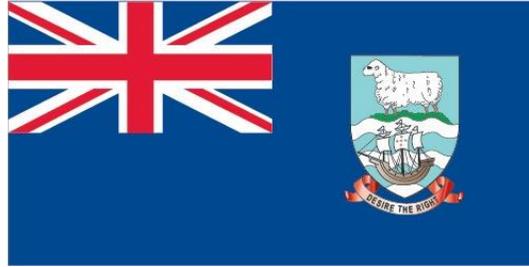


# FALKLAND ISLANDS



## INTRODUCTION

Although first sighted by an English navigator in 1592, the first landing (English) did not occur until almost a century later in 1690, and the first settlement (French) was not established until 1764. The colony was turned over to Spain two years later and the islands have since been the subject of a territorial dispute, first between Britain and Spain, then between Britain and Argentina.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

Queen ELIZABETH II  
represented by Governor Nigel PHILLIPS

### Head of Government

Chief Executive Barry ROWLAND

### Government Type

parliamentary democracy (Legislative Assembly); self-governing overseas territory of the UK

### Capital

Stanley

### Legislature

unicameral Legislative Assembly (10 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 12,173 sq km  
Land: 12,173 sq km  
Water: 0 sq km

### Climate

cold marine; strong westerly winds, cloudy, humid; rain occurs on more than half of days in year; average annual rainfall is 60 cm in Stanley; occasional snow all year, except in January and February, but typically does not accumulate

### Natural Resources

fish, squid, wildlife, calcified seaweed, sphagnum moss

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

British South American territorial economy; longstanding fishing industry; surging tourism prior to COVID-19 and Brexit; recent offshore hydrocarbon discoveries threaten ecotourism industries; no central bank and must have British approval on currency shifts

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$206.4 million (2015 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$70,800 (2015 est.)

**Industries** - fish and wool processing, tourism

**Agricultural products** - fodder and vegetable crops, venison, sheep, dairy products, fish, squid

**Exports** \$257.3 million (2015 est.)

mollusks, fish, wool, sheep/goat meats, engine parts (2019)

**partners:** Spain 78%, US 6% (2019)

**Imports** \$90 million (2004 est.)

refined petroleum, spark-ignition engines, stone processing machinery, construction vehicles, cars (2019)

**partners:** UK 79%, Netherlands 16% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

3,200 (2016 est.)

### Population Growth

0.01% (2014 est.)

### Ethnicity

Falkland Islander 48.3%, British 23.1%, St. Helenian 7.5%, Chilean 4.6%, mixed 6%, other 8.5%, unspecified 2% (2016 est.)

### Language

English 89%, Spanish 7.7%, other 3.3% (2006 est.)

### Religion

Christian 57.1%, other 1.6%, none 35.4%, unspecified 6% (2016 est.)

### Urbanization

urban population: 78.9% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 0.53% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)