

Neko Harbour

64°50'S, 62°33'W - Located in Andvord Bay

ANTARCTIC TREATY

visitor site guide



Key features

- Glacial scenery
- Gentoo Penguins



Description

TOPOGRAPHY

Neko Harbour is a small bay, with a cobble beach extending approx 500 metres at the southwestern end. Behind the beach a rocky outcrop leads up to the foot of a permanent snowslope. The glaciers around the site are highly crevassed and those surrounding the bay regularly calve.

FAUNA

Confirmed breeders: Gentoo penguins (*Pygoscelis papua*), kelp gulls (*Larus dominicanus*), and skuas (*Catharacta, spp.*).

Regularly haul out: Weddell seals (*Leptonychotes weddellii*)

FLORA

Swards of moss species, the green alga *Prasiola crispa* and snow algae.

OTHER

There is an Argentine refuge hut on the site.

Visitor Impact

KNOWN IMPACTS

None.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Disturbance of wildlife.

Landing Requirements

SHIPS*

Ships carrying 500 or fewer passengers. One ship at a time. Maximum 3 ships per day (midnight to midnight), of which no more than two may be vessels carrying more than 200 passengers.

VISITORS

No more than 100 visitors ashore at any time, exclusive of expedition guides and leaders. 1 guide per 20 visitors. No visitors ashore between 22:00hrs and 04:00hrs (local time), except for those engaged in organised overnight stays. This is in order to establish a resting period for the wildlife.

Visitor Area

LANDING AREA

On the cobble beach southwest of the refuge hut.

CLOSED AREAS

None.

GUIDED WALKING AREAS

None.

FREE ROAMING AREAS

Visitors can roam freely, but under supervision.

Visitor Code of Conduct

BEHAVIOUR ASHORE

Walk slowly and carefully. Maintain a precautionary distance of 5 metres from wildlife and give animals the right-of-way. Increase this distance if any change in behaviour is observed.

Be careful near skuas, they may be aggressive.

Do not walk on any vegetation.

CAUTIONARY NOTES

Be aware that glacier calving may produce dangerous waves. Avoid the beach or be prepared to evacuate quickly up the hill. Do not enter the refuge hut.

* A ship is defined as a vessel which carries more than 12 passengers.

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Neko Harbour landing beach



The refuge hut is slightly elevated above the beach, and often surrounded by nesting penguins

