

Swim with the
Humpbacks of Tonga

July to October 2018



www.WhalesUnderwater.com



Join Canon Master Darren Jew and his team for an unforgettable adventure filled with intimate in-water encounters with magnificent humpback whales in the Kingdom of Tonga's famous Vava'u Group of Islands.

Since 2001 Darren has been travelling the Vava'u, photographing these magnificent creatures as they go about their lives in the warm waters of this South Pacific paradise—and at the same time sharing his experience with small groups of ocean lovers and photographers.



“To look into the eye of a whale and have them look back is like no other wildlife experience on the planet.”

Darren Jew

This is the marine photography adventure of a lifetime!

Not only will you experience some of the best whale encounters imaginable, you'll receive expert tuition allowing you to take your photography to the next level of technique and creativity.

Your 9 or 12 day tour gives you quality time in the water, up-close and personal with the magnificent humpback whales, in the clear, warm waters of their Winter breeding grounds.

This is your chance to shoot alongside Canon Master Darren Jew and gain personal insights into the creative processes that goes into capturing his award-winning images.

In addition to on-water time, a mix of structured workshop sessions and supervised lab time will be led by Darren and Jasmine across the week to ensure you make the most of the images you capture.

See you in Tonga!



9

Swim with the whales

9 days / 8 nights / 6 days on the water

Tour Code

WUWT18A
WUWT18C
WUWT18E
WUWT18G

Available Dates, 8 night tours

25 July – 2 August 2018
15 August to 23 August 2018
5 September to 13 September 2018
26 September to 4 October 2018*

Tour from Price
AUD\$4950

Day 1

Arrival in Vava'u, Tonga.
Transfer to "My Tongan Home". Settle in, equipment preparation and whales swimming briefing.

Dinner

Day 2-4

7.15am

3.00pm

4:00pm

On the water
Board your vessel for full days with the whales, snorkelling, islands +/- 3pm Return to Guest House
Edit time in the lab up until dinner.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5

No-work Sunday
Day at leisure around the village or at local resort.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6-8

7.15am

3.00pm

4:00pm

On the water
Board your vessel for full days with the whales, snorkelling, islands +/- 3pm Return to Guest House
Edit time in the lab up until dinner.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9

Goodbyes :(
Check out, transfer to Airport for onward flights

Breakfast

Landscape and Astro photography sessions will be scheduled subject to suitable conditions.

*Special Australian Geographic Society departure tour price AUD\$5450



12

Swim with the whales

12 days / 11 nights / 8 days on the water

Tour Code
WUWT18B
WUWT18D
WUWT18F
WUWT18H

Available Dates, 8 night tours
3 August to 14 August 2018
24 August to 4 September 2018
14 September to 25 September 2018
5 October to 16 October 2018

Tour Price
AUD\$6795

- Day 1** Arrival in Vava'u, Tonga.
Transfer to "My Tongan Home". Settle in, equipment preparation and whales swimming briefing.
Dinner
- Day 2** On the water
7.15am Board your vessel for full days with the whales, snorkelling, islands
3.00pm +/- 3pm Return to Guest House
4:00pm Edit time in the lab up until dinner.
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Day 3** No-work Sunday. Day at leisure around the village or at local resort.
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Day 4-9** On the water
7.15am Board your vessel for full days with the whales, snorkelling, islands
3.00pm +/- 3pm Return to Guest House
4:00pm Edit time in the lab up until dinner.
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Day 10** No-work Sunday. Day at leisure around the village or at local resort.
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Day 11** On the water
7.15am Board your vessel for full days with the whales, snorkelling, islands
3.00pm +/- 3pm Return to Guest House
4:00pm Edit time in the lab up until dinner.
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Day 12** Goodbyes :(Check out, transfer to Airport for onward flights
Breakfast





The Whales Underwater team

Dedicated to bringing you the best whale swimming experience possible—whether it's the inspiration to jump on board, the fine detail of bookings, the delivery of services on the ground or on the water—the Whales Underwater team all work hard to help make your experience one you'll cherish forever, from the moment you first enquire through 'til the sad goodbyes at the end of your trip.

On the water, our local whale watch skippers are the best in the islands and an integral part of the success of our encounters. On land you'll be treated to true Tonga hospitality by our guest house hosts.



@WhalesUnderwater

Darren Jew Ocean Photographer and host

Having been inspired to explore a career in nature photography by his father's travels in Antarctica, Australian professional photographer Darren Jew now pursues his passion for capturing and sharing the wonder of the natural world.

Darren hosted his first whale swimming photo tour in 2001 and since then has gained a reputation for not only his own whale photography, but his enthusiasm for sharing the whale encounters with other photographers. Darren is 5-time Australian Professional Science, Wildlife and Wild Places Photographer of the Year; is a Canon Master; holds an Associate Diploma in Applied Photography; has been a SCUBA diver since age 14.

Darren also features in Series 1, Episode 1 of the Canon/Nat Geo series "Tales by Light" on Netflix.



@DarrenJew

Jasmine Carey UW Photographer and host

Joining us again in 2018, Jasmine Carey has been diving since 2005 and has worked as assistant and safety diver to Darren on shoots since 2014. She's been integral to the success of Darren's annual event "Foto Frenzy on Lady Elliot Island" and supported a number of underwater-focused Capture to Print Workshop events.

Jasmine first visited Tonga and swam with whales in 2014 and in 2016 and 2017 returned to host Whales Underwater's second boat.

Jasmine has been a SCUBA diver since 2005, is a trained Rescue Diver and has a background in exercise physiology. An accomplished diver, event manager, group leader and underwater photographer, you can see a selection of her images on Instagram @pxlexplorer



@pxlexplorer

Whales Underwater

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Tour inclusions

Tour price **includes:**

- All on-water and off-water activities, boat trips, etc as specified in the 9 or 12 day itineraries
- Expert and personalised photography, tuition and education from Darren and the Whales Underwater Team
- Workshops and Supervised Creative Lab time
- Guided Whales Swims with Licensed Whale Watch operator
- Airport Transfers in Vava'u
- Twin share or double accommodation as per the itinerary
- All Meals from dinner on arrival day to breakfast on departure day

Tour Price **does not include:**

- Flights to and from Vava'u, Kingdom of Tonga
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Snacks
- Discretionary tips
- Items of a personal nature
- Personal snorkelling equipment (you need to bring mask, snorkel, fins and wetsuit with you)
- Comprehensive Travel Insurance as recommended by your travel agent
- Internet Connection over and above the complimentary allocation provided on arrival



Tour Price:

9 day tours from **AUD\$4950** // 12 day Tours **AUD\$6795**

Secure your booking now with a deposit of AUD\$1500 by contacting Jackie at Whales Underwater

As well as looking after your Whales Underwater booking, as an independent Licenced Travel Agent our reservations expert Jackie can also assist with booking the ideal and recommended flights and arrangements to and from Vava'u, along with appropriate and travel insurance.

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