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MARINE MEGAFAUNA EXPERIENCE

Ningaloo

LIKE NEVER BEFORE

An all inclusive trip. Marine Megafauna. Expert guides. Aerial spotters. World-class photography and ocean adventures.

This is Ningaloo, elevated.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2-days Exmouth whale shark & megafauna charter
- 1-day exclusive Coral Bay manta & megafauna charter
- 2-days exclusive Coral Bay whales & megafauna charter
- Full-day private freediving instruction
- Wildlife & birding safari
- 8 nights accomodation
- All inclusives meals and refreshments
- Aerial marine life spotter pilot on all charters
- Expedition leader Brooke Pyke
- Marine biologist co-host
- Photography masterclasses with Brooke
- In-water guides on charters
- Photography eBook
- Photos and trip video to take home

book your space now

INFO@BROOKEPYKEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM



Early Bird Offer

$9,000 AUD PER GUEST
(BOOK BEFORE 1ST JANUARY 2027)

$9,500 AUD PER GUEST
(BOOK AFTER 1ST JANUARY 2027)

What's the experince all about?

Join Brooke and a small group of eight ocean-loving travellers on an unforgettable journey to the remote coastal towns of Exmouth and Coral Bay in Western Australia.

Together, we'll explore the UNESCO World Heritage listed Ningaloo Reef. We will visit both Exmouth and Coral Bay with expert guides, experienced skippers, and a dedicated marine spotter pilots.

With their help, we'll swim alongside the ocean's most graceful giants - whale sharks, manta rays, and humpback whales. Beneath the surface, you'll discover thriving reef systems, curious turtles, and a kaleidoscope of marine life that call Ningaloo home.

This trip is all inclusive with accomodation and meals provided throughout the experince.

Learn the fundamentals of freediving and build confidence in the water. Develop your underwater photography and editing skills with guidance from Brooke Pyke, and deepen your understanding of the marine environment with insights from local researchers and biologists.

Escape the crowded day tours and join us for an intimate and exclusive Ningaloo megafauna experience. We'll show you more than whale sharks - we'll introduce you to an entirely new world beneath the surface.

This trip is for anyone passionate about the ocean. Whether you're a photographer, diver, or simply someone who feels at home in the water, our only prerequisite is that you're a confident snorkeler comfortable swimming in open ocean alongside large marine animals.



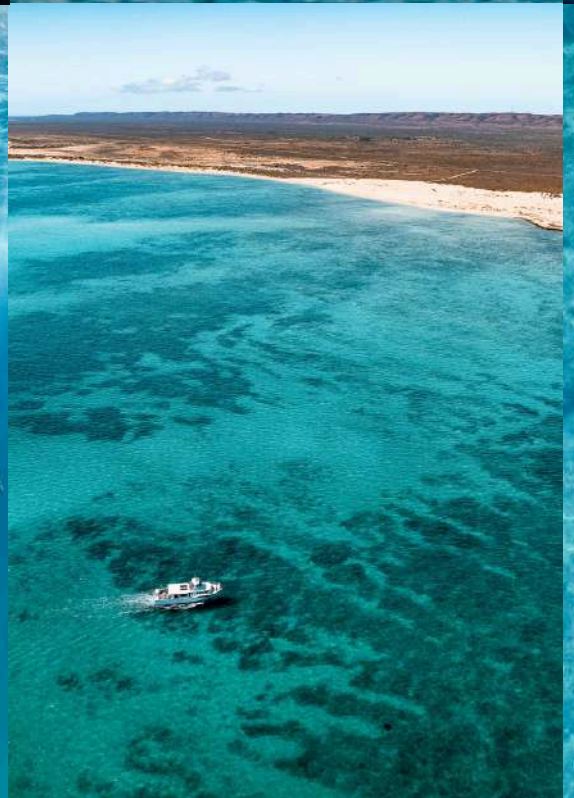
book your space now

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Why join this experince?

When Brooke first moved to the Ningaloo Reef to begin her photography career, she worked full-time on a tour boat. It didn't take long for her to notice that the standard one-day tour, for travellers to "tick off" a swim with a whale shark, barely touched the surface of what Ningaloo truly offered. One day simply wasn't enough to experience the richness and depth of this remarkable ecosystem. Brooke soon realised that the perfect tour didn't exist - so she decided to create it. After years of research and planning, she hosted her first small-group expedition in 2023.

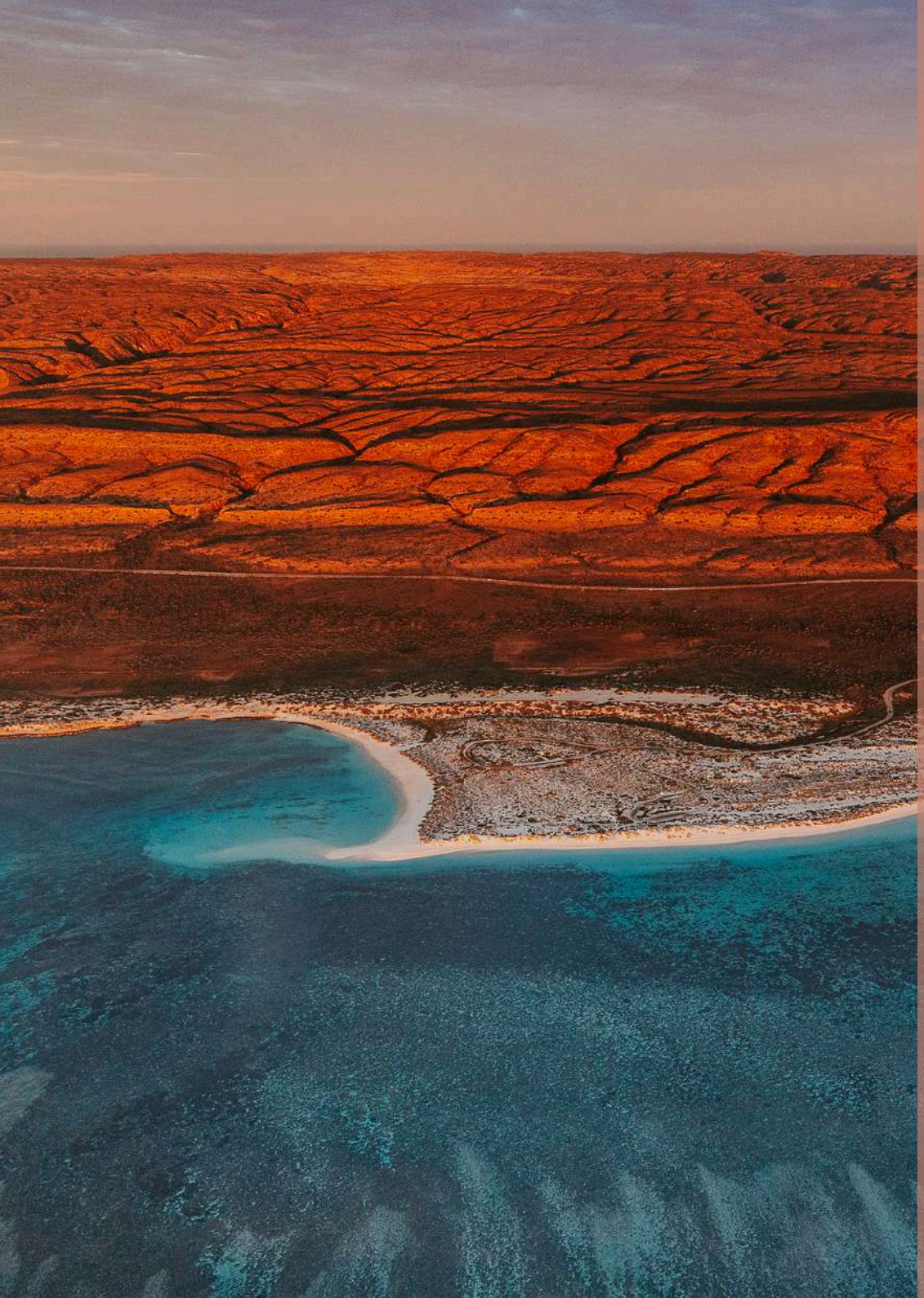
Brooke wanted her guests to experience the Ningaloo the way she does, with genuine connection and curiosity. Each itinerary is built around her idea of a perfect day on the water: exploring her favourite sections of reef with good company and sharing the kinds of encounters that make you feel fully present.

Her vision was to go beyond simply seeing whale sharks, manta rays, and humpbacks. She wanted guests to learn how to move with ease in the water, understand marine behaviour, and connect with wildlife respectfully.

With small groups and private charters, Brooke's expeditions are ideal for photographers or keen ocean lovers who appreciate intimate marine encounters. It's a chance to refine your underwater photography skills, have time to connect with the marine life and receive hands-on guidance from Brooke and the team throughout the journey.

By slowing the pace and keeping the experience personal, these week-long journeys remove the rush of a one-day tour and let you truly immerse yourself in the rhythm of the reef and experiencing Ningaloo in a more meaningful way.





OUR DESTINATION

The Ningaloo

Stretching more than 300 kilometres along Western Australia's Coral Coast, Ningaloo Reef is where the red desert meets the turquoise Indian Ocean. A place of extraordinary contrasts and wild beauty. As the world's largest fringing reef, it serves as a thriving habitat for diverse marine species, attracting ocean lovers seeking unforgettable encounters with marine megafauna.

The name Ningaloo comes from the Aboriginal word Nyinggulu, meaning "deep water." Positioned near the edge of Australia's continental shelf, where the ocean floor plunges to depths of over 1,000 meters, it creates a wildlife corridor for many pelagic species. From vibrant coral systems to graceful rays, curious turtles, and migrating whales, Ningaloo is a living tapestry of marine life.

Home to more than 500 species of fish and 300 species of coral, Ningaloo is a kaleidoscope of colour and movement. Each season brings its own rhythm:

- March to late August – Whale sharks gather in large numbers to feed.
- June to October – Humpback whales migrate north to calve in warmer waters.
- Year-round – Manta rays glide through the lagoons, with peak sightings in winter and spring.

The inner lagoon is teeming with life and easily explored from shorelines like Turquoise Bay, Oyster Stacks, and South Mandu. In some areas, the outer reef is just a 200-300-meter swim from shore. But the real magic of Ningaloo is found offshore, where spotter pilots and expert crews take you to swim alongside whale sharks, manta rays, and migrating humpbacks

YOUR GUIDE:

Brooke Pyke

MULTI AWARD WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER
DIVE INSTRUCTOR & MARINE EXPEDITION GUIDE

Originally from Melbourne, Brooke was drawn to photography early in life, often seen in high school with a small camera and a roll of black-and-white film. Although she initially planned to study photography, life took her in another direction and she pursued a career in graphic design.

A few years later, a chance encounter with scuba diving changed everything. Brooke left Australia to train as a dive instructor and spent several years working as a dive professional across Thailand, Indonesia, and back home in Australia. During that time, she borrowed a friend's underwater camera and rediscovered her first love. Her skill was evident, and soon dive shops began using her photos on their social media and websites.

The fusion of diving and creative expression became her new path, coinciding with the rise of Instagram, where she found inspiration from photographers around the world. Seeing others turn their passion into careers in marine photography fueled her own aspirations.

Photography became more than a hobby. It was a way to combine her creative eye with her connection to the ocean. Inspired by a growing community of marine photographers, Brooke began building her own portfolio, teaching herself through persistence, experimentation, and countless hours in the water.

In 2021, her dedication paid off when she landed her first professional photography role on Ningaloo Reef. Less than two years later, she earned international recognition at the 2022 Ocean Photography Awards (OPY). Many other photography awards have since followed.

Brooke now lives and works on the Ningaloo Reef as a professional photographer. She loves sharing her backyard with visitors and leading expeditions for like-minded ocean enthusiasts, both on Ningaloo and in destinations around the world.





EXMOUTH & CORAL BAY

Western Australia

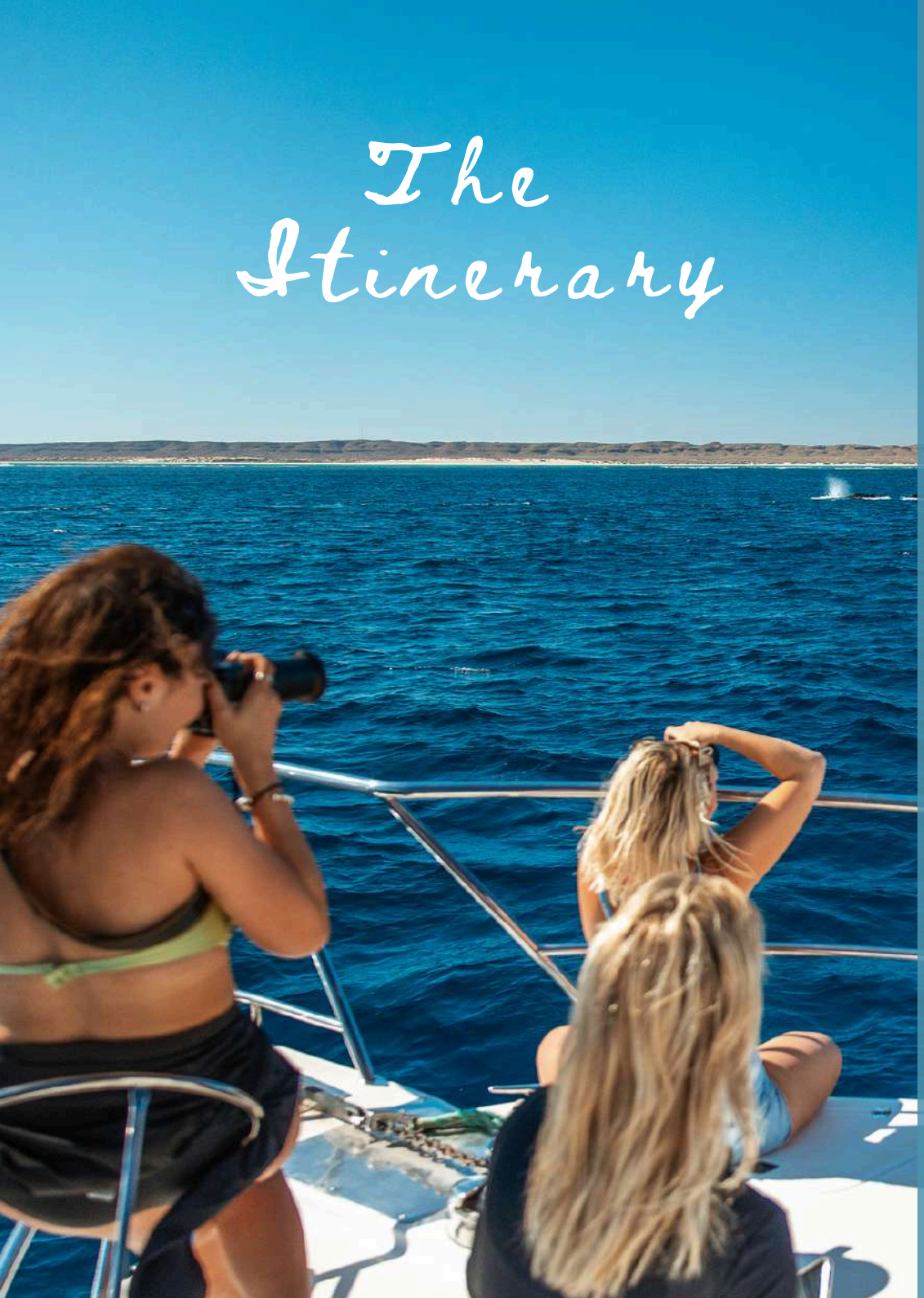
The small town of Exmouth is the gateway to the Ningaloo reef. Located 1,200 km north of Perth, with a permanent population of only 2,800 people. It lies on the eastern side of the North West Cape, along the Exmouth Gulf. The Exmouth Gulf itself is home to a variety of marine species, including dugongs, dolphins, and mantas. Whales also use the Gulf during their migration, often stopping to rest with their calves. Closely connected to Ningaloo Reef, the Gulf's rich mangrove systems and protected shallow waters serve as a breeding ground and nursery for sharks and rays.

From Exmouth, reaching the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef requires only a short 30-minute drive to the western coast of the cape. Cape Range National Park, with its ancient limestone ridges running parallel to the Ningaloo Coast, is about 40 minutes away. This rocky landscape offers numerous hiking trails, ideal for spotting native wildlife like rock wallabies, bats, birds of prey, dingoes, kangaroos, and emus. The coast is lined with excellent beaches for surfing, snorkelling, and relaxing. In some areas, the outer reef is just a 200-meter swim from the shore. From Coral Bay (an even smaller town south of Exmouth), you only have to walk to the beach right in front of the main street and you are dipping your toes in the Ningaloo. Our trip will be hosted in both Coral Bay and Exmouth so you will get to experience the northern and southern sections of the reef and its adjacent marine inhabitants.

CLIMATE AND WATER TEMPERATURE

August is winter in Australia, but winters on Ningaloo Reef are mild. Daytime temperatures typically range from 20-28°C, while nighttime temperatures can drop to around 10°C. The water temperature in August ranges from 20-25°C, depending on the currents. A 3mm full-length wetsuit is usually sufficient; however, if you feel the cold, consider bringing a hooded vest or a 5mm steamer. We require you to be fully covered when on the outer reef to protect against potential stingers. The Western Australian coast is exposed to wind and swell, and open-ocean conditions can be rough. A warm jacket is recommended for boat trips, as the wind can be chilly.

The Itinerary



DAY 1 - ARRIVAL

3PM CHECK-IN AND WELCOME

Arrive* and check in at our Exmouth marina villa. Settle in with welcome drinks and snacks, meet your trip hosts and fellow guests, and enjoy an introduction to the Ningaloo Reef and its local history. The evening concludes with a relaxed dinner to celebrate the start of your adventure.

*Check in at our accomodation is from 3pm onwards on August 3rd. Please aim to arrive to Exmouth on the afternoon flight if arriving on the 3rd, or come a day or so early (arrange your own accomodation). You can book airport and town transfers with 'Exmouth Bus Charters' (there are no taxis).

DAY 2 - PHOTOGRAPHY & WILDLIFE

9AM FUNDAMENTALS OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Brooke will host an in-depth photography workshop teaching the fundamentals of the art, camera settings and creative techniques. You'll receive guidance on setting up your camera and have the chance to ask questions.

2PM WILDLIFE TOUR WITH NINGALOO BIRDING SAFARIS

Depart from Exmouth with Justin from Ningaloo Birding Safaris and head out to explore the Cape Ranger National Park. This is the perfect chance to get familar with the area and meet some of the local fauna. Bring your cameras along to practise your skills while enjoing the birds, rock wallabies and striking landscapes.

DAY 2 - INTRODUCTION TO FREEDIVING

8AM FREEDIVING WORKSHOP

Whether you're new to freediving or already certified, this full-day workshop offers the chance to learn new skills or build on existing ones. The morning session covers freediving theory, including physiology, diaphragmatic breathing, static breath-hold practice, safety, and essential freediving principles.

After lunch, we'll move to the national park and head out to an reef close to shore to meet some local marine life and practise our freediving and snorkeling skills while exploring the Ningaloo.

DAY 4-5 - WHALE SHARK ECO TOUR

8AM DEPART TANTABIDDI

We'll depart Exmouth around 6:45am to head to Tantabiddi boat ramp where we will board our vessel. The day will begin with crew introductions, a safety briefing, and a boat orientation.

We will cruise toward our first reef snorkel and gear test. Expect to see things like stingrays, turtles, reef sharks, and scattered coral bommies teeming with fish. A perfect opportunity to warm up your camera skills before meeting the big fish (whale sharks).

Next, we'll enjoy morning tea and hot drinks as head toward the outer reef. Meanwhile, our spotter pilot will begin searching for the first marine megafauna to swim with. Our focus will be on locating whalesharks that we can swim with and photograph. Possible encounters include whale sharks, manta rays, or humpback whales, to name a few. The species we find will depend on which animals are visiting the reef that day. But be prepared for anything, this is Ningaloo Reef, and nature has a way of surprising us with incredible encounters.

Once whale sharks are spotted, the crew will brief you on in-water interactions. This will include interaction protocols and local laws.

After some incredible ocean moments, we'll enjoy a delicious lunch as we return to the inner lagoon for the day's final activities. Depending on conditions, the tour may finish the trip with another reef snorkel or a lagoon cruise to look for dugongs and other marine mammals to photograph from the boat. We return to the boat ramp between 2:00 and 3:00 PM, with drop-off at your accommodation shortly approx 4pm.

EVENING EVENT -DAY 4, 6.00PM

Photo review and feedback session with Brooke.

EVENING EVENT -DAY 5, 5.00PM

Marine Biology presentations by local researchers.



DAY 6 - CORAL BAY MANTAS & CAMPING

7AM CORAL BAY ADVENTURE

We'll pack and depart Exmouth early and drive 1.5 hours south to the small coastal town of Coral Bay. There, we'll board our vessel with the crew at Ningaloo Marine Interactions and explore the southern end of the Ningaloo Reef. With our spotter pilot searching overhead, we'll look for resident manta rays, loggerhead turtles, dense healthy reef systems, and any other surprises the reef offers. Lunch will be onboard at midday with drinking water, tea and coffee provided.

After a full day on the water, we will head into the cosy little town of Coral Bay to settle into our camp which will be fully set up for us by the team at Camp Easy Ningaloo. Take the afternoon off for relaxation or photo editing, we can then grab a drink and head to the beach for sunset, followed by dinner at a local restaurant.

DAY 7-8 - CORAL BAY HUMPBACKS & CAMPING

After a good night's rest, we'll enjoy breakfast and coffee from the local bakery in town before heading back out for another day on the water, exploring new areas of the Ningaloo coast in Coral bay. This time we will be searching for humpback whales to swim with (as well as mantas, sharks and what ever else may be cruising by). We will also have the chance to snorkel and explore more of the reef and meet new inhabitants along the way. Each day we will take you to new areas and find a variety of differnt animals, so trusts us when we say every day is different!

Things to note: Our camp ground for the last 3 nights will be at 'The Peoples Park' in Coral Bay which is right near next to the beach and walking distance to the shops. They have access to electricity to recharge batteries at our camp and a fully equipped bathroom and shower facility as well as nice grassy camp sites. This is not a "wild Aussie" outback camping experience, its super comfy and close to all necessary amenities. Snakes and critters are rarely seen, so don't worry you're quite safe! Best of all its right next to the beach with a cool ocean breeze and under the stars!

EDITING SESSIONS

Each afternoon Brooke will be available to coach guests 1:1 on editing with lightroom and provide feedback and assistance as needed.





DAY 9 - DEPARTURE

10AM CHECKOUT AND FAREWELLS

It's hard to say goodbye after a week like this. Please make sure your tent is left tidy and all your treasures (and camera gear!) are packed. Departures back to Exmouth are scheduled after 10:00 AM. Our shuttle bus will drop guests back to Exmouth town or Learmonth Airport depending on your next destination.

We hope you take home lasting memories, stunning photos, and the kind of salt-soaked joy that only Ningaloo can give.

PLEASE NOTE:

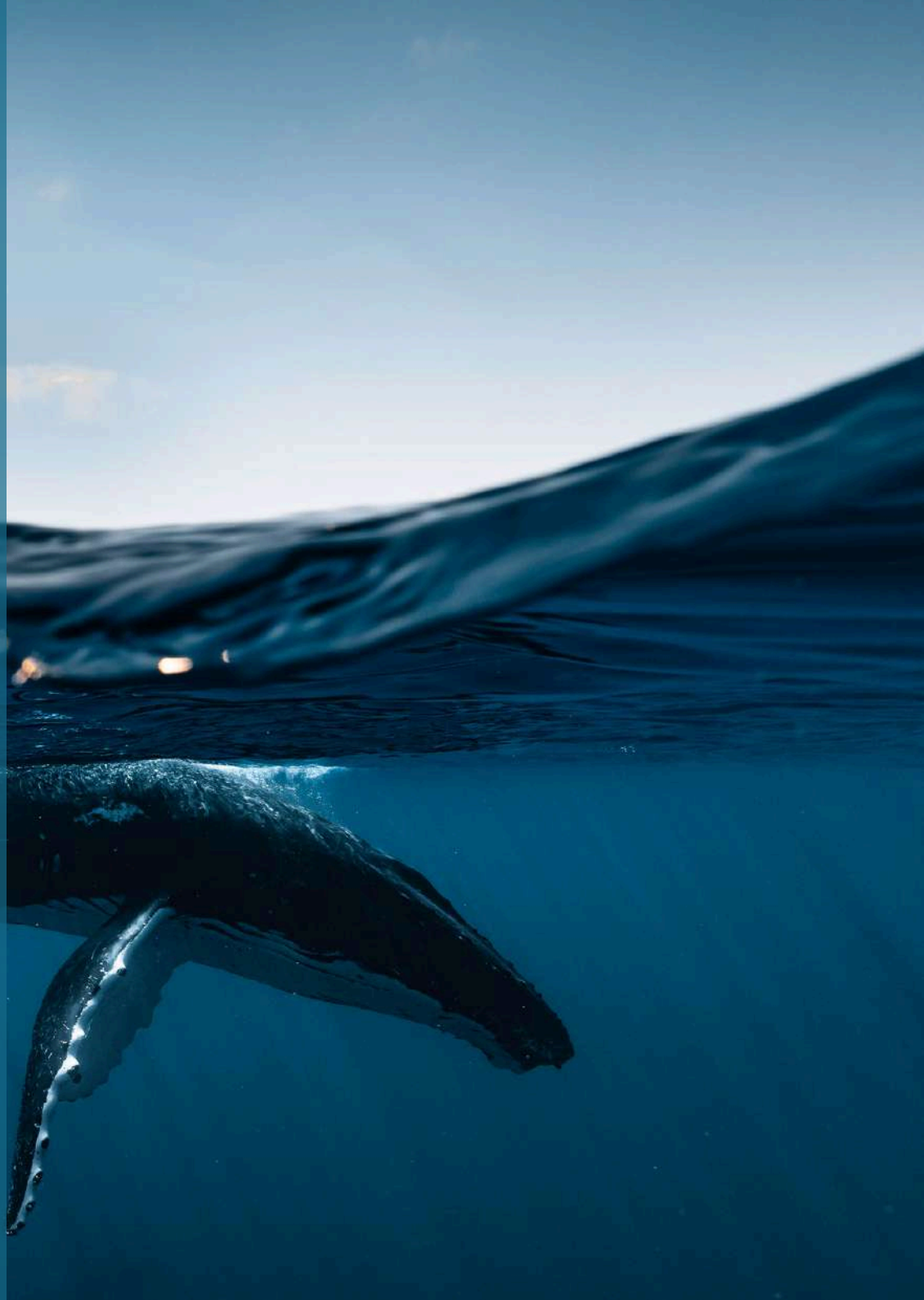
Please keep in mind that this itinerary is a guide rather than a fixed schedule. On the Ningaloo Coast, wind, swell, tides and visibility decide when we can safely get in the water. Wildlife encounters with whale sharks, humpbacks, mantas and turtles are wild and never guaranteed. Marine park conditions, decisions by tour operators and other things outside our control can also play a part. If we need to, we may swap days, change the order of activities, move to a more sheltered site or replace an activity with the best alternative on the day. Every change will be made with your safety and comfort first and with the aim of giving you the best possible time in the water. We'll keep you updated as we go so you always know what's planned.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 5 Days on the water swimming with marine megafauna
- 5 nights in a modern marina-front villa
- 3 Nights camping in Coral Bay
- Exmouth - Coral Bay return transfers
- Continental breakfasts (fruit, museli, toast)
- Dinners, lunches, tea, coffee and drinking water
- 2x Whale Shark Eco Tours (Exmouth)
- 2x Private Charter Humpback Whale Eco Tours (Coral Bay)
- 1x Private Charter Manta Ray Eco Tours (Coral Bay)
- 1x Cape Range Birding & Wildlife Safari
- Full-day freediving introduction with Salty Hearts
- Marine biologist and in-water guide on all charters
- 5 days aerial marine-life spotter with dedicated pilot & aircraft

- Photography fundamentals workshop
- Editing and photography 1:1 coaching
- Marine life presentation with a local researcher and biologist
- Professional images from your trip captured by Brooke
- Digital copies of all workshop materials and presentations
- Underwater photography eBook (digital PDF)

- Exclusive merchandise pack
- Marine Biologist co-host support throughout
- Small group of only 8 guests
- Photography guide Brooke Pyke





WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

- Mask and snorkel (low-volume freediving mask recommended)
- Freediving fins (or closed-heel snorkelling fins, not scuba fins)
- Freediving weight belt (weights provided)
- 1–2mm fin socks (if you're prone to blisters)
- Full-length wetsuit (3mm or 5mm recommended)
- Spray jacket, warm sweater and beanie
- Swimwear and clothing for both warm and cool weather
- Sunhat and reef-safe sunscreen
- Beach towel
- Reusable water bottle
- Seasickness medication (if you're prone to motion sickness)
- Insect repellent
- Telstra or similar SIM card (no Optus reception in Exmouth)
- Good vibes and your inner ocean calm

FOR THOSE PARTICIPATING IN PHOTOGAPHY:

- Camera with wide-angle lens, GoPro or similar
- Underwater housing for camera
- Zoom lens (optional for above-water photos)
- Spare batteries and SD cards
- Spare O-rings, grease and basic camera tools
- Lens cleaner and microfibre cloths
- Carry bag for your camera
- Arm or wrist lanyard for underwater setups
- GoPro as a backup (optional)
- Laptop with Adobe Lightroom Classic installed
- Portable hard drive for backups



WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

- Underwater camera hire
- Snorkelling and freediving equipment
- Editing software or laptop
- Portable hard drives
- Travel Insurance (mandatory)
- Camera equipment insurance
- Airport transfers
- International or domestic flights
- Alcoholic drinks





















OUR ACCOMMODATION

DAY 1-5 MODERN VILLA IN EXMOUTH MARINA

- Swimming pool with private jetty
- Walking distance to the beach
- Air conditioning throughout
- Fully equipped kitchen
- Laundry with washer and dryer
- Outdoor BBQ and sitting area with canal views
- Spacious living and dining areas
- Double and twin-share sleeping options
- Bed linens and bath towels provided

DAY 6-8 THE PEOPLES PARK CORAL BAY

- Over the road from the beach at Coral Bay
- Walking distance to local restaurants and shops
- Cool ocean breeze, sounds of the ocean, view of the stars
- Walking distance to sunset view point
- Hot showers and bathroom facilities
- Access to electricity onsite
- Camp kitchen, chairs and tables, lighting
- Spacious tents with comfortbale camp mattress
- Double and twin-share sleeping options
- Bed linens, pillow, sleeping bags and bath towels provided

WHAT WILL WE SEE?

A UNIQUE MARINE SAFARI ADVENTURE

While we'd love to guarantee magical wildlife encounters, the truth is that each experience is guided by nature. Like an African safari, our marine tour is a journey to discover incredible creatures in their natural habitat, adapting to weather, sea conditions, and wildlife behaviour.

Our promise to you is to do everything we can to create unforgettable moments. With a small swimming group of up to 8 guests, we maximise your chances for meaningful encounters. To enhance these opportunities, we work with a highly skilled spotter plane pilot who helps locate and track megafauna like whale sharks, manta rays, and humpback whales.

As these are wild animals, their movements are unpredictable, and their well-being is always our priority. We follow strict guidelines to ensure that all interactions are respectful and ethical for both guests and marine life. While we can't guarantee encounters, we can guarantee a responsible and memorable experience.

If a creature we're swimming with dives or moves along, our spotter plane will help us find more opportunities. Multiple encounters are often possible throughout the day, and we encourage you to swim only when you feel comfortable. Decisions to approach or swim with certain marine life are always guided by the animals' welfare, safety, and legal considerations in coordination with our experienced in-water guides and skipper.

You'll also have plenty of chances to spot marine life from the surface near the boat. Even animals not suitable for swimming with can provide stunning photo opportunities and unforgettable memories. Each day is an adventure, and we can't wait to share the magic of Ningaloo with you.

POSSIBILITIES OF IN WATER INTERACTIONS

- Aggregating whale sharks
- Feeding manta Rays
- Migrating humpback Whales
- Sea Turtles
- Octopus
- Sea snakes
- Variety of tropical fish
- Reef Sharks
- Stingrays
- Shovelnose rays
- Leopard sharks
- Schooling fish
- Eagle rays
- Jellyfish
- Macro reef critters

WHAT WE MIGHT SEE FROM THE BOAT

- Pods of dolphins
- Playful humpback whales
- Humpback mothers with calves
- Minke whales
- Orcas
- Seabirds
- Tiger sharks
- Dugongs
- Sea snakes

Please note: marine life sightings cannot be guaranteed, but these are the species we may encounter. What we can guarantee is a fantastic day on the ocean, surrounded by passionate people who love what they do and are excited to share it with you!

HOW DO WE INTERACT WITH MARINE MEGAFAUNA?

Our interactions with marine life are regulated by the Department of Parks and Wildlife to ensure a safe, respectful experience for both animals and guests. We'll go over these rules in detail during the safari, but here's an overview to familiarize you with our approach.

General Guidelines

- No Touching: We never touch or hold onto any marine animals. This is essential to ensure their safety and natural behavior.
- No Flash Photography: Flash photography is prohibited to prevent disturbing the animals.

Mantas

- Distance: Maintain at least 2-3 meters from mantas and avoid blocking their path.
- Curious Encounters: Mantas may approach closer out of curiosity; interactions are always initiated by the manta.

Whale Sharks

- Distance: Keep at least 3 meters when swimming with or beside a whale shark, and 4 meters from its tail.
- Group Size: Maximum of 10 guests with 2 in-water guides at a time.

Humpback Whales

- Distance: Approach no closer than 30 meters, allowing the whale to decide if it wants to interact. If it approaches, maintain at least 15 meters. Freediving is never allowed.
- Mother and Calf: A calf must be at least half the size of its mother for interactions.
- Group Size & Restrictions: Maximum of 7 guests with 2 in-water guides.

These guidelines ensure respectful, ethical, and safe interactions with each species, creating a memorable experience while prioritising the animals' well-being.


CONTENT










INTRO TO
FREEDIVING







BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

GETTING HERE

To reach Exmouth you can fly from Perth to Learmonth Airport, located 32 km south of Exmouth. You can book airport transfers with Exmouth Bus Charters. Please note that there are no taxis in town. It is possible drive from Perth (a scenic 14-hour / 1,200km journey).

CHECK IN & ARRIVAL

Check in at our accomodation on day 1 is from 3pm onwards on August 3rd. Please aim to arrive to Exmouth on the afternoon flight if arriving on the 3rd, or come a day or so early (arrange your own accomodation). You can book airport and town transfers with 'Exmouth Bus Charters' (there are no taxis).

GETTING AROUND

Exmouth is a small, walkable town. Your accommodation is about a 25-minute walk from the town centre. Coral Bay is even smaller and everything is within a 2-3 minute walk (including the beach). During the trip, all group activities include transfers. If you need to visit shops independently, walking is the best option, as there is no public transport or taxis. Should you need anything essential picked up, one of our guides can do that for you.

MEALS

All meals, snacks, drinking water, tea and coffee will be provided throughout the trip. Lunches and dinners are prepared by a local caterer. Breakfasts are continental (pastries, cereals, yogurt, toast, fruits). Dietary requirements can be accommodated; however, we do not serve meat or seafood for conservation reasons. On charter days, lunch, snacks, and hot drinks are provided.

SHOPPING

Although Exmouth and Coral Bay are small towna, they have all the essential shops for your convenience, including a bakeries, grocery stores, a pharmacy, post office, surf shops, bottle shop, art gallery, gift stores, and a medical center.

WHATSAPP GROUP

Closer to your arrival, we'll create a WhatsApp group so all participants can e-meet and connect before the trip.











BROOKE PYKE
PHOTOGRAPHY

DATES: AUGUST 2027
AUG 3RD -AUG1TH

Ecarly Bird Offer

$9,000 AUD PER GUEST
(BOOK BEFORE 1ST JANUARY 2027)

$9,500 AUD PER GUEST
(BOOK AFTER 1ST JANUARY 2027)

To book we require a $2,000 AUD deposit to hold your space with balance due 90 days before arrival.

BOOK NOW

book your space now

EMAIL:INFO@BROOKEPYKEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can you guarantee what we will see on the trip?
No, and that's part of the adventure! Each tour is unique, and we make every effort to provide an exceptional experience, using tools like spotter planes and limiting guest numbers to maximize the chance of encounters with marine species. Each day on the reef is special, and this safari is designed to showcase the best of Ningaloo as the locals see it.

What can I expect from the experience?
This marine megafauna safari is for adventurers seeking a one-of-a-kind experience. We embrace the beauty of what the reef offers each day, using a spotter plane to locate suitable megafauna for swimming with. While nature has no guarantees, we do our best to facilitate memorable in-water encounters, often with multiple species throughout the day.

Can I join if I'm not a photographer?
Yes, absolutely. This trip is for anyone who wants to experience the wildlife - photography is optional.

What if we encounter bad weather?
Bad weather is rare, but if it occurs, our vessel is built for offshore conditions, and our experienced skipper can adjust the tour accordingly. The inner lagoon offers protection if needed. If conditions make the tour unsafe and we must cancel that portion of the tour, we will refund that portion cost of your trip if we are not able to rescehdule to another day.

Do I need travel and diving insurance?
Yes, this is mandatory incase of flight interuptions, trip cancellations outside our control or medical emergencies. Make sure your policy covers snorkeling and freediving to ensure full coverage.

I'm not a strong swimmer. Can I join?
You don't need to be an Olympic swimmer, but a moderate level of swimming ability and fitness is essential. You should feel comfortable swimming 100 meters in open water, as conditions may include wind and swell. Our in-water guides and in water safety-trained crew are always nearby to assist.

Do I need my own freediving gear?
Yes, bringing your own gear (low volume mask, snorkel, closed heel fins, snorkel, full wetsuit, freediving belt) is ideal for your comfort as we will be spending a lot of time in the water.

Do I need to be experienced at snorkelling and freediving?
You should be a confident ocean snorkeler, but freediving is optional. You'll receive a full-day introduction to freediving during the trip. Most interactions occur at the surface, so snorkeling is sufficient. Diving down a few meters is optional and helpful for getting closer to wildlife in deeper water.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ... continued

What camera should I bring?
This greatly depends on your budget. As a minimum a GoPro can be a great option. For the best results with a bigger budget a compact or full frame camera setup with manual features, a wide-angle or fisheye lens, and underwater housing is ideal.

Can you recommend a beginner camera setup?
Great beginner setups include the Canon G7X, Canon G16, Sony RX100, or Sony A6500, paired with a wide-angle or fisheye lens. Look for housing, domes, or wet lenses from brands like Nauticam, Aquatica, Ikelite, Marelux, or Fantasea.

Should I use floats for my camera?
We recommend a neutrally or negatively buoyant setup, as floating cameras can be difficult to maneuver underwater. Adding weight can help you handle your camera more comfortably.

Do I need strobes or lights?
No, this trip focuses on ambient light photography. With shallow water and natural light, there's no need for additional lights, and this approach minimizes disturbance to the marine life.

I'm a beginner at photography. Can I still join?
Absolutely! This trip is designed for photographers of all skill levels. We recommend practicing with your camera setup beforehand so you're familiar with its controls. Practicing in a pool or at the beach is a great way to build confidence before the trip.

What is the average water visibility?
Visibility varies based on swell, wind, and tides, typically ranging from 5-15m, with some days reaching 20-30m+.

Do I need to wear a wetsuit?
Wearing a wetsuit is optional but recommended for comfort during long days in the water. Even on warm days, you can get cold. Water temperatures in August range from 20–25°C. For safety, we require full coverage of arms and legs to protect against jellyfish. A 3mm wetsuit is ideal, or a 5mm steamer if you feel the cold. But leggings and a rash guard are also suitable if you wild enough to try that. Brrrrr

I have a health condition, can I join?
It depends on your health condition, and even then, a doctor's letter of approval may be requested. You must disclose any medical conditions to us before the trip.

Is the camping safe?
For those new to the camping side of things, our camp ground for the last 3 nights will be at 'The Peoples Park' in Coral Bay which is right by the centre of town opposite close to the shops and beach. We will have access to electricity to recharge batteries at our camp and a fully equipped bathroom and shower facility as well as nice grassy camp sites. This is not a "wild aussie" outback camping experience, its super comfy and close to all necessary amenities. Snakes and critters are rarely seen, so don't worry you're quite safe! Best of all its right next to the beach and under the stars! We will have a safe and lockable place to store any valuables should you need as well.

BOOKING TS & CS

These terms apply to every booking on the Ningaloo 2027 small group trip run by photography guide Brooke Pyke in conjunction with local tour operators (“we", "us") on the Ningaloo (Nyinggulu) Coast, Western Australia. By paying a deposit, you ("the guest") confirm you have read and accept these terms on behalf of yourself and anyone in your booking.

Nothing in these terms excludes or limits any rights you have under the Australian Consumer Law that cannot lawfully be excluded.

1 Bookings, deposit and payment

1.1 The trip is limited to 8 guests. Places are confirmed in the order deposits are received, and a place is only held once the deposit has cleared.

1.2 A deposit of $2,000AUD per person is payable at the time of booking. The deposit is non refundable and non transferable to another departure, except as set out in clause 2.4 or where we cancel the trip.

1.3 The balance of the trip price is due no later than [90] days before the trip start date. If you book within [90] days of departure, the full trip price is payable at booking.

1.4 If the balance is not received by the due date, we may treat the booking as cancelled by you, release your place, and retain the deposit.

1.5 All prices are in Australian dollars and include GST where applicable. Bank, credit card or currency conversion fees are the guest's responsibility.

1.6 The trip price includes accommodation, listed tours, guiding, park and marine fees, meals as stated in the itinerary]. It does not include flights, airport transfers, travel insurance, personal equipment hire unless stated, alcohol, or any other personal expenses.

2 Cancellation by the guest

2.1 Cancellations must be made in writing by email. The date we receive your email is the cancellation date.

2.2 If you cancel more than [90] days before the trip start date, we retain the deposit and refund any other amounts paid.

2.3 If you cancel [90] days or less before the trip start date, the full trip price is forfeited and no refund is payable.

2.4 If you cancel and we are able to fill your place from a waitlist, we will refund the amounts paid less the deposit. You may also transfer your booking to another person at no cost, provided they meet the requirements in clause 4 and we are notified in writing before [30] days prior to departure.

2.5 No refund is given for any part of the trip you miss or choose not to take part in, including late arrival, early departure, illness, or removal from the trip under clause 5.

3 Changes and cancellation by us

3.1 Ningaloo trips depend on weather, sea conditions and wildlife. Activities, times and the order of the itinerary may change at short notice for safety, conservation or operational reasons. Where possible we will offer a suitable alternative, and changes of this kind do not entitle you to a refund.

3.2 Wildlife encounters, including whale sharks, humpback whales, manta rays and other species, are wild and cannot be guaranteed. No refund is given if a particular species is not seen.

3.3 All in water activities are conducted in line with the Ningaloo Marine Park and DBCA wildlife interaction guidelines. The decision of the guide or vessel skipper on safety and conservation matters is final.

3.4 If we cancel the trip for any reason within our control, or if minimum numbers are not reached, you will receive a full refund of all amounts paid to us, including the deposit, or the option to transfer to a future date.

3.5 If the trip is cancelled or cut short due to events beyond our reasonable control, such as cyclones, extreme weather, natural disasters, pandemics, government directions or park closures, we will offer a transfer to a future departure or a credit for the unused portion of the trip. Refunds in these circumstances are at our discretion and will be less any non recoverable costs already paid to suppliers.

3.6 We are not responsible for flights, accommodation or other travel costs you arrange yourself, including where the trip is changed or cancelled.

4 Fitness, certification and health

4.1 Guests must be confident ocean swimmers and reasonably fit to take part in snorkelling, open ocean swimming and boat based activities in open ocean conditions with large marine animals.

4.2 Freediving is entirely optional. Guests freedive within their own ability and comfort, never alone, and must follow the guide's safety briefing, including buddy and surface supervision. No formal freediving certification is required, but guests must tell us of any relevant experience or training at booking.

4.3 All guests must complete a medical questionnaire before the trip. If a doctor's clearance is required, it is the guest's responsibility to obtain it in advance. We may refuse participation in any activity where we reasonably believe it is unsafe for you, and no refund is payable in that case.

4.4 Please tell us at booking about any dietary requirements, allergies or medical needs so we can do our best to accommodate them.

5 Insurance and conduct

5.1 Comprehensive travel insurance is a condition of booking. It must cover cancellation, medical expenses, emergency evacuation, and snorkelling and freediving activities. Please send us your policy details before departure.

5.2 Guests must follow the reasonable instructions of the guide, skipper and crew at all times, and respect wildlife, the marine park rules and the Traditional Owners of the Nyinggulu Coast.

5.3 We may remove a guest from any activity or from the trip, without refund, if their behaviour endangers themselves, others or wildlife, or disrupts the group, including through the effects of alcohol or drugs.

6 Risk and liability

6.1 Snorkelling, freediving, swimming with wildlife and boat travel carry inherent risks, including injury, illness and in rare cases death. By booking, you acknowledge these risks and agree to take part at your own risk. All guests will be asked to sign a separate risk acknowledgement and release before taking part in water activities.

6.2 To the extent permitted by law, including the Australian Consumer Law, we are not liable for any loss, injury, damage, delay or expense arising from events beyond our reasonable control, the acts of third party suppliers, or the guest's own actions.

6.3 You are responsible for your own personal belongings and camera equipment. We are not liable for loss of, or damage to, equipment, including flooding of underwater housings.

7 Photography and image use

7.1 We may photograph and film guests during the trip. By booking, you consent to us using these images for marketing and promotional purposes, including on social media and our website. If you prefer not to appear in published images, please tell us in writing before the trip.

7.2 Guests are welcome to take photos for personal use. Images of other guests should not be published without their consent.

8 Privacy

8.1 Personal information you provide, including health information, is collected only to run the trip safely and is handled in line with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). It will be shared only with suppliers and emergency services where needed.

9 General

9.1 These terms are governed by the laws of Western Australia. We may update these terms from time to time; the version in place at the time of your booking will apply.