

**GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH GEORGIA &  
THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS**



# **ANNUAL VISITOR REPORT**

July 2022 - June 2023

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## Introduction

This report covers the period from July 2022 to June 2023. The 2022-23 tourist season saw record numbers returning to visit the island again following the COVID-19 pandemic. The tourist season saw a total of one hundred and three (103) vessels classed as expedition cruise ship visits and 15 yacht visits. A total of 13,890 visiting passengers visited the island, and including all expedition staff and crew an overall total of 26,443<sup>1</sup> visitors.

Visits from expedition cruise vessels spanned from *Magellan Explorer* arriving in early October (however the first yacht arrived in mid-September) and the last visiting vessel departing in early April. As the first fully operational tourist season since 2019-20, there were a number of new operators (4) and new vessels (5) operating within the Territory.

## Cruise Ship Seasonal Trends

Thirty-eight (39) expedition cruise ships made one hundred and four (104) separate visit, representing a significant increase on the previous season (27 vessels with 49 separate visits in 2021-22) and even pre-COVID levels (30 vessels with 78 separate visits during the 2019-20 season).

Table 1: Summary of cruise ship visitor numbers

Season	Voyages	Passengers	Staff	Crew	Others	Total
2011/12	51	5,831 (58.4%)	578 (5.8%)	3,569 (35.7%)	6 (0.1%)	9,984
2012/13	51	5,792 (58.0%)	612 (6.1%)	3,552 (35.6%)	24 (0.2%)	9,980
2013/14	55	7,024 (59.6%)	667 (5.7%)	4,080 (34.6%)	21 (0.2%)	11,792
2014/15	65	8,142 (58.9%)	827 (6.0%)	4,837 (35.0%)	23 (0.2%)	13,829
2015/16	68	8,787 (57.6%)	915 (6.0%)	5,549 (36.4%)	13 (0.1%)	15,264
2016/17	68	8,946 (58.5%)	890 (5.9%)	5,459 (36.0%)	11 (0.1%)	15,303
2017/18	82	10,109 (57%)	1,089 (6.1%)	6,498 (36.3%)	24 (0.1%)	17,720
2018/19	78	10,337 (57.4%)	1,110 (6.2%)	6,550 (36.3%)	21 (0.1%)	18,018
2019/20	78	12,521 (56.3%)	1,222 (5.5%)	8,468 (38.1%)	33 (0.1%)	22,244
2020/21	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021/22	49	5,374 (44%)	759 (6%)	5,689 (50%)	7	11,829
2022/23	103	13,721 (53%)	1,690 (6%)	10,771 (41%)	23	26,205

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<sup>1</sup>This includes multiple visits

## Passenger Numbers & Expedition cruise Ship Visits

Hurtigruten's *Fram* carried the most passengers over the course of the season, with a total of 979 guests spread across 6 separate voyages. *Seabourn Quest* was the largest ship by far, with 398 passengers aboard. The majority of vessels visited the island at least twice throughout the course of the season with less than 20% visiting on the single occasion. The 3 Hapag-Lloyd Hanseatic vessels visited a combined total of 14 times with 2,437 passengers, representing the largest operations by one company (see Figure 3).

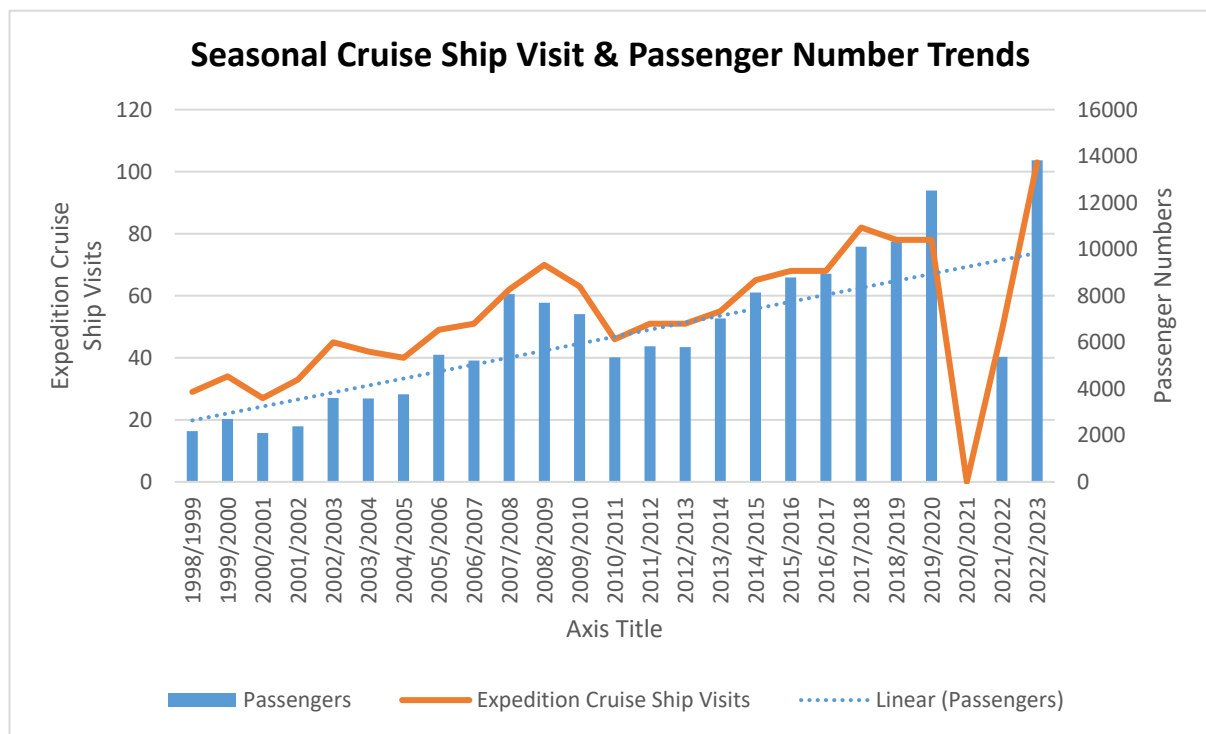


Figure 1: Expedition cruise ship visits & passenger number trends

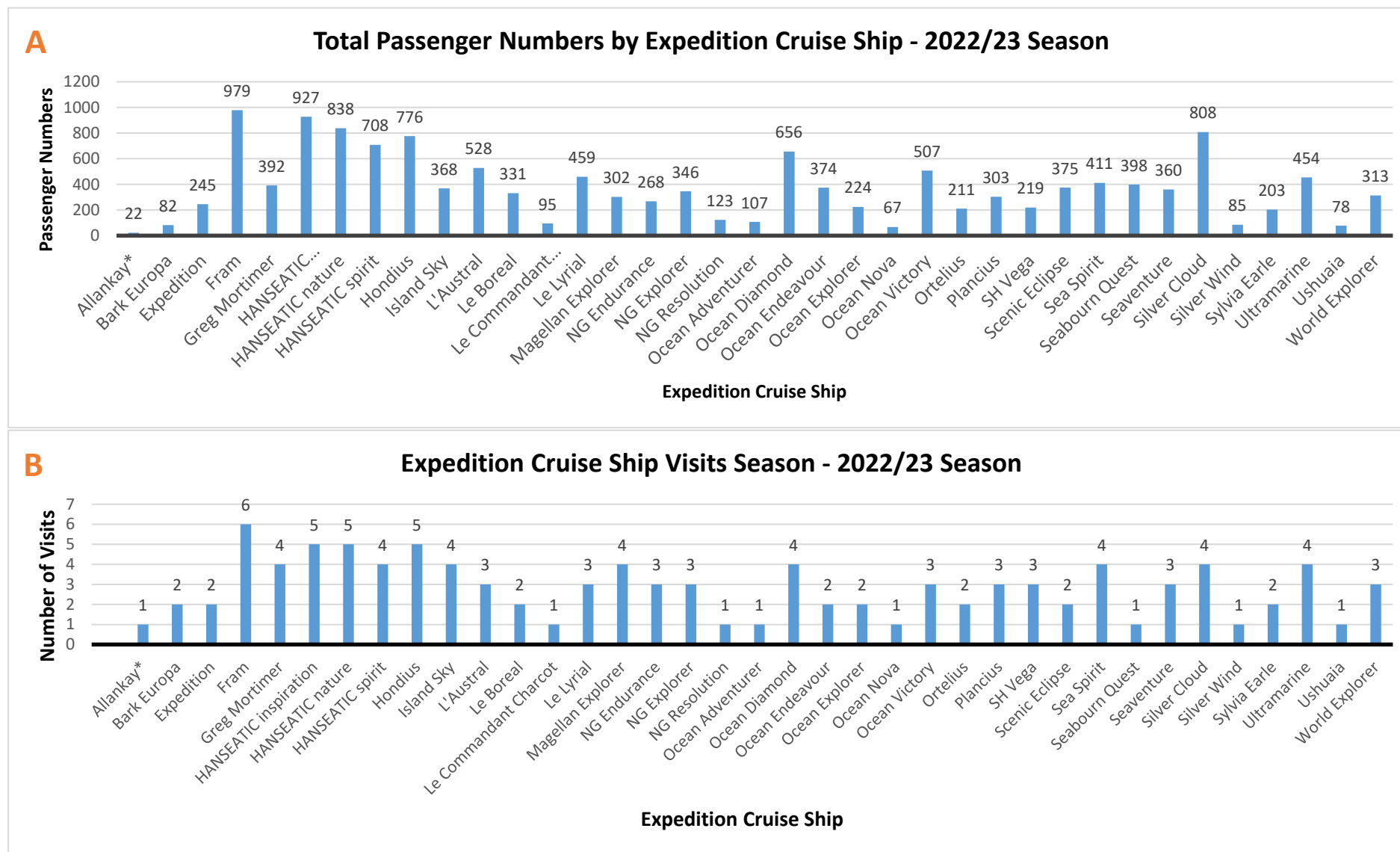


Figure 2: A) Number of passengers visiting the island this season on each expedition cruise ship. B) Occurrences of visits by expedition cruise vessel.

\*Sea Shepherd's Allankay is listed as an expedition cruise ship due to its media orientated role and a lack of ability in the current GSGSSI system to differentiate.

## Operators

In the 22/23 season there were 24 operators running expedition cruise vessels that visited South Georgia. Hapag-Lloyd with the Hanseatic vessels was the most numerous (in both number of visits (14% of total) and total passengers (18% of total)). Quark Expeditions closely followed with 13 voyages (11% of total), yet with significantly fewer passengers (11% of total).

Other major operators this season visiting South Georgia that held above a 5% share in total number of voyages or total passengers included Oceanwide Expeditions, NG Lindblad Expeditions, Ponant, Aurora Expeditions, Hurtigruten, Polar Latitudes & Silverseas.

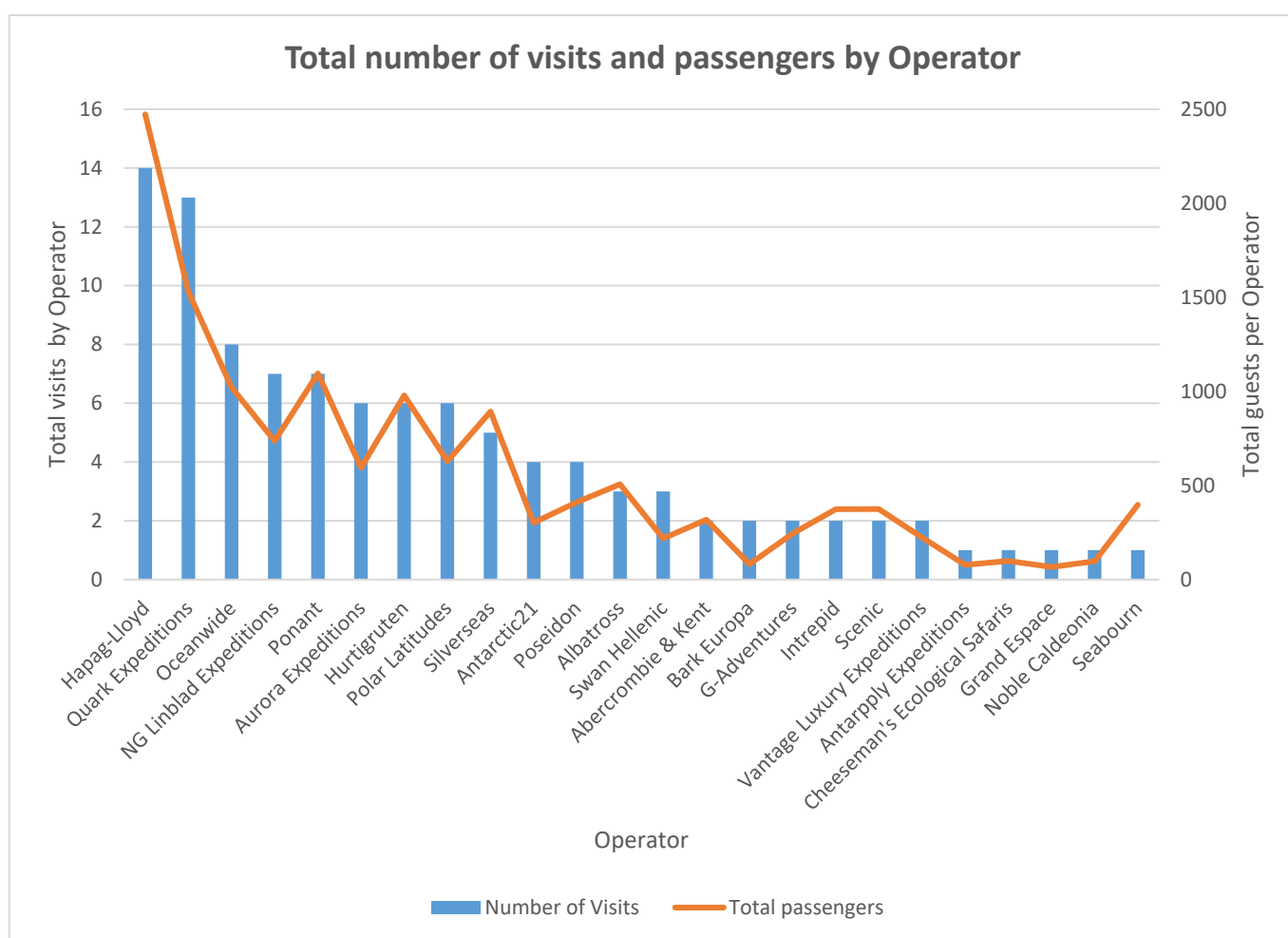


Figure 3: Operator visits and number of passengers

## Passenger numbers on expedition cruise vessels

Although the industry was operating without constraints by GSGSSI in the 22/23 season, the expedition cruise industry was still impacted COVID-19. A number of vessels had their own protocols to try and manage the virus aboard and capacity on vessels was relatively low (compared to pre-COVID). The increase in new vessels and operators likely exasperated this. Table 2 divides ships by number of passengers that they visited South Georgia this season. It does not reflect the maximum number they could actually have aboard per SOLAS. It can be anticipated that the same number of ships could bring a much greater number of passengers to South Georgia next season if occupancy is close to the limit.

The majority of ships (36%) were carrying 151 - 200 passengers. However, largely as a result of low occupancy there were a large number of voyages within the 101 - 150 category (34%). Lower occupancy appears to also have resulted in a greater number of voyages with 50 - 100 (21%) and <50 (5%), respectively. Only 4 % of voyages were from larger vessels (201 - 300).

Table 2: Passenger numbers on visiting expedition cruise vessels

Ship Passenger Numbers	Number of Ship Visits	Total Number of Passengers	Comments
<50	5 (5 %)	173	Sea Shepherd's Allankay, two by Bark <i>Europa</i> , then <i>SH Vega</i> & <i>World Explorer</i> with low occupancy
50 – 100	22 (21%)	1,837	A large number of large vessels with low occupancy are included in this category
101 – 150	35 (34%)	4,168	
151 – 200	37 (36%)	6,523	
201 – 300	4 (4%)	1,020	Comprising of <i>Seabourn Quest</i> & <i>Silver Cloud</i> voyages
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>13,721</b>	

## New Operators & Vessels

There were 5 new vessels this season to South Georgia, constituting of *SH Vega*, *Legend*, *Ocean Explorer*, *Sylvia Earle*, and *Hanseatic Spirit*. In addition, and following on from the curtailed 2021/22 season there were 10 other vessels which were new that season and had no observations, including *Ocean Victory*, *NG Endurance*, *NG Resolution*, *Ultramarine* and *Le Commandant Charcot*. The majority of these new vessels belonged to existing operators.

There were 2 new operators with new vessels (Swan Hellenic with *SH Vega* & Vantage Cruises with *Ocean Explorer*), 2 new operators to South Georgia utilising an existing vessel (Grand Espace with *Ocean Nova* & Intrepid with *Ocean Endeavour*) and 1 existing operator taking on an existing vessel which was new to them (Polar Latitudes & *Seaventure*).

## Passenger Demographics

Expedition cruise vessel passengers represented 80 different nationalities, with the top 10 nationalities accounting for 89% (12,226 of the total 13,721) of the overall passenger numbers. The changes in passenger nationality during the 21/22 season, were somewhat reversed. However, despite increasing in diversity, and a re-entry into the top 10 for Austria and China, numbers for China (277) were still somewhat depressed (having represented 5 % of passengers in 19/20 season with 689 visitors).

Table 3: Expedition cruise vessel passenger nationality

Nationality	Tourism Season		
	2022-23	2021-22	2019-20
<b>USA</b>	4,310	2,286	2,828
<b>Germany</b>	2,230	1,143	2,330
<b>United Kingdom</b>	1,644	392	1,155
<b>Australia</b>	1,509	Not in top 5	Not in top 5
<b>Canada</b>	715	Not in top 5	Not in top 5
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>10,408 (76%)</b>	<b>4,333 (81%)</b>	<b>8,757 (72%)</b>
<b>Other nationalities</b>	3,313	1,041	3,764
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,721</b>	<b>5,374</b>	<b>12,521</b>



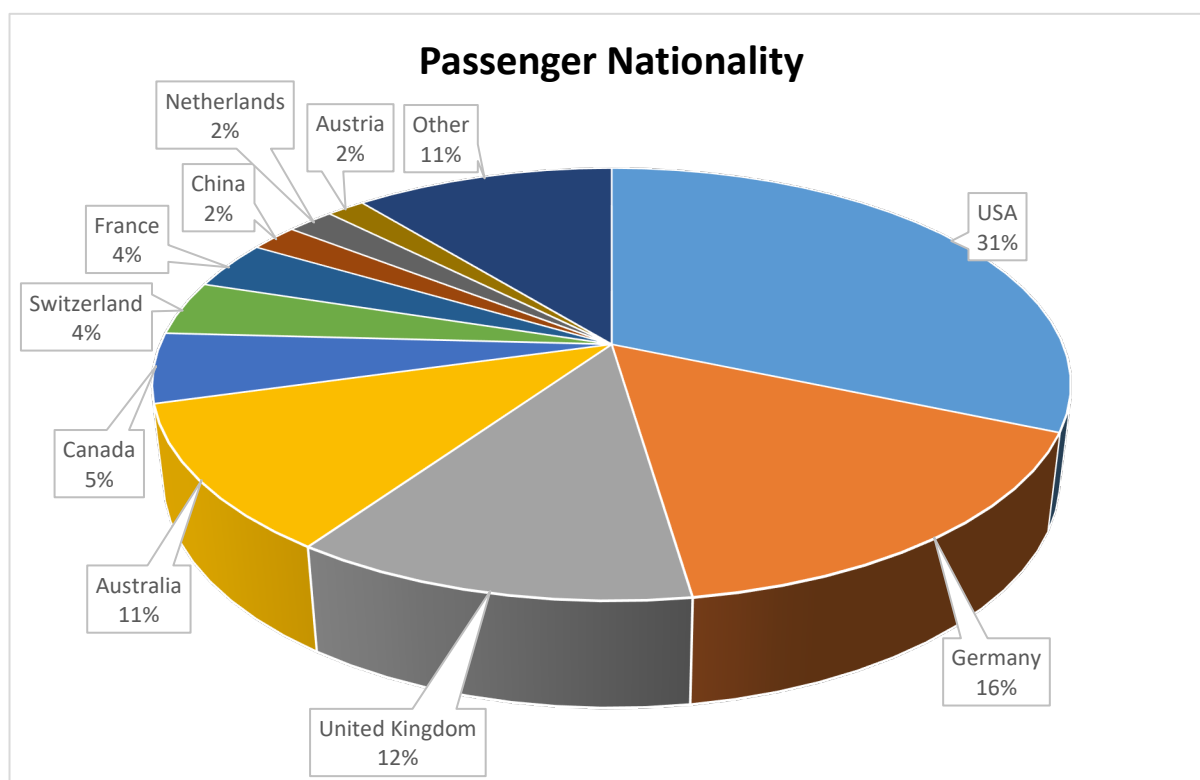


Figure 4: Expedition cruise vessel passenger nationality

## Expedition Staff

With a return to a more regular tourist season there was an increase from 758 expedition staff to 1,690<sup>2</sup>. The expedition staff originated from 60 countries (an increase in 14 countries represented from 21/22). There was a slightly lower total staff to passenger ratio than the abnormal 21/22 season with 1:8, as opposed to 1:7 the year before. Whilst 59% came from the top 5 countries listed below, this was a modest decrease from 64% the year before.

Table 4: Expedition staff top 5 nationalities

Nationality	Expedition Staff
United Kingdom	241 (14%)
USA	224 (13%)
Germany	215 (13%)
Canada	206 (12%)
France	106 (6%)
Other	698 (41%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,690</b>

<sup>2</sup> This figure would include multiple repeat visits for individuals within the expedition teams.

## Expedition Leader Briefings

As per the previous season, all expedition leaders now must complete, and pass, an online briefing and assessment prior to arrival in South Georgia.

This season did see Government Officers (GOs) being able to greet all ELs in person aboard their vessels in King Edward Cove, Grytviken, and further afield. In King Edward Cove this would include going through a briefing to ensure their confidence on the permit conditions, HPAI guidance, bird-strike protocol, and their Grytviken visit. GOs were also able to have discussions with new ELs on a number of occasions when visiting as expedition guides and prior to their tenure as the EL.

## Vessel Crew

There were 10,771<sup>3</sup> members of crew from 94 different nationalities present aboard the expedition cruise vessels. Crew members of Philippine nationality accounted for 55% of all crew.

*Table 5: Crew top 5 nationalities*

Nationality	Crew
<b>Philippines</b>	5904 (55%)
<b>Germany</b>	709 (7%)
<b>Indonesia</b>	575 (5%)
<b>Ukraine</b>	421 (4%)
<b>France</b>	400 (4%)
<b>Other</b>	2762 (26%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10771</b>

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<sup>3</sup> This figure would include multiple repeat visits for individuals within the crews.

## Ports of Provenance and Destination

Table 7: Port of Provenance (Left) and Destination (Right) for each expedition cruise ship visit

Port of Provenance	Visits	Port of Destination	Visits
Antarctica <sup>4</sup>	23	Antarctica <sup>4</sup>	62
Stanley, Falkland Islands	55	Falkland Islands	12
Falkland Islands (other)	12	Montevideo, Uruguay	2
Ushuaia, Argentina	8	Other	4
Puerto Madryn, Argentina	2		
Puerto Williams, Chile	1		
Cape Town, South Africa	1		
Walvis Bay, Namibia	1		

## Activities Undertaken

Expedition cruise vessels visited 30 separate landing sites (including 1 unsanctioned visit to closed Prion Island). The most common activities undertaken included small boat landings, small boat cruising, and ship cruising.

Small boat landings by Zodiac recorded the highest activity number with 517 separate landings with a total of 56,632 passengers landing.

Table 8: Activities undertaken by expedition cruise ships

Activity	Number of sites Activity was conducted	Total Number of Passengers involved	Total number of times activity conducted
Small Boat Landing	49	56,632	517
Small Boat Cruising	39	21,061	202
Ship Cruise	25	14,438	106
Anchoring only	13	3,704	29
Kayaking	23	2,119	82
Extended Walk	7	1,361	17
Other	21	552	43
Scuba Diving	12	55	18
Scientific Research	9	25	9
UAV Commercial Flight	14	10	38
Filming	2	0	3

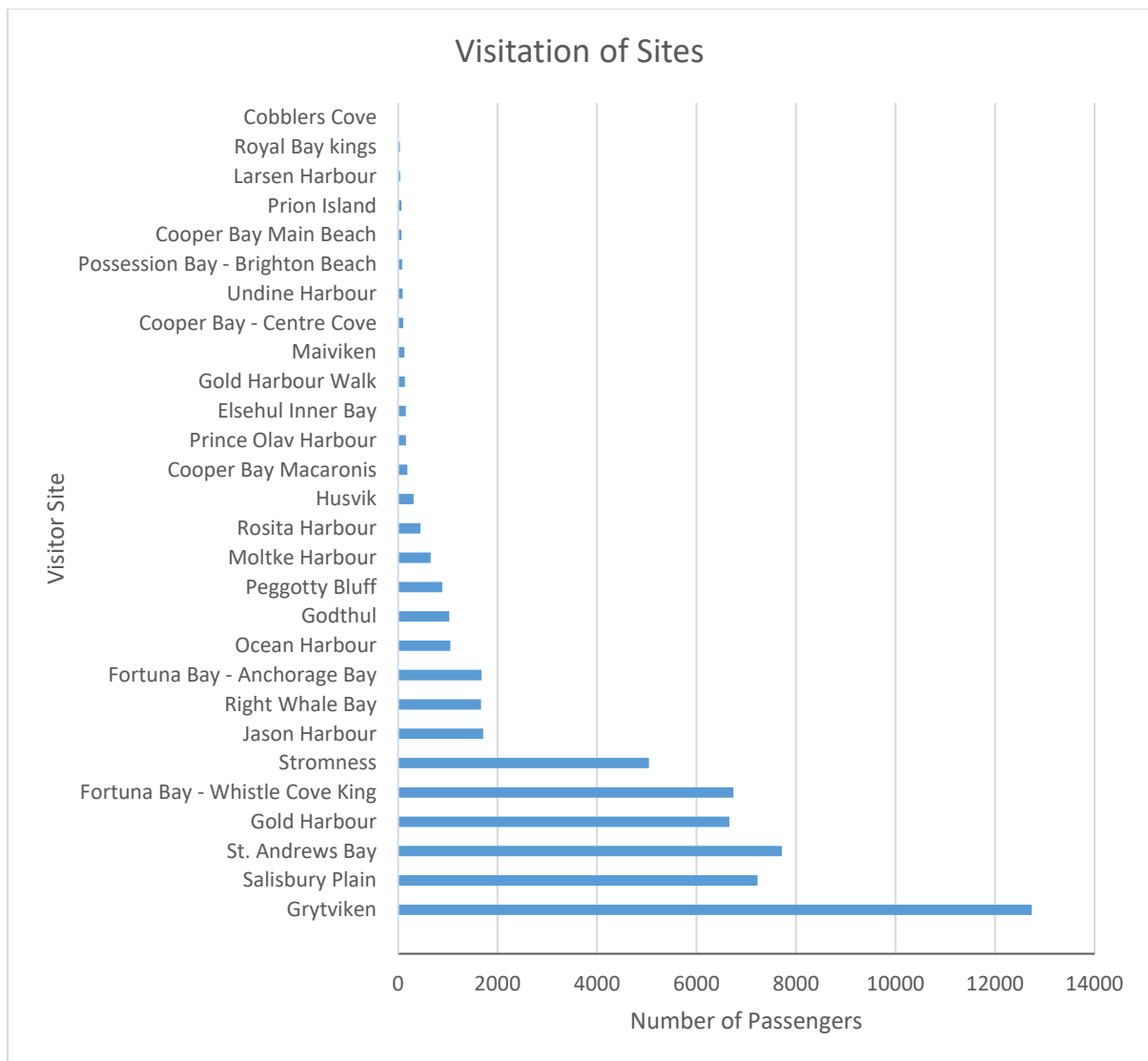
<sup>4</sup> Including the continent and all associated islands (South Orkney, South Shetland and other outlying islands).

## Small Boat Landings

This activity represents the number of passengers coming ashore at each site each year. Unsurprisingly, Grytviken is top of the list, with the requirement for official checks on all vessels to be conducted there. Sites numbered 2 – 5 in popularity all represent large king penguin colonies, which visiting is clearly one of the main aims of voyages to South Georgia. This is further demonstrated in Figure 4.

*Table 6: Top 10 visited landing sites by expedition cruise vessels*

Site	Number of Passengers	Total Disembarked
<b>1. Grytviken</b>	12,607	15,896
<b>2. Salisbury Plain</b>	7,227	8,591
<b>3. St. Andrews Bay</b>	7,219	8,735
<b>4. Gold Harbour</b>	6,533	7,931
<b>5. Whistle Cove Kings, Fortuna Bay</b>	6,470	8,156
<b>6. Stromness</b>	4,923	5,907
<b>7. Jason Harbour</b>	1,712	1,993
<b>8. Right Whale Bay</b>	1,538	1,795
<b>9. Fortuna Bay Anchorage Bay</b>	1,582	1,885
<b>10. Ocean Harbour</b>	1,052	1,235



*Figure 4: Visitation of landing sites*

## Extended Walks

Official extended (or permitted) walks took place on 61 occasions at 7 sites. The most popular extended walk this season was the Shackleton Walk with 1,317 passengers taking part. This was assisted by snowmelt providing a safe route across by early November.

The Maiviken / Grytviken Walk was also very popular (1,176 passengers), with walkers accessing the route from both sides. The majority chose to go from and back to Grytviken, however some vessels completed the full route. There is a significant decrease in numbers participating in other extended walks.

Table 7: Extended walks

Site	Number of Visits	Number of Passengers	Total Number, incl. staff & crew
Shackleton Walk (Fortuna/Stromness)	25	1,317	1,556
Maiviken / Grytviken Walk	19	1,176	1,399
Gold Harbour Walk - GOL02	5	165	192
Ocean Harbour Walk - OCE02	5	138	181
Godthul Walk - GOD02	2	43	64
Rookery Point Walk - ROO01	4	114	158
King Haakon Bay Crossing	1	2	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>2,955</b>	<b>3,555</b>

The Shackleton Walk has returned to pre-pandemic popularity levels (around 1,000 passengers participating), despite increased issues with fur seal abundance on Stromness beach during the main breeding season.

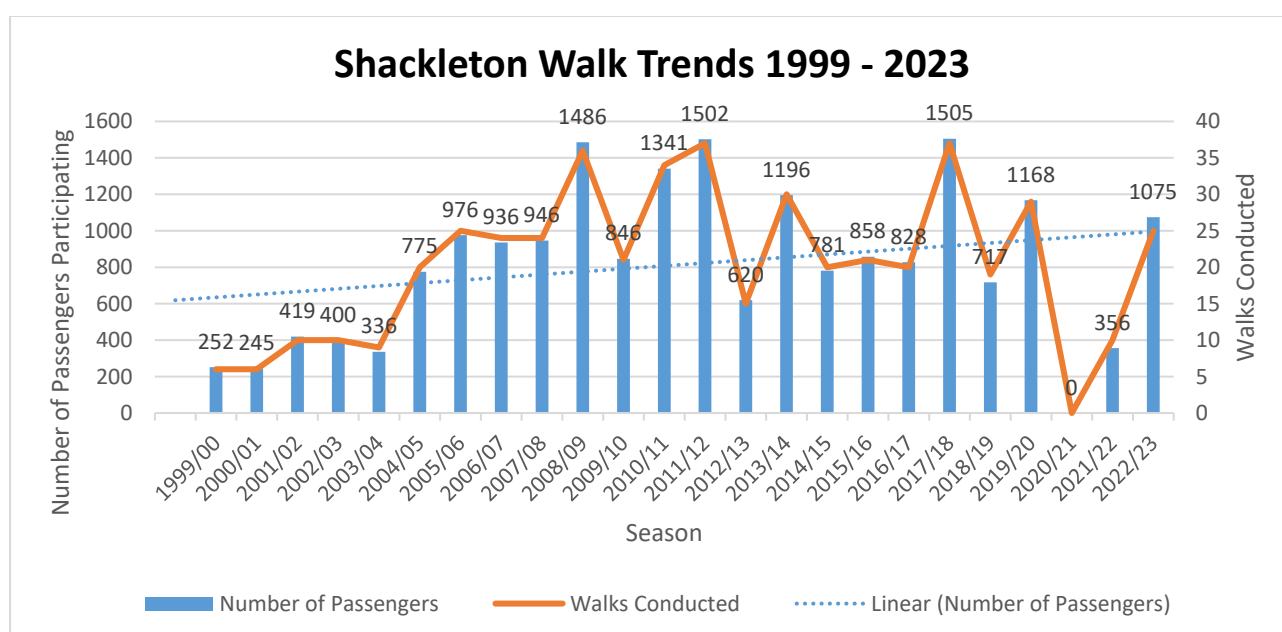


Figure 5: Shackleton Walk Trend

## Kayaking

Kayaking remains the most common adventure activity that took place around South Georgia (at 23 separate sites). Passengers participating in kayaking took part from 20 different vessels on 82 separate occasions, resulting in a total of 2,119 passengers paddling. This represents a

significant increase in the number of guests paddling around the shores of South Georgia and likely reflects an increasing trend for companies to offer adventure options, including both new and old operators.

Grytviken was the most popular location (13 occasions), closely followed by Cooper Bay (11) and Godthul (11). Paddling at landing sites with king penguins appears to be less desirable.

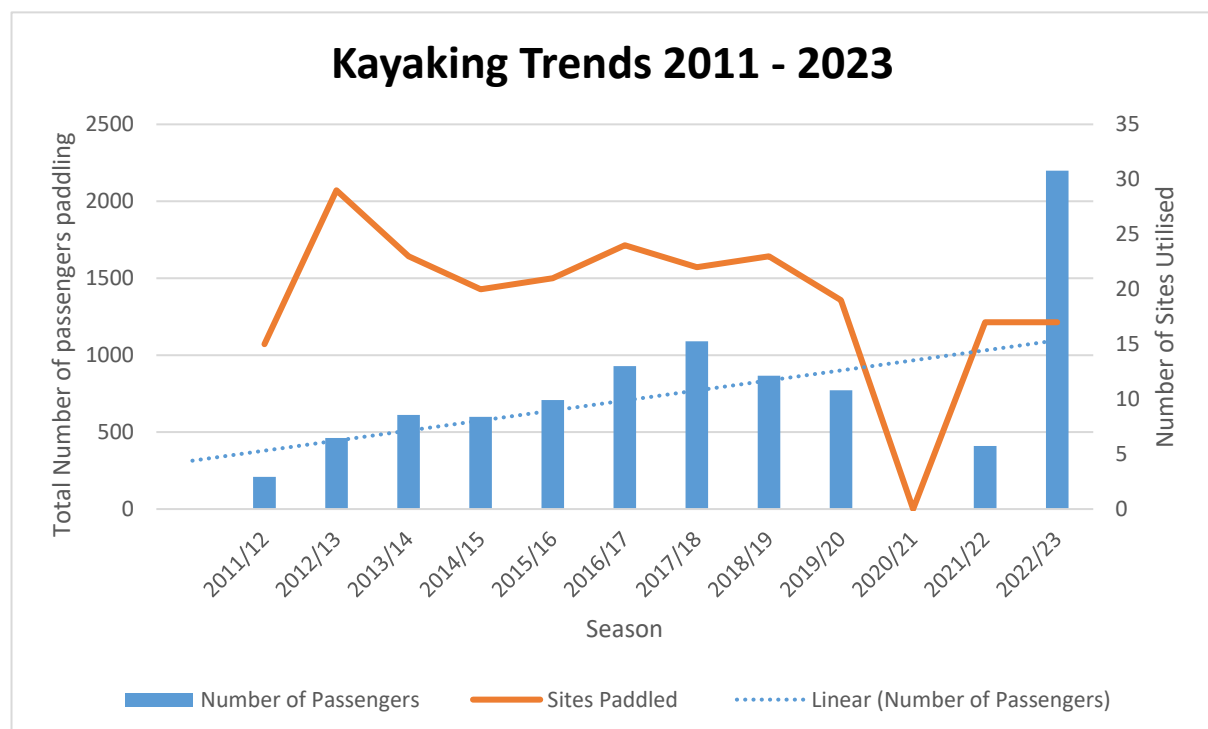


Figure 6: Kayaking trend

## COVID-19

South Georgia transitioned to a policy of ‘living with COVID’ during 2022, prior to the arrival of the Territory’s first visitors. Vessels had their own policies aboard, however there were no restrictions on placed upon them by GSGSSI, only a recommendation to not have positive cases disembark at Grytviken. Thus, GOs boarded and completed formalities on all vessels during their visit and GSGSSI staff conducted a number of observations. This strategy did result in at least one outbreak of the virus on station, however it was managed successfully.

## Observations

A total of 17 official observations were carried out by GSGSSI this season with general aims of monitoring vessel environmental management, biosecurity protocols and vessel compliance with GSGSSI Visitor Permit stipulations & IAATO guidelines. Observations consisted of two forms.

Firstly, **observations of individual excursions** - these were conducted opportunistically from FPV *Pharos SG* throughout the season. The aim of these being to monitor landing operations at different sites, visitor code of conduct on land, wildlife interactions and biosecurity procedures outside Grytviken. GOs would usually board the expedition cruise vessel prior to the first Zodiac heading to shore and accompany the expedition team, returning to the GSGSSI patrol ship towards the end of the operations. Alternatively, they were made from GSGSSI personnel already being deployed at the landing site upon arrival of the expedition team. Vessels observed within this category included *Ocean Adventurer*, *Le Lyréal*, *Magellan Explorer* and *Hondius*. Attempts were made for additional vessels, however these were aborted due to weather conditions or their cancellation of operations due to fur seal abundance.

Secondly, **live-aboard observations** – these consisted of GSGSSI personnel staying aboard the vessel for a minimum of one day (ideally a night as well) and looking through more of the environmental management (oil spill response, bunkering logs, bird strike protocol etc.) of the vessel itself and the way the expedition educate and brief guests regarding visitor sites. In addition, at least one observation of an excursion is made. This category of observation was largely reserved for new operators and new vessels. It included *SH Vega*, *Ocean Endeavour*, *Ocean Explorer*, *NG Endurance*, *Ultramarine*, *Ocean Nova*, *Ocean Endeavour*, *Seaventure*, *Ocean Victory*, *Legend*, *Le Commandant Charcot*, *Sylvia Earle* and *Hanseatic Spirit*.

Vessels operating in South Georgia during the 2021/2022 & 2022/2023 seasons for the first time, together with those under management of a new operator were targeted for this purpose. No major issues were reported, with generally good standards of operation observed.



All observations demonstrated a high level of compliance by both vessels and expedition teams throughout the industry. However, there were some anomalies (such as not all expedition team having the correct IAATO certification) and some opportunity to gather some insights into issues faces, and best practice to some of these.

## Incidents

### Prion Island

Due to the condition of the boardwalk at Prion Island, the site remained closed to visitors this season. Unfortunately, there was one unauthorised access to the island in early December which was self-reported and GSGSSI has taken action accordingly.

### Salisbury Plain Seal Bites

A number (6) of seal bites (non-severe) occurred during a single landing at Salisbury Plain in March, largely due to a particularly aggressive female fur seal. GSGSSI would like to remind operators of the need to report fur seal bites. Vigilance should be maintained throughout the entire season with guide to guest ratios being maintained across entire landing sites.

### Wildlife Collisions during Zodiac Operations

A single report of wildlife collisions wildlife during zodiac operations was reported this season. The incident concerned a fur seal which was struck by a zodiac propeller reported within Hercules Bay. No evidence of any potential damage inflicted was reported. GSGSSI would like to remind all operators that expedition staff must drive with caution around wildlife and give them the right of way. However, any incidences such as this should be reported to GSGSSI.

### Death in SGMZ

Unfortunately, there was one fatality whilst a vessel was within the South Georgia Maritime Zone (SGMZ). This was declared to GSGSSI and the decision was made to repatriate the deceased via the Falklands. All necessary arrangements were made to make this as smooth a process as possible.

## Grytviken

The requirement for all vessels to visit Cumberland East Bay to make customs declarations and complete the biosecurity audit remained in place. They also took the opportunity to go through permit conditions with the EL, discussing and receiving any feedback on observations or new compliance requests (e.g. HPAI bird flu measures and the whale slow-down speed restrictions) from EL and the Captains. The first expedition cruise vessel to visit was *Magellan Explorer* on 08 OCT 2022, with 80 passengers. The final vessel was Bark *Europa* on 01 APR 20223, with 37 passengers.

## Grytviken Church

Five organised events were held at the whalers church, Grytviken; 3 weddings and a Christmas carol concert, and an additional concert. It was open for all visitors throughout the season.

## Post Office

The Post Office opened for all vessels throughout the season, operated by GOs initially before a Deputy Postmaster was recruited, and subsequently assisted by an assistant.

The 'Enduring Eye' Hurley Exhibition which includes original lantern slides on loan from the Royal Geographical Society remained open for another season in the Grytviken Post Office display room.

## Post Visit Reporting

It remains mandatory for each vessel to complete a post visit report. A number of operators required chasing for these reports. GSGSSI would like to remind operators that it is a condition of their permit.

## Requests for Assistance

No medical facilities are available on South Georgia for visitors. However, one vessel did enquire about the possibility of medical evacuation from the Territory. Operators are reminded that no assistance in medical care or transportation are available at South Georgia.

## Cruise Ship Bird Strikes

It is mandatory for every vessel to provide details of bird strikes / bird collision with their ship. There were 113 individual bird strikes this season over separate 12 events. A total of 4 were reported dead. The total incidences is down 1 from the previous curtailed season (2021/22), an increase of 51 from the 2019/20 season, and 158 lower than the 2018/19 season.

*Table 8: Expedition cruise vessel incidental bird strike*

Date	Location	Alive	Dead	Comments
28-Oct-22	Stromness Bay	1	0	Snowy conditions.
10-Dec-22	St Andrews Bay	1	0	Snowy conditions.
14-Feb-23	-	2	1	
26-Feb-23	King Haakon Bay	65	1	Fog. All strikes occurred prior to 0200.
28-Feb-23	Cumberland Bay	1	0	Fog.
15-Mar-23	Bay of Isles	1	0	Clear conditions.
22-Mar-23	Crossing from Gibbon Bay in the South Orkneys to King Haakon bay South Georgia	13	0	Clear conditions.
23-Mar-23	Cumberland Bay - navigating to St Andrews	21	0	Rain. During 1.5 hours of navigation in early evening.
23-Mar-23	Stromness Bay	5	2	Clear conditions.
24-Mar-23	Fortuna Bay	1	0	Clear conditions.
25-Mar-23	Northwest of island	1	0	Clear conditions.
28-Mar-23	Bay of Isles	1	0	Rain.
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>113</b>	<b>4</b>	

## Biosecurity Audits

The 2022/23 season saw the return of mandatory biosecurity audits (first introduced in 2018/19) in King Edward Cove. Due to COVID-19 complications GOs were only able to audit 25 expedition vessel visits during the 2021/22 season (checking 908 passengers, and a total of 2,032 checks), whilst 23 visits conducted a self-audit. During the 2022/23 season 4,605 checks were conducted.

The general improvement in biosecurity within the industry continued. A total of 4,655 checks were conducted throughout the season, with 4.06% of passengers being found to have some form of organic material or biota.

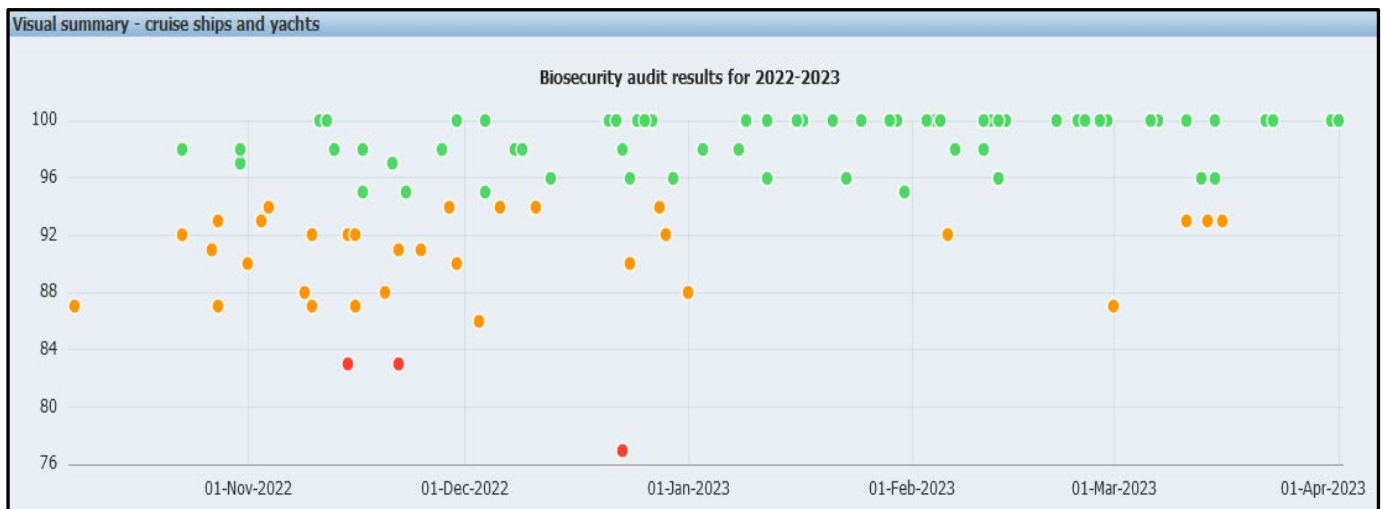


Figure 7: Biosecurity audit results - % pass rate

The 4.06% from this season shows a slight increase (of 0.56%) in risks being identified from 2021/22. However, this can largely be attributed to a large component of self-auditing and thus, not having the guidance or knowledge to identify all risk factors without GO oversight and advice. A better comparison is the result from the 2019/20 season in which 4.5% of passengers were identified with a biosecurity risk. Thus, representing a decrease of 0.44% since the last truly comparable season. In addition, this is still significantly lower than the initial season of 2018/19 (8% of passengers with identifiable risks).

There were 187 Identifiable risks, with 72 from boots and 115 from clothing, backpacks and equipment. Identifiable risks were the same as previous years and included mud (mostly on the bottom of walking poles), plant material (mostly within Velcro and backpack mesh as seeds), guano (mostly in the tread of boots) and on one occasion dried fruit. Furthermore, a tendency for passengers to bypass the Virkon trays was raised as an issue when consistently ignored, demonstrating the guests lack of understanding of the process. Information on what vessels and ELs could do to improve measures was shared (when applicable) by the GOs conducting the audit during the process, afterwards in conversation and in written feedback.

Unfortunately, there were 3 vessels which had a pass rate of less than 85% which is considered unacceptable, compared to a single vessel in 2021/22. These 3 vessels lost their dispensation to land prior to Grytviken for the next voyage. Two of which returned this season and demonstrated substantial improvement (100% pass rate).

The audit results demonstrated an improved understanding of the audit and the attention of detail required to minimise risk to South Georgia. GOs would work together with the EL and expedition team members to address issues as they appeared, educating teams on what and where to look out for risks. As a result Figure 7 shows a clear improvement throughout the season with a large number of vessels scoring 100%, with the 3 failures within the first half of the season.

Overall, 40% of vessels throughout the season scored a perfect 100% pass rate, and 67% of the audits were within the upper bracket with a 95% pass rate or above.

*Table 9: Biosecurity audit trends*

	Tourism Season			
	2018/19	2019/20	2021/22 <sup>5</sup>	2022/23
<b>Passengers with Identifiable Risks</b>	8%	4.5%	3.5%	4.06%
<b>Unacceptable Vessels</b>	11 (15.1%)	5 (6.7%)	1 (2.1%)	3 (2.9 %)
<b>Vessels scoring over 95%</b>	46.6%	74.7%	79.2%	67.0%
<b>Vessels Scoring 100%</b>	<b>14 (19%)</b>	<b>17 (23%)</b>	<b>17 (35%)</b>	<b>42 (40%)</b>

In conclusion, GSGSSI believe the guests, led by the expedition staff and crew are invested in the need for good biosecurity and to safeguard South Georgia's environment with minimal transitory impact. It is clear that the implementation of the biosecurity audit has facilitated this and a high level of performance is now the norm.

## Yachts

There were 15 visits by 9 vessels that were classified as yachts during the 2022/23 season. A total of 235 individuals came to South Georgia via yacht; 103 passengers, 107 crew, 16

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<sup>5</sup> Impacts of COVID-19 on GOs conducting audits result in this data having limited value.

expedition staff and 9 others. This marked a significant increase in persons arriving by yacht, with a total of 54, 88 and 80 individuals in the 21/22, 19/20 and 18/19 seasons respectively.

Table 10: Yacht Visits. **Blue** highlighted voyages were used in scientific, media & project supporting roles. **Yellow** highlighted voyages provided expedition support.

Yacht	Operator	Arrival Date	Number of Visits	PAX	Crew	Staff	Other	Total
<b>Golden Fleece</b>	Private	06-Jan-23	1	6	2	0	0	8
<b>Legend</b>	EYOS Expeditions	27-Nov-22	2	15	33	7	0	55
<b>Legend</b>	EYOS Expeditions	21-Dec-22		12	31	4	0	47
<b>MY Hans Hansson</b>	Quixote Expeditions	07-Nov-22	1	0	5	1	9	15
<b>S/V Australis</b>	Ocean Expeditions LLC	13-Nov-22	1	9	3	0	0	12
<b>S/V Selma Expeditions</b>	Selma Expeditions	23-Oct-22	1	8	3	0	0	11
<b>S/Y YPAKE II</b>	SUR Expeditions	07-Oct-22	3	6	0	2	0	8
<b>S/Y YPAKE II</b>	SUR Expeditions	20-Nov-22		6	2	0	0	8
<b>S/Y YPAKE II</b>	SUR Expeditions	31-Jan-23		2	2	0	0	4
<b>Santa Maria Australis</b>	SIM Expeditions Ltd.	13-Oct-22	2	3	3	0	0	6
<b>Santa Maria Australis</b>	SIM Expeditions Ltd.	02-Dec-22		8	3	0	0	11
<b>Tecla</b>	Tecla-sailing	18-Dec-22	1	5	4	0	0	9
<b>Vinson of Antarctica</b>	Pelagic Expeditions LTD	17-Sep-22	3	8	3	2	0	13
<b>Vinson of Antarctica</b>	Pelagic Expeditions LTD	08-Dec-22		8	8	0	0	16
<b>Vinson of Antarctica</b>	Pelagic Expeditions LTD	18-Jan-23		7	5	0	0	12
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>15</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>235</b>

## Yacht Landing Sites

Yachts conducted small boat landings at 26 visitor sites 81 times during this season, with a total of 962 people landed ashore.

## Expeditions

There were 4 expeditions this season. *Vinson of Antarctica* was used as expedition support of a Shackleton Traverse variant in September. This was followed by a curtailed Shackleton

traverse supported by *Ypake II* in October and a Shackleton Traverse supported by *Santa Maria Australis* in December.

*Ypake II* sailed as the support vessel for a long sailor / rower that navigated himself from Elephant Island to South Georgia.

### Scientific, Media & Project Support

*Santa Maria Australis* had a media team aboard in October, 2022. *Vinson of Antarctica* was used for a media project which had special permission to operate on Prion Island in December, 2022.

*Australis* was used as a support vessel for a media and scientific project that headed onwards to the South Sandwich Islands. As did *Vinson of Antarctica*'s last voyage in January, 2023.

Hans Hansson was chartered by South Georgia Heritage Trust (SGHT) as a base for surveying Stromness whaling station.

### Other Vessel Visits

GSGSSIs patrol vessel *Pharos SG* made regular calls to King Edward Point, with crew allowed to explore the surrounding areas. However, as their movements are covert they are not listed here.

The crew of the krill trawlers operating around South Georgia were all offered the option to visit Grytviken during their inspection or whilst waiting for transshipment and a number of individuals decided to land with the government's permission.

Table 11: Other visiting vessels

Vessel	Dates	Comments
<b>FV Antarctic Endurance</b>	22/08/2022 to 24/08/2022	Krill Trawler
<b>FV Antarctic Provider</b>	23/08/2022 to 26/08/2022	Krill Transshipment vessel
<b>FV Antarctic Sea</b>	01/08/2022 to 03/08/2022	Krill Trawler
<b>FV Saga Sea</b>	01/08/2022 to 04/08/2022	Krill Trawler
<b>HMS Protector</b>	26/12/2022 to 29/12/2022	South Atlantic Patrol
<b>RV Polarstern</b>	03/12/2022 to 05/12/2022	Research within SGMZ
<b>RRS Sir David Attenborough</b>	13/01/2023 to 15/01/2023	BAS resupply - Cargo & Pax
<b>HMS Medway</b>	14/02/2023 to 16/02/2023	South Atlantic Patrol
<b>FV Robin M. Lee</b>	10/02/2023 to 10/02/2023	Groundfish Survey chartered vessel
<b>HMS Medway</b>	10/03/2023 to 10/03/2023	South Atlantic Patrol

<b>HMS <i>Medway</i></b>	12/03/2023 to 12/03/2023	South Atlantic Patrol
<b>RRS <i>Sir David Attenborough</i></b>	30/03/2023 to 01/04/2023	BAS resupply - Cargo & Pax
<b>FV <i>Argos Helena</i></b>	27/04/2023 to 28/04/2023	Longliner
<b>RRS <i>Sir David Attenborough</i></b>	05/04/2023 to 05/04/2023	BAS resupply - Cargo & Pax



## Annex 1 – Total Cruise Ship Passenger, Crew and Staff Nationality

Country	Pax	Staff	Crew	Other	Total
USA	4310	224	43	0	4577
Germany	2230	215	709	1	3155
United Kingdom	1644	241	87	15	1987
Australia	1509	83	7	1	1600
Canada	715	206	27	0	948
Switzerland	555	16	31	0	602
France	493	106	400	0	999
China	277	38	7	0	322
Netherlands	273	31	40	0	344
Austria	220	16	79	0	315
Israel	171	1	1	0	173
Taiwan	152	6	1	0	159
New Zealand	131	30	0	0	161
Belgium	104	13	10	0	127
South Africa	86	54	83	0	223
Sweden	69	33	29	0	131
Denmark	68	16	4	0	88
Ireland	66	14	3	0	83
Malaysia	53	0	4	0	57
Italy	50	13	75	0	138
Spain	46	22	16	0	84
India	39	0	380	0	419
Norway	39	22	30	0	91
Argentina	35	91	36	2	164
Singapore	31	2	0	0	33
Thailand	30	0	5	0	35
Mexico	27	1	22	0	50
Russia	23	42	64	0	129
Japan	21	3	1	0	25
Poland	17	13	55	0	85
Portugal	17	3	58	0	78
Brazil	16	15	59	0	90
Czech Republic	16	5	0	0	21
Luxembourg	16	5	0	0	21
Chile	11	35	38	3	87
Hong Kong	11	0	0	0	11
Ukraine	10	3	421	0	434
Estonia	9	2	4	0	15
Romania	8	2	291	0	301
Lithuania	7	5	14	0	26
Slovakia	7	2	6	0	15

Country	Pax	Staff	Crew	Other	Total
Swaziland	7	1	0	0	8
Turkey	7	4	59	0	70
Croatia	6	2	113	0	121
Philippines	6	1	5904	0	5911
South Korea	6	0	0	0	6
Finland	5	6	8	0	19
Hungary	5	3	8	0	16
Indonesia	5	1	575	0	581
Vietnam	5	0	1	0	6
Iceland	4	9	0	0	13
Liechtenstein	4	0	0	0	4
Malta	4	1	0	0	5
Monaco	4	0	0	0	4
Slovenia	4	4	0	0	8
United Arab Emirates	4	0	0	0	4
Botswana	3	0	0	0	3
Ecuador	3	4	8	0	15
Greece	3	0	23	0	26
Latvia	2	1	6	0	9
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2	0	0	0	2
Saudi Arabia	2	0	0	0	2
Cyprus	1	0	2	0	3
Dominica	1	0	0	0	1
Georgia	1	1	6	0	8
Guatemala	1	1	26	0	28
Iran	1	0	0	0	1
Ivory Coast	1	0	0	0	1
Kenya	1	0	15	0	16
Lebanon	1	0	0	0	1
Macedonia	1	0	3	0	4
Madagascar	1	0	0	0	1
Maldives	1	0	0	0	1
Mongolia	1	0	0	0	1
Peru	1	4	63	0	68
Serbia	1	1	106	0	108
Somalia	1	0	0	0	1
Uruguay	1	2	6	0	9
Zambia	1	0	0	0	1
Zimbabwe	1	0	58	0	59
Albania	0	0	5	0	5
Algeria	0	0	6	0	6

Country	Pax	Staff	Crew	Other	Total
Bangladesh	0	0	1	0	1
Barbados	0	0	3	0	3
Belarus	0	0	17	0	17
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	0	35	0	35
Bulgaria	0	1	58	0	59
Cape Verde	0	0	8	0	8
Colombia	0	5	57	0	62
Costa Rica	0	4	12	0	16
Cuba	0	0	3	0	3
Dominican Republic	0	0	3	0	3
Egypt	0	0	18	0	18
El Salvador	0	0	5	0	5
Gambia	0	0	1	0	1
Guyana	0	0	1	0	1
Honduras	0	0	110	0	110
Jamaica	0	0	20	0	20
Kazakhstan	0	0	2	0	2
Kyrgyzstan	0	0	12	0	12
Mauritius	0	0	50	0	50
Moldova	0	0	4	0	4
Montenegro	0	0	40	0	40
Morocco	0	0	1	0	1
Myanmar	0	2	16	0	18
Nepal	0	1	0	0	1
Nicaragua	0	0	45	0	45
Nigeria	0	0	7	0	7
Panama	0	0	25	0	25
Paraguay	0	0	18	0	18
Saint Lucia	0	0	2	0	2
Serbia and Montenegro	0	0	2	0	2
Seychelles	0	0	1	0	1
Sri Lanka	0	0	1	0	1
Tajikistan	0	0	1	0	1
Trinidad and Tobago	0	2	1	0	3
Tunisia	0	0	42	0	42
Uganda	0	0	2	0	2
Uzbekistan	0	0	1	0	1
Venezuela	0	0	5	1	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13721</b>	<b>1690</b>	<b>10771</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26205</b>

## Annex 2 – Yacht Passenger Demographics

Country	Pax	Staff	Crew	Other	Total
United Kingdom	36	6	40	5	87
South Africa	0	0	10	0	10
Spain	8	0	9	0	17
Germany	5	2	7	0	14
Netherlands	5	0	6	0	11
New Zealand	0	2	6	0	8
Argentina	0	2	5	0	7
Australia	0	0	4	0	4
Poland	8	0	3	0	11
Ireland	0	0	3	0	3
USA	7	3	2	0	12
Italy	0	0	2	0	2
Nepal	0	0	2	0	2
Canada	7	0	1	0	8
France	5	0	1	0	6
Belgium	0	0	1	0	1
Chile	0	0	1	0	1
Falkland Islands	0	0	1	0	1
Israel	0	0	1	0	1
Sweden	0	1	1	1	3
Uruguay	0	0	1	0	1
Switzerland	18	0	0	0	18
Brazil	1	0	0	0	1
Ecuador	1	0	0	0	1
Norway	1	0	0	3	4
Portugal	1	0	0	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>235</b>