

# World Box



## Falkland Islands

The Falkland Islands (or *Islas Malvinas* in Spanish) are a group of islands in the South Atlantic ocean, off the coast of South America. They are an overseas territory of the United Kingdom.

The Falkland Islands have a land area of 4,700 square miles (12,000 km<sup>2</sup>) and a coastline estimated at 800 miles (1,300 km). Two main islands, West Falkland and East Falkland, and about 776 smaller islands constitute the archipelago. The islands are predominantly mountainous and hilly, with the major exception the depressed plains of Lafonia (a peninsula forming the southern part of East Falkland). The Falklands are continental crust fragments resulting from the break-up of Gondwana and the opening of the South Atlantic that began 130 million



years ago. The islands are located in the South Atlantic Ocean, on the Patagonian Shelf, about 300 miles (480 km) east of Patagonia in southern Argentina.

The Falklands are situated approximately at latitude 51°40' – 53°00' S and longitude 57°40' – 62°00' W. The archipelago's two main islands are separated by the Falkland Sound, and its deep coastal indentations form natural harbours. East Falkland houses Stanley (the capital and largest settlement), the UK military base at RAF Mount Pleasant, and the archipelago's highest point: Mount Usborne, at 2,313 feet (705 m). Outside of these significant settlements is the area colloquially known as "Camp", which is derived from the Spanish term for countryside (*Campo*).

The climate of the islands is cold, windy and humid maritime. Variability of daily weather is typical throughout the archipelago. Rainfall is common over half of the year, averaging 610 millimetres (24 in) in Stanley, and sporadic light snowfall occurs nearly all year. The temperature has historically stayed between 21.1 and –11.1 °C (70.0 and 12.0 °F) in Stanley, with mean monthly temperatures varying from 9 °C (48 °F) early in the year to –1 °C (30 °F) in July.



Groups from BSO which operate in The Falkland Islands are

**1<sup>st</sup> Falkland Islands (Admiral Sturdee's Own)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Falkland Islands (Mount Pleasant)**

Watch this short film clip about The Falkland Islands -  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kstil0pyZU4>