

Experience  
**Killer Whales**

ECO WILDERNESS EXPEDITION  
BREMER BAY WESTERN AUSTRALIA



naturaliste charters



PHONE 9750 5500

# Experience an incredible natural wonder



Photography by riggsaustralia and Dan Paris Photography for the Bremer Canyon Killer Whale research project.

## Journey with Naturaliste Charters to the Bremer Canyon - a stunningly beautiful, remote habitat abundant with marine wildlife

Every year in Summer, this newly discovered, remote marine wilderness hot spot off the WA coast becomes the epicentre for an unbelievable intensity of life: whaler sharks, giant squid, sperm whales, masses of sea birds and the largest aggregation of killer whales in the Southern Hemisphere.

### Why does this happen?

Because the Leeuwin current is at its weakest and it allows the hydrocarbons to reach the surface which is attracting the wildlife. We suspect it's a leak from a massive hydrocarbon pocket under the seabed, which fuses with the surrounding water to create an ice-like reef known as methane hydrate. This in turn sparks a food chain involving crustaceans releasing billions of nutrient-rich eggs into the desolate waters.

### Stunning wildlife

As well as the magnificent killer whale, amongst our regular visitors are the Long-finned Pilot whales, Sperm whales and dolphins. Giant Oceanic

Sunfish, shoals of tuna, sharks, extraordinary sea birds, Gray's Beaked whale, Australian Sea Lions and New Zealand Fur seals are commonly seen.

Marine wildlife has been sighted 100% of the time on the Expeditions. And on average we've had a 98% success sighting rate of seeing killer whales at the canyon. Even if they aren't exactly on the coordinate, we usually find them close by. We see large pods together frequently and even in excess of 100 killer whales have been seen at the canyon at times; it is quite possibly the largest aggregation of orca in the southern hemisphere!

### Purpose built whale watching vessel

Cetacean Explorer is a 55ft catamaran with three viewing areas: a spacious lounge area, a huge foredeck and an upstairs flybridge with 360 degree views for an exhilarating whale watch.

Our friendly, professional and informative crew have marine science backgrounds to ensure you learn everything possible and have an unforgettable experience.

We keep our tour numbers small so everyone on board has the best opportunity to see the wildlife.



Photography by Dave and Fiona Harvey



Photo by Murray Francis



## Experience this awe inspiring phenomenon and support the Bremer Canyon Killer Whale research project

This eco marine project seeks to uncover the mystery behind this remarkable event and is dedicated to the preservation of this beautiful wilderness location. Your participation in the expedition is actively supporting ground breaking passive research, helping to fund and document this important project. Everyone who books the tour automatically becomes a member of RiggsAustralia.com, the website where images and information on the research being conducted can be found.

### What is the research project?

David Riggs has been observing the phenomenon since 2005 and subsequently produced a film *The Search for the Ocean's Super Predator* that aired internationally on ABC TV in 2014. In 2015 the Bremer Killer Whale Expedition teamed up with the Discovery channel to create a documentary called *The Ocean Super Predator*, drawing attention to this remarkable location.

A part of the tour will be conducting research and citizen science, collating photo ID of the animals, lowering an underwater hydrophone (if conditions permit) to listen to the activity down in the watery world, and deploying underwater cameras to get a better idea of what else is attracted to the area. Focusing on killer whale vocalisation and how it could influence human and Great White Shark interaction, the recordings are being tested with Great White Sharks to see if the sounds act as a deterrent.

# Frequently asked questions



## Where's Bremer Bay?

Bremer Bay is a coastal community located 515kms south east of Perth, 180kms east of Albany in Western Australia.

## Where can I find accommodation?

Please contact:  
Bremer Bay Visitor Centre (+618) 9837 4171  
[www.bremerbay.crc.net.au](http://www.bremerbay.crc.net.au)  
Albany Visitor Centre (+618) 9841 9290  
[www.amazingalbany.com.au](http://www.amazingalbany.com.au)

## Are refreshments provided?

Lunch, morning and afternoon tea, soft drinks, hot drinks and bottled water are supplied on board.  
If you have special dietary requirements, please contact us in advance.

## What should I bring?

Visitors on the expedition are encouraged to bring a good quality still camera in the hope that any images they collect will be entered into our rapidly growing orca photo data base. We also suggest you bring a warm jacket. Dress for the conditions, casual and comfortable clothing and flat shoes.

## What happens if the tour is cancelled because of the weather?

If the tour is cancelled by Naturaliste Charters due to inclement weather we will endeavour to get you onto the next available tour or a full refund applies.  
Naturaliste Charters has a cancellation policy in place. Please visit our website or contact the office to review our policy.  
Allow an extra day on your trip due to unpredictable weather.

## What happens if I don't see any Killer Whales?

Our sighting success rate is very high, so this would be rare. However, we have a "No Whale Policy" in place, if we do not locate any whales of any species you can join us on the next available trip for free. This offer is valid for 1 year. For further information on this offer please visit our website.

## For your comfort

Please take sea sickness tablets prior to your journey, generally recommended one hour prior to boarding (or as per instructions from your health professional) and also bring them on board with you. Visit your pharmacist prior to your tour.



## BOOKING INFORMATION

### Tours run mid January to mid April

**Where does the tour leave from?** Bremer Bay Boat Harbour, Fisheries Beach, located at the end of Swarbrick Road, Bremer Bay.

**Directions:** Departure location is approx 6kms from town centre. Turn onto Wellstead Rd 3.2kms, left onto Point Henry Rd 1.5kms, left onto Swarbrick Rd 1.8kms to departure location. **GPS coordinates** -344.257.22, 119.400.176

**Departure time** 7.30am (Please arrive half an hour early for a tour briefing) **Return time** Aprox. 3.30pm **Cost** \$350 per person

**Bookings** can be made online or by contacting our office. Payment is required to secure your booking.  
We accept Visa, MasterCard, and EFTPOS (2% surcharge applies for all credit card transactions).  
We also accept direct debit using your surname as a reference: Naturaliste Charters - BSB – 036 122 Account – 578 569

*All prices subject to change*

Online: [www.whales-australia.com.au](http://www.whales-australia.com.au)

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