

# SOUTH AFRICA - SARDINE RUN - 2019 PORT ELIZABETH

23 - 29 APRIL / 29 APRIL - 05 MAY (Full) / 05 - 11 MAY 2019



# The Biggest Shoal on Earth...

Thousands of dolphins can be seen chasing shoals of fish into a tight bait ball, which results in a feeding frenzy attracting dolphins, penguins, sharks, whales, seals, game fish and sea birds. This incredible phenomenon is famous with photographers, divers & adventure seekers from around the globe.





## Site info:

What makes Port Elizabeth unique is that not only is it home to the largest breeding colony of African Penguins & Cape Gannet's in the world, but is also on the migratory route of numerous whales and dolphins. There are a variety of excellent dive sites in the bay (home to Ragged Tooth Sharks), adding great value to your Sardine Run experience.

Besides the rich marine life, there are wildlife reserves including Addo Elephant National Park, located nearby offering Malaria free, Big 5 Game viewing. With numerous untouched beaches, hotels, restaurants and other facilities the Port Elizabeth area embraces the complete South African experience.

## **Tour Includes:**

- Return Airport Transfers
- 6 Nights' Beachfront Accommodation
- Breakfast Daily
- Lunch packs on diving days
- Transfer to the launch site
- 5 Days at sea (weather permitting)
- 8m Semi-Rigid Dive Boat (SAMSA Licensed 40 miles offshore)
- Hire of Tanks & Weights
- Experienced Skipper
- Filming Permits
- Shark & Reef Diving
- On non-diving days group transfers will be provided for local excursions e.g. Addo Elephant National Park, Seal Diving in Plettenberg Bay, Visit to Tsitsikamma National Park, Sundays River Sandboarding and River Cruises etc. All entrance fees and other costs related to the activities will be for the clients account.

#### **Tour Excludes:**

- Flights
- Dinner & Drinks
- Equipment Hire
- Travel Insurance











#### **TOUR ITINERARY:**

Day 1: Arrive in Port Elizabeth and transfer to hotel. Meet up in the late afternoon for a full expedition briefing and to meet the crew.

Day 2 - 6: Spend 5 days out at sea looking for Sardine Run action.

# Daily Itinerary:

After breakfast transfer to the launch site where you will kit up, load the boat (8m semi-rigid RIB) and prepare for a full day out at sea. Refreshments and lunch is provided on the boat. We use a combination of aerial information, local spotters, fishermen & ocean users in the area to locate information regarding Sardine Run action. During the day, there will be to opportunity to enjoy a dive on one of the numerous dive sites in the hope to see the Ragged Tooth sharks and other rich marine life.

Return at approx. 3pm and transfer back to the hotel enjoying the beachfront or taking part in optional activities e.g. additional diving, kayaking, cultural activities, shopping etc. Beach Walk & Picnic: Weather depending we will have sundowners and snacks on the beach enjoying a spectacular South African sunset.

Day 7: Check out of hotel and transfer to airport for flight home or sign up for one of our extensions e.g. Cape Town Great White & Excursions, Shark Diving Aliwal Shoal.





#### Why Pro Dive?

Pro Dive is based in the Eastern Cape offering expert knowledge and infrastructure in this area. With the hands on approach of owner - Louis van Aardt (who has specialized in this field for over 20 years & an experienced skipper himself) you are ensured to be in capable hands. With his expert knowledge of this area, the Sardine Run & his dedicated team you will only receive the best service.

#### **Diving versus Snorkelling**

Snorkeling is ideal, as the sardine bait balls often move quite fast and with snorkel gear it is easy to gain quick entry and exit on the boat. This also allows the boat to keep up with the action. If a bait ball is big enough and static there will be the opportunity to enter the water with scuba and observe the action from below.

If conditions allow there will best opportunity to snorkel with **Penguins** which is a unique experience only possible in Port Elizabeth.

#### Is it guaranteed?

The Sardine Run is a natural phenomenon which is caused by the movement of currents and certain weather patterns, therefore it cannot be guaranteed to see sardines, however regular close up encounters with sharks, dolphins, whales and sea birds guarantees this to be a lifetime experience.

#### **Air Support**

With the flight school based in Port Elizabeth we obtain aerial information several times during the day. This is used in combination with local spotters, fishermen and ocean users in the area to locate information regarding Sardine Run action.

Diving

In the event that there is not much Sardine Run action, there are excellent dive sites in Port Elizabeth where you are virtually guaranteed to dive with Ragged Tooth Sharks on spectacular, colorful reefs.

#### **Equipment provided**

Air fills included 12l Dive Tanks (Din/Int) & Weight Belts Provided Additional Equipment is available for rental (5mm wetsuits, booties, fins, masks, BC's, Regulator, 15L Tanks)

Water Temp: 15 - 19 degrees Celsius

Outside Temp: March /May: Autumn 18 - 24 degrees Celsius can get cool in the evenings.





# Optional Aliwal Shoal Extension From R 8 600 p.p. sharing

Spend a few days Aliwal Shoal, one of South Africa's premier dive spots where sightings of Ragged Tooth sharks are common and the possibility of other large pelagics such as, sea turtles, potato bass and numerous game fish can be seen. Extremely popular with divers is the baited shark dive where you will be surrounded by anything from 20 – 80 bold Oceanic Black Tip sharks and might even have other species such as Tiger or Bull sharks come close.

#### Package Includes:

- 3 Nights' Accommodation at Scottburgh
- Breakfast Daily
- 3 Reef Dives
- 1 Baited Shark Dive
- Hire of Tanks & Weights
- Diving Permit

Note: transfers/car hire on request



# Optional Cape Town Extension From R 14 250 p.p. sharing

A visit to South Africa would not be complete without a stop in Cape Town – the "Mother City", known to many as one of the most beautiful cities in the world. An awesome 4 night extension that can be added on to any of the standard South African ages where you will get to experience Great White Shark Cage Diving, Penguins & the scenic beauty that Cape Town has to offer.

Tailor made packages are also available.

# Package Includes:

- 4 Nights' Accommodation (Close to the Waterfront)
- Breakfast Daily
- Full day Great White Shark Cage Diving Gansbaai (incl. lunch & refreshments)
- Full day scenic tour of Cape Town including Cape Point Nature Reserve
- Free Day for sightseeing, visit to Robben Island, shopping etc.
   Note: transfers/car hire on request





#### How to book:

- Booking Forms to Be Completed
- A 30% Deposit is required to confirm your booking
- Balance payable 60 Days prior to departure
- Cancellation Policy:
- Deposit is non-refundable.
- Less than 60 Days = 100% cancellation fee applicable

## Please note the following:

- Prices are subject to change in the event of price increases, airfares & availability.
- The tour package has been quoted on a sharing basis and an additional single supplement fee will be charged for singles.
- The above prices are based on EFT payments & an additional 3.5% fee will be charged for credit cards payments.

Important Notice: The New Immigration Act regulation requires anyone travelling to or from South Africa with children under the age of 18 to be in possession of a fully unabridged birth certificate, in addition to a valid passport. Parental Consent Affidavit is an affidavit which must accompany an Unabridged Birth Certificate or Equivalent Document when any parent is not travelling with his or her child (Certified copies of parents passports must accompany the affidavit). Should you be traveling with/making a reservation for children, please ensure that you comply with the above timeously.





