



TOP TEN THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN THE FALKLANDS

These are our top tips to experience the real Falklands – the ‘must-sees’ as well as some of the more unusual Falkland Islands experiences:

- 1. Penguins at Volunteer Point:** Join a guided excursion in a 4x4 vehicle to turquoise waters and white sandy beaches, where you could almost be in the Caribbean... except for the king, gentoo and Magellanic penguins that keep you company.
- 2. Boat Trip to West Point Island:** Experience vast numbers of black-browed albatross, rockhopper penguins and superb cliff scenery on an excursion to this island off the most north-westerly point of West Falkland. During the hour-long boat journey dolphins will keep you entertained and on arrival you can explore the picturesque settlement.
- 3. Taste the Falklands:** Sample the Falklands flavours of excellent beef and fish dishes served with home-grown vegetables and salad, and scones with diddle dee jam made by your hosts at lodges such as Managers House on Carcass Island. Or pay a visit to the Falklands Brasserie in Stanley to savour the local ingredients and natural flavours of toothfish brochettes or upland goose paté.
- 4. The World’s Most Southerly Cathedral:** Christ Church Cathedral, which dates from 1890, is just one of the many attractions in Stanley, the capital of the Falkland Islands. Many of Stanley’s older houses have brightly-coloured corrugated iron roofs, white walls and painted woodwork, while 150 year-old colonialists’ cottages can also be seen.
- 5. Explore Camp:** Camp is the local term for everything outside Stanley, derived from the Spanish for countryside, *el campo*. A Camp visit is a must for anyone wanting to experience the real Falklands – from working sheep farms to spectacular beaches bursting with plant life and wildlife, including elephant seals, sea lions and penguins.
- 6. Follow in the Footsteps of Charles Darwin:** The settlement of Darwin on East Falkland is named after the famous naturalist who spent some time here during his travels 175 years ago. The Falklands wildlife viewing experience is unsurpassed, with abundant marine and birdlife; elephant seals, sea lions, rare birds of prey, black browed albatross and five different breeds of around 770,000 penguins live on the islands, to name but a few.
- 7. Revisit Falklands History:** A walk around Stanley will reveal a maritime history that spans back to the seventeenth century, while the Falkland Islands Museum in Stanley shows how life in the Falklands has changed over time. A battlefield tour of Goose Green or Mount Tumbledown, led by local people with expert knowledge, will evoke memories of the 1982 conflict.
- 8. Lodge Life:** Staying at Port Howard Lodge or Sea Lion Lodge will ensure a warm Falklands welcome and a chance to learn about camp life. Each lodge has its own distinct character and you will meet other travellers as well as local characters.

9. **Island Hopping:** See the Falklands from the air on a Falkland Islands Government Air Service 9-seater Britten Norman Islander light aircraft. Flights are operated to major settlements and tourist destinations across the Islands; each has a diversity of flora, fauna and natural beauty to discover.
10. **Sports Week:** Taking place in March every year, Camp Sports Week marks the end of the shearing season. After five months of hard labour on the farms, it is time to relax and celebrate the gathering of another year's wool clip. You can enjoy spectating, or even join in the programme of horse racing, sheep and dog trials, barbecues and children's events, which is interspersed with a lot of partying.

For further information on the Falklands Islands, please visit www.falklandislands.com.

Notes for Editors:

- The Falkland Islands have a raw, unspoilt quality that entices locals and tourists back time and again. Visitors to the Islands are spoilt for choice with more than 227 species of identified birds (including several of the world's largest endangered breeding colonies), as well as whales, dolphins, elephant seals, sea lions, delicate flora and rugged geographical formations.
- The best time to visit the Islands and experience the local culture and wildlife is October to April. The average summer temperature (December to March) is 15° Celsius (59° Fahrenheit) and the Falklands has more sunshine hours and less rainfall than the UK.
- There are over 40 international tour operators offering tailor-made packages and escorted tours to the Falkland Islands. See www.falklandislands.com for the latest list.
- Visitors can reach the Falklands on the weekly LAN Airways flight via Chile or the charter flight operated twice weekly from RAF Brize Norton in the UK by the Ministry of Defence.