

# FALKLAND ISLANDS WILDLIFE CALENDAR

	Gentoo Penguin	Magellanic Penguin	Rockhopper Penguin	King Penguin	Black-browed Albatross	Elephant Seal	Sea Lion
<b>Sept</b>	Gentoo & Magellanic penguins begin to return to the Falklands to begin building their nests			Breeding cycle more than 1 yr, a pair raises 2 chicks every 3 yrs	Males return from late Aug/early Sep. Females return mid Sep	Males arrive early in the month. Females arrive approx. 1 week later	
<b>Oct</b>	Both species lay their eggs around the middle of the month		Males arrive early in the month. Females arrive approx. 1 week later	Breeding adults return. Last year's chicks present in colony	Eggs are laid by mid-month	Pups are born late Sept & early Oct. Pups are suckled for 23 days. Females mate at end of lactation period &	
<b>Nov</b>	The eggs are incubated during this month		Eggs are laid at the beginning of Nov	Egg laying begins mid march. Chicks from last year moult and depart to sea	Incubation lasts for 69 days	return to sea.	
<b>Dec</b>	Eggs hatch in early Dec	Eggs hatch in the middle of Dec	Eggs hatch early Dec & parents brood guard for approx. 25 days	Adult breeders of last year moult and depart for sea.	Eggs hatch late Dec & the chick is brood guarded by both parents for 11-33 days	Females depart. Pups stay ashore for 45 days. Males depart late Nov after 3 months lost 40% bodyweight	Bulls establish their territories. Cows arrive late Dec early Jan Pupping late Dec-mid Jan
<b>Jan</b>	Chicks start to creche early Jan		Chicks begin to creche	Eggs hatch after 55 day incubation	Brood guard continues until mid Jan	Adults haul out late Jan early Feb to moult for 25 days.	Females mate 2 to 3 days after pupping. After mating females forage, returning every few days to suckle pup.
<b>Feb</b>	Both parents forage to feed chick. Some chicks may fledge late in the month	Chick leaves burrow		Small chick is never left unattended	Both parents feed the chick during Feb & Mar		Late Jan pups form pods. Bull territories break-up. Pups may suckle/dependant for 12+ months.
<b>Mar</b>	Chicks fledge early March. Adults begin their annual moult in late March	Chicks fledge mid-March. Parents begin their annual moult	Chicks fledge early March. Adults feed at sea for a short period then return to moult	Both parents share feeding of large chick. Chicks begin to creche			After breeding there is no segregation & mixed groups haul out.
<b>Apr</b>		Adults disperse along South American coast	Adults finish moulting in late April	Adults winter at sea	Chicks fledge mid/late April or early May at ~122 days old		
<b>May</b>	Up to 50% of Gentoos remain in the Falklands over the winter		Rockhoppers disperse northwards foraging along Patagonian Shelf	May to August large chicks may only be fed 3 times & can lose up to 50% bodyweight	Juveniles disperse north to forage. Return to colony to breed at 6 to 7 years of age.		