

SAMA 82

South Atlantic Medal Association
(1982) The Falklands Conflict

Indulgence Flights Information Pack

The information has been compiled to assist you in completing your indulgence flight application and planning your visit to the Falkland Islands.

Contents:

- Indulgence flight application form
- South Atlantic indulgence flight schedule
- A guide to Mount Pleasant Airport (MPA) indulgence flights
- Falkland Islands visitors guide.
- A DVD "The Modern Falklands"
- Travel Insurance application form.
- SAMA 82 membership application form
- Liberty Lodge: Booking Request

Indulgence Application Form

This must be completed in full and returned to the sponsor.

Indulgence Flight Costs

The current (Sep 2009) cost of an indulgence flight is £65 each way and you must pay at RAF Brize Norton for the southbound journey and at Mount Pleasant Airport for the return journey. Payment must be by cash or cheque as credit or debit cards are not accepted.

Falkland Islands Embarkation Tax

The current (Sep 2009) rate of Falkland Islands Embarkation Tax is £22 and should be paid on departure at Mount Pleasant Airport. Payment must be by cash or cheque as credit or debit cards are not accepted.

South Atlantic Flight Schedule

Use this to select your outbound (to the Falklands) and return flights.

Guide to Mount Pleasant Airport Indulgence Flights

This guide will explain everything you need to know about RAF Brize Norton and Mount Pleasant Airport on the Falkland Islands. It is a condition of being granted an indulgence flight that you conform to the instructions contained in the guide.

The cost of a single scheduled flight from Mount Pleasant to the United Kingdom on Lan is approximately £750 including a night stop in Santiago, Chile. If for some unforeseen circumstances you are unable to travel using the indulgence service, you **MUST** have sufficient funds (or access to sufficient funds) to cover the cost of a commercial flight to the United Kingdom.

Getting to the airport

There is a regular bus service from Oxford and Swindon bus stations to RAF Brize Norton. You are responsible for making your own way to RAF Brize Norton at your own expense.

Falkland Islands Immigration Form

You should complete this form in full and present it to Immigration Control on arrival at Mount Pleasant Airport. These will be issued to you before the aircraft is due to land on the Falklands Islands.

INDULGENCE IS NOT A GUARANTEE OF A SEAT.

Length of Stay in the Islands

There is no restriction on the length of your stay on the Falkland Islands, but the final decision rests with the Falkland Islands Immigration Officer at Mount Pleasant Airport on arrival.

Cost of Living in the Islands

The cost of living is similar to the UK. The currency is the Falkland Island pound, but UK pounds are accepted everywhere.

Some typical costs:

Hotel room per night on B&B basis	£60.00
Hire a 4x4 vehicle, with driver for the day.	£75.00
Meal out (per person) from	£10.00

Respecting the laws and customs of the Falkland Islands

While in the Falkland Islands you are subject to and expected to comply with the civil law of the Falkland Islands.

If you commit an offence in the Falkland Islands you will be subject to the civil law of the Falkland Islands and you **MAY NOT** be accepted for your return indulgence passage to the United Kingdom.

Travel Insurance

You will need to have suitable travel insurance in place, including medical repatriation cover, for your trip to the Falkland Islands. The enclosed travel insurance information and application form has been arranged by SAMA 82 in conjunction with Towergate Wilsons to provide suitable single trip cover.

For the latest information visit
www.sama82.org.uk

What happens next?

1. Your application form is received by the SAMA 82 coordinator and your eligibility is checked and then the form is forwarded to the Joint Services Booking Centre at Mount Pleasant Airport for processing.
2. You can phone the Joint Services Booking Centre at Mount Pleasant Airport to see how your application is progressing. The numbers are contained in the "Guide to Mount Pleasant Airport Indulgence Flights".
3. If you are in the UK the Joint Services Booking Centre at Mount Pleasant Airport will contact you by phone at your nominated address at least forty eight hours before your requested departure date to confirm your departure details with you.
4. If you are in the Falkland Islands the Joint Services Booking Centre at Mount Pleasant Airport will contact you by phone at your nominated address at least forty eight hours before your requested departure date to confirm your departure details with you.
5. Once your flight has been confirmed you should arrange your travel to the airport. Please remember to have sufficient funds (cash or cheque) to pay for your indulgence flight at the airport.
6. Please remember that you are travelling on a military flight and priorities do change right up to the time of departure which may lead to you being unable to travel. You should take this into account when planning your trip.

When complete, please return this application to:

**SAMA 82
Indulgence Application Centre
33 Charlton Court
Brancote Road
Prenton
Birkenhead
CH43 6XE**

A Guide to MPA Indulgence Flights

What is an Indulgence flight?

Indulgence is the military equivalent of a civilian airline standby ticket. Where seats are offered on a fill up basis only.

How do I apply for indulgence to Mount Pleasant Airfield (MPA)?

Holders of the South Atlantic Medal will be required to complete an application for indulgence. Once this has been submitted your sponsor will be given a Booking Reference Number. This number should always be quoted when contacting the air terminal staff at both Brize Norton and MPA. You will be contacted by the MPA Movements staff 48 hours prior to your flight to confirm that you still wish to travel. At any time within 48hrs of the planned departure time you may contact the terminal staff for an update of flight details.

Will I be guaranteed a seat on the flight I have applied for?

No. There are many reasons why you may not be able to fly when you had hoped too. All passengers are classified into groups and passengers are allocated seats with the highest classification first. As an example personnel taking over post at MPA will be of a higher classification than indulgees. Another reason you may not be able to fly is because the number of available seats are reduced to allow for important freight. Indulgees are allocated a seat on a date of application basis. Therefore it is in your own best interest to submit your application as far in advance as possible. Rest assured the staff on duty will do everything in their power to get you on to the aircraft.

When will I know if I have a seat?

You may not know until a short time before take off, but in most cases you will be called forward 48 hours before flight.

Will the flight be just like a civilian flight?

The Ministry Of Defence (MOD) have a contract with a civilian airliner to provide

regular flights to the Falklands. The aircraft used is civilian airliner and is crewed by civilian pilots and cabin crew. All meals, soft drinks and in-flight entertainment are included in the ticket price. However all military flights are 'dry'. Anyone attempting to check in for a flight under the influence of alcohol will be turned away.

If I am travelling to the Falklands, which is British, why do I need to take my passport?

The Falkland Islands are 8000 miles from the UK and your aircraft may have to divert to another country due to weather conditions, or if the aircraft was to become unserviceable. It is also possible that a return flight might not be available and you may need to return on a commercial flight. For that reason passengers without a valid UK passport will not be allowed to fly.

How long is the journey and is it non stop?

Your journey will be split into two legs. The first is from RAF Brize Norton to the Ascension Island and will be about 8hrs in length. Following a stop to refuel and drop off or collect more passengers (approx 2hrs) you will travel for a further 7hrs to reach MPA.

Do I need travel Insurance?

Yes. Medical facilities are limited on the Falkland Islands and it may be necessary to medically evacuate you in the case of serious illness or injury. The current cost of medical evacuation is in excess of £30,000. It is therefore very important that you obtain World wide travel insurance for the duration of your stay and it is advisable to extend the period of insurance for several days past your planned arrival back in the UK. This is because your aircraft may have to divert to another country on route back to the UK. If this occurred you may have to stay in that country for several days. You should also plan for the possibility that an indulgence flight may not be available on your planned date of return

How do I pay for my flight?

You must pay for your out bound journey at Brize Norton terminal and your return flight at the MPA terminal. The cost of a single flight is currently £65.00. Payment can be made by cash or cheque only.

What is my baggage allowance?

Indulgees are entitled to 20kgs of luggage total (including Hand Baggage). If your luggage weighs more than this we may refused to take it on board, or there may be an excess baggage charge.

How do I get to Brize Norton?

The responsibility for getting to Brize Norton lies with the indulgee. RAF Brize Norton has its own web site (at the rear of this booklet) which gives further information and travel directions.

What do I do when I arrive at Brize Norton?

You are to report to the Main Gate Guardroom and with your Passport "Book in" and you will be directed to the Main terminal Building Departure Lounge.

What if I have travelled a long distance and I am unable to get a seat on the flight. Will there be any over night accommodation?

RAF Brize Norton has its own military hotel on site. The Gateway Hotel offers comfortable but basic accommodation. Indulgees are allowed to stay at the Gateway Hotel. However, as with the aircraft, passengers who are of a higher classification must be accommodated first. The Gateway consists of twin inter connecting rooms. The current cost is £13.50

per adult per night and £6.50 per child. Breakfast and evening meal can be taken at the hotel at a cost of £1.10 per person for breakfast and £1.90 per person for evening meal.

How do I book my flight back from MPA?

On arrival at MPA you will collect your baggage and be processed through customs by a Falkland Island customs official. Once this has been done you must proceed to the terminal admin office to confirm your request for return travel to the UK.

Below are a list of useful contact details and internet sites:

JABC Mount Pleasant:

00500-76442

Passenger Info line: 01993 89 6050 (always quote your booking reference number)

Gateway Hotel: 01993 89 897320/897321 (24hrs)

<http://www.raf.mod.uk/rafbrizenorton/flyinginfolairterminal.cfmbrize>

or alternatively type Brize Norton into your internet search engine and select the site entitled RAF-Brize Norton- Air Terminal Information

www.moneysupermarket.com

This is a price comparison website which may help you find travel insurance)

www.rac.co.uk/web/routeplanning/

The RAC offer a free route planning service.

INDULGENCE IS NOT A GUARANTEE OF A SEAT.

THE MOVEMENT STAFF WILL DO ALL IN THEIR POWER TO ENSURE YOUR JOURNEY IS AS TROUBLE FREE AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO SPEAK TO OUR STAFF SHOULD YOU HAVE A QUERY OR REQUIRE ASSISTANCE.

RAF BRIZE NORTON

Air Terminal Information

The services and facilities available in the Air Terminal at RAF Brize Norton include

- Check-in desks and passenger information desk
- Coffee Shop and snacks / drinks vending machines
- Children's soft play areas
- Short term and long term car parking
- Car rental desks
- Newsagent kiosk (open for most scheduled flight departures)
- Internet access kiosks
- Television and gaming machines
- Cash machine (fee payable)
- Public telephones and post box

Passenger Information Desk

The Passenger Information Desk is located between the Check-in Area and the Arrivals Lounge

**Telephone 01993 896050 or
Military Telephone 95461 6050**

The Passenger Information Desk can provide flight information about RAF Brize Norton scheduled passenger aircraft movements less than 48 hrs in advance. Information about certain regular scheduled flights may be available up to 7 days in advance.

Have your flight booking reference / flight number ready to assist in finding the latest details about your flight.

Check-in Desks

The check-in desks are located just inside the main Departures entrance to the Air Terminal.

If you are disabled or have difficulty walking and required a wheelchair please ask for assistance at the Information Desk or Check-in Desk 1.

Notice to passengers travelling to Ascension Island and the Falkland Islands

Latest time of arrival for check-in is 2 and a half hours before departure.

Notice to passengers travelling to all other destinations world-wide

Latest time of arrival for check-in is 2 hours before departure.

Coffee Shop

The coffee shop in the Air Terminal is open 06.00 am to Midnight daily, serving hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, pastries, cakes, snacks, etc.



Car Rental

There is a range of car rental facilities available at RAF Brize Norton.

Vehicles should be pre-booked using the contact details given below to ensure availability (AVIS, Europcar and Hertz only provide vehicles for pre-arranged bookings - National and Brize Self Drive keep vehicles on-site for rental). Information on accepted payment methods and full rental terms should be obtained when making bookings enquiries. Brize Self Drive can only provide one-way rental by pre-arrangement; telephone for further details.

National Car Rental

Telephone 01993 846118

AVIS Car Rental

Tel. 0870 1539102 (Oxford Office)
or 0870 6060100 (24 hrs)

Europcar Car Rental

Telephone 0870 6075000 (24 hrs)

Hertz Car Rental

Telephone 0870 5996699 (24 hrs)

E-mail Brize Self Drive

Telephone 01993 867366

Transfers to Oxford & Swindon

Transfers to Oxford and Swindon railway stations, Heathrow and all the major airports are available from:

Thames Valley Executive Travel

Telephone 01993 899460 (Witney Office)
or 07920 790018 (out of office)

SAMA 82 Indulgence Application Centre, 33 Charlton Court,
Brancote Road, Prenton Birkenhead CH43 6XE



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82

INDULGENCE FLIGHTS:

Car Park Restrictions at RAF Brize Norton

RAF Brize Norton is at present undergoing a major programme of Works Services and Re Building programmes and as such and effective from the 12 February 2009 there is NO CAR PARKING PERMITTED within the confines of the Station.

This situation will remain into the foreseeable future.

All Indulgence Passengers who intend to travel by Car are hereby offered the following alternative which has been negotiated to suit our needs:

Secured and Fully Insured Car Park.

Situated just outside the perimeter of the Station in Carterton, is a Secure Car Park that is being used at present by all Transit Passengers leaving or departing RAF Brize Norton.

The Cost is £30.00 per Week with a shuttle to and from the Main Departure/Arrivals Lounge at Brize.

Contact for Bookings is:

Phone: 07764818450. (Gavin and June Strachan).

E Mail: june.strachan@unicombox.co.uk

The Car Park is located at:

R and J AutosUnit
1 Black Boughton Road Ind Est
Carterton
OX18 3EZ

Indulgence Passengers are warned that they will not be permitted to enter RAF Brize Norton in their Private Vehicle for any reason.

Bus Service from MPA to Stanley and Return

All Indulgence Passengers using the SAMA 82 Sponsored Indulgence Scheme are advised of the Following: Once you have collected your baggage you are to proceed to the outside of the Terminal Building and Check In with the FITT Bus Driver and confirm that you wish to use the Bus Service to Stanley. You should then return into the Terminal Building and report to the JABC Office to confirm your return Flight details.

Falkland Islands Tours and Travel, the Bus provider, have very kindly waived the cost of your return journey from MPA-Stanley-MPA, a saving to you of £16.00! A Tip for the Driver from yourself would help to keep this very kind offer in place for sometime to come.

Accommodation

Liberty Lodge

- a. The FVF/SAMA 82 Lodge in Stanley should be the primary accommodation for your stay.

It has 4 Twin Bedded Rooms furnished to the highest of standards and is fully equipped for a Self Catering stay of any length.

Details of the Lodge and photographs can be found if you visit www.libertylodge.org.uk.

- b. You must have Booked and Confirmed Accommodation before you submit your Application for a Flight. Without this your Application will be rejected.
- c. To Book your Accommodation you should contact the Indulgence Sponsor, who holds the master lodge register on: 07730267307 or email: m.simpson223@btinternet.com

If the Lodge is fully booked the sponsor will, on your behalf, seek Hosted Accommodation with a family in Stanley.

- d. The FVF has always intended that the cost of your stay at the Lodge would be FREE and this will always be, but: a donation from everyone who stays, would be much appreciated, as this will help us to continue to Fund and Maintain this outstanding facility for years to come. We would hope that a donation of £5.00 per days stay would be acceptable to everyone.

NEW ARRIVALS: ORGANISED “ROUND ROBIN” TOUR

To familiarise all visitors to the islands, a pre arranged Guided Tour will depart Liberty Lodge as follows:

- a. At 0900hrs each Wednesday for those arriving on a Monday.
- b. At 0900hrs each Saturday for those arriving on a Thursday.

This tour will include most of the main battle sites and landing areas, but is not intended as a dedicated Stop and Reminisce trip.

The aim is to let all visitors get a feel for how things have changed and for them to then plan their own itinerary for the rest of their stay.

This service is kindly offered by the residents of Stanley and organised by the SAMA FI Trust Committee under its Chairman Mr Gary Clement.

Indulgence Flight Programme

1. Flights

To and from the Falkland Islands have been "Contracted Out" to FlyGlobespan, who operate a Boeing 767 with 2 scheduled flights per week both South and North.

2. These Flights Operate as follows:

South Bound: Each Wednesday and Each Sunday from RAF Brize Norton to Mount Pleasant Falkland Islands.

- a. Flights depart RAF BZZ at 2359hrs each day. (1 hour earlier in Winter).
- b. Indulgence Passengers, when called forward, are to report to the Main Terminal Building by 2000hrs, at the latest. On arrival report to the JABC/ Movements Staff at the Departure Check In Desk and inform them of your arrival. Do not leave the Building unless you seek permission to do so from the Movements Staff.

North Bound: Each Tuesday and Each Friday from Mount Pleasant to RAF Brize Norton.

- a. Flights Depart MPA at 0830hrs each day or as notified by the JABC Staff when you are Called Forward.
- b. You will be required to arrive at the MPA Terminal Building at least 2 hours before your notified departure.

3. Arrivals:

South Bound: Weds Flight: Arrive MPA 1535hrs Thursday.
Sun Flight: Arrive MPA at 1535hrs Monday.

North Bound: Tues Flight: Arrive BZZ at 0700hrs Wednesday.
Fri Flight: Arrive BZZ at 0700hrs Saturday.

4. Block Out Dates:

During the Roulement of the Force Infantry Company or other Planned or Un Planned Exercises taking place, some periods will be Blocked Out for Indulgence Passengers These dates will be notified to all Applicants by the Sponsor, if their Applications for a Flight coincides with any of these activities and Alternative Dates will be offered.

5. Booking Your Flight Dates:

Using your Diary select the appropriate Dates for both your South Bound and North Bound journeys and insert these onto the Application Request Form which is on the Final Page of this Instruction. If you are able to offer a 2nd or 3rd choice option for your journey it will improve your chances of being granted an Indulgence Passage.

6. Checking the Progress of your Application:

The Sponsor must always be your first point of contact for any enquiries in relation to the Application you have made and he will answer any questions you may have. It is imperative that all Applicants understand that the **MAXIMUM NOTICE** you will be given for a Flight is **48 HOURS** and they should plan their travel arrangements accordingly.

There are no exceptions to this ruling and should you not be prepared to accept this as part of the Application Procedures then please do not apply.