

ARGENTINA - FALKLANDS WILDLIFE



INTRODUCTION

Explore the Falklands Islands on this fascinating 8 day tour that takes you to Sea Lion Island, Pebble Island and East Falkland Island where the capital, Stanley is located. Discover the rugged beauty of this remote archipelago and its abundance of incredible wildlife. The Falkland Islands are an exceptional place for wildlife viewing with vast seabird colonies, two endemic birds, several species of penguins, sea lions and elephant seals all featuring on the extensive list.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE

ARTSFW8

DEPARTURE

Saturdays

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Falklands Islands




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DAY 1: Sea Lion Island - Day 1 to 3

On arrival into Mount Pleasant Airport your travel advisor will meet you and assist with your transfer to Sea Lion Island. The transfer is by a Falkland Islands Government Air Service (FIGAS) 8-seater Britten Norman Islander. During the 25 minute flight you will be rewarded with exceptional views of the Falklands coastline and scenery. Your accommodation for the next 3 nights is at Sea Lion Lodge, just a short walk from a variety of wildlife. Sea Lion Island is the most southerly inhabited island in the Falklands and one of the smallest islands. It is a must on any Falklands Island itinerary due to the sheer abundance of wildlife in such a small area. A tour by 4x4 vehicle will show you areas of interest with everything within easy walking distance of the lodge. You may see the internationally endangered striated caracara, Antarctic skuas and southern giant petrels. Southern sea lions and elephant seals can also be seen basking on the white sandy beaches and killer whales can often be seen off the coast. Gentoo penguins nest close enough to be seen and heard from the lodge.



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DAY 4: Pebble Island - Day 4 & 5

Today you transfer to Pebble Island by FIGAS flight. Here the landscapes vary from large ponds to rocky cliffs and expansive sandy beaches with a resulting diverse range of birds and mammals. Thousands of penguins (gentoo, rockhopper and Magellanic) breed each summer along with southern sea lions. Within walking distance of the lodge are various ponds that are home to the Chiloe or southern wigeon, grebes, black-necked swans and countless other waterfowl. There are plenty of wildlife viewing opportunities on the half-day and full day guided tours. These tours can be tailored to your interests and can also take in the spectacular scenery further afield. Pebble Island played an important role in the 1982 conflict and so there are also points of interest for historians. Pebble Lodge, once the farm manager's house, retains the friendly atmosphere of a large farmhouse whilst being ideally adapted to the needs of visitors.



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DAY 6: Stanley

Another FIGAS flight takes you on to Stanley today. On arrival you will be met by your guide for a city tour that covers both the historic and the modern parts of this remote capital with a visit to the museum. Stanley was established in the early 1840´s and now boasts colourful houses, a museum, souvenir shops and pubs. Wildlife here is plentiful with southern giant petrels and the endemic Falkland steamer ducks being common on the shorelines. Kelp gulls and dolphin gulls are frequent visitors as are black-crowned night herons, red-backed hawks and peregrine falcons. Turkey vultures are often seen on top of any prominent building with upland geese frequenting the park.



DAY 7: Volunteer Point


Today you have a full-day guided excursion to Volunteer Point in 4x4 vehicles to see the king penguins, spectacular scenery and a host of other wildlife. A packed lunch will be provided. The white sand beach and turquoise waters give the place a Caribbean feel.



DAY 8: Departure

This morning you will have a private transfer from your hotel in Stanley to Mount Pleasant Airport in time to catch your onwards international flight. You may spot variable hawks on the drive to the airport.




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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Standard

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Inclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full board accommodation (all meals included) at Pebble Lodge and Sea Lion Lodge • Hotel accommodation including breakfast at The Waterfront Hotel, Stanley • All domestic flights • Airport transfers as listed • Excursions as listed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full day guided tour and half day tour on Pebble Island - Guided introductory tour on Sea Lion Island - City tour & museum visit in Stanley - Full day excursion to Volunteer Point including a packed lunch
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	FROM GBP\$400 - Subject to season and availability, contact us for more details.
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

GUIDANCE FOR VISITORS TO THE ANTARCTIC
 RECOMMENDATION XVIII-1, ADOPTED AT THE ANTARCTIC TREATY MEETING, KYOTO, 1994

Activities in the Antarctic are governed by the Antarctic Treaty of 1959 and associated agreements, referred to collectively as the Antarctic Treaty System. The Treaty established Antarctica as a zone of peace and science.

In 1991, the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties adopted the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, which designates the Antarctic as a natural reserve. The Protocol sets out environmental principles, procedures and obligations for the comprehensive protection of the Antarctic environment, and its dependent and associated ecosystems. The Consultative Parties have agreed that as far as possible and in accordance with their legal system, the provisions of the Protocol should be applied as appropriate. The Environmental Protocol was ratified in January 1998.

The Environmental Protocol applies to tourism and non-governmental activities, as well as governmental activities in the Antarctic Treaty Area. It is intended to ensure that these activities, do not have adverse impacts on the Antarctic environment, or on its scientific and aesthetic values.

This Guidance for Visitors to the Antarctic is intended to ensure that all visitors are aware of, and are therefore able to comply with, the Treaty and the Protocol. Visitors are, of course, bound by national laws and regulations applicable to activities in the Antarctic.

PROTECT ANTARCTIC WILDLIFE
 Taking or harmful interference with Antarctic wildlife is prohibited except in accordance

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with a permit issued by a national authority.

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

Do not feed, touch, or handle birds or seals, or approach or photograph them in ways that cause them to alter their behavior. Special care is needed when animals are breeding or molting.

Do not damage plants, for example by walking, driving, or landing on extensive moss beds or lichen-covered scree slopes.

Do not use guns or explosives. Keep noise to the minimum to avoid frightening wildlife.

Do not bring non-native plants or animals into the Antarctic, such as live poultry, pet dogs and cats, or house plants.

RESPECT PROTECTED AREAS

A variety of areas in the Antarctic have been afforded special protection because of their particular ecological, scientific, historic, or other values. Entry into certain areas may be prohibited except in accordance with a permit issued by an appropriate national authority.

Activities in and near designated Historic Sites and Monuments and certain other areas may be subject to special restrictions.

Know the locations of areas that have been afforded special protection and any restrictions regarding entry and activities that can be carried out in and near them.

Observe applicable restrictions.

Do not damage, remove, or destroy Historic Sites or Monuments or any artifacts associated with them.

RESPECT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Do not interfere with scientific research, facilities or equipment.

Obtain permission before visiting Antarctic science and support facilities; reconfirm arrangements 24-72 hours before arrival; and comply with the rules regarding such visits.

Do not interfere with, or remove, scientific equipment or marker posts, and do not disturb experimental study sites, field camps, or supplies.

BE SAFE

Be prepared for severe and changeable weather and ensure that your equipment and clothing meet Antarctic standards. Remember that the Antarctic environment is inhospitable, unpredictable, and potentially dangerous.

Know your capabilities and the dangers posed by the Antarctic environment, and act accordingly. Plan activities with safety in mind at all times.

Keep a safe distance from all wildlife, both on land and at sea.

Take note of, and act on, the advice and instructions from your leaders; do not stray from your group.

Do not walk onto glaciers or large snow fields without the proper equipment and experience; there is a real danger of falling into hidden crevasses.

Do not expect a rescue service. Self-sufficiency is increased and risks reduced by sound planning, quality equipment, and trained personnel.

Do not enter emergency refuges (except in emergencies). If you use equipment or food from a refuge, inform the nearest research station or national authority once the emergency is over.

Respect any smoking restrictions, particularly around buildings, and take great care to safeguard against the danger of fire. This is a real hazard in the dry environment of Antarctica.

KEEP ANTARCTICA PRISTINE

Antarctica remains relatively pristine, the largest wilderness area on Earth. It has not

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yet been subjected to large-scale human perturbations. Please keep it that way.
Do not dispose of litter or garbage on land. Open burning is prohibited.
Do not disturb or pollute lakes or streams. Any materials discarded at sea must be disposed of properly.
Do not paint or engrave names or graffiti on rocks or buildings.
Do not collect or take away biological or geological specimens or man-made artifacts as a souvenir, including rocks, bones, eggs, fossils, and parts or contents of buildings.
Do not deface or vandalize buildings or emergency refuges, whether occupied, abandoned, or unoccupied.

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