

Calypso Star
CHARTERS

SHARK CAGE DIVING

ONE OF THE BEST ONE DAY ADVENTURES IN THE WORLD!

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Frequently Asked Questions

www.sharkcagediving.com.au

I don't have a diving ticket, am I still able to do a shark dive?

There is no requirement for diver qualification and about 30% of our guests have nil or very little diving experience at all. The reason for this is because our Adventure is 'Surface Diving' where you won't be any more that 2-4 feet beneath the surface therefore no concern is needed for decompression or altitude issues. Onboard training is provided on the day.

Do you offer a spectator price?

Yes, we have recently re-offered our popular spectator price at \$395 per person. You are more than welcome to upgrade onboard if you wish to dive. However you will be required to pay the difference (\$100) onboard.

What is the best time to view the sharks?

Due to the nomadic habits of Great Whites, the best time does vary year by year. Over the past 10 years we have statistically found that winter (May-Nov) provides a higher average number of sharks per day than the remaining months, however they are an unpredictable species and have been elusive several times in this period. Also in the past 11 years there is no particular month/season that has consistently produced no sharks. Of all our 2010 trips we encountered Great Whites 85% of the time and in 2010 we had 136 days of 100% success rate.

Will I be guaranteed to see a shark? And if I don't see one will I get a refund?

We don't guarantee seeing a shark as most people can appreciate we cannot restrict them in any way to stay put but we can surely do our utmost within specified guidelines to entice them to the area. If, in the event, a shark is not at all seen throughout the day a 'Return for Half Price Gift Voucher' will be offered to you on board. These vouchers cannot be exchanged for a refund or redeemable for cash due to the high costs associated with running the charter AND they are Non-Transferable. The wonderful thing about these creatures is their spontaneity and impulsive actions.

What is the water temperature? Will I freeze?

The Neptune Islands are located 15 Nautical Miles from the mainland. The water depth surrounding the islands is 90+ meters. This keeps the water temperature fairly stable (a cold snap in winter won't be reflected by colder than usual water). The Water Temperature varies between 18-20C in summer, down to 14C at the end of winter.

My son would love to come on a trip with me. Do you have an age limit?

Diving in our surface shark cage is very easy and no formal diving qualification is required. We often host guests with little or no diving experience. Full briefing is given before diving and practice on the surface is available if required. Our crews are experienced divers and veterans of the cage. They are more than willing to help young and less confident divers in the cage. We like to see everyone experience the thrill of the cage at least once during their trip. The youngest person in the shark cage so far was a 9 year old boy and the oldest lady was in her 70's. In fact the boy took to life in the cage better than his Father!! We were delighted to accommodate for a paraplegic man in the cage and another chair bound gentleman had a fantastic 5 days of fishing with us last year.

What is the visibility when diving?

The Water clarity at the Neptune Islands is usually very good, often over 25m. Rough weather does reduce the visibility but never below 15m. We have a number of dive sights around the islands to allow us the clearest water and best shark action possible.

I don't have an underwater camera, what are my options?

No problems. We understand that underwater photographic equipment is a significant investment, especially if you will only use it a couple of times a year. We offer a 'Highlights Pack' which is a CD and DVD of the entire days' events including underwater footage and still shots. Disposable underwater cameras are available on board and produce quality photos, especially when the sun is shining but their disadvantage is they don't have wide angle lenses. If you are considering purchasing a camera and housing we use Sea Optics in Adelaide and highly recommend their services. Contact Sea Optics Australia for a great deal on an underwater package.

I think I might get sea sick, what should I do?

Firstly don't think about it too much. Many of the people who are affected by sea sickness talk themselves into it. The night before the departure avoid excessive alcohol consumption and get a good night sleep. Many sea sickness remedies are available; please consult your pharmacist regarding the best one for you. From experience we have found that taking a tablet the night before departure, in addition to one in the morning, is most effective. During the voyage, get as much fresh air as possible. Avoid locking yourself in a cabin. Don't try to fight the motion of the ocean, loosen up and go with the flow.

Cancellation and date change policy

Changes in charter dates can be made up to 1 month prior, upon payment of a \$25 admin fee on top of any applicable price rises. Date changes received between 1 month and 1 week prior will incur a \$50 admin fee and date changes received less than one week prior will incur a \$100 admin fee. If a customer wishes to cancel a charter up to 3 weeks prior to departure for ANY reason once payment has been made a 20% deposit will be lost. If a customer wishes to cancel a charter between 3 weeks and 1 week prior to departure once payment has been made a 50% deposit will be lost. If a customer cancels a charter 1 weeks or less prior to departure once payment has been made 100% will be lost.