INFORMATION FOR VISITORS TO SOUTH GEORGIA 2015/16

(Including Biosecurity Protocols 2015)

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SOUTH GEORGIA INFORMATION FOR VISITORS 2015

Introduction

South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) is a United Kingdom Overseas Territory. It is administered by the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (the Government) based in the Office of the Commissioner in Stanley in the Falkland Islands. The Commissioner, who is also the Governor of the Falkland Islands, is appointed by the Queen and has ultimate responsibility for any activities in the Territory. GSGSSI staff include 6 staff in the office in Stanley, plus three Government Officers based at King Edward Point (KEP) on South Georgia, who are responsible for the local administration on the island.

This document is intended to provide a general overview of the South Georgia visit application procedures and provide information on relevant Government visitor policies. This document should be read in conjunction with the current GSGSSI Biosecurity Protocols document (Annex 2). Following the recent habitat restoration projects targeting rats, mice and reindeer, it is essential that all visitors rigorously implement all biosecurity measures. Persons wishing to access documentation or learn more about South Georgia should refer to the website www.sgisland.gs

Visitors travelling to South Georgia as paying passengers on cruise ships and yachts should note that they do not need to submit a visit application; their vessel operator submits this on their behalf.

Before planning a visit to SGSSI, all potential visitors and commercial operators should take note of the following Government advice:

All travel has inherent risks, but travel to South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands carries a greater level of risk than to many, more traditional, destinations. There is no airstrip, nor is there any search and rescue or other emergency service on the island.

The limited medical facilities at KEP provide medical cover for base personnel. All vessels must be self sufficient in every respect, including provision of adequate medical cover. In an emergency, there might be the possibility of accessing some degree of medical assistance from KEP, but this must never be relied upon.

There is no independent transport from South Georgia to the Falkland Islands or to South America, which are at least three or five days sail away respectively. Commercial operators must ensure that all clients are aware of the medical evacuation limitations.

With the exception of certain 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.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FISHING VESSELS: Special conditions apply to fishing vessels in South Georgia waters. Please contact the Director of Fisheries dof@gov.gs for an information pack and details of the licensing procedure.

GSGSSI May 2015
Fishing vessels in transit through South Georgia waters must report entry and exit into the Maritime Zone, and declare any fish on board, to the Government Officer at King Edward Point. Failure to do so could result in prosecution.

Applications and Preparations for Visits

A permit from the Commissioner is required for visits to South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. The visit permit is issued to a ‘Permit Holder’, normally a cruise vessel expedition leader or a yacht master. Permits have conditions attached and failure to comply with these conditions could lead to site access restrictions or withdrawal of the permit. An application to visit must be made in writing by completing the South Georgia Visit Application Form. This form may be obtained from GSGSSI or the Government website (www.sgisland.gs).

Individual passengers on cruise ships and charter yachts do not need to apply to visit, the permit for the vessel covers all passengers.

Annex 9 details the approved landing and visitor sites for which permission may be sought to visit. All applicants must study the South Georgia Tourism Management Policy document (Annex 1) before submitting their application. Operators of IAATO Category 2 vessels should note the sites to which their vessels are permitted access.

Permission will not normally be given for landings at any other sites. Special permission must also be sought for landings at the two restricted landing sites (Prion Island and Cape Rosa), which have access restrictions.

Visitors intending to spend nights ashore are classed as expeditions and require a separate application and assessment procedure for an expedition permit. Expedition application information may be obtained from GSGSSI or the Government website (www.sgisland.gs). All applications for science projects should be sent directly to GSGSSI and will be administered separately.

Thorough preparation is essential for yachts undertaking voyages to South Georgia. Visiting yachts must be appropriately constructed, rigged and fitted for high latitude sailing and only suitably experienced skippers and crew should consider such visits. Yacht skippers who are not regular visitors to South Georgia should, before applying, refer to the following websites:

http://iaato.org/yachts/ (preparation and responsibilities, & guidelines.)

All media and commercial photographers and film productions are required to submit a written application and environmental assessment before permission to film will be granted. This process should be completed before the visit permit is issued for the supporting vessel. Commercial film production and photographic teams (or individuals) should contact GSGSSI directly to request permission (and if necessary they should also be directed to do so by their vessel operator.) A daily fee may be charged for commercial film projects (Annex 7). Production companies are reminded that commercial support vessels
must be members of IAATO, unless an alternative arrangement has been agreed with GSGSSI and appropriate approved observer coverage is in place.

Unless a visit applicant has an agent in Stanley authorised to pay fees (or has arranged to be invoiced directly), the permit holder on smaller vessels will normally need to have sufficient funds (pounds sterling, USD or Euros in cash or travellers’ cheques) to pay visitor fees for all on board (Annex 7). Applicants for vessels carrying more than 12 passengers will be invoiced for 50% of the projected visitor fees in advance of their visit. Visitors intending to land must be in possession of either a valid passport or seaman’s book. No visa is required to visit South Georgia.

Visit applicants should also be aware that in addition to the aforementioned requirement for adequate medical cover, visitors should not approach the KEP doctor with requests for the provision of medication (though in an emergency, medical support maybe given). All visitors taking prescription medication should also ensure that they carry adequate supplies when going ashore (in order to cover any unexpected delays). In the event that an emergency request is made for the provision of medication and this is supplied, an administrative fee may be incurred.

**Passage to South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands**

The island of South Georgia (and the South Sandwich Islands) is surrounded by a Maritime Zone, which includes all waters within 200nm of 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.

**KEP Government Officer contact details:**

- E-mail: go@gov.gs
- Telephone: 00870 382 359 033 (Inmarsat B, operational until Dec 2016)
  0044 1223 221781 (VOIP)
- Fax: 00870 382 359 034 (Inmarsat B, operational until Dec 2016)
- Telex: 580 492 348 018 (Inmarsat C)
- Iridium: 00881 631831394

The Government Officer will require the following information:

- Vessel name & radio call sign
- Type of vessel e.g. cruise ship, yacht, fishing vessel, research vessel, reefer etc.
- Date and time of intended arrival at King Edward Point in Cumberland East Bay
- Purpose of visit
Arrival at South Georgia

Unless the Government has already given permission in writing to do otherwise, the first port of call in South Georgia must be King Edward Point / Grytviken, where the Government Officer will carry out immigration procedures, arrival briefings and other formalities.

On entering Cumberland Bay, the Government Officer should be contacted on VHF Channel 16. The Government Officer will board the vessel to give an arrival briefing and complete arrival and customs formalities, including issuing invoices for fees (and the receipt of any cash payments.) A copy of the crew and passenger lists must be available. The Government Officer will also ask for the signed Visit Permit Holder Landing Declaration (Annex 5) as well as the Biosecurity Declaration Form (Annex 2) signed by all persons going ashore. The Government Officer is likely to also undertake a biosecurity inspection on the vessel before any landing is made. Rigorous application of all biosecurity measures is essential before a vessel’s arrival. Failure to do so could result in a prosecution under the Wildlife and Protected Areas Ordinance.

Be vigilant for any evidence of rodents on your vessel. The Government Officer at King Edward Point must be contacted in advance of arrival if there is any concern or suspicion about the presence of rodents on a vessel.

Charges are levied for customs, harbour and visitor fees, transhipping and water (Annex 7). Vessel operators may make payments directly to GSGSSI or via a shipping agent in Stanley, Falkland Islands (visit applicants will be asked to indicate to whom invoices should be sent). Permit holders on yachts may make direct payments to the Government Officer in pounds sterling in the form of cash, Falkland Islands cheque or travellers’ cheques; or in United States dollars or Euros as cash or travellers' cheques.

A visitor fee is charged for each person (16 years old and over) named on the passenger list of cruise ships and yachts, this includes privately owned vessels (Annex 7). No charge is made for any professional (employed) crew or staff on a vessel. Revenue collected in this way contributes to the costs of administering the Territory as well as environmental and heritage projects, including the running costs of the South Georgia Museum and maintenance of the buildings at Grytviken.

Biosecurity
Permit Holders must study closely the separate Biosecurity Protocols document (Annex 2) and 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).

Shore and Harbour Facilities

The only facilities for visitors ashore are at Grytviken and King Edward Point (KEP). There is no on-shore accommodation for visitors to the island, nor are there public telephone, fax or internet facilities.
**Jetties**
A jetty is available at Grytviken for visiting yachts and tenders (the Tijuca jetty). A jetty is also available at King Edward Point at the discretion of the Government Officer. However, due to biosecurity issues, the only ships permitted to come alongside tend to be Government vessels. Any vessel granted permission to use the KEP jetty will be required to follow rigorous biosecurity protocols and may incur charges.

**Water**
Water is available at the King Edward Point jetty (subject to access restrictions). A charge per tonne is levied, though yachts are not charged (Annex 7). Yachts may also obtain water from the Tijuca jetty at Grytviken.

**Post Office**
Situated at King Edward Point, the Post Office is run by a Postal Officer or appointed representative, and is open upon request. During cruise ship visits the Post Office service transfers to Grytviken (slop chest building) or may go aboard some larger vessels. Philatelic items including stamps, postcards, first day covers and South Georgia merchandise are available and mail can be posted if South Georgia stamps of the appropriate value are used, although it may take up to two months or more for items to reach their destination, via the Falkland Islands.

**South Georgia Museum**
Established in 1992, the South Georgia Museum at Grytviken is an important centre of interest for visitors. The many photographs and exhibits displayed in the Museum, situated in what was the whaling station Manager’s Villa, record the former whaling industry and other aspects of South Georgia’s heritage, exploration and natural history. The Church and Cemetery (burial place of Sir Ernest Shackleton) are also focal points for the visitor.

The Museum is funded and maintained by GSGSSI and managed on their behalf by the South Georgia Heritage Trust (SGHT). Museum staff are present in summer to welcome visitors, and in their absence the Government Officer may open the Museum upon request. Souvenir items including postcards, clothing and books are on sale at the Museum shop. Proceeds from sales contribute to SGHT fundraising for heritage projects. Admission is free, though donations are gratefully accepted.

Visits to the former whaling station at Grytviken are only possible following a major Government project in 2003/4 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 and Annex 8).

**Conduct Ashore & Management of Visitors**

**Management of landings**
Landings may only be made at approved landing sites (Annex 9). Permit holders must refer to their permit and check the approved list in the visitor application information. The Conduct Whilst Ashore and Wildlife Protection Guidelines (see below) must be strictly followed at all times. Visit permit holders on IAATO vessels must also ensure their staff and
visitors adhere to IAATO guidelines and bylaws at all times. All approved landing site Codes of Conduct and existing Site Visitor Management Plans must be adhered to.

It is the responsibility of visit applicants, vessel operators and visit permit holders to ensure that all their staff are fully briefed and adhere at all times to current visit permit conditions, including Codes of Conduct and Visitor Management Plans. Failure to do so will result in the imposition of visit permit and site access restrictions.

Site Visitor Management Plans should be downloaded in advance by permit holders from the website www.sgisland.gs (though USB memory sticks may also be issued). These cover Cape Rosa, Cooper Bay Macaronis, Fortuna Shackleton Walk, Fortuna Whistle Cove, Godthul, Gold Harbour, Prion Island, Salisbury Plain, St Andrews Bay and number of other extended walks. Visit applicants and permit holders should always consult the website each season to ensure that they are referring to the current documentation.

No overnight stays ashore are permitted, except by authorised expeditions (see Application section). Emergency refuge huts 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.

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.

Prohibited Areas legislation (2013) 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 (Annex 8) if in any doubt about the demarcation of these areas.

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. Deteriorating weather or sea conditions may, for example, make return to the ship hazardous and necessitate a longer stay ashore than planned. Vessel operators & charterers should review all major incident and contingency plans on a regular basis. All IAATO staff involved in the oversight of passengers ashore should have passed the IAATO online field staff assessment.

Unexploded ordinance
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:

DO NOT TOUCH (items are in a dangerous condition).
Note its position (latitude, longitude) and place a marker nearby; a GPS plot is ideal.
Make a note of its size, shape, colour, markings, condition and quantity; a digital photo can help. Inform the Government Officer as soon as possible.
Code of Conduct Whilst Ashore

When ashore:

- Visitors must know their capabilities and also 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 leaders and 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.
- Fully adhere to the Wildlife Protection Guidelines at all times (see separate Wildlife Protection guidelines).
- Avoid walking on fragile vegetation. A footprint on a moss bank may remain there a long time; 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 any items. This includes plants, skulls, bones, teeth or eggs. No items or scientific specimens may be removed from South Georgia without an export permit from GSGSSI under the Wildlife and Protected Area Ordinance. 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.
- Always give wildlife the right of way (see wildlife protection guidelines).
- Firearms may 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 camp fires.

Wildlife Protection Guidelines

ALL visitors including tourists, scientists, government staff, journalists, military personnel, ships’ crews and tourism staff must aim 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). IAATO staff must also ensure that all IAATO codes of conduct are fully adhered to.
• Do not disturb mammals or birds and always maintain a respectful distance.

• Do not use vessels, small boats, or other means of transport in ways that disturb wildlife, whether at sea or on land.

• Stay on the edge of animal groups, approaching slowly and quietly. Do not use flash photography. Avoid surrounding the groups. Back-off immediately if mammals or birds show any sign of being disturbed. If animals are responding to your presence then you are too close.

• Never disturb seals in breeding colonies or territorial seals in order to affect a landing (or cause disturbance by cruising offshore in close proximity).

• Do not offer food to any animal. This avoids animals becoming dependent on unnatural food sources, prevents the spread of avian diseases and protects visitors from potential injury.

• Always rigorously adhere to all biosecurity measures (see separate Biosecurity Protocols document).

• Be alert whilst ashore and particularly in the tussac grass. Always remain vigilant 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 or attempt to touch any animals. Such action 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. Only in exceptional circumstances may UAVs be operated, if permitted in advance by GSGSSI (normally as part of either a science or media permit).

All permit holders must study the Wildlife and Protected Areas Ordinance (2011) (available from www.sgisland.gs). Failure to comply with Wildlife Protection Guidelines and Biosecurity Protocols could result in prosecution for the individual(s) involved.

**Departing from South Georgia**

All vessels should notify the Government Officer at King Edward Point of their departure from South Georgia.

A Post Visit Report form (attached to the visit application document, or provided by the Government Officer) should be completed and returned to the Government Officer at KEP within 30 days of departing South Georgia.
Annexes

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South Georgia Tourism Management Policy (2015)

TOURISM MANAGEMENT POLICY

The principle objective of the tourism management policy for South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) is to enable visitor access, whilst ensuring the continued protection of the Territory’s unique environment, including its flora, fauna and cultural heritage. This is achieved by managing all visitor landings so that authorised visitors may continue to have access to approved landing sites in a safe and regulated manner, whilst minimising any impact.

This document sets out general and specific policies and regulations governing visits to South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands.

Applicants, who believe that exceptional circumstances apply, which necessitate a departure from the following, should include details with their applications.

General Principles, which apply to all visits to South Georgia.

A “visit” is defined as an entry into territorial waters (i.e. within 12nm of territorial baselines). The use of civil or private aircraft (as well as UAVs) within 12nm of territorial baselines is prohibited except by permit.

All visits to South Georgia require a permit from the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (GSGSSI).

It is the responsibility of the visit applicant to nominate one or more individuals (referred to as ‘the Permit Holder’), normally the vessel Expedition Leader or Yacht Master, who will be responsible for all on board during the vessel’s time in South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands.

All visitors aged 16 years or over, with the exception of professional staff on board a vessel, must pay a visitor fee, unless exempted from doing so by the Commissioner.

All visitors must be vessel borne and no overnight stays ashore are permitted without permission from the Commissioner. Any application to stay overnight ashore will be regarded as an “expedition” and treated accordingly (see the Expedition section).

The operators or owners of all commercial and privately owned vessels wishing to visit South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands must submit a fully completed current “Application to Visit South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands” document. This must clearly specify all dates and proposed itineraries.

Operators or owners of vessels carrying more than 10 persons must ensure the visit application form is submitted to GSGSSI no later than 60 days before the intended arrival date in South Georgia. Failure to do so will result in financial penalty and may result in delays.

Any proposed changes to the information submitted with the application must be notified to the Government before the vessel enters the SGSSI Maritime Zone.

Landings will only be permitted at those sites or site categories specified in a vessel operator’s permit to visit.

GSGSSI May 2015
All landings must be carried out in accordance with permit conditions and applicable site-specific regulations or visitor management documents. Failure to do so could lead to site access restrictions, withdrawal of the permit or prosecution. Permits will only be issued in respect of approved South Georgia landing sites and landings on the South Sandwich Islands will be approved on a case-by-case basis. Where landings are not permitted, zodiac cruising may in certain circumstances be permitted.

All vessels must call at King Edward Point (Grytviken) to complete customs and administrative formalities, GSGSSI briefings, biosecurity inspections (as required) and the payment of harbour dues and customs fees as specified in the SGSSI Harbour Administration Charges. Unless otherwise exempted in advance by the Government, this must be the first landing in the Territory. Authorisations for exemption will normally only be given to IAATO vessels carrying an Expedition leader who has visited South Georgia in that capacity within the previous 3 years.

All vessels carrying 12 or more passengers must carry a Master or Chief Deck Officer with previous experience of operating in South Georgia or Polar Regions within the previous 5 years.

All applications for vessels to visit must include incident contingency plans and details of SOLAS equipment, medical capabilities, including the management of trauma injuries, as well as emergency and medical evacuation contingency plans. These must include vessel operator contact details and vessel contact details. There are no Search and Rescue (SAR) facilities on South Georgia and vessels must be self sufficient in every respect.

All vessel owners and operators are required to have adequate insurance to cover liability for environmental damage, passenger medical evacuation and rescue and repatriation of passengers. Insurance policy details must be provided with the vessel application. It will be acceptable for visit applicants to ensure that their passengers have adequate insurance to cover medical evacuation and repatriation.

**Commercial Vessels**

Commercial vessel operations are classed as all vessels carrying fee-paying passengers as well as vessel operators receiving contributions and benefits in kind from any non fee-paying passengers, guests or unpaid crew, which are in excess of an individual’s pro rata contribution towards consumables for a voyage.

Vessels carrying in excess of 850 passengers are not permitted to visit South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands or to enter within Territorial Waters.

**Members of IAATO**

IAATO Member vessels carrying fewer than 201 passengers (IAATO Category 1) may be permitted to land at approved landing sites, including those restricted sites that require special permission.

IAATO Member vessels carrying 201-500 passengers (IAATO Category 2) are not permitted to carry out landings at restricted sites requiring special permission and are only permitted to land at sites approved for IAATO Category 2 ships.

IAATO Member vessels carrying 500-850 passengers (CR Category) are permitted to carry out landings at Grytviken only.

Visit permit holders on IAATO vessels must ensure that in addition to any terms and conditions of their visit permit, IAATO operational guidelines are adhered to.
Non-members of IAATO

All non-IAATO commercial vessels are normally only permitted to land passengers at Grytviken*.

* For the purposes of this document, a vessel whose operator or owner has Membership of IAATO or B1 Associate Membership will be regarded as an IAATO Member vessel.

Under exceptional circumstances, commercial non-IAATO vessels may be given permission to visit South Georgia, if the visit is of a unique nature in support of a specific project, which will not involve the vessel returning to South Georgia. All such vessels will be required to embark a GSGSSI approved observer.

Observers

The Government may designate observers to oversee commercial yachts, cruise ships or expedition vessels on their arrival at King Edward Point or during the whole or part of a vessel’s duration in South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands waters. Vessels visiting for the first time, carrying 12 or more passengers and those under new management will, subject to practical considerations, always be required to embark a GSGSSI observer.

A fee will be charged for vessels requiring the embarkation of an approved observer (if required to facilitate access to landing sites).

Privately Owned Vessels (Not carrying fee-paying passengers)

Privately owned vessels carrying 10 persons or less on board (including professional crew) may be permitted to land passengers at all approved landing sites.

Privately owned vessels carrying 11-20 persons on board (including professional crew) may be permitted to land passengers at approved landing sites, but may only land at restricted sites when accompanied by a GSGSSI designated observer (to oversee landings).

Privately owned vessels carrying more than 20 persons on board (including professional crew) will only be permitted to land passengers at Grytviken. Landings at all other approved landing sites may be permitted if accompanied by a GSGSSI designated observer (to oversee landings).

Expeditions

With the exception of GSGSSI and permitted BAS staff, approved HMG staff and MOD personnel on operational duty, visitors intending to spend nights ashore are classed as expeditions.

Expedition applications must be submitted to GSGSSI no later than 60 days before an expedition arrives in South Georgia (or the South Sandwich Islands) and will be assessed by a panel of experts who will advise the Commissioner on the application (and whether a permit should be granted).

An administrative fee of £1,000 will be charged for the assessment procedure.

All expeditions must be supported throughout by an expedition support vessel and participants must have adequate personal insurance to include medical evacuation and repatriation. Insurance policy details must be provided with the application. Support vessels must have adequate insurance as specified in the general principles. No support (including Search and Rescue cover) will be available from GSGSSI for expeditions. Expedition groups must be self-sufficient.
A post expedition report must be submitted to GSGSSI within one month of completing an expedition and departing from South Georgia.

**General policy**

Submission of an application will be taken by GSGSSI to mean that the applicant has read and understood the terms under which permitting operates, and that the vessel and company on whose behalf the application has been made will comply with the terms and conditions of their permit, including ensuring compliance with all polices and regulations governing behaviour ashore.

It is the responsibility of both visit applicants, vessel operators and visit permit holders to ensure that all their staff are fully briefed and adhere at all times to current visit permit conditions including Codes of Conduct and Visitor Management Plans. Failure to comply with the South Georgia visitor policy, legislation, other government regulations, codes of conduct or visitor management plans 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, or place restrictions, on future permitting. Individuals who commit offences under the Wildlife and Protected Areas and Prohibited Areas legislation may face prosecution.

GSGSSI accepts no liability for the safety of visitors to South Georgia or the South Sandwich Islands. All visits are at the visitors’ own risk. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to assess the safety of all anchorages, landing sites, activities and structures (e.g. jetties and boardwalks) before use and to advise all visitors in their care or under their responsibility of potential risks. GSGSSI will not accept any liability whatsoever for injury to, or damage sustained by, any individual, howsoever arising. All visitors must be covered by adequate insurance as outlined above. Visit applicants must also ensure that all clients have been informed about the remote nature of the Territory and medical evacuation limitations.

Post Visit Report forms must be completed and returned either to the Government Officer at King Edward Point or GSGSSI within 30 days of a vessel’s departure from South Georgia.

Vessels must observe the dates specified on permits. If a Permit Holder wishes to change any dates specified on a visit permit (whether for individual sites or the duration of the visit), then the Permit Holder must consult with, and get the agreement of, the Government Officer at KEP before any alterations can be made to itinerary dates or to the IAATO ship scheduler system.

Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
May 2015
Notes
A season commences on 1st July and ends on 30th June of the following year.

Additional information

Acronyms

<table>
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<th>Acronym</th>
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<td>GSGSSI</td>
<td>Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands</td>
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<td>SG</td>
<td>South Georgia</td>
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<td>SSI</td>
<td>South Sandwich Islands</td>
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<td>HMG</td>
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<td>MoD</td>
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<td>SGSSI MZ</td>
<td>South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands Maritime Zone</td>
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<tr>
<td>IAAOT</td>
<td>International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators</td>
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Contact details for the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands

Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
Government House
Stanley
Falkland Islands, South Atlantic FIIQ 1ZZ

Tel: +500 28200
Fax: +500 28201
Email: info@gov.gs

Details of approved landing sites are included in the Information for Visitors to South Georgia Booklet. These and the details of the Territorial Baselines may also be obtained from the GSGSSI Office in Stanley.
Annex 2

BIOSECURITY PROTOCOLS 2015
For the Attention of all visitors to South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands

To protect the fragile ecology of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, it is essential that all visitors understand fully the biosecurity protocols, which they must implement before arriving into the Territory and during the course of their visit. Ultimately all the biosecurity regulations are underpinned by legislation. Failure to adhere to these regulations is an offence, which is likely to result in prosecution.

Why is biosecurity in South Georgia particularly important?

The climate in South Georgia is changing rapidly. Glaciers are retreating at an alarming rate and milder conditions mean that the Territory has never been more vulnerable to biosecurity threats resulting from human actions. The accidental or reckless introduction of any alien plant or animal species (including micro-organisms), or the transfer of such a species between landing sites is now far more likely to result in an alien species becoming successfully established and this poses an extremely serious risk to the Territory’s fragile ecology.

The Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands (GSGSSI) have completed a project to remove invasive reindeer from the Barff Peninsula and Busen area and the South Georgia Heritage Trust (SGHT), with support from GSGSSI, have completed the baiting phase of a habitat restoration project to eradicate rats and mice from South Georgia. With the support of the UK Government Darwin Initiative, GSGSSI is also undertaking a cutting edge weed management project. Eradication projects on this scale are unprecedented and, if successful, will transform the ecology of the island and restore the habitats of a great number of native species.

The careless actions of one individual or organisation leading to the inadvertent introduction of an alien species South Georgia could undermine these amazing initiatives and could lead to a prosecution under the Wildlife and Protected Areas Ordinance (2011). In particular, the re-introduction of a rat or mouse would be a catastrophic event for the future ecology of the island would likely result in heavy financial penalties for the individual or vessel operator responsible.

Every visitor has a valuable role and contribution to make in protecting this unique territory. Visitors are required to follow the biosecurity measures at all times and remain vigilant reporting any concerns immediately to Expedition Staff or the Government Officers.

Please read the following document carefully and rigorously follow all instructions.
Biosecurity protocols

Roles and responsibilities

• Every visitor is required to protect South Georgia from invasive species and complete the biosecurity protocols outlined below.
• All persons going ashore will be required to sign a declaration before landing. The Government Officer will inspect these.
• The Visit Permit holder on cruise ships and yachts (normally the Expedition Leader on cruise ships) should vigilantly ensure that all passengers, staff and any crew landing complete biosecurity processes.
• On merchant vessels, MOD vessels and fishing vessels, the Master or another senior officer must be responsible for overseeing biosecurity procedures.
• In the event that a vessel is permitted to undertake landings prior to arriving at King Edward Point, the permit holder must contact the Government Officer to confirm that all persons going ashore have completed this process and signed the declaration.
• Under the Wildlife and Protected Areas Ordinance 2011 and any subsidiary legislation, any biosecurity breech may be treated as a criminal offence. Visit Permit holders should refer to this legislation in advance of their arrival (available on GSGSSI website www.sgisland.gs)
• All visiting vessels must have South Georgia Biosecurity information on display in a public area. Information sheets will be provided to vessels at the start of the season and also in each passenger’s South Georgia visitor booklet.

Before arrival

• Prior to arrival at South Georgia all luggage and equipment to be brought ashore (such as daypacks and camera bags), must be thoroughly inspected and cleaned.
• Special attention should be paid to Velcro®, footwear, gaiters, pockets, turnups in trousers and hoods of jackets (pockets to be turned inside out).
• Daypacks and camera bags must be brushed out and vacuumed to remove all soil, seeds and organic material before disembarking at South Georgia.
• Bootwashing with biocide (e.g. Virkon®) is obligatory for all passengers, staff and crew prior to all landings and again when returning to the ship. Bootwashing must be overseen by a designated competent member of staff / crew. All external surfaces of any footwear, which will be worn ashore, must be washed. (Virkon® concentration required is 35g per 10ltrs of water).
• Government Officers will randomly inspect bootwashing facilities and procedures on visiting vessels (including yachts) and may also randomly inspect visitors, including staff, as they come ashore to ensure biosecurity protocols have been undertaken properly.

Going ashore

• Only open boats such as Zodiacs and RIBs may be used to land passengers on the shoreline and beaches (i.e. any landing other than at the jetties at King Edward Point, Grytviken and Bird Island).
• All boats must be thoroughly inspected for rodents and any organic material before embarking passengers and again when departing from the island 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.
• Bags should not be left open and unattended ashore. This includes any bags used by the vessel staff during the landing, such as those used to store lifejackets.
• Visitors should avoid putting day sacks or camera cases down on the ground as this increases the likelihood of biological material becoming entrained and transferred between sites.
• Fresh fruit, vegetables, meat, eggs and unpasteurised dairy produces are not be taken ashore.
• Any food brought ashore must be in boxes that are robust, fully sealed and with no openings. Boxes should be made from and either plastic, metal or wood.
Between every landing

- Different areas on South Georgia are biologically unique and it is important not to move material between regions. As well as potentially spreading alien plant species to un-invaded sites, incorrect cleaning of clothing and footwear has the potential to spread disease between colonies of seals and penguins that would otherwise not come into close contact.
- Bootwashing facilities to be cleaned and refilled for each new landing. For this to remain effective, passengers and staff returning from the shore should wash off soil and organic material with seawater before embarking on the Zodiac / launch to return to the ship.
- Visitors must inspect clothing, luggage and equipment between landings and repeat biosecurity checks/cleaning procedures to minimise the risk of intra-regional transfer.

Bait stations and rat guards

- All visiting vessels must deploy bait stations in areas likely to harbour rats. These will be provided and placed by the Government Officer at King Edward Point at the first call of the season.

Figure 1. Example of a rodent bait station and wax bait blocks

- Subsequently, bait stations should be checked by the permit holder 24h before arrival into South Georgia and the Government Officers should be informed by e-mail to say this has been done. Please ask passengers, officers and crew not to disturb or tamper with the boxes at other times.
- Bait should be replaced if it has deteriorated since the last check. Bait will deteriorate more rapidly in wet locations than in dry (indoor) sites. Old bait blocks should be disposed of by incineration or in landfill – do not throw them overboard if birds might scavenge them.

Rat Poison Information
The poison contains 0.005% Difenacoum
Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Do not smoke eat or drink while handling this product. Wash hands and face before eating, drinking or smoking.
• Ordinarily, vessels are not permitted to come alongside the jetty at King Edward Point
• Yachts (small sailing or motor vessels, with a load line length of up to 24m or less and used for pleasure cruises) may use the jetty at Tijuca but they must use serviceable rat guards on all lines ashore.
• The use of, shorelines for mooring should be avoided. If shorelines are used, serviceable rat guards should be in place.

Incident reporting
• If a rodent, reindeer or fresh evidence of either of these species (including tracks, fresh droppings) is seen anywhere on South Georgia, it is important to gather as much information as possible and report it to the Government Officers at King Edward Point.

Figure 2. Comparative size of a) rat and mouse prints b) rat and mouse droppings

• If you think you have seen evidence of reindeer or rodents, the following actions should be taken:
  o Take photographs of the area including close-ups of any sign (tracks, fresh droppings, recently used rat burrows).
  o Make a note of the exact location. Ideally this should be a GPS point but if not available mark the position on a map, or make a sketch.
  o If possible, conduct a search of the surrounding area to see if any more evidence of rodents is apparent.
  o Record the time and weather conditions of the sighting.
  o Note any wildlife in the area e.g. presence of pintails, pipits.

Approved Landing Sites
For the 2015/16 season, visit permits will normally be issued for landings at approved landing sites subject to individual site restrictions and the applicant meeting the criteria for eligibility to land. See Site Visitor Management Plans for Prion Island and Cape Rosa).

Visit applicants must refer to the official place names list for approved visitor sites. These are attached to the South Georgia visit application forms.

Landing at other sites in not permitted unless special permission has been granted by GSGSSI and the relevant permit issued.
Additional Information for the 2015/16 Season

Cooper Bay site closure following avian cholera outbreak

The Cooper Bay chinstrap penguin colony-landing site (and surrounding sites, with the exception of the macaroni colony) remain closed to visitors following a suspected outbreak of avian cholera in 2010. **Thorough and appropriate use of biocides is essential to prevent the spread of pathogens.** Visitors should contact GSGSSI as soon as possible if sick birds or mammals are observed in the vicinity of Cooper Bay or any other landing site.
SOUTH GEORGIA BIOSECURITY
SELF AUDIT DECLARATION

DECLARATION: I confirm that I have carried out the preventative measures outlined overleaf, and that I have read and understood the South Georgia biosecurity information provided on board my vessel.

I have complied with these measures to the best of my ability and I acknowledge that failure to comply with these measures may result in a delay or disruption to my landing(s) on South Georgia.

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Name of EL / Officer:
Signature
### Annex 3  Contact Addresses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>The Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (GSGSSI)</strong></th>
<th><strong>British Antarctic Survey, King Edward Point</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government House&lt;br&gt;Stanley&lt;br&gt;Falkland Islands (via UK), FIQQ 1ZZ.&lt;br&gt;Tel: +500 28200&lt;br&gt;Fax: +500 28201&lt;br&gt;General Email: <a href="mailto:info@gov.gs">info@gov.gs</a></td>
<td>Base Commander&lt;br&gt;BAS, King Edward Point&lt;br&gt;South Georgia (via UK &amp; Falkland Islands), SIQQ 1ZZ&lt;br&gt;Tel: +870 382 359 031&lt;br&gt;Fax: +870 382 359 032</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>The Government Officer, King Edward Point</strong></th>
<th><strong>South Georgia Museum</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>King Edward Point,&lt;br&gt;South Georgia (via UK &amp; Falkland Islands), SIQQ 1ZZ&lt;br&gt;Tel: +870 382 359 033&lt;br&gt;Fax: +870 382 359 034&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:go@gov.gs">go@gov.gs</a></td>
<td>Grytviken,&lt;br&gt;South Georgia (via UK &amp; Falkland Islands), SIQQ 1ZZ&lt;br&gt;Tel: +870 382 359035&lt;br&gt;Fax: +870 382 359 034&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:museum@sght.org">museum@sght.org</a></td>
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Alternatively contact via South Georgia Heritage Trust: www.sght.org

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<th><strong>British Antarctic Survey, Headquarters</strong></th>
<th><strong>Falkland Islands Shipping Agents</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>High Cross,&lt;br&gt;Madingley Road,&lt;br&gt;Cambridge, CB3 OET,&lt;br&gt;United Kingdom&lt;br&gt;Tel: +44 1223 221400&lt;br&gt;Fax: +44 1223 362616&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:information@bas.ac.uk">information@bas.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>Sulivan Shipping Services Ltd&lt;br&gt;PO Box 159, Stanley,&lt;br&gt;Falkland Islands (via UK), FIQQ 1ZZ.&lt;br&gt;Tel: +500 22626 / 22627&lt;br&gt;Fax: +500 22625&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:sulivan@horizon.co.fk">sulivan@horizon.co.fk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>FIC Fleetwing Shipping Agency&lt;br&gt;Crozier Place, Stanley,&lt;br&gt;Falkland Islands (via UK), FIQQ 1ZZ.&lt;br&gt;Tel: +500 27630 / 27631&lt;br&gt;Fax: +500 27603&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:fic.agency@horizon.co.fk">fic.agency@horizon.co.fk</a></td>
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Annex 4

Charts and Maps

Admiralty Chart 3596 Approaches to South Georgia

Admiralty Chart 3597 South Georgia (due to be replaced with 3595, 3594 & 3598)

Admiralty Chart 4213 South Georgia

Admiralty Chart 3582 Bay of Isles, Fortuna Bay, Prince Olav Harbour, Gold Harbour and Right Whale Bay

Admiralty Chart 3583 Larsen Harbour, Cooper Sound and Drygalski Fjord

Admiralty Chart 3585 Undine Harbour, Elsehul, Moltke Harbour (due to be replaced by 3589)

Admiralty Chart 3586 King Haakon Bay, St Andrew's Bay, Ocean Harbour and Hound Bay
Electronic Nautical Charts (ENC's) GB53586A, GB53586B & GB53586C.

Admiralty Chart 3587 Leith Harbour, Stromness and Husvik in Stromness Bay
Jason Harbour, Maiviken, King Edward Cove, Grytviken
Cobbler's Cove, Godthul

Admiralty Chart 3588 Approaches to Stromness and Cumberland Bays

Admiralty Chart 3589 (due to be published in 2015)
Stewart Strait, Undine Harbour and Elsehul

Admiralty Chart 3592 Approaches to Stewart Strait, Stewart Strait and Willis Islands
Bird Sound, Bird Island and mainland South Georgia (due to be replaced with 3598)

Admiralty Chart 3595 South Georgia – Central Sheet

Admiralty Chart 3594 (due to be published by April 2016)
South Georgia – Western Sheet

Admiralty Chart 3598 (due to be published by April 2016)
South Georgia – Eastern Sheet

Fishing Vessels are required to have charts 3587 and 3588 or equivalent electronic versions. All other vessels are strongly advised to carry them.
Maps

Directorate of Overseas Surveys D.O.S. 610 South Georgia 1:200 000

Directorate of Military Survey 1501 SN24-9 1-GSGS South Georgia


British Antarctic Survey. 2010. Thatcher Peninsula, 1:25 000 scale map (Series BAS 25, Sheets 4A & 4B) Cambridge

British Antarctic Survey. 2014. Busen Region, 1:25 000 scale map (Series BAS 25, Sheets 5A & 5B) Cambridge

British Antarctic Survey. Barff Peninsula (in production), 1:25 000 scale map (Series BAS 25) Cambridge

South Georgia Explorer 1:250 000 Visitors Map. Dist: NHBS, Totnes, UK

Note that the BAS 2004 map may be obtained from Stanfords in the UK (www.stanfords.co.uk)

Alternatively this map may be accessed and downloaded in a digital format from: www.add.scar.org
Annex 5  Visit Permit Holder Landing Declaration

IMPORTANT LEGAL INFORMATION. Please read this in full before signing this form:

It is the responsibility of the Vessel Operator & Permit Holder (e.g. Expedition Leader or Yacht Master) to ensure that the following checks have been made and that all persons going ashore receive the following briefings prior to arriving in South Georgia:

1. Passenger landings are only permitted at the individual’s own risk. By alighting from any vessel the individual concerned accepts the potential for risk of injury or damage.

2. The Permit Holder confirms that all staff have reviewed, and will fully adhere to, all current permit conditions, codes of conduct and visitor management plans.

3. All visitors to Prion Island are required to remain on the boardwalk and adhere to the conditions of the visit permit and staff instruction at all times. Extreme care must be taken using the boardwalk or ashore at other landing sites. An individual must not proceed if deemed unsafe to do so by the Permit Holder or any of the ship’s staff.

4. It is an offence to enter the Whaling Station Prohibited Areas at Husvik, Leith, Stromness and Prince Olav harbours. All visitors must stay outside the boundaries of these areas at all times and adhere to the Prohibited Areas Ordinance Order.

5. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that all individuals are informed about potential dangers and risks, (including lack of search and rescue / medical evacuation capability) so as to enable the individual to assess and communicate any concerns they may reasonably have to the Permit Holder and/or the ship’s staff before landing.

6. The Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands will not accept any liability whatsoever for injury to, or damage sustained by, any individual, howsoever arising.

I have read and understood the above. I agree to be bound by its conditions and I have ensured that this information has been conveyed to all persons on board who may land on South Georgia.

If the first landing is not at King Edward Point, confirmation that this declaration has been signed must be communicated to the Government Officer at King Edward Point prior to any landing taking place.

Signed........................................ Dated...........................................

Vessel........................................ Operator....................................... (if applicable)
Annex 6

Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
Observer Coverage on private vessels and authorised commercial non-IAATO vessels

GSGSSI Observer carriage requirements
Under the GSGSSI Tourism Management Policy visiting vessels may be required to carry a designated observer under the following conditions:

1) Privately Owned Vessels (vessels not carrying fee-paying passengers or receiving contributions and benefits in kind from any non fee-paying passengers, guests or unpaid crew, which are in excess of an individual’s pro rata contribution towards consumables for a voyage.)

Privately owned vessels carrying 11-20 persons on board (including professional crew) may be permitted to land passengers at approved landing sites, but may only land at Specially Protected sites when accompanied by a GSGSSI designated observer to oversee landings.

Privately owned vessels carrying more than 20 persons on board (including professional crew) will only be permitted to land passengers at sites other than Grytviken if accompanied by a GSGSSI designated observer to oversee landings.

2) Commercial non-IAATO vessels (vessels carrying fee paying passengers which are not members of the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators.)

Under exceptional circumstances, commercial non-IAATO vessels may be given permission to visit South Georgia, if the visit is of a unique nature in support of a specific project, which will not involve the vessel returning to South Georgia.

All such vessels will either be required to carry a GSGSSI designated observer for the duration of the visit or the visit will need to be overseen by one of the listed IAATO Yacht Services Providers or Operators, noting that this oversight must include observer coverage for the duration of the visit by a suitably experienced IAATO Expedition Leader.
Terms of Reference for GSGSSI approved observers

- GSGSSI will employ all observers at a fixed daily rate of pay from the point of embarkation to their disembarkation. All travel costs will be covered by GSGSSI and then recovered from the owner / operator of the vessel.
- All other associated observer mobilisation costs will be recovered from the vessel operator by GSGSSI.
- Observers will be required to sign a contract with GSGSSI and will be covered by GSGSSI’s employer’s liability insurance.
- Observers must ensure that vessel owners (or staff) have studied all relevant briefing information carefully and adhere to their conditions of permit including the rigorous implementation of biosecurity measures. Pre arrival briefings will need to be given.
- Observers must oversee and help to advise on all landings so as to ensure that they are conducted in accordance with GSGSSI permit conditions, in particular respecting all wildlife protection and biosecurity measures as well as safety issues.
- Any breaches of permit conditions or concerns on the part of the observer must be reported to GSGSSI staff at the earliest opportunity.

The following persons are eligible to be considered as GSGSSI designated observers:

i) Former IAATO Expedition Leaders with relevant experience.
ii) Senior cruise ship or yacht expedition staff with relevant experience.
iii) Individuals who can demonstrate to GSGSSI that they possess suitable experience for the oversight of visitor landings in accordance with GSGSSI visit permit conditions.
Annex 7

Administration Fees & Charges

The administration fees as of 1 July 2014 are listed below. Charges for vessel visits are normally invoiced to the vessel operator. Yacht visitors may pay in pounds sterling (cash, cheque or travellers' cheques) or in equivalent United States dollars or Euros (cash or travellers' cheques) to the Government Officer at King Edward Point upon arrival at Cumberland East Bay, or to the GSGSSI by a shipping agent in Stanley. GSGSSI regrets that credit or debit cards cannot be accepted at King Edward Point (though this remains under review).

CUSTOMS & HARBOUR FEES

1. Fees for vessels (not including yachts.)
   (Vessels, with a load line length greater than 24m.)

CUSTOMS FEES

<table>
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<th>Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Customs Clearance</td>
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Customs fees @ £25 per hour, minimum charge 2 hours: £50

Customs fees are charged at a higher rate of £40 per hour outside normal working hours.

HARBOUR FEES (Cumberland East Bay)

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.

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<tr>
<th>Net Registered Tonnage</th>
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<td>100-799 tonnes</td>
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<td>£620</td>
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<tr>
<td>800-999 tonnes</td>
<td>£390</td>
<td>£780</td>
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<td>1,000-1,499 tonnes</td>
<td>£450</td>
<td>£900</td>
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<td>1,500-1,999 tonnes</td>
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<td>2,000-4,999 tonnes</td>
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2. Fees for Yachts
Yachts are defined as small sailing or motor vessels, with a load line length of up to 24m, that are used for pleasure cruises.

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|                  | (inclusive, covering entry, clearance and customs fees)

VISITOR FEES

All visitors (16 years and over), including those on yachts, but with the exception of professional (paid) staff and those persons listed in visitor management policy are charged a visitor fee. The duration of the visit determines the fee charged.

A visit commences with the undertaking of any activity as outlined in the Post Visit Report (e.g. small boat landing, extended walk, zodiac / small boat cruising, ship cruising) as well as any additional specialist activities.

For visitors staying up to 3 days (72 hours) there is a basic fee of £120. For visitors staying longer than 3 days (> 72 hours) there is an additional charge of £20 per day (or part thereof), to a maximum fee of £200. This higher rate covers a visit of up to one calendar month (e.g. 20 November – 19 December.) Beyond one calendar month the visitor fee structure is applied again, as if for a new visit.

2014/15 Season visitor fee structure:

- Visits of up to 72 hours: £120
- Visits more than 72 hours: additional £20 per day (or part thereof), up to a maximum of £200

(Covering a maximum period of up to one calendar month)

For example, the visitor fee for a visit of up to 4 days would be: £120 + £20 (£140)

Visitor fees are reviewed every 2 years. The next review is due in July 2016.

Visit applicants will be required to indicate at the application stage whether a proposed visit will exceed 3 days (72 hours). If a visit has to extend for reasons of force majeure then 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.

For vessels carrying more than 12 passengers, 50% of projected visitor fees will need to be paid in advance of a visit. This will be invoiced at the application stage.
OTHER VESSEL CHARGES & ADMINISTRATIVE FEES

Water per tonne: £6

Expedition Application and Assessment Fee: £1,000
Visitors intending to spend nights ashore are classed as expeditions and require a separate expedition permit, which requires an assessment process. Expedition application information may be obtained directly from GSGSSI or the Government website (www.sgisland.gs). A fee covers the administrative costs of each application assessment process.

Commercial filming: Up to £200 per day
Depending in the nature of the project, a daily rate of up to £200 is charged to film production companies undertaking commercial film and photographic projects whilst on South Georgia or the South Sandwich Islands. All commercial film and photographic productions require permission from GSGSSI and applicants should request an application form from the Environment Officer (env@gov.gs)

Marriages: £400
This fee covers the preparation of marriage documentation and issuing of a Special Licence by the Commissioner. Couples intending to marry on South Georgia should contact GSGSSI as early as possible to allow adequate time for the preparation of the legal documentation.

Science Permit: £100
Fee per application (which may contain more than one project.) Applicants should request an application form from the Environment Officer (env@gov.gs)

Penalty for late submission of visit application: £100
For visit applications not submitted within 60 days of intended visit. Note that this applies only to vessels carrying more than 10 persons on board. The Commissioner reserves the right not to issue the permit.

*Note: All charges are subject to change. The charge to be levied is that in force at the time. Any changes will be notified in this booklet and in downloadable form on the Government website*
Annex 8

Prohibited Areas

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, and to protect the heritage of the areas.

It is an offence to enter these areas, as shown on the accompanying maps, without permission of the Commissioner, except for a person aboard any vessel to enter any area of sea due to stress of weather or by reason of Force Majeure.

The areas include the areas of sea, and the jetties shown on the plans (see over).

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 from the GSGSSI website http://www.gov.gs
Leith Whaling Station Prohibited Area

Legend
- Station Buildings
- Boundary of Prohibited Area

- 0 100 200 400 Meters
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).
Annex 9

OFFICIAL PLACE- NAMES LIST FOR APPROVED VISITOR SITES AT SOUTH GEORGIA (2015)

This List gives the official place-names of the Approved Visitor Sites on South Georgia. The position of each visitor site is shown on the accompanying map. In addition, each site is identified by a coded number that is entered in the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands' Visitor Database, along with information from the Post-Visit Reports. There are some unofficial place-names in current local usage and these are indicated with quotation marks in the text. Names in bold type refer to approved visitor sites that are rat-free Specially Protected Areas.

When filling out the 'Intended Itinerary' section of the Visitor Application Form, correct names and precise locations of intended landing sites are required. Include all possible secondary (alternative) sites that may be visited, and also any Extended Walks. Approved sites where no landings are permitted and activities are limited to inshore small-boat / Zodiac cruising and / or ship cruises must also be listed and the site details included (stating “No Landing”).

Similarly, when completing the Post-Visit Report, use the List to correctly identify the sites visited for each activity undertaken.

Note that the 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 2004 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 Brown Pt, Prince Olav Harbour
- **King Haakon Bay:** Peggotty Bluff, Cape Rosa
- **Fortuna Bay:** Whistle Cove, Anchorage Bay, Shackleton Walk
- **Royal Bay:** 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 Chinstrips

Note also that Drygalski Fjord does not include Larsen Harbour.

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

Visits to Prion Island and Cape Rosa are restricted and subject to the conditions of the respective Site Visitor Management Plans.
OFFICIAL PLACE-_NAMES LIST FOR APPROVED VISITOR SITES AT SOUTH GEORGIA (2015)

Following the completion of Phase 3 of the SGHT rat eradication project in 2015, all approved landing sites must be treated as rodent free. Biosecurity checks must be rigorously implemented prior to and during every landing. Sites marked ( * ) are appropriate for Category 2 vessel landings (more than 200 pax on board).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITE CODE</th>
<th>SITE PLACE-NAME</th>
<th>LANDING SITE DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COB01</td>
<td>Cobblers Cove</td>
<td>N shore of Cobblers Cove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COO01</td>
<td>Cooper Bay centre cove</td>
<td>Beach of the centre cove of 3 coves comprising Cooper Bay (site closed at present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COO02</td>
<td>Cooper Bay &quot;Albatross Cove&quot;</td>
<td>Beach of E'most of the 3 coves in Cooper Bay (site closed at present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COO03</td>
<td>Cooper Bay macaronis</td>
<td>Small beach lying between the macaroni landing beach and &quot;Albatross Cove&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COO04</td>
<td>Cooper Bay main beach</td>
<td>Beach of W'most and largest of 3 coves in Cooper Bay (site closed at present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COO05</td>
<td>Cooper Bay chinstraps</td>
<td>Beach in front of chinstrap colony close W of Cooper Bay (site closed at present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRG01</td>
<td>Drygalski Fjord</td>
<td>(no landing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELS01</td>
<td>Elsehul Inner Bay</td>
<td>Main beach below trypots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELS02</td>
<td>Elsehul</td>
<td>(Outer bay, no landing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR01</td>
<td>Fortuna Bay Anchorage Bay</td>
<td>W shore of Fortuna Bay, N of Perruque Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR02</td>
<td>Fortuna Bay Whistle Cove kings*</td>
<td>Head of Fortuna Bay, at W end of main beach near King Penguin colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR03</td>
<td>Fortuna Bay Shackleton Walk</td>
<td>E shore of Fortuna Bay, close S of Hodson Point, for Shackleton Walk to Stromness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOD01</td>
<td>Godthul</td>
<td>Beach below old whaling shore depot ruins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOD02</td>
<td>Godthul walk</td>
<td>Beach at whaling shore depot for walk in Godthul to gentoos, lake and ridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOD03</td>
<td>Sandebugten Walk</td>
<td>Beach at Sandebugten for walk across Reindeer Valley to Godthul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOL01</td>
<td>Gold Harbour</td>
<td>Beach at Gold Harbour in vicinity of King Penguin colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOL02</td>
<td>Gold Harbour Walk</td>
<td>Beach at Gold Harbour for walk to cliffs above Gold Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRY01</td>
<td>Grytviken*</td>
<td>Beaches between cemetery and Museum also including King Edward Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HER01</td>
<td>Hercules Bay macaronis</td>
<td>N shore of Hercules Bay near Hercules Point, near macaroni landing site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HER02</td>
<td>Hercules Bay waterfall</td>
<td>Head of Hercules Bay on small beach near waterfall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUS01</td>
<td>Husvik</td>
<td>Shore 200m SE of whaling station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUS02</td>
<td>Olsen Valley Walk</td>
<td>Extended walk from Olsen beach to Carlita Bay (site closed at present)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SITE CODE</td>
<td>SITE PLACE-NAME</td>
<td>LANDING SITE DESCRIPTION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAS01</td>
<td>Jason Harbour</td>
<td>Beach close N of Hut Point and hut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIN01</td>
<td>Cape Rosa</td>
<td>S shore of King Haakon Bay on small beach in Cave Cove close E of Cape Rosa (Restricted, refer to SVMP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIN02</td>
<td>Peggotty Bluff</td>
<td>N shore of King Haakon Bay on beach close to Peggotty Bluff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAR01</td>
<td>Larsen Harbour</td>
<td>(no landing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEI01</td>
<td>Leith Harbour Walk</td>
<td>Beach in front of football field 200 m S of whaling station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAI01</td>
<td>Maiviken Walk</td>
<td>Beach at Grytviken for walk across Bore Valley to Poa Cove in Maiviken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOR01</td>
<td>Nordenskjold Glacier</td>
<td>E shore of Cumberland East Bay near Nordenskjold Glacier and Sorling Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCE01</td>
<td>Ocean Harbour</td>
<td>Beach at head of Ocean Harbour in front of whaling station ruins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCE02</td>
<td>Ocean Harbour Walk</td>
<td>Ocean Harbour to Sorling Valley walk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POH01</td>
<td>Prince Olav Harbour</td>
<td>Beach 200 m from whaling station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS01</td>
<td>Possession Bay</td>
<td>Beach 200 m from whaling station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS02</td>
<td>Possession Bay Brown Point</td>
<td>E shore of Possession Bay on large beach N of Brown Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRI01</td>
<td>Prion Island</td>
<td>Main beach, E coast, proceed directly to boardwalk (Restricted, closed 20 Nov – 7 Jan inclusive, refer to SVMP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIG01</td>
<td>Right Whale Bay</td>
<td>Binder Beach in vicinity of King Penguin colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROO01</td>
<td>Rookery Point Walk</td>
<td>N shore of Cobbler Cove for walk to Rookery Point macaroni colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROS01</td>
<td>Rosita Harbour</td>
<td>Beach at head of Rosita Harbour in Bay of Isles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROY01</td>
<td>Royal Bay Koppen Point</td>
<td>N shore of Royal Bay on rocky shore below the ruins of the German 1882-83 station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROY02</td>
<td>Moltke Harbour *</td>
<td>N shore of Royal Bay on beach at Moltke Harbour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROY03</td>
<td>Little Moltke Harbour</td>
<td>N shore of Royal Bay on beach at Little Moltke Harbour adjacent to Ross Glacier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROY04</td>
<td>Royal Bay kings</td>
<td>S shore of Royal Bay on beach at W entrance point of “Brisbane Bay” in front of the Weddell Glacier, close to King Penguin colony (site often referred to as Will Point)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROY05</td>
<td>Royal Bay macaronis</td>
<td>S shore of Royal Bay on small beach close to macaroni colony, S km W of Cape Charlotte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAL01</td>
<td>Salisbury Plain *</td>
<td>Beach in front of conspicuous tussac-covered bluff adjacent to King Penguin colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA01</td>
<td>St Andrews Bay *</td>
<td>Beach in vicinity of the King Penguin colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STR01</td>
<td>Stromness *</td>
<td>Beach 200 m N of whaling station including walk up Shackleton Valley to waterfall. (no landing)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>