

Ascension Island, South Atlantic, British Overseas Territory

A remote volcanic outpost in the middle of the South Atlantic, Ascension Island offers something genuinely rare: nesting green turtles, a cloud-capped mountain improbably lush with introduced trees, and a frontier-town feel that most cruisers never experience.

 Tender port (no cruise pier)

 Typical call: 6-8 hrs

 Saint Helena Pound / GBP (cash only)

 English

 Swell-dependent — call may cancel

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:

Arrive:

All aboard:

Excursion:

Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender only; land at Georgetown Pier Head steps. Swell can cancel tendering entirely.

Best For: Wildlife (green turtles, sooty terns), volcanic hiking, off-the-beaten-path history

Walk to center: Georgetown is immediately at the pier — the town is small and walkable in 20 minutes.

Don't Miss: Green Mountain National Park and (in season) guided turtle walks on the beaches around Georgetown

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 **Taxi** ✅ Varies — negotiate locally

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Green Mountain National Park Hike** — What was once a barren volcanic peak is now a green oasis at 859 m — the result of a 19th-century plan to introduce plants from around the world.
- Green Turtle Nesting Walk (Long Beach)** — Ascension hosts the second-largest green sea turtle nesting population in the Atlantic, with over 25,000 nests a year.
- Sooty Tern Colony Visit** — Ascension is a globally important seabird breeding site.
- Georgetown Heritage Walk** — Wander past St.
- Comfortless Cove & Bonetta Cemetery** — A scenic volcanic bay with clear water for swimming and snorkelling, combined with a poignant 19th-century cemetery for sailors who died of disease...

BEST WALKS

- Georgetown Town Loop** 1.5 km · 30-40 min · Easy · Paved roads — From the pier, walk up to St.
- Green Mountain Trail** Approx. 5 km round trip · 2-3 hrs · Moderate-strenuous · Trail — Drive or hitch to the mountain base, then follow the network of maintained trails through bamboo, ferns, and eucalyptus to the summit ridge.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		83°	77°	22d
Jun		82°	76°	29d
Aug		85°	77°	25d
Sep		86°	78°	20d
Oct		86°	78°	20d

 **DAYLIGHT & MONEY**

Apr 5:44AM–6:00PM · Jun 5:37AM–6:08PM · Aug 5:47AM–6:06PM · Sep 5:43AM–5:52PM · Oct 5:39AM–5:37PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

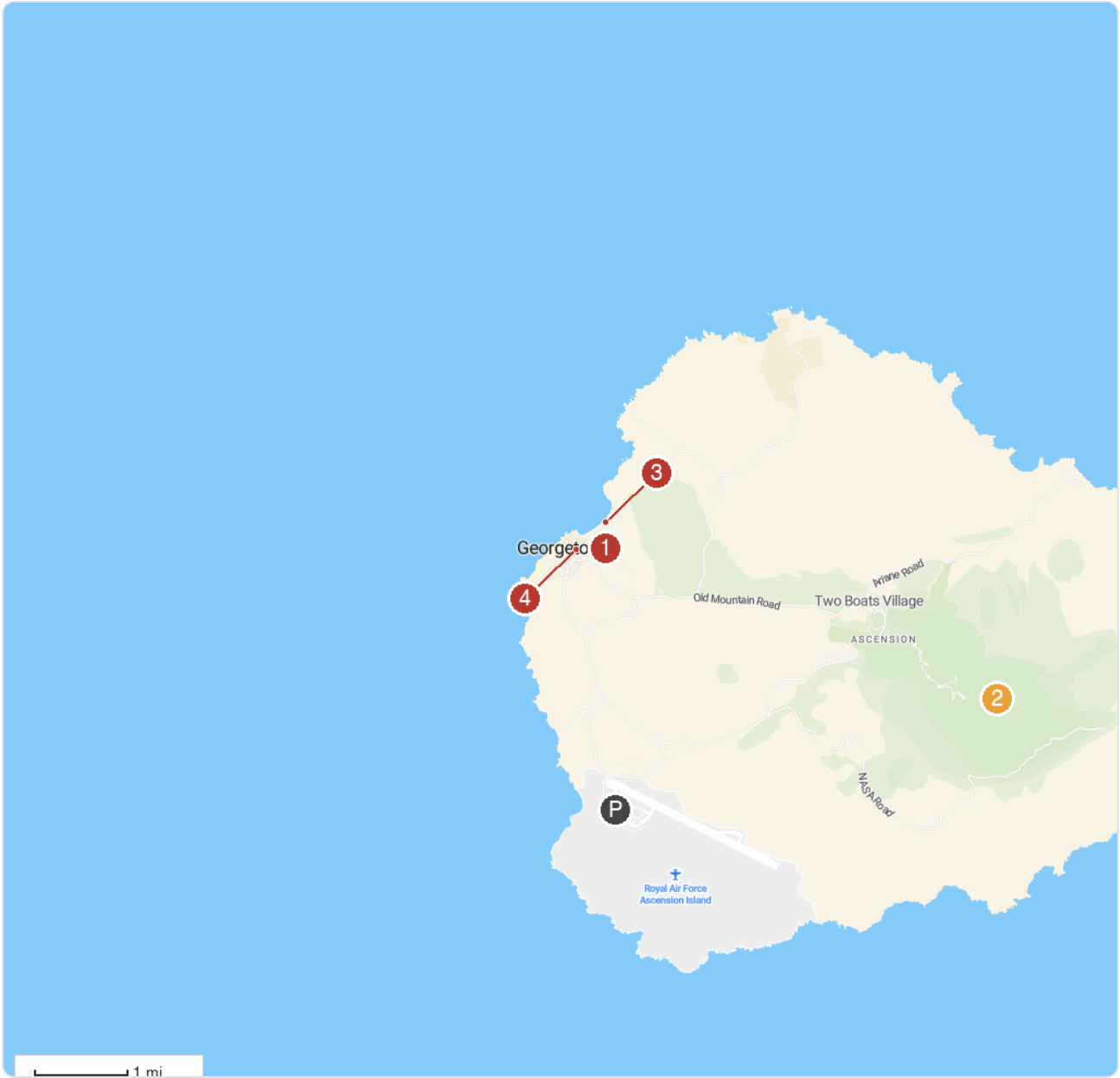
- Cash only, GBP preferred. No ATMs on the island. Bring British Pounds — Saint Helena Pounds are also used but worthless once you leave. The Bank of St Helena can do cash advances (5% fee).
- Tendering can cancel. Atlantic swell at Georgetown pier can be severe. Your call may be replaced by a scenic sail-around — check ship announcements carefully.
- Turtle season runs Dec–Jun. If you're visiting in this window, pre-arrange a Conservation Office turtle tour — it's one of the most remarkable wildlife experiences in the Atlantic.
- Hitchhiking is normal. Georgetown is walkable but outlying sites (Green Mountain, beaches) need transport. Car hire from the Obsidian Hotel or stick your thumb out — locals expect it.
- Book meals in advance. The Obsidian Hotel (main restaurant) and Two Boats Club require advance notice. The Volcano Club snack bar is more casual.
- Limited connectivity. Ascension Island Mobile (AIM) launched in 2026, but coverage is basic and roaming is limited — don't count on your phone working. Internet is available but slow and expensive.

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cruiseports.org

— Port Map

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1

Historic Site

An early-1900s naval fort on Cross Hill above Georgetown with Victorian cannons and naval guns that repelled a German U-boat attack in 1941.
- 2

Nature Reserve

Ascension's 859m summit and only National Park, an artificially forested 'cloud forest' created by 19th-century botanists, with the Dew Pond and historic Elliot's Pass trail.
- 3

Wildlife Site

One of Ascension's primary green sea turtle nesting beaches, hosting one of the Atlantic's largest breeding populations from December through June.
- 4

Landmark

The historic Anglican church at the heart of Georgetown, the island's small colonial-era capital settlement.
- P

Cruise port / terminal