



Antarctica :: Bouvet Island
(territory of Norway)

Introduction :: Bouvet Island

Background:

This uninhabited, volcanic, Antarctic island is almost entirely covered by glaciers making it difficult to approach; it is recognized as the most remote island on Earth. Bouvet Island was discovered in 1739 by a French naval officer after whom it is named. No claim was made until 1825, when the British flag was raised. In 1928, the UK waived its claim in favor of Norway, which had occupied the island the previous year. In 1971, Norway designated Bouvet Island and the adjacent territorial waters a nature reserve. Since 1977, Norway has run an automated meteorological station and studied foraging strategies and distribution of fur seals and penguins on the island.

Geography :: Bouvet Island

Location:

island in the South Atlantic Ocean, southwest of the Cape of Good Hope (South Africa)

Geographic coordinates:

54 26 S, 3 24 E

Map references:

Antarctic Region

Area:

total: 49 sq km

country comparison to the world: 233

land: 49 sq km

water: 0 sq km

Area - comparative:

about 0.3 times the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

29.6 km

Maritime claims:

territorial sea: 4 nm

Climate:

antarctic

Terrain:

volcanic; coast is mostly inaccessible

Elevation extremes:

lowest point: South Atlantic Ocean 0 m

highest point: Olav Peak 935 m

Natural resources:

none

Land use:

arable land: 0%

permanent crops: 0%

other: 100% (93% ice) (2011)

Natural hazards:

NA

Environment - current issues:

NA

Geography - note:

covered by glacial ice; declared a nature reserve by Norway

People and Society :: Bouvet Island

Population:

uninhabited

Government :: Bouvet Island

Country name:

conventional long form: none

conventional short form: Bouvet Island

Dependency status:

territory of Norway; administered by the Polar Department of the Ministry of Justice and Oslo Police

Legal system:

the laws of Norway, where applicable, apply

Flag description:

the flag of Norway is used

Economy :: Bouvet Island

Economy - overview:

no economic activity; declared a nature reserve

Communications :: Bouvet Island

Internet country code:

.bv

Internet hosts:

6 (2012)

country comparison to the world: 230

Communications - note:

has an automatic meteorological station

Transportation :: Bouvet Island

Ports and terminals:

none; offshore anchorage only

Military :: Bouvet Island

Military - note:

defense is the responsibility of Norway

Transnational Issues :: Bouvet Island

Disputes - international:

none