



RCC Pilotage Foundation

South Atlantic Islands

1st Edition 2010

Supplement No.1

Supplement Date: April 2017

Caution

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this supplement. However, it contains selected information and thus is not definitive and does not include all known information on the subject in hand. The authors, the RCC Pilotage Foundation believe this supplement to be a useful aid to prudent navigation, but the safety of a vessel depends ultimately on the judgement of the navigator, who should assess all information, published or unpublished, available to him/her. With the increasing precision of modern position fixing methods, allowance must be made for inaccuracies in latitude and longitude on many charts, inevitably perpetuated on some harbour plans. Modern surveys specify which datum is used together with correction figures if required, but older editions should be used with caution, particularly in restricted visibility.

Acknowledgements

Information for this supplement has been gratefully received from

Kit and Penny Power

Ascension Island

Under "General"

after "...snorkelling" add : but on most beaches there is an extremely dangerous undertow and swimming from the shore is prohibited except on two good and safe beaches at Comfortless Cove and English Bay .

after "...to be seen" add : Clarence Bay, near Georgetown, is one of the best for seeing the turtles.

Under "Approach"

delete: "The tanker Maersk.....at night". And add "Tanker "Rapier" occasionally moors and refills tanks ashore via the floating pipeline."

Under "Anchorage"

add after "...swell is from the north." : The official advice is that yachts may anchor in the area to the north of the pier head in Georgetown and must use their own anchors.

Under "Landing"

In line 1, after "...Pier" add: this is the only place where landing is permitted.

Under “Formalities”

Delete first two sentences from “Call at.....person” and insert: On arrival yachts must report to the Assistant Harbour master at the pier head and to the Police station which is in the town square. Office hours are 0800 – 1230 and 1330 – 1600 Monday to Friday. Outside these hours, yachts arriving must report arrival to Ascension Radio on ch16. Visitors to Ascension are required to obtain an entry permit before arrival. This can be obtained from aigenquiries@ascension.gov.ac or from the customs/port office on St Helena. In 2017 An entry permit fee of £20 per person (children under 12 £5) is payable at the Police Office. Light dues of £15 per vessel are payable at Assistant Harbour Master’s Office. The landing of animals is strictly prohibited.

Delete last sentence re Harbour dues.

Under “Facilities”

After “...maps and leaflets.” Add: A fuel barge is available to deliver diesel to boats, but water can only be taken in cans and drinking water is available from a coin operated tap near the landing steps. No gas bottles of any sort are available on the island.

After “...hospital on the island.” Add: Showers and laundry facilities are available on the pier head - £1.00 each.

The Obsidian Hotel is virtually the only restaurant where you can eat ashore and you must book the day before. At Two Boats, there is a bar which can also provide snacks.

Last sentence of para 2 change “His” to “This”

St Helena

Under “General”

In line 2 amend to “...a population of about 4,500, which is....”

Delete last sentence and insert: An airport was completed in 2016 but technical problems of wind shear have prevented it operating except for emergency medevac flights. It may become operational in early 2018 using smaller airliners. For now the only way to reach St Helena is by sea from Capetown or Ascension Island.

Under “Anchorage”

Delete from “The most popular place.....wreck shown on the chart.”

Insert after “...parts of James Bay.” : “24 mooring buoys have been laid in the west part of James Bay and yachts are expected to use these. Yellow buoys max weight 20 tons, max length 50 feet. Red buoys max weight 50 tons, max length 60 feet. Larger yachts must anchor to seaward of the moorings. When the RMS St Helena or a cruise ship is in harbour there is frequent lighter traffic.”

Amend times of Harbour Authority launch service – now from 0600 to 1800, costs £2 per round trip per person. Call launch on Channel 16.

After "...dinghy ashore." Add "There is a whip for hauling off at the landing which is sometimes available for visitors."

After "...tricky." Add "There are a mass of floating ropes in the approach to the landing."

Under "Formalities"

Amend to: "...call the harbour radio on channel 14 when 10 miles off."

Add after "...they will advise you..." : "...which buoy to pick up according to tonnage and"

Amend "In 2017 a landing fee of £17 (free if you stay less than 72 hours)...."

Amend "...at approx £2 per day (2017)"

Replace last sentence with "The harbour Master's office is in the main white building on the wharf. In 2017 harbour dues were £35 per visit plus £2 per day. "

Under "Facilities"

Delete "Toilets and cold showers.....rudimentary. Another set of"

Delete "It is expensive at £1 per litre (2008)"

Last para delete "The tours are free" and replace with "A combined ticket which covers as many visits as you like to Napoleon's Residences and his tomb can be bought from either residence"

Under "Money"

Add: "UK notes and coins are accepted everywhere in parallel with local currency."

Under "Communications"

First line, second para add "RMS" before "St Helena"