

WWW.BROOKEPYKEPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

AUGUST 2026

MARINE MEGAFUNA EXPERIENCE

NINGALOO



DATES: AUGUST 2026
TRIP 1: AUG 1ST - AUG 9TH
TRIP 2: AUG 10TH - AUG 18TH



NINGALOO LIKE NEVER BEFORE

Luxury villas. Private charters. Expert guides. Aerial spotters. World-class photography. Cultural adventures. This is Ningaloo, elevated.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2-day private Exmouth Whale Shark & megafauna charter
- 2-day private Coral Bay Manta & megafauna charter
- Full-day private freediving instruction
- 8 nights in a modern marina-front villa
- 1-night under-the-stars cultural camping experience
- Private chef with all-inclusive meals
- Aerial marine life spotter pilot on all charters
- Storyteller guide Brooke Pyke
- Expedition leader from Airguides
- Photography masterclasses with Brooke
- Marine biologist and in-water guides on charters
- Personalized gallery of your best trip photos

BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW

EMAIL US: HELLO@AIRGUIDES.COM

PHONE/WHATSAPP: (+61) 402552918

ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE

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

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

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.

Journey inland for a night of camping beneath the stars at Baiyungu Dreaming, guided by local Aboriginal elders. Around the campfire, share a meal, hear Dreamtime stories passed down through generations, and witness the vast stillness of the Australian outback night sky.

Your stay is fully catered, with every meal prepared by our private in-house chef in the comfort of our exclusive marina-front villa. Using fresh, seasonal produce, we'll eat vibrant vegetarian dishes that feel both nourishing and a little indulgent after days spent on the reef.

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 snorkeller.



WHY BOOK THIS EXPERIENCE?

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.

Public tours often meant sharing the water with up to 23 passengers of varying abilities, which frequently limited the experience. Swimming alongside large groups of inexperienced snorkellers diluted the magic. 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. Through collaboration with local biologists and the Baiyungu Dreaming cultural experience, guests gain a deeper understanding of both the marine ecosystem and the ancient stories that shape this coastline.

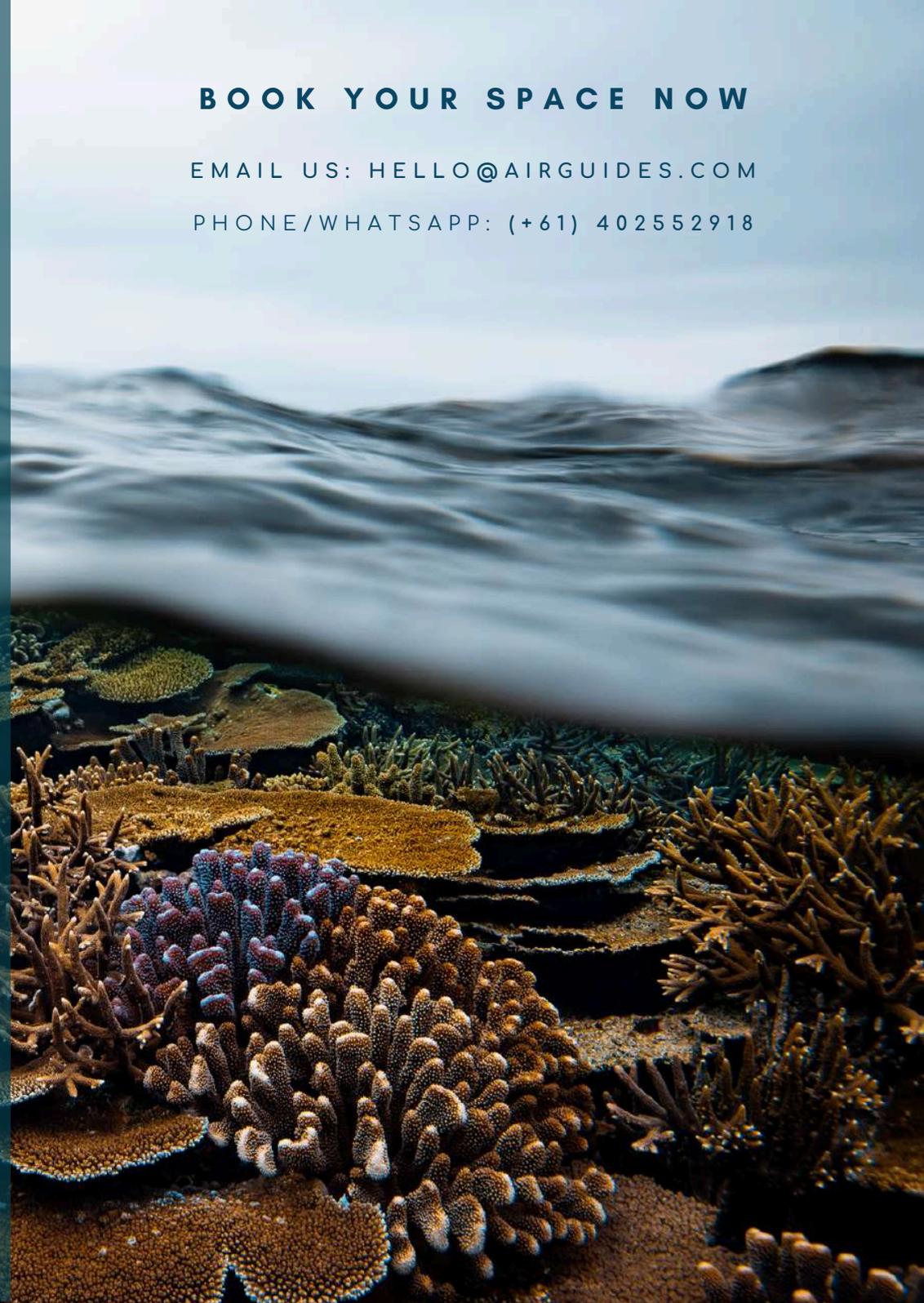
With small groups and private charters, Brooke's expeditions are ideal for photographers. It's a chance to refine your underwater photography skills and receive hands-on guidance from Brooke throughout the journey.

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.

BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW

EMAIL US: HELLO@AIRGUIDES.COM

PHONE/WHATSAPP: (+61) 402552918





ABOUT THE NINGALOO REEF

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 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 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.

CLIMATE AND WATER TEMPERATURE

August is winter in Australia, but winters on Ningaloo Reef are mild. Daytime temperatures typically range from 20-25°C, while nighttime temperatures can drop to around 8°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 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 NINGALOO EXPERIENCE 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 BBQ dinner to celebrate the start of your adventure.

*Please arrive in Exmouth on the afternoon flight. Check-in is strictly from 3pm.

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 local pool with Kyra, our experienced instructor from Salty Hearts Freediving School. You'll learn the core techniques for diving on a single breath: static and dynamic apnea, streamlining, finning, duck diving, in-water safety and rescues, and freediving with a camera. This session will help you deepen your connection with the water and ensure you feel confident and safe for the week ahead.

DAY 3 - PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

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.

The afternoon is free for you to rest, explore, or prepare for the adventures ahead.

6PM EVENING EVENT

Marine Life Presentation by a local marine biologist.

DAY 4-5 - MEGAFUNA CHARTER

8AM DEPART EXMOUTH MARINA

We'll board Latitude 22 and begin our charter with crew introductions, a safety briefing, and a boat orientation.

Morning tea, snacks, and hot drinks will be served as we cruise toward our first reef snorkel. Expect to see stingrays, turtles, reef sharks, and vibrant coral bommies teeming with fish. A perfect opportunity to warm up your camera skills with Brooke nearby for guidance and feedback.

Next, we'll enjoy light snacks and hot drinks as we depart the Exmouth Gulf and head toward the outer reef. Meanwhile, our spotter pilot will begin searching for the first marine megafauna to swim with. 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. Our focus will be on locating megafauna that we can swim with and photograph. But be prepared for anything, this is Ningaloo Reef, and nature has a way of surprising us with incredible encounters.

Once marine megafauna are spotted, we'll brief you on in-water interactions. This will include our protocols and local laws. The specifics of this portion of the tour vary each day, depending on conditions and the wildlife we encounter.

At midday, we'll enjoy a delicious lunch as we return to the inner lagoon for the day's final activities. Depending on conditions, we 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 Exmouth Marina between 2:00 and 3:00 PM, with drop-off at your accommodation shortly after.

EVENING EVENT -DAY 4, 6.00PM

Photo review and feedback session with Brooke.



DAY 6-7 - CORAL BAY & OUTBACK CAMPING

7AM CORAL BAY ADVENTURE

We'll depart Exmouth early and drive 1.5 hours south to the small coastal town of Coral Bay. There, we'll board Wirraji, Western Australia's first fully electric vessel, and explore the southern end of the Ningaloo Reef. With our spotter pilot searching overhead, we'll look for resident manta rays, loggerhead turtles, and dense healthy reef systems, and any other surprises the reef offers.

After a full day on the water, Wirraji will bring us to the shores of Cardabia Station, where our hosts welcome us ashore. Our camp will be set up, ready for a night under the stars. As the sun sets, traditional owner Hazel Walgar will share local stories and cultural history of the Nynggulu people. Soak up the views and Dreamtime stories as the sun sets on another day in this ancient wilderness landscape.

As night falls, we'll gather around the fire with our hosts and crew to share dinner, reflect on the incredible days behind us, and marvel at the night sky above. You'll have a chance to photograph the Milky Way before heading to your cosy swag for a peaceful night's sleep by the shore.

After a good night's rest, we enjoy breakfast before heading back out for our final day on the water, exploring new areas of the Ningaloo coast in Coral bay. In the afternoon, we'll journey back to our villa in Exmouth for a relaxing evening and a well-earned rest.

Things to note: Cardabia Station is fully equipped with showers, toilets, and electricity for charging electronics. Camping is in traditional Australian canvas swags. For this overnight trip, we'll pack only essentials and leave all other belongings safely at the Exmouth villa.



DAY 6-7 - CORAL BAY & OUTBACK CAMPING

7AM CORAL BAY ADVENTURE

We'll depart Exmouth early and drive 1.5 hours south to the small coastal town of Coral Bay. There, we'll board Wirraji, Western Australia's first fully electric vessel, and explore the southern end of the Ningaloo Reef. With our spotter pilot searching overhead, we'll look for resident manta rays, loggerhead turtles, and dense healthy reef systems, and any other surprises the reef offers.

After a full day on the water, Wirraji will bring us to the shores of Cardabia Station, where our hosts welcome us ashore. Our camp will be set up, ready for a night under the stars. As the sun sets, traditional owner Hazel Walgar will share local stories and cultural history of the Nynggulu people. Soak up the views and Dreamtime stories as the sun sets on another day in this ancient wilderness landscape.

As night falls, we'll gather around the fire with our hosts and crew to share dinner, reflect on the incredible days behind us, and marvel at the night sky above. You'll have a chance to photograph the Milky Way before heading to your cosy swag for a peaceful night's sleep by the shore.

After a good night's rest, we enjoy breakfast before heading back out for our final day on the water, exploring new areas of the Ningaloo coast in Coral bay. In the afternoon, we'll journey back to our villa in Exmouth for a relaxing evening and a well-earned rest.

Things to note: Cardabia Station is fully equipped with showers, toilets, and electricity for charging electronics. Camping is in traditional Australian canvas swags. For this overnight trip, we'll pack only essentials and leave all other belongings safely at the Exmouth villa.





DAY 8 - LIGHTROOM EDITING WORKSHOP

9AM PHOTO EDITING WITH BROOKE

Join Brooke for an immersive, hands-on photo editing workshop designed to elevate your images. Select a few of your favourite shots from the trip and dive into Adobe Lightroom Classic, where she'll guide you step-by-step through essential tools, creative adjustments, and subtle techniques to bring out the best in every image.

Each participant will also enjoy a 1-on-1 feedback session, where Brooke will review your work, offer personalised advice, and answer any questions about photography or editing.

6PM EVENING EVENT

Farewell dinner to celebrate a week of unforgettable adventures and new friendships.

DAY 9 - DEPARTURE

10AM CHECKOUT AND FAREWELLS

It's hard to say goodbye after a week like this. Please make sure the villa is left tidy and all your treasures (and camera gear!) are packed. Departures from Exmouth are scheduled after 10:00 AM.

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

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 8 nights in a modern marina-front villa
 - Fully catered meals prepared by our private in-house chef
 - Fresh, healthy vegetarian breakfasts, lunches, and dinners
 - Welcome dinner and celebratory drinks on the day of arrival
 - Unlimited tea, coffee, mineral water, snacks and fruit
-
- 2 private Exmouth megafauna charters
 - 2 private Coral Bay megafauna charters
 - Full-day freediving introduction with Salty Hearts
 - 1-night cultural camping experience with Baiyungu Dreaming
 - Marine biologist and in-water guide on all charters
 - 4 days aerial marine-life spotter with dedicated pilot & aircraft
-
- Photography fundamentals workshop
 - Adobe Lightroom editing workshop
 - 1:1 photo feedback session with Brooke
 - 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 manual (digital PDF)
-
- Exclusive merchandise pack – t-shirt, mask tamer, travel towel
 - AirGuides trip leader and co-host support throughout
 - In-house high-speed Wi-Fi
 - Small group of only 8 guests





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
- 1-2mm fin socks (if you're prone to blisters)
- Full-length wetsuit (3mm 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 PHOTOGRAPHY:

- 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 or dive insurance
- Camera equipment insurance
- Airport transfers (we can assist with booking)
- International or domestic flights
- Alcoholic drinks

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 MEGAFUNA?

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.





YOUR MEGAFAUNA VESSEL

EXMOUTH, LATTITUDE 22

Introducing Latitude 22. The ultimate vessel for cruising the Ningaloo reef, surpassing her competitors on all fronts.

Latitude 22 is the most, modern, luxurious, spacious and comfortable vessel the Whale Shark industry has seen to date. She provides the ultimate platform for you to experience your day to the fullest. There is not one aspect of the vessel that has not been designed to surpass your needs. Huge upper and lower decks to give you the freedom to move around and soak in the view. The largest and lowest swim board to assist you safely on and off the vessel with ease. Latitude 22 is designed to perform in any weather conditions at speed, maximising your in-water time and minimising travel time. This also enables a larger operational area than the rest of the fleet providing the highest chance of success. Her manoeuvrability completely eliminates the need for an auxiliary (assistance vessel)

- Length overall 21m
- Width 5.6m
- Draft 1.3m
- Gross tonnage 34t
- Engines 2 x FPT C16 1000hp
- Cruising speed 20 Knots
- Top Speed 26 Knots
- Desalination plant 180L p/h
- Ships power supply 240, 24 & 12 volts
- Survey class (1B) 50 people 180 km offshore
- Accommodation 12 people 360 km offshore





YOUR MEGAFAUNA VESSEL CORAL BAY, WIRRAJI

Operating from Coral Bay, Wirraji is a pioneering force in sustainable marine tourism – the ultimate platform to explore the southern reaches of the Ningaloo Reef. Powered by lithium batteries, this stunning electric vessel offers a glimpse into the future of eco-adventure.

Cruise in unmatched style and comfort aboard Australia's first ocean-going electric charter boat. Immaculately presented and custom-built in New Zealand to handle tough conditions, Wirraji offers a smooth, silent ride – redefining what it means to tour the reef.

Perfect for manta ray swims and snorkelling adventures, Wirraji operates almost entirely without noise. This elevates the onboard experience, reduces noise pollution, and allows for deeper, more natural wildlife encounters – all while leaving a gentler footprint on the reef and its inhabitants.

Technical Specifications:

- Length overall: 11 m
- Width: 4.65 m
- Draft: 0.8 m
- Motors: 2 × 60 kW electric
- Batteries: MG water-cooled lithium 61 kWh 350 DC
- Solar: 1.8 kW
- Back-up generator: 120 kW
- Cruising speed: 11 knots
- Top speed: 21 knots
- Desalination plant: 180 L/h
- Ship power supply: 350 DC, 12 V DC, 230 V AC
- Survey class (2C): 17 people, 55 km offshore





OUR EYES IN THE SKY

OUR AIRCRAFT – Airborne XT-912 Arrow Wing

Ocean Eco Adventures owns and operates its very own microlight aircraft, and is the only marine tourism operator on Ningaloo using this technology to locate marine life.

Microlights offer unmatched visibility and maneuverability, making them a safe and practical way to spot wildlife. They are also far more environmentally sustainable than conventional aircraft, using significantly less fuel and reducing our carbon footprint.

This unique approach allows Ocean Eco Adventures to provide a more efficient, high-quality experience for guests, ensuring incredible encounters with the reef's megafauna.

Ocean Eco Adventures pilot Gavin Penfold, who also owns and operates the Birds Eye View microlight training school in Exmouth, is arguably the most experienced pilot in the region, with over 15 years' experience spotting wildlife on Ningaloo Reef.





BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

GETTING HERE

To reach Exmouth, you can drive from Perth - a scenic 14-hour journey if you'd like to explore along the way. Alternatively, you can fly from Perth to Learmonth Airport, located 32 km south of Exmouth. We can assist with pre-booking airport transfers to the accommodation. Please note that there are no taxis in town.

GETTING AROUND

Exmouth is a small, walkable town. Your accommodation is about a 25-minute walk or a 5-minute bike ride from the town center. During the trip, all group activities include transfers. If you need to visit shops independently, walking or cycling is the best option, as there is no public transport.

MEALS

All meals, snacks, mineral water, and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided throughout the trip. Vegetarian meals are prepared by our professional in-house chef. Dietary requirements can be accommodated; however, we do not serve meat or seafood for conservation reasons. On charter days, breakfast, lunch, snacks, and drinks - including sparkling wine and beers at the end of the day, will be provided.

SHOPPING

Although Exmouth is a small town, it has essential shops for your convenience, including a bakery, two IGA grocery stores, a pharmacy, post office, surf shops, bottle shop, art gallery, gift stores, and a medical center.

LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

If you have free time before or after your experience, there are many local attractions to explore. Popular options include Bullara Station, Charles Knife Canyon and Shot-Hole Canyon hikes, Mandu Mandu Gorge Walk, Yardie Creek Gorge Walk, Turquoise Bay, Oyster Stacks, Osprey Bay, Lakeside, and Vlamingh Head Lighthouse. You might also enjoy the Mildura Wreck, Ningaloo Visitor Centre, Bundegi Beach, diving at the Navy Pier or Murion Islands, Baiyungu Dreaming Tours, surfing, or scenic flights with Ningaloo Aviation or Birdseye View Microlight Flights.

WHATSAPP GROUP

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

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, we will refund that portion of your trip.

Do I need travel and diving insurance?

Yes, travel insurance is highly recommended. Make sure your policy covers snorkeling and freediving to ensure full coverage in case of cancellations or unforeseen events.

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 safety-trained crew are always nearby to assist.

Do I need my own freediving gear?

Yes, bringing your own gear (mask, fins, snorkel, wetsuit, weights, and belt) is ideal for comfort. We provide basic snorkeling equipment (mask, snorkel, fins, full wetsuit) for charter days, but you may need to hire additional equipment locally for freediving.

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?

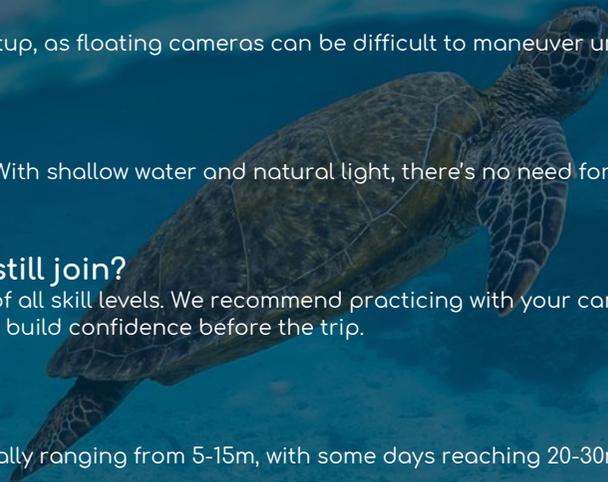
Visibility varies based on swell, wind, and tides, typically ranging from 5-15m, with some days reaching 20-30m+.

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 21-24°C. For safety, we require full coverage of arms and legs to protect against jellyfish. A 3mm wetsuit is ideal, but leggings and a rash guard are also suitable. If you get cold easily, a wetsuit is strongly recommended.

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.





BROOKE PYKE
PHOTOGRAPHY



DATES: AUGUST 2026
TRIP 1: AUG 1ST - AUG 9TH
TRIP 2: AUG 10TH - AUG 18TH

PRICE: \$9,350 AUD PER PERSON

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



BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW

EMAIL US: HELLO@AIRGUIDES.COM

PHONE/WHATSAPP: (+61) 402552918