks are acceptable but must be used according to manufacturer's safety instructions. Loose bait such as pellets or grains are unsuitable as they will not readily show signs of disturbance by rodents.



SOLID WAX TOXIC BAIT BLOCKS (acceptable alternative) LOOSE BAIT PELLETS (unacceptable).

Biosecurity Checklist

5 STEPS TO PROTECT

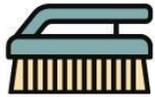


1.) CHECK

Check your boots, outdoor clothing and equipment before and after every landing.

2.) CLEAN

Clean to remove seeds, soil, insects & dirt.



3.) DIP

Use the disinfectant boot dips before and after every landing.

4.) DRY

After dipping, let the disinfectant dry on.



5.) CHECK AGAIN

Just to be sure, check again before going ashore..



SOIL & FAECES



DISEASES & MICROORGANISMS



SEEDS & SPORES



INVERTEBRATES & VERTEBRATES



1.) CHECK

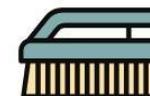
Check your boots, outdoor clothing and equipment before and after every landing. Pay special attention to boot treads, velcro, mesh, bags & pockets.

- BOOTS
- WALKING TROUSERS
- JACKETS
- BACKPACKS
- WALKING POLES
- TRIPODS
- CAMERA BAGS
- EQUIPMENT



2.) CLEAN

Clean to remove seeds, soil, insects & dirt. Tweezers, scrubbing brushes and a vacuum cleaner will help - see over.



3.) DIP

The disinfectant boot dip won't kill seeds or insects, but it will help remove microorganisms and diseases which may harm wildlife.



4.) DRY

Disinfectant dips work much more effectively when they dry on. That's why it's important to do the checks before AND AFTER, every landing.



5.) CHECK AGAIN

Use the buddy system to help you make one final check before you leave the vessel.



THANK YOU!

By undertaking thorough biosecurity, you have played your part in protecting the environment.



www.gov.gs/biosecurity

VELCRO



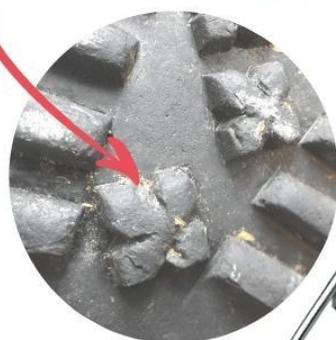
The tiny hooks in Velcro trap seeds and dirt. A stiff scrubbing brush is ideal for cleaning.



BOOTS



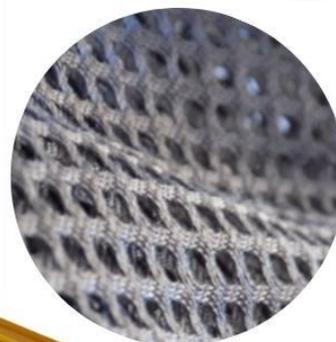
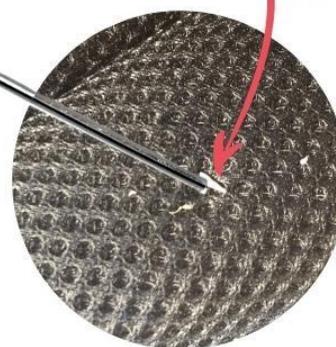
Boot soles trap dirt. A screwdriver or bent paperclip helps remove stubborn dirt, a scrubbing brush will remove the rest.



MESH



A bent paperclip or a pair of tweezers will help you pick out the seeds and organic material which gets trapped in the mesh of backpacks.



BAGS & POCKETS



A vacuum cleaner is the easiest way to clean pockets, backpacks and other hard to reach places.

