

3-4 hour Whale & Dolphin Watching Cruises

3 hour Penguin Island Cruises

1½ hour Beachfront Cruises

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Why choose Raggy Charters:

There are a number of things that make our cruise unique and sets us apart from other operators. We visit St Croix island which is home to half of the worlds remaining endangered African Penguins and is the largest breeding colony of African Penguins. We are blessed to operate in Algoa Bay which is diverse in wild life species and rich in history. We only run our Whale/Dolphin/ Penguin island cruise once a day, in the morning, instead of trying to fit multiple cruises into one day. This ensures that our skippers and guides are fresh and fully alert for every cruise and it is possible to spend a bit more time and effort searching for wildlife in all corners of the Bay or observing something special that we come across provided that no one on board is in a rush to get back for a flight or any other prior arrangements or bookings. We are a small organisation who's main focus is education, conservation and assisting in research which is all made possible by the funds generated from conducting Marine Eco-Cruises for our guests out into Algoa Bay. At least one tree is planted for every cruise so as to balance our carbon footprint. We prefer using smaller boats over using large boats so as to keep our cruises personal with at least two guides on board each of our cruises to answer any questions and see to the needs of our Guests.

Our three boats are licensed for 20, 18 and 12 passengers respectively.

(For more comfort we suggest 20, 18 and 8 passengers)

All cruises are weather dependent



Cruise Information :

Our **Whale/Dolphin/Penguin island cruise** is a 3.5 to 4 hour cruise. We meet at the Algoa Bay Yacht Club (now called the Nelson Mandela Bay Yacht Club) in the Port Elizabeth Harbour at 8.00am, departing shortly after and returning by 12.00pm. We start off the tour with a harbour cruise and full safety briefing, after which we exit port and set a course for the islands. Light refreshments and snacks are served during the cruise but you are more than welcome to bring with your own snacks and refreshments. The cost of this cruise is R1500 per person and R950 for children of 12 and under.



We go to the 2 islands, St Croix Island and Brenton Island. St. Croix Island is home to 22,000 breeding pairs of African Penguins, the largest breeding colony found in Africa (though we have lost 70% in 10 years). It is here where guests will get a close-up encounter with these comical birds. During this cruise guests also have the possibility of spotting bottlenose dolphins (we are now known as the bottlenose capital of the world), common dolphins, humpback dolphins, bryde's whales, minke whales, humpback whales (June to December), Southern right whales (July to September), Cape fur seals, various species of sharks, Cape gannets and various species of pelagic birds including terns, petrels, skuas, shearwaters and albatrosses. This cruise is a very unique experience and our team will try make it the most enjoyable trip.

Our **Penguin Patrol Tour** includes our Whale/Dolphin/Penguin island cruise (details below), lunch at a nearby restaurant after the cruise, and a guided afternoon tour to SANCCOB Penguin Rescue Station and Bayworld or Cape Recife, ending the day there at 16.30pm. This package comes at a rate of R2050 per person and R1500 for children of 12 and under.

And Our **Beachfront Cruise** is a 1.5 to 2 hour cruise. We go at a leisurely pace from the Port Elizabeth harbour down towards Cape Recife Lighthouse and back. The meeting time for the cruise can be 13:30pm for an afternoon cruise or 16:00pm for a sunset cruise. The cost of our beachfront cruise is R450 per person across the board, with a minimum of 4 people required. We do supply water, simba chips, peanuts & raisins on the cruise but you are welcome to bring your own refreshments & snacks.

And Our **Bird Island Cruise** is an 8 hour cruise. We meet at 7am at the Algoa Bay Yacht Club (now called the Nelson Mandela Bay Yacht Club), departing after a short briefing and returning in the early afternoon around 15:00. The cost of the cruise is R3000 per person with a minimum of 4 people required. If you cannot meet this minimum requirement we will make every effort to find a group for you to join.

Bird Island is home to 250,000 Cape Gannets, the largest breeding colony of these birds on the planet. The 19 hectare island is fairly flat which allows our guests close-up views of the Cape gannets and African penguins which nest on the island. The Bird Island group also consists of Stag Island, Seal Island, and Black Rocks. Black Rocks is home to 4,000 playful Cape fur seals and guests also have a good chance of seeing great white sharks as they feed in this area. These islands are nearly 60km away from Port Elizabeth, making it a half-day excursion, so it needs as early a departure as possible. The Bird Island group, along with the St Croix Island group, recently became part of the Addo Elephant National Park, allowing rangers to patrol the islands in aid of conservation efforts to protect the African penguin population. As they are Marine Protected Areas, please note that guests are not allowed to actually go on to the islands.

