

Our Tours

Whale Shark Adventure

April to early July

Silver medallists 2009 Western Australian Tourism Awards

Join the award winning team at Three Islands Marine Charters as we take you on the snorkelling experience of a lifetime, swimming alongside a whale shark on a day of adventure and discovery on Ningaloo Reef. From the moment you are welcomed aboard the 17 metre "Draw Card" you'll feel the warm and friendly environment. The Three Islands guiding staff, with marine science based degrees, are absolutely passionate about their jobs and love to share their knowledge of whale sharks and the marine environment with guests. Guests are safe in the hands of Richard, the skipper, and his offside Nos, who both have over 30 years of marine experience and operate the vessel with precision to ensure your safety.

From courtesy pick-up to drop-off the tour includes everything – delicious food, snorkel gear and wetsuits, support from friendly, qualified staff, spotter planes to locate whale sharks with up to 6 hours flying time and, importantly, a safety support vessel if required by swimmers.

Your safety is our priority so we feel it is essential to have a safety zodiac on standby at all times when guests are in the water. A qualified staff member is always on watch in the safety tender, ready to help any swimmers who require assistance. Buoyancy vests, noodles, and lifejackets are available for those who like a little extra security.

A videographer is on board to film the day and create a DVD for purchase as a lasting memento of your whale shark experience.

Non-swimming observers are also welcome aboard the modern, comfortable 17 metre vessel with its large shade deck area, perfect for aquatic activities.

If you're only going to do it once, then do it with the best

Your day:

Passengers may swim with one, two or more whale sharks on any day and could also see dolphins, manta rays, whales and even dugongs while on the boat.

The day starts at 7.15am when the Three Islands' air conditioned courtesy bus picks up guests from their Exmouth accommodation and along the 36 kilometre journey to the departure point at Tantabiddi. On the drive to Tantabiddi guests are given a description of the day's activities by Andy, the company videographer. The tour takes place on Ningaloo Reef within 3 nautical miles of the coast.

Once on board the vessel, wetsuits and snorkel gear are fitted then passengers are briefed, ready for their introductory snorkel on Ningaloo Reef – a turtle may swim past, there’s usually a ray resting in the sand, a myriad of colourful fish amongst the coral. Following morning tea and the whale shark briefing during which whale shark interaction protocol is explained, the vessel moves to the outside of the reef to wait for the plane to spot a whale shark.

Swim with mantas if spotted. A delicious lunch is served buffet style and if time permits, another reef snorkel follows.

A fruit platter finishes off the day then back to the moorings and beach for the journey back to accommodation.

No sighting policy:

In the rare event that a whale shark is not sighted on your tour, one free repeat tour is offered on the next available day.

A non-transferable repeat tour voucher, valid for the current and following two seasons, can be issued to those passengers unable to repeat the tour. There are no refunds for no sightings.