



# Swim with Humpbacks

Kingdom of Tonga

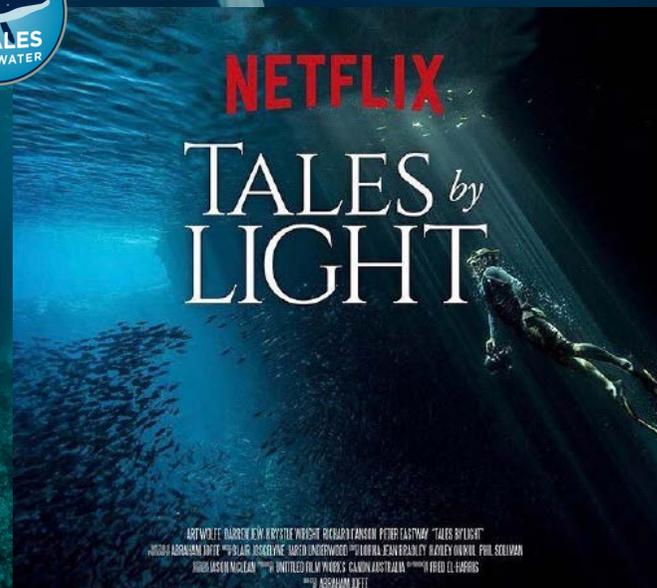


July – October 2020

Join photographers **Jasmine Carey** and **Canon Master Darren Jew** on an unforgettable tour offering unmatched in-water encounters with humpback whales in the Kingdom of Tonga's enchanting Vava'u Group of Islands.

The waters that surround Vava'u are the ideal location to swim with and photograph humpback whales during their winter migration – and at the same time sharing in-water experiences and photography skills with small groups of ocean lovers.

Since 2001 Darren has been travelling to Vava'u, photographing these magnificent creatures as they go about their lives in the warm waters of this South Pacific paradise—as seen on the Netflix series "Tales by Light".



*“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 wildlife adventure of a lifetime!

Your 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 travel alongside renowned photographers Darren Jew and Jasmine Carey and gain insights into the world of whale photography including the creative processes that go into capturing their images.

Not only will you experience some of the best whale encounters imaginable, you can join in on our citizen science data collection project, and receive expert photo guidance allowing you to take your photography to the next level of technique and creativity.

See you in Tonga!





- ✓ 5 days on the water
- ✓ Experienced whale swim crews
- ✓ Comfortable accommodation
- ✓ Image processing sessions
- ✓ Quality photography advice
- ✓ Expert briefings
- ✓ Use of neoprene boat overcoats included
- ✓ Great meals - Special diets catered for



## 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 until your tour concludes and we say our sad goodbyes.

On the water our local Whale Watch Operators are the best in the islands and an integral part of the success of our encounters. On land you'll be treated to great hospitality by your accommodation hosts.



## Darren Jew Ocean Photographer

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 6-time Australian Professional Nature Photographer of the Year; is a Canon Master; holds an Associate Diploma in Applied Photography and; has been a SCUBA diver since age 14.

An experienced photo educator, group leader and passionate conservationist, Darren's experience in the water with humpbacks is unmatched.

Darren also features in Series 1, Episode 1 of the series "Tales by Light" streaming on Netflix.

## Jasmine Carey Ocean Photographer

Jasmine Carey has been diving since 2005 and has worked as assistant and safety diver to Darren on shoots since 2014. Jasmine first visited Tonga and did her first whale swim in 2014 and has been a full-time Whales Underwater team member since 2016.

Jasmine is a trained Rescue Diver and has a background in exercise physiology. As well as being an accomplished diver, event manager, and experienced group leader, she is passionate photographer with a refreshing style and a unique approach.

You can see a selection of her images on her Instagram feed @Pxleplorer



@WhalesUnderwater



@DarrenJew

© Tammy Gibbs



@Pxleplorer

# 2020

Swim with the whales from AUD\$5650 (twin share)  
**8 days / 7 nights / 5 days on the water**

## Tour Code Available Dates

WUWT20A	15 July to 22 July 2020
WUWT20B	22 July to 29 July 2020
WUWT20C	29 July to 5 August 2020
WUWT20D	5 August to 12 August 2020
WUWT20E	12 August to 19 August 2020
WUWT20F	19 August to 26 August 2020
WUWT20G	26 August to 2 September 2020
WUWT20H	2 September to 9 September 2020
WUWT20I	9 September to 16 September 2020
WUWT20J	16 September to 23 September 2020
WUWT20K	23 September to 30 September 2020
WUWT20L	30 September to 7 October 2020
WUWT20M	7 October to 14 October 2020



**Day 1** Arrival in Vava'u, Tonga.  
Transfer to Accommodation. Settle in, equipment preparation and whale swim briefing.  
Airport Transfers. Dinner

**Day 2-4** 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 (by Tongan Law)  
Day at leisure around the village or at local resort.  
Breakfast, Dinner

**Day 6-7** 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 8** Goodbyes :(  
Check out, transfer to Airport for onward flights (or extend your stay)  
Breakfast

## Your Whales Underwater tour includes:

- All on-water and off-water activities, boat trips etc as specified in the itinerary
- Expert and personalised photography, tuition and education
- Workshops and Supervised Creative Lab time
- Airport transfers in Vava'u (on tour start and end dates only)
- Twin share or double accommodation as per itinerary
- Meals from dinner on arrival day to breakfast on departure day with Sundays an exception, breakfast and dinner only
- 5 days on the water with the whales
- Use of Neoprene overcoats on the boat

## Tour Price does not include:

- Flights
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Snacks
- Discretionary tips
- Items of a personal nature
- Personal snorkelling equipment
- Comprehensive Travel Insurance



### "The Harbourview" in Toula village is Whales Underwater HQ for the whale season.

Accommodation is based on Twin Share or Double occupancy. Rooms are light and airy, dotted amongst lush tropical gardens.

The property is situated high over Neiafu's famous harbour about 2.5km from town. The main house serves as our communal space for meetings, gear preparation processing sessions and meals. Breakfast and Dinner are served on the balcony overlooking the harbour.



Follow us for the latest images  
[@WhalesUnderwater](#)  
[@DarrenJew](#)  
[@Pxexplorer](#)



## Tour Prices: 7 Night / 8 Day tours from AUD\$5650

**Contact Jackie!** All booking enquiries should be directed to our reservations specialist Jackie Low at Whales Underwater.

Accommodation is on a twin or double share basis. A limited number of single supplements may be available, please enquire. We will endeavour to match up solo travellers with a same gender room-mate, however should this not be possible the single supplement may be payable. Please enquire for details.

As well as handling your tour booking, our reservations specialist Jackie Low (a Licensed Travel Agent) can assist with booking the ideal and recommended flights to and from Vava'u; additional accommodation and; appropriate travel insurance. Secure your booking now with a deposit of AUD\$1500 by contacting Jackie.

**T | 0415 932 273 (from within Australia) or +61 415 932 273 from outside Australia**  
**E | [reservations@whalesunderwater.com](mailto:reservations@whalesunderwater.com)**