

South Shetland Island

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South Shetland Island Latest News

According to the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ) a magnitude 6.7 earthquake struck the South Shetland Islands of Antarctica.

About South Shetland Island

- **Location:** The South Shetland Islands are a **remote archipelago** located about 120 kilometers (75 miles) north of the **Antarctic Peninsula**.
- The South Shetland Islands are often called the jewel in Antarctica's crown.
- It was first discovered in 1819 by **British mariner William Smith**
- **Formation:** The islands were formed **by volcanic activity**, and some of the islands are still active today.
- The most well-known is **Deception Island**, which has a large, flooded caldera.
- More than **80% of the land area** is covered by **permanent ice**.
- There are **no permanent residents** on this island.
- Some **countries maintain small teams** at research stations, depending on the season.

- **Fauna**

- **Birds:** Gentoo, Chinstrap, Adélie and even a couple of Macaroni Penguins breed on the islands.
- **Mammals:** The **marine mammals** consist of species such as Crabeater Seal, Leopard Seal, Weddell Seal, Fin Whale, Humpback Whale, and the Southern Right Whale.

Source: IT

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