

Macquarie Island, Tasmania, Australia

One of the planet's most remote wildlife sanctuaries, Macquarie Island hosts the world's only Royal Penguin breeding colony alongside thundering elephant seal harems and millions of seabirds — all on a windswept UNESCO World Heritage plateau in the Southern Ocean.

 Zodiac landing (no pier, no tender)

 Typical call: 4–6 hrs (weather-dependent)

 AUD (no shops on island)

 English

 Cold year-round: 4–7°C / 39–45°F

MY DAY IN PORT

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

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Zodiac inflatable boat landings only — no pier, no dock

Landing Sites: The Isthmus (research station) and Sandy Bay (penguin colonies)

Best For: Wildlife photography, Royal Penguins, elephant seals, Southern Ocean wilderness

Don't Miss: Royal Penguins at Sandy Bay boardwalk — the only place on Earth they breed

 Getting around:  **Rideshare**  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Royal Penguin Colony — Sandy Bay Boardwalk** — The world's only Royal Penguin breeding ground.
- The Isthmus — Research Station & Gentoo Colonies** — The northern landing site hosts Australia's Antarctic Division research station (operating since 1948), massive gentoo...
- Zodiac Coastal Cruise** — When landings are unsafe, ship Zodiacs cruise close to the wave-battered cliffs.
- Sealing & Whaling Heritage Walk** — Sandy Bay and the Nuggets area preserve rusting digesters, grave sites, and hut remnants from 19th-century sealing and...
- Albatross & Seabird Spotting** — Around 3.5 million seabirds of 13 species nest annually on Macquarie, including wandering, black-browed, grey-headed...

BEST WALKS

- Sandy Bay Boardwalk** ~1 km loop | Easy | Guided — A well-maintained timber boardwalk winds through tussock grass and Royal Penguin colonies at Sandy Bay.
- The Isthmus Loop** ~2 km | Easy–Moderate | Guided — Walk from the Zodiac landing beach around the research station to the Razorback viewpoint, overlooking black sand beaches and the...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	42°	38°	20d
Jun	39°	34°	20d
Aug	38°	33°	21d
Sep	38°	33°	21d
Oct	38°	34°	21d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 6:14AM–4:33PM · Jun 7:46AM–3:03PM · Aug 6:45AM–4:13PM · Sep 5:31AM–5:08PM · Oct 5:16AM–7:05PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Waterproof everything. You will sit on wet Zodiac pontoons and wade through surf. Waterproof pants, gloves, and a dry bag for