



Ymddiriedolaeth Natur
De a Gorllewin Cymru
Wildlife Trust of
South & West Wales

Skomer Island Overnight Information 2025

A guide to your
Skomer adventure



Welcome to Skomer Island

Thank you for booking your overnight stay on Skomer Island - we are excited to welcome you to our island home! It is vital that you read all of the information over the next few pages - given how unique the island is, there are perhaps some unexpected points!

Only got 2 minutes? - Check out [Page 3](#) - At A Glance

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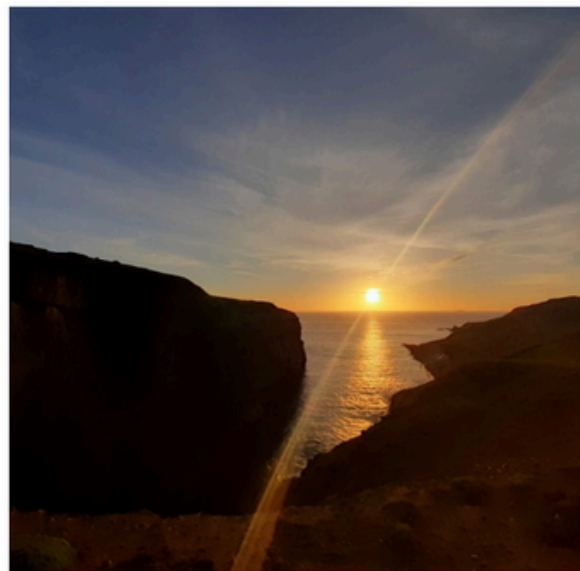
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First glimpse of Skomer from the boat!



Watching the sunset over the Celtic Deep.



At A Glance...

- **Bring**
 - Bed sheet and pillowcase and *either* sleeping bag or duvet cover
 - Food and medication (there is no shop on Skomer)
 - Towel and toiletries
 - Bin bag for rubbish
 - Red torch to look at Manx Shearwaters
 - Suitable clothing for all weathers (including waterproofs and warm layers)
 - Indoor shoes/slippers
- **Boat** - The boat is £20 adults and £15 under 12s total (price includes both ways) - new for 2025, please pay this online in advance with Pembrokeshire Islands [here](#).
- **Biosecurity** - Pack belongings in sealed bags/bags
- **Call the Visitor Officer** - Call Rob on 07530 796150 the day before you are due to arrive to confirm the boat time - please call between 12pm and 5pm
- **Book your car** - Book in at West Hook Farm (01646 636424)
- **Pack light** - 15kg bag weight limit - many light bags are better than one heavy one



Packing and Biosecurity

We ask all overnight guests and volunteers on Skomer and Skokholm to adhere to our biosecurity measures to help protect the islands from rats and other invasive species



One of our elusive Manx Shearwaters



An ever-posing Atlantic Puffin

Why is biosecurity important?

Skomer and Skokholm are of international importance due to their populations of ground-nesting seabirds. The absence of rats, mink, stoats and other ground predators allows ground-nesting birds like Manx Shearwaters and Atlantic Puffins to thrive.

If rats were introduced to the island, even accidentally, they would decimate our seabird populations. This has happened on islands around the world and is a real threat to our seabirds.

Packing and Biosecurity

Please follow these three steps to prevent rats or any other invasive species being introduced to the island.

1. All luggage must be closed - unsealed luggage, including open bags and carrier bags will not be permitted to land. The pictures below will help you.
2. Pack all luggage yourself in a rodent-free environment and please ensure to leave it sealed and in a rodent-free environment before coming. On the day of arrival, please inspect your luggage before putting it on the boat.
3. Do not leave your luggage unattended in Martin's Haven to ensure rodents cannot enter your bags.

Thank you in advance for your help!



Getting Here

Where does the boat leave from?

The boat departure point is Martin's Haven (OS reference: SM760091, W3W: braced.chef.conqueror). It is two miles from Marloes and twelve miles southwest of Haverfordwest.

Arriving by car?

Please follow Satnav directions to Martin's Haven or SA62 3BJ.

From Haverfordwest, it takes at least 30 minutes on winding roads to reach Martin's Haven. Follow Dale Road (B4327) for just over 10 miles, before following signs on to Gay Lane in Marloes. Stay on the main road through the village and continue west for 1.5 miles. Please be aware that this road is windy and uses passing places.

Arriving by public transport?

The nearest train stations are Milford Haven and Haverfordwest. Fflecsi Buses run from both towns whilst the Puffin Shuttle runs from St David's.

Taxis will cost you around £25-£30 from Haverfordwest and Milford Haven. You can find a list of taxi companies [here](#).

Coming from further afield?

There are good car rental and train connections from Cardiff Airport.



Your journey to Skomer

2 months
before
your
stay

Parking

We would recommend booking your car into West Hook Farm (01646 636424).



Before the National Trust car park, the farm is on the right (look for the Puffin gate posts). It is about a 10 minute walk from here to the boat. We advise dropping your bags down at the beach before parking - take care as it gets a little tight. Remember, your bags must be supervised for biosecurity purposes.

Book Your Hostel Boat

New for 2025, you must pay for your hostel boat in advance of your stay. Once your stay is confirmed, you can do this [here](#) or by scanning this QR code.



Skomer Island

Accommodation Boat Transfer Only



Your journey to Skomer

1 day
before
your
stay

Call the Visitor Officer

We ask that you call us on 07530 796150 between 12pm and 5pm to confirm that your boat is running and the time of your departure. Please note boats will only run in favourable weather conditions - we have to take the boat skipper call on this.

On the
day of
your
stay

Crossing to Skomer via boat

Your boat will usually depart from Martin's Haven at 9am.

You will need to be ready on the jetty (to the left, up and over the steps) with all of your sealed bags 15 minutes before departure. Please note, there will be no staff to assist with your bags on this side of the crossing or on your return.

Your return journey to the mainland will usually leave Skomer around 9.30am.



Forming a chain to move luggage



Your journey to Skomer

Upon arrival, we need to transport your belongings up the 87 island steps to our Dumper Truck. We form a human chain with everyone able to take part to pass all luggage up the steps.

As such, we're asking everyone to bring bags under 15kg as we've seen a big increase in recent years - many small and light ones are fine! If your bag is oversized, it will be left at the bottom for you to unpack to a suitable weight or carry yourself. We are legally bound to protect our staff, volunteers and visitors from injury and oversized bags can cause problems. Please note that where we have too many bags for the dumper, some may need to be carried.



Packing the dumper for transport



Our hostel accommodation

Up at the Farm, we unload your bags and get you settled in to the hostel. Once this is done, the island is yours to explore!



Your Accommodation

You will be staying in a converted old farm building nestled in the very heart of the island. Although basic, the hostel has everything you will need for the duration of your stay.



Spring sunset over the Farm - your home for the duration of your stay!

Kitchen

The shared kitchen has two gas ovens, a large fridge and two sinks (with drinking water). In various cupboards you'll find all crockery, cutlery, pots and pans. Remember, you will need to bring enough food for the duration of your stay.

Bathrooms

There are two shared bathrooms in the hostel - complete with shower, sink, and flushing toilet.



Your Accommodation

Lounge

Our spacious lounge doubles up as a dining room. Here you'll also find a comfortable sofa, and a log burner* - perfect to curl up in front of on a chilly evening!



Plenty of room for everyone at dinner



Meet the residents!

Bedrooms

All beds are single beds (though some are bunk beds) and you will need to remember your bedding. Please note there is no heating on Skomer, so we recommend bringing a hot water bottle and extra layers in the colder months (blankets are provided).

*Anyone wishing to use the log burner will need to bring their own wood. We ask you to purchase hotties or blazers, as they come in sealed packaging and are therefore less of a biosecurity risk.



An Off Grid Island

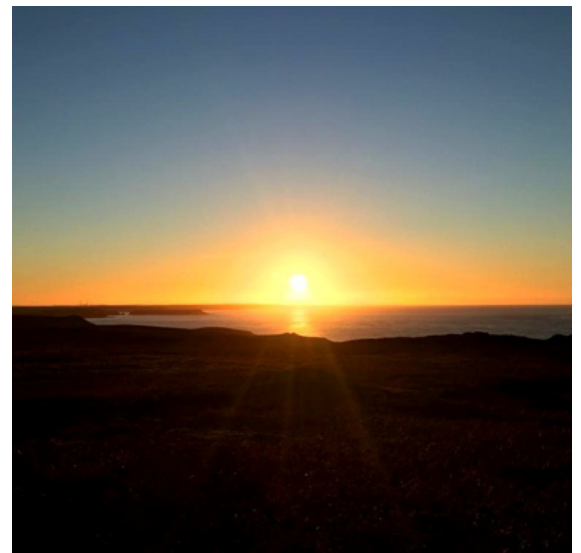
We are completely off grid here on the island - our electricity is generated by solar panels, water comes from the well, and gas is bought onto the island in cannisters.

What does this mean for you?

- There are only eight plug sockets in the Hostel. These can only be used for charging phones/laptops/cameras. No high energy appliances (i.e. kettles, microwaves, hair dryers, etc.) or extension cables can be used. Please note there is no WiFi available and limited internet and phone signal.
- Please limit your water usage - there may be times when showers are closed due to drought. Water is heated using solar and a gas boiler which means that hot water may not be available 24/7.
- Please only use the cleaning products provided - we have a septic tank which can be easily damaged by harsh chemicals.



Blooming bluebells



Sunrise from the Trig Point



See you soon!

We look forward to meeting you very soon!

In the meantime, if you have any queries about your stay on Skomer please feel free to contact the Bookings Team at: islands@welshwildlife.org.

For more information about Skomer's incredible wildlife and rich history, please visit our website or social media pages:

 Skomer Island

 @skomer_island

 skomer_island

 The Skomer Island Blog



Diolch yn fawr!

Before you leave, please sign our Visitor Book - we'd love to read all about your stay!

If you have any feedback, please contact Rob the Visitor Officer on skomer.vo@welshwildlife.org - knowing what worked for you and what didn't goes a long way to improving everyone's experience on Skomer.

Thank you again for supporting the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales. We hope to see you again on our island home in the future.



A pair of razorbills among lichen



SKOMER AND SKOKHOLM USEFUL CONTACTS 2025



WILDLIFE TRUST OF SOUTH & WEST WALES

Islands Booking Office (Tondy, Bridgend) (Mon-Fri)

Email: islands@welshwildlife.org

Lockley Lodge, Martin's Haven (March-Sept)

(Lockley Lodge is our sales and information point for trips to Skomer & Skokholm)

01656 724100

01646 636800

SKOMER

Warden:

Leighton Newman

Assistant Warden:

Ceris Aston

Visitor Officer:

Rob Knott

07971 114302

07816 990371

07530 796150

SKOKHOLM

Joint Wardens:

Richard Brown & Giselle Eagle

07971 114303

CAR PARKING for overnight island residents www.westhookfarm-camping.co.uk

West Hook Farm - Thomas Family - 01646 636424

(Prices vary – cash or card payments, please book in advance)

West Hook Farm is open 8am-8pm for arrivals and departures, they will open earlier if the boat leaves early.

Note: Overnight parking is **NOT PERMITTED** in the National Trust car park.

Public Transport

- [Fflecsi](https://www.fflecsi.wales/locations/pembrokeshire/) - <https://www.fflecsi.wales/locations/pembrokeshire/>

- Puffin Shuttle - <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/bus/routes-and-timetables/bus-routes-list-coastal-buses>

- Taxis in the local area -

<https://www.thomsonlocal.com/search/taxis/marloe-dyfed>

01646 636243

01646 636424

01646 636767

01437 781300

CAMPING/TOURERS in or near Marloes

✓ Foxdale Guest House & camp site

✓ West Hook Farm

✓ Slate Mill Lodge

✓ Little Haven Retreat

HOSTELS (www.yha.org.uk)

Broad Haven (meals provided)

0345 371 9008

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES

Haverfordwest 01437 775244

Milford Haven 01437 771818

LOCAL ACCOMMODATION

Marloes:

✓ Clockhouse

www.clockhousemarloes.co.uk

✓ Lobster Pot Inn

www.thelobsterpotmarloes.co.uk

01646 635800

01646 636233

Between Haverfordwest and Marloes:

✓ Slate Mill Lodge

www.slatemilllodge.com

01646 636767

Between Milford Haven and Haverfordwest

✓ Bower Farm

www.bowerfarm.co.uk

01437 781554

Holiday accommodation & local info:

✓ www.visitwales.com

✓ www.visitpembrokeshire.com

✓ www.marloes.org.uk

FOOD SUPPLIES

Haverfordwest

Milford Haven

Spice Box, Tesco's, Morrison's, Lidl, Aldi

Tesco's, Co-op, Lidl



The Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales

Charity No. 1091562

The Nature Centre

Fountain Road

Tondy

Bridgend

CF32 0EH

Tel: 01656 724100

Email: info@welshwildlife.org

The Welsh Wildlife Centre

Cilgerran

Cardigan

Pembrokeshire

SA43 2TB

Tel: 01239 621212/621600

Email: islands@welshwildlife.org