

Booking Conditions

Your booking must be for holiday purposes only. The property must not be used for business or commercial purposes (except by prior special arrangement).

The following are not allowed on the island:

Pets or other animals, fireworks, camping

Whilst the information contained in this booking leaflet is correct at the time of printing, the Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales (hereafter referred to as the Trust) reserves the right to change any prices, services or other particulars at any time before a contract is entered into. If there is any change the Trust will notify you before entering into any contract.

All bookings made by telephone or email remain provisional until a signed booking form and 25% deposit is received in the Cilgerran office which should be within 21 days from the date of booking.

Once a signed booking form and 25% deposit has been received by the office a contract has been entered into which includes agreement to the booking conditions.

You will be invoiced for the balance 12 weeks prior to the start date of your holiday and this should be paid eight weeks prior to the start date. Failure to do so may mean the booking is cancelled and the deposit will be forfeit.

Group bookings: the group leader is responsible for ensuring that all members of his party comply with the booking conditions and that his party is fully aware of what items etc they need to take to the island.

The Trust can accept no liability for theft, loss or damage to any belongings during your stay on the island or for any injuries sustained by you or any member of your party.

Any damage to island property by you or members of your party will have to be paid for.

The Trust is unable to accept responsibility for any extra costs that may be incurred if sailing is cancelled or you become stormbound on the island. The Trust recommends that you have your own appropriate insurance cover.

Cancellations

You must inform the Island Bookings office and then confirm in writing. The deposit of 25% is non-refundable and the following cancellation charges will apply:

more than 56 days before start date: the deposit
15-26 days before the start date: 50% of the total cost of the stay
within 14 days of the start date: the total cost of the stay

If the Trust is able to relet the accommodation we will refund the booking costs less the deposit.

The Trust may be able to transfer bookings to a new date at a charge of £20 per booking.

The Trust may cancel a booking at any time which would only be for essential building work or for some other unforeseen reason not apparent at the time of booking. In this event the Trust would refund in full all money received by us for the booking but will not have any liability beyond this including any travel costs incurred by you in relation to the booking.

If the Trust cannot transport you to Skomer at the beginning of your stay the Trust will refund the cost of each night until you reach Skomer less the deposit for administration costs.

The Trust reserves the right to cancel the trip completely if there are adverse weather conditions and the boat is unable to land on Skomer. The Trust will refund all the cost of the holiday less the deposit for administration costs. Please note that in bad weather the boat may only make the one run to the island at 10am. The boatman has the final say on whether conditions are safe for the boat to travel to and from Skomer Island.

Prices include VAT where appropriate. If VAT rates change the Trust reserves the right to amend prices accordingly.

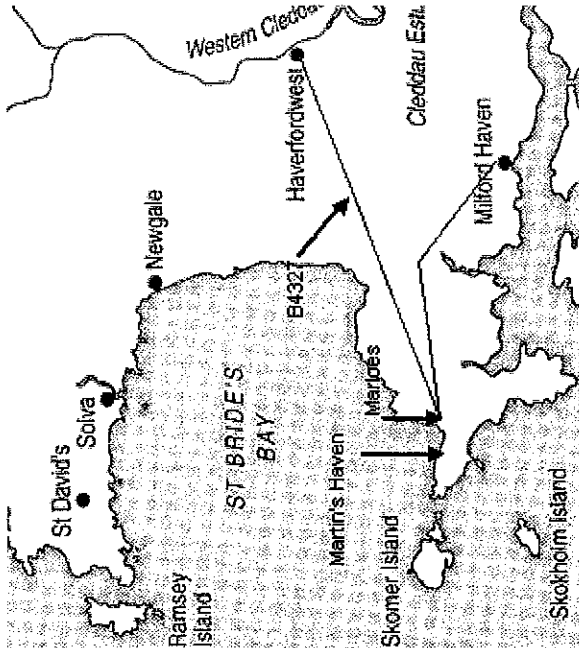
The Trust reserves the right to terminate a booking at any time if these conditions are not met in full.

The Trust reserves the right to refuse any booking.

A full explanation of the booking conditions is on our website www.welshwildlife.org on the Skomer Island pages. If you cannot access the Internet we can send you a copy on request.



SKOMER ISLAND ACCOMMODATION 2009



Send booking forms to the Cilgerran address please
For island enquiries phone the Cilgerran office

Island Bookings The Welsh Wildlife Centre
Cilgerran Cardigan Pembro SA43 2TB

Tel 01239 621600/621212

Email: islands@welshwildlife.org

Website: www.welshwildlife.org

The Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales

Registered Office:

The Nature Centre, Fountain Road, Tondur,

Bridgend CF32 0EH

Registered Charity No. 1091562

THE ISLAND ACCOMMODATION

The old barn in the farm complex has been converted into comfortable overnight accommodation sleeping a total of 15 people. The accommodation consists of two twin bedded rooms, one triple room and two family rooms, one sleeping four people and one sleeping five. Pillows and duvets are provided; bring sleeping bag, undersheet and pillowcase or duvet cover, undersheet and pillowcase. Undersheets are necessary to protect the mattresses. There are no laundry or drying facilities on the island so bring extra clothing.

The visitors' self-catering kitchen is subdivided - each half contains sink, cooker and preparation area. Kitchen utensils and crockery are provided with one large fridge and dry food storage facilities; there is no microwave - cooking and refrigeration are run by gas. The visitors have a dining/sitting room. Hot water is provided from solar panels and all tapwater is drinkable. Visitors are urged to safeguard our water supply by not wasting water. Washing up liquid and toilet rolls are provided. Smoking is not allowed in any island building.

There is a library which overnight visitors are welcome to use. You will be invited/encouraged to contribute to the wildlife recording on the island during your stay and discuss with other guests and volunteers.

Rooms must be vacated by 9am on the day of departure - the tractor will take your luggage to the top of the steps by the departure point at 9.30am. Rooms should be left in a clean and tidy condition for the next visitors. Please liaise with the Visitor Services Officer over your departure time - you may stay on the island for the morning, leaving on the last morning boat, approximately 12 noon. If the weather is closing in we may ask you to leave on an earlier boat. When you arrive on the island you will be able to access your room at 1pm when the VSO will give you a short talk about the facilities available.

The island is closed on Mondays (Bank Holiday Mondays excepted) - if you arrive on Sunday you will have to stay for two nights. Stays are limited to a maximum of three nights during May, June and July except for 19-21 May when it is the sea bird census and the island is closed to day visitors. As there will be no boats from Monday to Thursday it will be a five night stay from Sunday 17 May, leaving Friday 22 May.

BOATS

The Dale Princess operates on a first come first served basis and you will have to take your place in the queue with the day visitors. The boat goes at 10am, 11am and 12 noon; trips are weather dependent - a northerly wind may mean the boat cannot sail. Your luggage will be taken by tractor from the top of the steps when the last morning boat has departed from the island at approximately 12.15pm. A boat fare is payable on the boat but there is no island landing fee for overnight guests. Please liaise with the Visitor Services Officer if you are unable to catch the morning boat.

HOW TO GET THERE

The boat departure point is Martin's Haven (Ordnance Survey map reference SM760091) two miles on from Marloes Village which is 12 miles from Haverfordwest in Pembrokeshire. Full details will be sent with confirmation of booking.

CAR PARKING

There is a National Trust car park manned through the day at Martin's Haven. For overnight security we recommend West Hook Farm about 1/4 mile from the Haven. A fee is payable at both.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

There is a strict Code of Conduct operated on the island in order to protect the environment and wildlife, but also to prevent accidents - please respect it.

WARNING

Bad weather or high seas may delay the boats or interfere with sailing altogether.

In the event of being unable to get to the island a refund of the booking fee (less deposit) will be made but the Trust is unable to accept responsibility for costs that might be incurred should you become stormbound on the island or need to find alternative accommodation on the mainland.

It is therefore recommended that visitors take out their own insurance cover against such eventualities. This can normally be done through your usual insurance Company.

Nearly half a million seabirds make their home on Skomer from April to September. In early summer thousands of Puffins are busy feeding young; watch them waddling to their burrows with beaks full of sandeels. Puffins leave the island at the end of July. Walk out at night and marvel at the millions of stars, and the calls of the Manx Shearwaters which only become active at the colony at night.

Most of the birds on the island do not regard humans as a danger so it is often possible to get very close to them.

Through the spring and summer period there are spectacular swathes of blue, red and pink as the Bluebells (in May), Red Campion and Thrift flower. This is followed in late summer by the white daisies of the Sea Mayweed.

Late summer sees a big increase in the Atlantic Grey Seal population as females come to the island to pup. Seal pups start to appear in late August. Also in late summer the young Shearwaters do their flapping exercises, building up wing strength in preparation for their long migration to South America where they spend our winter.

Porpoises are present daily all year round in the immediate waters surrounding Skomer. Dolphins are rare but may occasionally be seen mid-late summer. Sunfish are regular exotic visitors in July and August. Further out to sea Gannets can be seen performing their precipitous dives into the sea whilst fishing. On the horizon their home, Grassholm, is made white by the tens of thousands nesting there.

PUFFINS 10,000
GUILLEMOTS 16,000
RAZORBILLS 5,000
KITTIWAKES 2,500 pairs
FULMARS 725 pairs
MANX SHEARWATERS
128,000 pairs
SHORT-EARED OWLS
and many other species
ATLANTIC GREY SEALS
HOSTS OF FLOWERS

