

A tropical beach scene with palm trees, a thatched hut, and turquoise water. The title 'The Falkland Islands' is overlaid in a large, yellow, serif font.

The Falkland Islands

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Introduction

A tropical beach scene with palm trees and a thatched hut. The background shows a clear blue sky with some clouds and the ocean in the distance.

The Falkland Islands are an archipelago in the South Atlantic Ocean, on the Patagonian Shelf and it has an area of 12.200 km. The island consist of East Falkland, West Falkland and 776 smaller islands and the islands capital is Stanley, on East Falkland.

The population consist of 2,932 people primarily consists of natives. Other ethnicities include French, Gibraltarian and Scandinavian.

They are a British overseas territory.

The principal islands are about 500 km east of South America's.

The islands have had French, British, Spanish, and Argentine settlements and they have tundra climate zones so it's cold, windy and humid maritime.

The archipelago's highest point is Mount Usbourset (705 metres).

History



The Falklands were discovered in 1520 by Esteban Gómez.

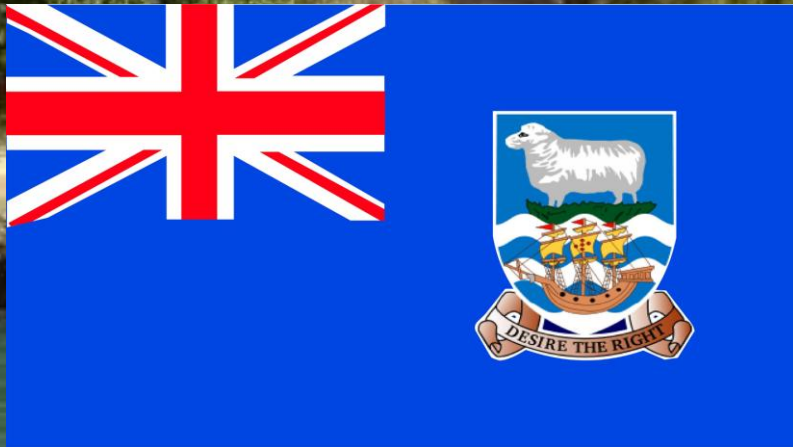
The islands belonged to Spain, however, French sailors called them Malouines islands because that was the name of the port from they came.

Dutch and French came to the islands in several occasions and in 1764, the islands were occupied by the French.

In 1765, a British expedition reached the islands but in 1770, their occupation forces were evacuated by Spain.

When the Viceroyalty of Río de La Plata was created, the Falklands depended on Buenos Aires from 1774 to 1810. Currently, they are British territory.

Flag and Coat of arms



Fauna

A tropical beach scene with palm trees, a thatched hut, and a blue ocean under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

Land birds make most of the Falklands fauna but also there are reindeer, hares, Patagonian foxes, rabbits, seals, penguins... Species of whales and dolphins are present in Falkland waters too.

Virtually, the entire area of the islands is used as pasture for sheep. Between 1980 and 1990 the population of penguins in the Falkland Islands was reduced; but since 1995 the population of southern rockhopper penguin stabilised.



KELP POINT

Kelp Point is an off-road destination located on Fitzroy Farm, close to Mount Pleasant. It's one of the most diverse fauna places in the Falklands, offering access to over 30 bird species, southern seals and penguins.