

TERMS & CONDITIONS FOR VISITORS TO TRISTAN DA CUNHA

GETTING TO THE ISLAND

1. Request permission, stating the full purpose and duration of your expected stay, from the Island Council to visit Tristan da Cunha, providing that berths on the visiting ships be available for passengers, other than Medevacs, and that appropriate accommodation is available on Tristan da Cunha.
2. A copy of the applicant's valid passport must be forwarded to the Administrator or designated person when submitting a request to visit Tristan da Cunha.
3. Bookings for berths must be made through the Administrator's Office.
4. Passenger tickets must be paid in full before the ship departs Cape Town. Please see attached Payment and Refund Policy for vessels operated by Ovenstone Agencies.
5. Visitors will embark and disembark all vessels at their own risk and the Government of Tristan da Cunha will not be kept liable for any injury to person, or any damage to or loss of personal belongings.
6. The dates of any departures and arrivals are provisional and may change depending on the weather. Landings on Tristan da Cunha are only possible when permitted by the weather.
7. Visitors should aim to arrive in Cape Town at least two days before the ship sails. They may also need to wait in Cape Town for flights home.
8. When booking connecting flights, visitors are advised to book open-dated return refundable air tickets. They should also make flexible hotel bookings in Cape Town.
9. There are restrictions on the amount of baggage a passenger may take on board vessels departing from Cape Town. The limit is one suitcase and an overnight bag. Any additional luggage must be delivered to Table Bay Marine, accompanied by documentation as required by law, for packaging and handling. Ovenstone Agencies and DEAT have their right to reject any luggage aboard if they deemed it hazardous or inappropriate. Documentation required to accompany excess luggage or consignment can be obtained from Cynthia Green or Vourn Brophy.
10. A Police Clearance/Vetting Certificate must also be provided when stays longer than two (2) months is planned, or when working with children.
11. Immigration fees are payable at the rate applicable at the time of arrival.
12. Visitors must collect their passports before departure from Tristan da Cunha, during office hours, from the Finance Department/Immigration Department.
13. The visitor, and his accompanying dependents, must have sufficient/adequate means to support themselves on Tristan da Cunha.

PROHIBITED GOODS

14. Anyone traveling from Cape Town to Tristan is only allowed to import two (2) 750 ml of spirits/wine, 12 x 330 ml cans/bottles of beer/cider and 200 cigarettes, or equivalent in volume. Any additional alcohol will be confiscated by Tristan Immigration Officials. Ovenstone Agencies and SANAP may introduce additional rules relating to the carry on board or the on board consumption of alcohol.
15. No visitor will bring any organic material of any kind, or not approved beforehand by the Conservation Department, to Tristan da Cunha.
16. No live animals may be brought to Tristan da Cunha without the necessary import permits issued by the Government of Tristan da Cunha.
17. No frozen goods may be brought to Tristan da Cunha without the necessary import permits issued by the Government of Tristan da Cunha.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL ISSUES

18. A certificate of good health may also be required in certain instances.
19. International Medical Insurance Cover is required for all non-resident visitors to ensure that Tristan da Cunha medical cost and possible medical evacuation is covered.
20. A prospective visitor who is addicted to drugs, or any habit forming substances, will be refused to visit Tristan da Cunha.
21. A visitor who is suffering from a contagious or infectious disease, or from any physical or mental illness that may require medical treatment for which the available medical facilities on Tristan da Cunha are inadequate may be refused to visit Tristan da Cunha.

ACCOMMODATION

22. A deposit of 25% is required for Island accommodation and will be forfeited if the booked accommodation is not canceled at least fourteen (14) days before a ship sails to Tristan da Cunha. The accommodation rate is per calendar day as determined and approved by the Island Council.
23. A visitor changing accommodation on Tristan da Cunha may be held liable for compensating a host for costs incurred to accommodate such a visitor.
24. All accommodation and other expenses must be paid in full before boarding the ship for the return voyage.

ON THE ISLAND

25. Visitors are requested to familiarize themselves with the Nature Conservation Guidelines for Visitors to Tristan da Cunha and the Outer Islands – Nightingale, Alex, Stoltenhoff, Inaccessible and Gough

Islands, to ensure that they don't endanger the native biological diversity of Tristan da Cunha.
(Guidelines attached)

26. Visitors partaking in any excursion or activity of any kind on Tristan da Cunha will do so at their own risk and the Government of Tristan da Cunha will not be kept liable for any injury to person, or any damage to or loss of personal belongings.
27. Visitors may not wander beyond Pigbite/The Ridge to the east of the village, or The Bluff south of the Potato Patches, without an appointed guide.
28. All film crews or scientists on environmental or conservation projects must cover the prescribed fees for filming or research before departing for Tristan da Cunha. The film crews and scientists may also be requested to comply with specific conditions as laid down by the Island Council. Film and Television Crews must also adhere to the following terms and conditions.
 - a. Only one film project at a time allowed on the Island;
 - b. Fee payment preferably in advance;
 - c. No intrusion into private lives of Islanders;
 - d. Film, series, documentary or program to be approved by Tristan da Cunha Island Council before release;
 - e. A copy of the film, series, documentary or program is to be retained on Tristan da Cunha.
29. No visitor will be allowed to visit Inaccessible, Nightingale or Gough Island without the necessary permit from Immigration and Conservation Departments.
30. Visitors will be liable for all costs incurred by the Government of Tristan da Cunha or individuals for arranging and executing any excursion of any kind.
31. All visitors must abide by the Laws, By-laws and Regulations of Tristan da Cunha.
32. All visitors must respect the culture and customs of the residents of Tristan da Cunha.
33. A visitor may be refused future permission to visit Tristan da Cunha if not complying with the Terms and Conditions for Visitors, as amended.

UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTANCE OF RULES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

I, _____, understand and accept the rules, terms and conditions as set out in the document above. I cannot hold any Government, institution, company, or individuals related to a visit to Tristan, liable for any cost or damage incurred when not complying with the above rules, terms and conditions.

Signed at _____ on the _____ 20 ____ .

Signature

Print Name

TRAVEL POLICY: PASSENGER PRIORITY

Passenger spaces on the vessels are limited, and are allocated in the following order of priority:

1.	Medevac (Priority)	The Chief Medical Officer must give the patient, suffering from life threatening illness/condition , a formal referral letter to see a consultant overseas
2.	Official (Priority)	The Administrator certifies the need for an official to attend to crucial Island business
3.	Private (urgent business) – Islander & Non Resident Islander	The Administrator recommends that the Islander attend urgent business overseas, i.e. weddings
4.	Medevac (non priority treatment)	The Chief Medical Officer must give the patient, suffering from a NON life threatening illness/condition, a formal referral letter to see a consultant overseas
5.	Official (non priority)	The Administrator certifies the need for an official to attend to Island business.
6.	Private (non priority travel) - Resident Islander	Holiday
7.	Private (non priority travel) – Non Resident Islander	Holiday
8.	Private (non priority travel) – Visitor	Holiday/Tourists

If you are in category 4 to 8 above, you may be required to give up your booking and defer your travel to another sailing.

PAYMENT & REFUND POLICY FOR VESSELS OPERATED BY OVENSTONE

1. All confirmed bookings must make payment as follows:
 - a. 50% Non-refundable deposit when booking is made 6 weeks or longer before the sailing date, or
 - b. 75% Non-refundable deposit when a booking is made between 3 and 6 weeks before sailing date.
2. Bookings will be confirmed and must be paid in full 3 weeks before a sailing date. Any booking not paid in full will be forfeited by the prospective passenger.
3. Proof of payment must reach the offices of Ovenstone Agencies within 7 days from date of payment.
4. No refunds will be made on payments received within 3 weeks before date of departure.
5. Refunds on cancellations will only be made 3 weeks before a sailing date and only the portion between full price and the non-refundable deposit portions.
6. Refunds will be valued at the prevailing ZA Rand/US Dollar exchange rate on the date of original payment.
7. 100% Refunds, on payments received for voyages, will only be made in the following circumstances:
 - a. When the voyage is cancelled by the operator, or
 - b. The paid passenger must give up his/her berth, due to official or medical requirements of the Government of Tristan da Cunha.



Nature Conservation Guidelines for all visitors to Tristan da Cunha and Outer Islands (Nightingale, Alex, Stoltenhoff, Inaccessible & Gough Islands)

Tristan da Cunha is known to be the World's Remotest Inhabited Island and one of the smallest nations. Its incredible wildlife, including many endemic species and millions of seabirds, represents a significant part of the UK's, and the world's biodiversity.

The island is always at risk from accidental introductions of 'alien' animals and plants that could seriously affect the island's native species and the livelihoods of the islanders. This document highlights the major guidelines stipulated by various management plans to try and prevent any introduction, and to conserve the native biological diversity of Tristan da Cunha.

All visitors coming ashore should follow these simple steps:

- Make sure that your clothing and equipment is free of seeds and other propagules that may introduce alien species. Be especially careful with shoes, socks and velcro fasteners. Scrub the soles of your boots to remove any dirt and mud, clean seeds from socks, Velcro fasteners on jackets and over-trousers, and check that pockets in camera bags, back-packs and other equipment are clean. Clothing and equipment could be inspected by Tristan's Conservation Department before going ashore.
- Pack all food and equipment in clean containers immediately before leaving for the outer islands to prevent the chance introduction of rodents.
- No fresh produce can be taken to the outer islands, because insects, other bugs and diseases are easily carried in this way.
- For the outer islands (and Tristan Settlement and agricultural areas) remain with your Tristan guide at all times, and heed their requests regarding safe approach distances to animals so that you won't disturb them or endanger yourself (seals and seabirds bite!). Move slowly and quietly. In general, do not approach within 5m of birds and fur seals, or 10m of the elephant seals (of course, it's alright if the birds come closer to you).
- Stay on paths. Walking off paths collapses many bird burrows and seeds of alien plants already on the islands are spread by humans.
- No animals may be killed or disturbed, and no native plants may be picked or damaged (including dead wood).
- No rocks or 'Souvenirs' other than beach litter (eg. fishing floats) may be collected. Relics dating to before 1950 should not be disturbed or removed.

- Fires and smoking on the outer islands are not permitted - tussock burns easily!
- Please do not litter. All wastes must be removed from the islands.

I hope that your visit to our islands will be an unforgettable experience. For more information on our unique wildlife please purchase our Field Guide to the Animals and Plants Of Tristan da Cunha and Gough Island.

Tristan Conservation Department