

HAMMERHEAD SHARK EXPEDITIONS –

<http://www.divesouthafrica.co.za/scubadivingsafaris/hammerheadsharkexpeditions.html>

Description

Hammerhead Sharks – we track down and dive with these elusive and graceful sharks in the barely explored waters off the coast of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. Other species include dolphins, turtles, moray eels, potato bass, reef & pelagic fish, rays (devil, manta, bull, eagle etc) as well Bull, Tiger, Blacktip, Ragged Tooth and other sharks.



Requirements

Advanced or equivalent certificate required for scuba dives.
C-cards and Log Books must be presented.
Non-divers welcome.

Duration (Sunday to Saturday)

7 Days/6 Nights

Safari Dates - (Custom dates can be arranged only for groups larger than 8)

12 October to 18 October 2008

26 October to 1 November 2008

9 November to 15 November 2008

11 October to 17 October 2009

25 October to 31 October 2009

8 November to 14 November 2009

Note: (This is a annual safari and bookings can be made for one year in advance)

Price

The price for this 7 Day/6 Night safari in **2008** is **ZAR18,999.00 per person sharing**

The price for this 7 Day/6 Night safari in **2009** is **ZAR21,999.00 per person sharing**.

Optional 3 Night/2 Great White Shark cage dive sessions @ **ZAR6,999.00 per person sharing** – (see Option B below)

Optional 3 Night/2 Dive session package with Tiger Sharks @ **ZAR6,999.00 per person sharing**. - (see Option C below)

Optional 3 Day/2 Night land safari @ **ZAR7,299.00 per person sharing**. - (see Option D below)

ITINERARY

Day one:

From Durban International Airport we first visit the Natal Sharks Board to view the audiovisual show and display of sharks, rays and turtles endemic to the area. Then we transfer to the little diving village of UmKomazi where you will be received with typical South African hospitality.

Day two:

The first two dives are around the edges of Aliwal Shoal, where we stand the best chance of encountering the Hammerhead Sharks. The depth in this especially marine protected area varies between 14 and 20 meters; the water temperature is around 25 degrees C and the visibility anything between 8 and 20 meters. Most importantly the dives serve for you to get used to the launching and diving conditions, sort out buoyancy and for me to be sure that we have the safety procedures drilled in (no attitude, just cautious). After lunch we transfer to Shelly Beach – home to serious shark diving and seafood.

Days three to six:

It is an early start for two dives at Protea Banks - rated as one of the world's best shark diving spots and certainly one of the most adventurous! An exiting launch through the surf takes us to the Southern Pinnacles where we search for the Hammerhead Sharks that migrate to reef in their hundreds during end October/November, accompanied by Copper Sharks and Blackfin Sharks. Of course there are also Bull Sharks, Giant Guitar Sharks, several other shark species and rays (devil, manta, bull, eagle etc) that frequent the reef. Visibility varies from 8 to 40 meters, and the water temperature is 24+ degrees Celsius.

During the rest of the day we:

Visit the spectacular Oribi Gorge where you have the option of abseiling, gorge swinging, or simply enjoying the awesome scenery, and then top it with a late afternoon game drive in the private Elands Wildlife Reserve. Dine at different restaurants with the highlight being a traditional meal at a family kraal in rural Zululand – part of our commitment to supporting traditional communities.

On day six we transfer to Durban, the capital city of KwaZulu Natal for a night out in town!

Day seven:

Finish the week with a late breakfast and a tour of Durban and it's markets and a visit to uShaka Marine World and:

- **(Option A)**
Call it a day and transfer to Durban International Airport to be in time for your flight home, or
 - **(Option B)**
Jump on a plane to Gansbaai to **cage dive with the Great White Sharks** - 3 nights bed and breakfast, land transfers, 2 sessions cage diving/viewing @ **ZAR6,999.00 per person sharing**, or
 - **(Option C)**
Transfer to UmKomazi to dive with Tiger Sharks (sorry, no cages) - 3 nights bed and breakfast, land transfers, 2 sessions **Tiger Shark Diving @ ZAR6,999.00 per person sharing**, or
 - **(Option D)**
Add a **land safari** to the trip and see lion, leopard, rhino, elephant, buffalo, zebra, giraffe and many more species before flying home - 2 nights bed and breakfast, land transfers, 4 game activities @ **ZAR7,299.00 per person sharing**
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Included in the price of 6 night/7 day safari:

- Experienced guide/dive master and driver
 - All land transfers including airport transfers
 - Six nights accommodation
 - Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily
 - A visit to the Natal Sharks Board and Gateway Center
 - Excursion to the Oribi Gorge Nature Reserve
 - Game drive in the Elands Wildlife Reserve
 - A tour of Durban and it's markets
 - An afternoon at the uShaka Marine World
 - All transfers to and from dive sites
 - 8 dives as per the itinerary on a use it or lose it basis – air, weights and cylinders included.
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Excluded from the price of 6 night/7 day safari:

- All travel costs to and from South Africa
 - Visas, personal insurance and taxes
 - Alcoholic and other drinks
 - Optional excursions
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Terms

- Subject to availability.
- If we cannot launch due to bad weather we will offer alternative excursions in lieu of diving.
- 25% Non-Refundable deposit to secure booking
- Balance payable 30 days before departure date
- For payment by credit card add 6%
- Bank charges are for your own cost
- All prices are per person sharing
- Non-divers welcome

Important

We are committed to delivering the exact itinerary, but we reserve the right to make any changes that we find necessary for the comfort or safety of the client without notice.

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Dive South Africa

<http://www.divesouthafrica.co.za>