



Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands

VISITORS ORDINANCE 2012

VISITORS FEE APPLICATION POLICY

Summary

This policy provides the Government's interpretation of those persons exempt from the Landing Fee under Section 3 of the Visitors Ordinance 1992.

Legal Provisions

Section 2 of the 1992 Ordinance sets out those persons who are not considered to be visitors and are therefore exempt from the charges set out under Section 3. These are: -

- (a) a servant of Her Majesty in right of Her Government in South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands or in right of Her Government in the United Kingdom and any person performing services in South Georgia to Her Majesty;
- (b) a member of Her Majesty's armed forces or of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary service;
- (c) a person who is the spouse or dependent child of any person referred to in (a) or (b);
- (d) a person in the employment of the South Georgia Museum Trust or who lands in South Georgia for the purpose, or principally for the purpose of providing services of any kind to that Trust;
- (e) a person who is a member of the crew of any ship and who lands in South Georgia for purposes only of the working, mooring, victualling, provisioning of or taking cargo aboard or discharging cargo from that ship and, for the purposes of this subparagraph, a person who is bona fide employed as a tour guide or to accompany and look after the needs of fare-paying passengers from aboard that ship shall, so long as he accompanies such passengers, be regarded as working that ship;
- (ea) a member of a crew of any vessel who is permitted by the master of the vessel to disembark for shore leave in the circumstances in subsection (2);
- (eb) a person who works for or on behalf of the British Antarctic Survey and who is required, in the course of that work, to land in South Georgia;
- (ec) a person who lands in South Georgia in the course of dealing with, or responding to, an emergency affecting others, provided an Immigration Officer agrees that such a situation has arisen;
- (ed) a person who lands in South Georgia by misadventure at sea or in the air; and
- (f) a person excluded by the Commissioner from the operation of section.

Policy

These provisions should be interpreted in line with the advice set out below.

- (a) This only includes those persons who are: -
 - (i) Those persons employed by the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and/or Her Majesty's Government and are visiting the Territories as a part of their official duties.
 - (ii) Those persons carrying out work for the Government, or under contract (or similar instruction such as a memorandum of understanding) to the Government. This includes any person sub-contracted to such a person. It does not cover persons who have received a permit or permission from the Government to undertake work in the Territories that is not for or under contract to the Government.
- (b) This includes all such persons who are acting in the course of their duties and covers all persons who land in the Territories with the knowledge of or permission from their commanding officer.
- (c) Note that under section 3(1) of the Ordinance, persons under the age of 16 at the time of landing are also exempt from any charges.
- (d) Not applicable. The Trust has not been established.
- (e) This covers a member of a crew of a vessel who is required by the master of the vessel to disembark for such purpose.
- (ea) This applies to any member of the crew not covered by (e) above. In this section the term "crew" includes any person who is employed to be aboard the vessel, or any person under the instruction of such a person. This will include those engaged in the conduct of scientific or other research that has, or will take place within the Territories of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands or its maritime zone, providing that: -
 - (i) the vessel is within East Cumberland Bay Harbour; and
 - (ii) the shore leave does not exceed 3 hours in total in any 24-hour period.
- (eb) Similar to (a) above, where the term Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands is replaced by British Antarctic Survey.
- (ec) No further interpretation required
- (ed) No further interpretation required
- (f) No exclusions under this provision have been issued.

Notification

Apart from sections (a), (b), (ec) and (ed) the Master of the vessel should provide the details of any persons landing in the Territories under the exceptions above.

Review

This policy can be review at any time but must be reviewed within 5 years of coming into force.

Chief Executive Officer

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