

Gough Island, Tristan da Cunha, British Overseas Territory

A UNESCO World Heritage wilderness rising from the Roaring Forties — no pier, no town, no tourists ashore. Just sheer volcanic cliffs, 10 million seabirds, and one of the planet's last truly wild places.

 Zodiac / ship cruising only (no landing)

 Typical call: 4–8 hrs (weather dependent)

 No commerce ashore

 English (South African weather station)

 UNESCO World Heritage Site

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: No pier — Zodiac cruising from ship; landings prohibited

Best For: Wildlife photography, birdwatching, expedition bragging rights

Walk to Center: N/A — no public access ashore

Don't Miss: Tristan Albatross soaring the cliffs; rockhopper penguin colonies

 Getting around:

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Zodiac Wildlife Cruise Along the Cliffs** — Weave between sea stacks and beneath 300 m volcanic cliffs while thousands of Tristan albatrosses, sooty shearwaters, and Atlantic petrels wheel...
- Seabird Observation from the Ship** — Even without Zodiac ops, the ship deck delivers world-class seabirding.
- Scenic Coastal Photography** — The island's coastline is a succession of dramatic arches, sea caves, and cascading waterfalls dropping directly into the Atlantic.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		52°	48°	17d
Jun		48°	43°	22d
Aug		45°	41°	20d
Sep		45°	41°	20d
Oct		46°	43°	15d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 7:09AM–6:09PM · Jun 8:01AM–5:19PM · Aug 7:28AM–6:00PM · Sep 6:40AM–6:29PM · Oct 5:51AM–7:00PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bring a telephoto lens. A 300–600mm lens with image stabilisation is essential — you'll be shooting from a moving Zodiac or ship deck at subjects on distant cliffs.
- Dress for the Roaring Forties. Even in austral summer (Dec–Feb), expect cold, wet, and relentlessly windy conditions. Waterproof shell, thermal layers, gloves, and a beanie are non-negotiable.
- Expect the unexpected. Swells can cancel Zodiac operations with no warning. Roughly half of all visits are ship-deck-only due to sea state. That's still exceptional wildlife viewing — just from higher up.
- No money needed. There is literally nothing to buy. No souvenirs, no snacks, no excursion fees payable ashore. Everything is included in your expedition cruise fare.
- Endemic species watch. Keep eyes on rocky ledges for the tiny Gough Moorhen and Gough Bunting — both found nowhere else on Earth. Your expedition naturalist will call them out.
- Biosecurity matters. Check all pockets, velcro, and bag seams before any Zodiac deployment. One introduced seed could devastate an ecosystem that took millions of years to evolve.

Gough Island, Tristan da Cunha, British Overseas Territory — cruiseports.org

Port Map

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Gough Island Wildlife Reserve | UNESCO World Heritage Site protecting one of the world's most important seabird colonies, including the Tristan albatross. | 2 Gough Island Weather Station | South African meteorological and biological research station operating continuously since 1956 at Transvaal Cove. |
| 3 Edinburgh Peak | The island's highest point at 910m, a volcanic summit visible from the anchorage on clear days. | P Cruise port / terminal | |