## Yankee Harbour

62°32′S, 59°47′W - South-western Greenwich Island,

## Key features

- Gentoo Penguins
- Open walking areas
- Artefacts from sealing operations

## ANTARCTIC TREATY

visitor site guide





#### Description

TOPOGRAPHY A small glacial-edged harbour, enclosed by a curved gravel spit. A large terraced beach area includes a

melt-pool to the east. Beyond the beach, steep scree slopes rise to a rugged knife-edge summit.

FAUNA Confirmed breeders: Gentoo penguin (*Pygoscelis papua*) and skuas (*Catharacta, spp.*). Suspected

breeders: Snowy sheathbill (Chionis alba) and Wilson's storm-petrel (Oceanites oceanicus). Regularly haul out: Southern elephant seals (Mirounga leonina), Weddell seals (Leptonychotes weddellii), and Antarctic

fur seals (Arctocephalus gazella).

FLORA Deschampsia antarctica, Colobanthus quitensis, swards of moss species, Xanthoria spp. and other

crustose lichens, and the green alga Prasiola crispa.

OTHER Artefacts from early sealing activities may be found along the inner shoreline.

### **Visitor Impact**

KNOWN IMPACTS None.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS Disturbance of wildlife, damage to the sealing remains and trampling vegetation.

## Landing Requirements

SHIPS\* Ships carrying 500 or fewer passengers. One ship at a time. No more than 3 ships carrying more than 200

passengers per day (midnight to midnight).

VISITORS No more than 100 visitors ashore at once, exclusive of expedition guides and leaders. 1 guide per

20 visitors. No visitors ashore between 22:00hrs and 04:00hrs (local time), except for those engaged in

organised overnight stays. This is in order to establish a resting period for the wildlife.

#### **Visitor Area**

LANDING AREA Along the gravel spit, preferably on the inside.

CLOSED AREAS Raised terraces above the melt pool with nesting gentoo penguins and the scree slopes above.

GUIDED WALKING AREAS None.

FREE ROAMING AREAS Visitors may roam freely under supervision anywhere on the site, except for the closed area. Longer walks

are possible along the curved spit, towards the glacial moraine on the southeastern side, and towards the

glacier in the northeast.

#### **Visitor Code of Conduct**

BEHAVIOUR ASHORE Walk slowly and carefully. Maintain a precautionary distance of 5 metres from wildlife and give animals

the right-of-way. Increase this distance if any change in behaviour is observed. Be careful near Antarctic

fur seals, they may be aggressive. Do not walk on any vegetation.

CAUTIONARY NOTES Be careful around the sealing remains to avoid damage and do not move any artefacts. Be careful of the

wires around the navigational mast. Be aware that glacier calving may produce dangerous waves.

<sup>\*</sup> A ship is defined as a vessel which carries more than 12 passengers.

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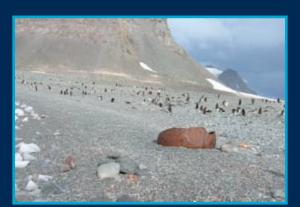




Yankee Harbour from above: showing the gravel spit enclosing the landing beach



Yankee Harbour landing site



Artefacts from early sealing activities (a trypot) found on the inner shoreline

