

Your Itinerary

1062B Paradise Islands Experience 24 Aug – 3 September 2012

Get ready for a great time with the WhaleSwim™ Adventures Team
and the South Pacific Humpback Whales of Tonga!

Friday 24 August

Arrive Vava'u prior to 12.00
12.00pm Welcome Lunch - Briefing for the 9 days ahead!
2.00pm Transfer to The Tongan Beach Resort on Utungake Island
2.45pm check in - free afternoon
7.00pm Dinner at the resort

Saturday 25 August

7.30 - 8.30 am Breakfast
9.00 am Board "Makaira" - Boat & How to Swim with the Whales
Briefing - out with the whales, lunch & snorkeling
4.45 pm Arrive Tongan Beach Resort
7.00pm Dinner at the resort

Sunday 26 August

8.am - 9.30 am Breakfast
Day at leisure
7.00pm Dinner at the resort

Monday 27 August to Saturday 1 Sept

7.30 - 8.30 am Breakfast
9.00 am Board "Makaira" - out with the whales, lunch & snorkeling
4.45 pm Arrive Tongan Beach Resort
7.00pm **You have 3 evening meals at the resort included in the package so you have 2 free evenings during this week - to explore a variety of cafes & restaurants in Neiafu.**

Sunday 2 Sept

8.30.am - 9.30 am Breakfast **Day at leisure**
Lunch & Farewell Dinner at the resort

Monday 3 Sept

8.30 - 9.30 am Breakfast Completion of tour. Transfer to Airport

We do our best to keep to this time-table, however this can sometimes be difficult in Tonga!
Our boat and skipper are chartered from 8.30am - 5pm each day It is a 15-20min boat trip to/from 'The Tongan Beach therefore the boat pick up times have to allow for this.



On your arrival in Tongatapu (Nuku'alofa) you will be met by our driver Edward (photo on left) and transferred to either the domestic terminal or your overnight accommodation you have booked with us and back to the airport for your domestic flight to Vava'u.

You need to be in Vava'u before Lunch time on Friday 24 August. so if you are traveling from Australia with Pacific Blue or Air NZ from Auckland on 23 Aug - you need to book the first domestic flight to Vava'u which departs at 8am - it is a 55min flight to Vava'u. If you are flying Air Pacific from Europe/LAX via Fiji, you will need to be on the new Nadi -Tonga/Vava'u flight on Thursday 23 August.

You will be met by one of our WhaleSwim team in Vava'u transferred to the town of Neiafu. You are free to have breakfast, explore the town, visit the local market, shop and check out the special WhaleSwim t-shirts available at Cindy's Tropical Tease shop. At 12.00pm we meet for a Welcome Lunch and briefing for the rest of your time with us and the whales.

Around 2.00pm you will be transferred to The Tongan Beach Resort in plenty of time to check-in and have an snorkel around the amazing coral reefs in the area or relax at the beach bar with a cold beer or cocktail!

During the 7 days on the water, we have a break for lunch and there will be opportunities for you to snorkel reefs and caves and on some days we have the opportunity to beach comb and explore beautiful uninhabited islands situated in the humpback whale nursery. You will also have the opportunity to snorkel through Mariners Cave and experience the wonders of Swallows Cave. We are flexible on the time we take for lunch. We aim to get you back to your resort with plenty of time for a shower and relax before dinner.

Tour includes: 10 night's accommodation at the beautiful Tongan Beach Resort with breakfast & 8 evening meals, 7 boat trips to the whales with lunch, education and guidance in the water, snorkeling pristine reefs and caves, 2 days at leisure, airport transfers in Vava'u and airport transfers between international & domestic terminals in Tongatapu.

(Please note: At present, Tongan law does not allow whalewatching - or any other activities - on Sundays. Change MAY take place before the 2012 season, but cannot be guaranteed. We will keep your posted!)

Tour does not include: Breakfast on day of arrival in Vava'u, 2 evening meals, International & domestic airfares, travel insurance, snorkeling equipment and wetsuit/vest, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, activities on leisure days.

Cost:

Twin Share: AUD\$4,240 per person Single: AUD\$5,150 Triple Share: AUD\$3,995 per person



Rae and the WhaleSwim™ Team look forward to sharing your expedition with the whales!!

WhaleSwim™ Adventures is an eco-tourism operator dedicated to the protection of the Tongan environment and the continued recovery and population growth of the Southern Pacific Humpback whale and the conservation of the environment and the culture in Tonga.

Terms & Conditions of Booking a WhaleSwim™ Adventures Tour

- *Online Book your Tour reservations will be held for 14 days. The non-refundable deposit of AUD\$1500 for 7 & 9-day and AUD\$700 for 4 day tours is required within 14 days to confirm a reservation.*
- *Payment (Australian Dollars only) in full is required 70 days prior to your WhaleSwim™ adventure and is non-refundable.*
- *Re-scheduling and substitution of guests is permitted with approval of WhaleSwim™ Adventures.*
- *A Liability Waiver must be signed by each guest & the original posted to our office, within 14 days of booking your WhaleSwim™ Adventures tour.*
- *Travel Insurance - which includes Trip, Airfare Cancellation and Accident - is mandatory, otherwise a No Liability Insurance Waiver must be signed.*
- *All rates and conditions are subject to change. If payments are not received at the designated times, WhaleSwim™ Adventures, reserves the right to sell those spaces in question with forfeiture of all monies to date.*
- *The booking is binding and all payments are non-refundable.*
- *Prices may change due to currency fluctuation, schedule changes or circumstances beyond the control of WhaleSwim™ Adventures*
- *All tours are paid for in Australian dollars only.*
- *These are ecological holidays, Whaleswim™ Adventures reserves the right to ask any participants to leave the group should he/she behave in a way that is insensitive to the whales, the environment, local people, our skipper & staff or other group members. No refund will be given.*
- *Should bad weather prevent our whale watching vessel NOT to go out on a scheduled 'whale watching' day, no refunds or an extra day whale watching will be offered by Whaleswim™ Adventures.*
- *Children under 13 years old are not accepted on our tours*
- *If the minimum bookings of 8 people on our 12-guest tours and 6 people on our 8-guest tours are not reached 10 weeks prior to departure of each expedition, then WhaleSwim™ has the right to cancel the expedition and refund any monies paid to them or transfer guests to another expedition. Any airfares booked and paid for by the guest should be covered by their own travel insurance.*
- *WhaleSwim™ tours can only be referred through travel agents, and can only be booked directly with WhaleSwim™ Adventures*

Contact the WhaleSwim Team in Neiafu Vava'u
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