



# Information Sheet 1c

## Location Overview

Last Updated: February 2008

### **The Falkland Islands**

This information sheet is designed to give you a general picture of the Falkland Islands. If you would like further, more detailed information on specific subjects please contact the HIVE.

The Falklands Islands are some 8000 miles away from the UK and are about the size of Northern Ireland. The military base is called Mount Pleasant Complex (MPC) and is situated 35 miles away from Stanley, the capital of the Falklands. Stanley has a museum, hotels, restaurants & cafes as well as souvenir shops, supermarkets and a few clothing type shops. The Falklands are famous for its wildlife and in particular the penguins, albatross, seals and sealions.

#### **Unit Facilities**

MPC has a wide range of social and sporting facilities including; a gym, swimming pool, golf course, go-karting, laserquest, library, cinema, bowling, climbing wall, indoor and outdoor sports pitches. There are two NAAFI shops, a hairdressers, medical centre and an education centre on the base. There is also a complex that includes a café and a small shop, which are both owned and run by the Falkland Islands Company.

#### **Contact House**

There is no contact housing on the Falkland Islands.

#### **Service Families Accommodation**

It is normal for the house to be allocated to the job, however this can change depending on the size of the family. There are 68 SFA bungalows at MPC (Plus 7 more soon to be finished) and two houses in Stanley. They do not conform to standard UK SFA types, but all of the bungalows are fully furnished and fitted with either oil central heating or electric wall-mounted heaters and double-glazed windows. All have a conservatory and a garden shed with power. Washing machines/tumble dryers and fridge/freezers and an electric oven are also provided. Most kitchens do not have room for a dishwasher – if you are planning on bringing one it is wise to check if there is room when you are allocated your SFA. Plugs and electrical sockets are the same as those used in the UK.

#### **Single Living Accommodation**

The SNCO of GD Flight is responsible for this and can be contacted on 00 500 73036. Single accommodation is divided into 2 main areas. Most RAF personnel are housed in a 2-storey building (with mainly 4-man rooms) known as 'The Village', which is at the west end of the Main Domestic Complex. Many Army personnel live at the eastern end in single-storey blocks (with one or two-man rooms) in an area known as 'The Swamp'. Each block is equipped with communal showers and laundry rooms containing washing machines and tumble dryers. Electrical power is available in all rooms and sockets are the same as in the UK.

#### **Schools**

There is one primary school on the base called Mount Pleasant Primary School, telephone: 00500 75676 or email [school.mpa@horizon.co.fk](mailto:school.mpa@horizon.co.fk)

The secondary school is in Stanley and MPC children have to board there during the week, the school is called the Falkland Islands Community School, telephone 00 500 27147 or email [edn.fig@horizon.co.fk](mailto:edn.fig@horizon.co.fk)

## Transport

There is no bus or train service on the island. However, the military do run a bus service, mainly for single unaccompanied personnel to take them into Stanley at the weekend. Taxis are available in Stanley.

## Shopping

Within MPC there is the Bimble Box, which sells clothing such as T shirts, fleece tops and track suits, and some souvenir items. 'Rightlines' is an offshoot of the main supermarket in Stanley, it has a limited stock, but will bring in anything you need from the main store and there are two small NAAFI shops. There are a number of shops within Stanley, including a bakery, supermarkets, hardware/DIY store, gift shop, toy & sweet shop and several souvenir shops.

## Eating Out

'Ronokes' is a café on the base, it does everything from breakfasts to evening meals. 'OASIS' is a café run by the Salvation Army, providing sandwiches and cakes. There is also food served in the NAAFI Bar and a NAAFI fast food takeaway.

There are some popular eating establishments in Stanley; Shorty's Diner is a popular treat for children, The Malvina House Hotel for good service in pleasant surroundings and The Brasserie for that special occasion, just to mention just a few.

## Healthcare

The medical centre at MPC provides all medical and dental care for all personnel based there.



**For more information on *The Falkland Islands* please contact the HIVE on**

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