## PAYMENT DETAILS

### **GIFT AID**

With Gift Aid on every £1 you give us we can claim an extra 25p back from HM Revenue & Customs. To qualify, what you pay in UK Income and/or Capital Gains Tax must at least equal the Gift Aid all your charities will reclaim in the tax year.

☐ YES: I would like Falklands Conservation to treat all the donations I have made in the last four years, and all I will make until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed: \_

Date:

### DATA PROTECTION

We respect your privacy. Falklands Conservation will not make your name and address available to other organisations, and will treat your details as confidential. If however, you would be happy to receive information, about other aspects of our work from time to time, please tick the box .

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO: Falklands Conservation, The Gatehouse, The Lodge, Sandy, Beds, SG19 2DL, UK

Address			
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Postcode	iei	·	
Email			
Please tick this box if <b>PURCHASE INFORMA</b>	/	(e to receive up	odates by e
Penguin adoption	for a year	- £25/\$40	
Me		ee payable	
*Please indicate £ sterlin		Donation	
Please make cheques to Falklands Conservo		Total	
I wish to pay by Visa, My card number is	Mastercard	(please tick)	
	Exp	biry date	$\Box / \Box$
Signature			
Signature Cardholder's name			
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Cardholder's name			

# Have you considered a Standing Order?

#### (UK BANK ACCOUNT HOLDERS ONLY)

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

This helps us keep our administration costs down. Either download the form from our website or set up your own using the following details: **Falklands Conservation**, Barclays Bank, King George Street, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1PX. Sort code: 20-99-40 / Account Number 90442542

You can also purchase securely online at www.falklandsconservation.com/our-shop

# Protecting wildlife from invasive species





The wildlife on Kidney Island survives in such abundance because over the centuries it has been kept free of rats and mice. Cobb's wren (above) cannot exist where there are rats and other wildlife is severely reduced. Because birds are ground nesting, it is crucial to all areas of wildlife importance in the Falkland Islands that invasive species are kept at bay.

To prevent the spread of invasive species and diseases, you are asked to comply with a few simple measures when travelling around the islands: make sure all of your clothing, equipment and luggage is free from soil, animal faeces, seeds, insects and rodents, and scrub your footwear before each visit to a new wildlife site or seabird colony. If you have any questions about biosecurity, or wish to report diseased wildlife, please speak to the landowners or call the Department of Agriculture 27355 / Falklands Conservation 22247 for advice.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Falklands Conservation works to conserve the wildlife of the Falkland Islands. To find out more about us and how you can support what we do, visit us at Jubilee Villas, Ross Road, Stanley or go to our website:

# www.falklandsconservation.com

Information about other areas of outstanding wildlife and scenery, can be found in A Visitor's Guide to the Falkland Islands.







# **KIDNEY ISLAND**

Superb site for land and sea birds





# www.falklandsconservation.com

# **KIDNEY ISLAND**



**Kidney Island** lies about 0.5 km (546 yds) off the coast of East Falkland, at the southern entrance to Berkeley Sound, 16 km (10 miles) from Stanley.

Kidney Island is reached by a 30-minute boat ride from Stanley. In summer, there are occasional evening cruises around the Island to view the seabirds.

Cochon Island (8 ha, 20 acres) lies a short distance north-west of Kidney Island and, with Kidney Island, makes up the Kidney Island Group Important Bird Area FK09. The Falkland Islands archipelago lies 350 km (280 miles) to the east of the South American continent. It consists of two large islands, East and West Falkland, and more than 750 small islands and islets.



**Great shearwaters** are found amongst this dense area of sooty shearwater burrows. Kidney Island has a small population of no more than 15 pairs but it is the only confirmed breeding site outside the far away Tristan da Cunha group of islands. The two shearwaters are summer residents arriving in September and departing in April. They are both tremendous travellers, with the great shearwater migrating as far north as Canada and some sooty shearwaters reaching Greenland.

Kidney Island is also one of only four known nesting sites in the Falkland Islands for the **white-chinned petrel**, locally known as 'the shoemaker' (its ear-piercing, screaming trills are said to resemble a steel hammer tapping a small anvil). It is restricted to southfacing slopes and is another burrowing bird, excavating curved burrows in soft peat up to 2 m deep. White-chinned petrels have

Great shearwaters



White-chinned petrel

a Vulnerable conservation status and are listed under the international Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP).

**Grey-backed storm petrels** are believed to nest in the tussac on the island.



Permission to land on Kidney Island must be obtained from the Falkland Islands Government Environmental Planning Department (telephone: +500 28480).

Visitors must be accompanied by a guide. It is essential that all visitors follow the Falkland Islands Countryside Code particularly to guard against the risk of fire and the introduction of invasive species.

## PENGUIN ADOPTION FORM



- Adopt a king penguin at the remote colony of Volunteer Point in the Falkland Islands for £25/ US\$40 for 12 months.
- Help conservation efforts to protect the penguins of the Falklands.
- Receive a personalised adoption certificate, king penguin photo and penguin pin badge.
- Receive updates from Falklands Conservation.

Yes, I would like to Adopt a Penguin! (payment form overleaf)

You may wish to Adopt a Penguin as a gift or on behalf of someone else, if so just let us know the details.

□ I would like the adoption pack to be sent to: PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Name	
Address	
Postcode	Tel
Email	
Penguin Name	

## MEMBERSHIP

- Join Falklands Conservation and help to protect the spectacular wildlife of the Falkland Islands.
- Receive a joining pack and membership badge.
- Receive regular updates from the Islands and two magazines a year.
- I would like to become a member of Falklands Conservation (payment form overleaf)

Membership category (please tick)

 □ Individual (UK, EU or FI)
 £30/\$50

 □ Individual (overseas)
 £50/\$80

 □ Household/family
 £50/\$80

 □ Gold
 £100/\$170

 □ Life (one-off payment)
 £1,000/\$1,700

 □ Student
 £15/\$20

To either adopt a penguin and/or become a member please complete both sides of this form

You can also purchase securely online at **www.falklandsconservation.com/our-shop** 

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# **About Kidney Island**

"The tussac world of Kidney Island is one of the most extraordinary places for birds that I have experienced in my lifetime."

Olin Sewall Pettingill, distinguished American ornithologist, 1982.

Kidney Island, named for its roughly kidneyshaped outline, is a National Nature Reserve owned by the Falkland Islands Government. It is 32 hectares (80 acres) in area, reaching a height of 21–24 m (70–80 feet) with near vertical 15 m (50ft) cliffs on the north side. There are boulder beaches on eastern and western coasts and a large sandy bay facing south-west. Much of the island is covered in dense, mature **tussac grass**, which in places grows 3 m (10ft) tall. Amongst the 26 flowering plant species two are unique to the Falklands: the **woolly** and the **smooth** Falkland ragworts. It has never been stocked with grazing animals and is free of rats and mice. The absence of rodents means that ground-nesting birds are able to thrive.

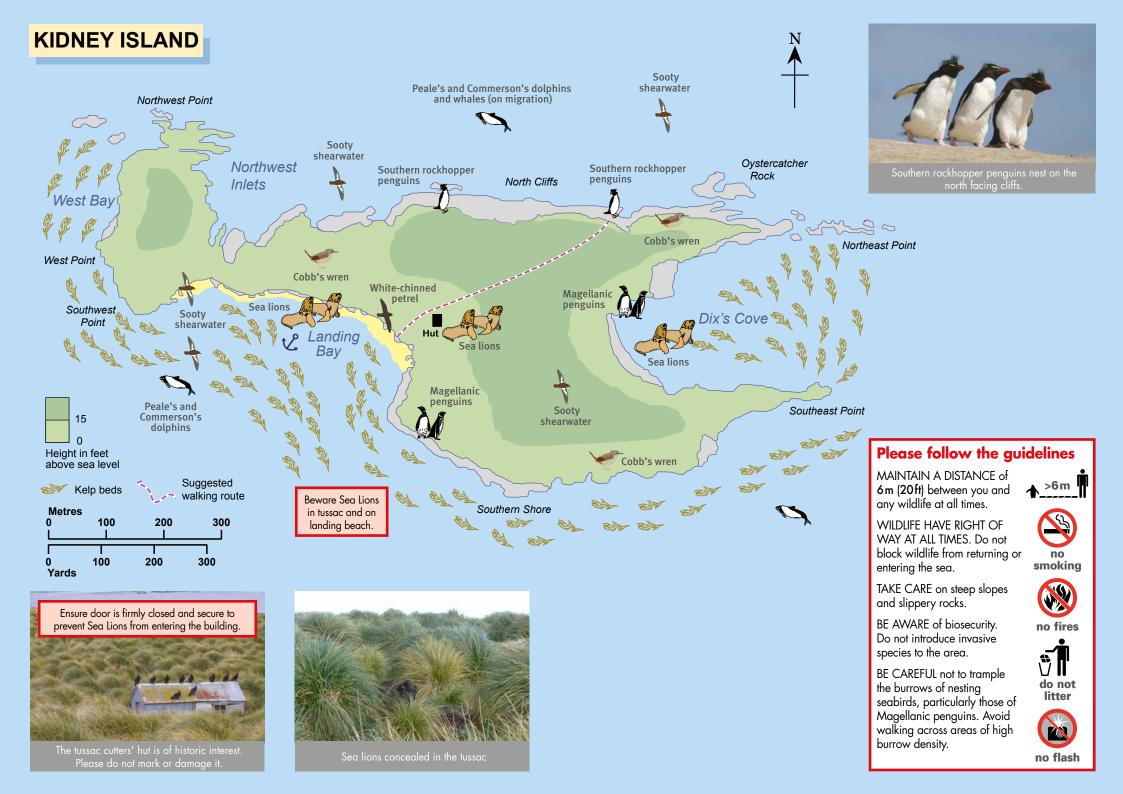
There is a small hut on the island, erected in the 1940s for people coming from Stanley to harvest winter fodder for horses and cattle. Men would spend up to four days here cutting tussac grass and living in the hut. This practice ceased in the early 1950s. Because there are abundant nest sites, good shelter from wind and rain, plus a



plentiful food supply in the tussac and in the extensive kelp beds offshore, Kidney Island supports a much denser bird population than anywhere else on the adjacent mainland. Shearwaters and petrels are very numerous, the Falkland endemic **Cobb's wren** is common on the boulder beaches, and **tussacbirds** are abundant across the entire island.

Magellanic, macaroni and southern rockhopper penguins are resident in summer. Historically, there was a large colony of rockhopper penguins on Kidney Island (3,500 pairs estimated in 1936) but this is much reduced today (297 pairs). Penguins suffered large-scale egg collecting for many years. It is now illegal to collect rockhopper penguin eggs and the colony is slowly recovering.

Southern sea lions haul out to rest in the tussac. In the surrounding waters both Commerson's and Peale's dolphins are frequently seen and the area is a favoured foraging ground for both sei and minke whales which usually appear in March and April.



# Shearwaters and petrels

At the end of every summer's day as dusk approaches a vast crowd of seabirds returns to their burrows on Kidney Island. With many hundreds calling, the whole island comes alive with an eerie, howling noise. There is plenty of activity all through the night, many arriving, many leaving, many calling. All this rapidly decreases at daybreak as some birds return to sea while others stay quietly underground until darkness returns once more. A large part of this spectacle comes from up to 10s of thousands of **sooty shearwaters** which breed on Kidney Island every year. They nest, particularly in the west of the Island, in twisting and sometimes interconnecting underground burrows. The ground in places is undermined with a dense network of up to one breeding pair per 2 sqm. Particular care must be taken when walking over the Island not to damage these burrow nest sites as they are easily broken through from above.

Sooty shearwaters