



SNORKELING WITH ORCAS

Join us on one of the most exciting of our BigAnimals Expeditions in one of the world's most beautiful locations.

Orcas, more popularly known as Killer Whales, often thrill our guests in a signature Amos Nachoum "Big Animal" Adventure Experience.





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As the majestic Arctic coastline and stunning fjords come into view, we will become captivated by the warm, brief photographic sunlight rising and lowering over snow-covered peaks. Our Orca adventure begins as we board Miss Sula, a 90-foot retro-fitted trawler that has spent years plying Norway’s fjords.

Once aboard, its quarters become part of the experience, one that creates a special bond with new friends sharing a totally unique wildlife experience. One where we will view massive schools of herring chased by orcas, as well as humpbacks that have modified their primary diet of krill to include herring. This is just the tip of the iceberg.

There is a lot of action to squeeze into a four hour day when the sun rises around 10am and darkness is upon us by 3pm. Light is limited at this time of year, but the frigid waters of the North Sea are exceedingly clear, boasting horizontal visibility up to 50 feet, and vertical visibility up to 100 feet.

We begin cruising through the majestic fjords early in the morning as the light is just starting to shine. As soon as we spot the Orca pods, which can sometimes take up to two hours, we split the team into two so that each Zodiac carries only four divers.



M/V Sula

M/V Sula offers a lounge, equipment and drying room. It is fully heated with five cabins (four doubles and one quad) equipped with washbasins, but we keep the ship feeling spacious by limiting the trip to 8 divers. The boat has shared toilets and a shower. It’s cozy, offering a unique charm to view incredible Norway sights. Six enthusiastic crew members are committed to assist us. A professional chef will see that we are well fed. All food and soft drinks are included in the trip.

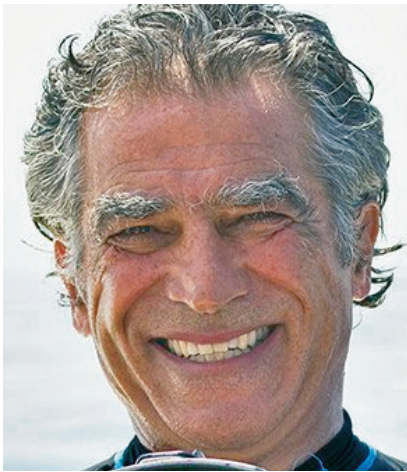


During Norway’s frigid winter, its majestic Arctic coastline and stunning fjords attract voluminous schools of herring, which in turn attract pods of Orcas. After determining the direction baitfish are being chased by resident Orcas, we will pursue these magnificent mammals until we can slip silently into the water for close up views and photographs of these magnificent mammals satiating their huge appetites.

The trip is greater enhanced by the pod’s social behavior. Not unlike the humpback whales unique “bubbling” feeding technique, Orcas display an activity called “carouseling.” Swimming under schools of herring, they exhale volumes of air bubbles to separate herring schools. Separated and carried helplessly towards the surface, smaller bait balls make easy pickings for hungry pods.

An activity witnessed by only a handful of snorkelers allows you the privilege to view the whale during its unique feeding behavior. Quietly, two of us at a time will slip into the water to observe the pod feeding. While we are snorkeling and free-diving, Orcas, curious by nature, will amaze us with very close encounters. You can count on my photographic experience to help make this nine-day trip one of a lifetime.





AMOS NACHOUM Expedition Leader

Amos, twice recognized as BBC's Wildlife Photographer of the Year, has been featured on National Geographic, the BBC, and Discovery Channel showcasing his adventurous worldwide explorations. He has spent more than 22 years studying, experiencing, and snorkeling with Norway's Orcas. There is no one who can meet his talent in sharing the use of wide-angle lens and ambient-light photography in a one on one situation, along with other techniques required for getting the best resolution, imagery, and color throughout the trip.

Amos uses his leadership and photography skills to artfully capture the lives of Ocean Giants whose existence is under threat, but whose hope of survival is linked to us communicating the truth.

BigAnimals Expeditions are designed to add value to your life experience, to generate attention for endangered species, to aid in their preservation and to provoke public awareness and opinion.



AMANDA COTTON Expedition Leader November 18 - 26, 2016

Amanda is a professional underwater photographer, an avid scuba diver and ocean enthusiast. Her goal is to help the general public embrace the beauty below the waves, in hopes that with awareness comes concern. Amanda runs a design /media company, A COTTON PHOTO Creative Works LLC, and also enjoys working with like-minded organizations that genuinely care about the planet and its inhabitants. Amanda is a member of many prestigious organizations and has received numerous photography awards with her images being featured in major publications and news sources worldwide. Amanda is a wide-angle specialist with many years of experience photographing sharks and other big marine animals.

Enhance your photographic skills with Amos and Amanda. The Experience is Priceless!

BigAnimals' Unique Services – raising the bar of services in every adventure we operate around the world is our policy. We lead by example with an immaculate safety record for 35 years. Each wildlife expedition is carefully scouted before offered to the public and we schedule departures only during peak animal presence and behavior displays. Orca expeditions are strictly limited to only 8 privileged guests. This is with consideration of the Orca welfare and feeding behavior, for your safety and to provides you with room to move comfortably on the mother boat and on the zodiac, ample space in which to photograph and film, with personalized attention and advice.

Lofoten Islands, Norway Nov 18 -26, 2016

Space Very Limited (8 guest maximum) Two Zodiacs – 4 divers for more action

NORWAY EXPERIENCE: 23 years

WHERE: Lofoten Islands, Norway

DATES: Nov 18-26, 2016

DURATION: 9 days

MAX NO. OF GUESTS: 9

PRICING: \$7,900 per person, based on double occupancy

REGISTRATION: Deposit of \$2,600

VESSEL: 100' M/V Sula

ACTIVITIES: Snorkeling and photography

TEMPERATURE: Daytime 32-40°F.
Water temperature 34-38°F

TRIP PRICE INCLUDES:

- 6 day and 6 nights on Board the Sula
- All meals on board
- All diving services, two zodiacs
- Only 8 guests – on 12 beds vessel
- Fuel and taxes
- Amos & Amanda leadership and photo coaching

TRIP PRICE EXCLUDES:

- International and domestic airfare
- Overnight hotels when required schedules at Radisson Blu
- Additional transfers and meals
- Overweight or excess baggage
- Personal charges such as laundry, bar, and telecommunication charges
- Insurance—it is mandatory you purchase travel, health, and diving insurance
- Loss of gear and equipment
- Drysuit rental is available
- Gratuities



ORCAS TRIP ITINERARY - NOV 18-26, 2016

DAY 1 - DEPARTURE

- NOV 18, 2016
 - This day is for travelers departing from the USA on a flight to Oslo. Arrives the next day.
- NOV 18, 2016
 - This is a travel day for guests arriving from Europe. After clearing Oslo customs, we proceed to connecting flight to Tromsø where the vessel is waiting our boarding on the next day. Upon arrival, take a taxi to the Radisson Blu, where we all meet after 8 pm. More specific information will be included in your travel preparation information.

DAY 2

- NOV 19, 2016
 - Morning free, we meet again at 2pm. and make plan to board the vessel.

DAY 3-8

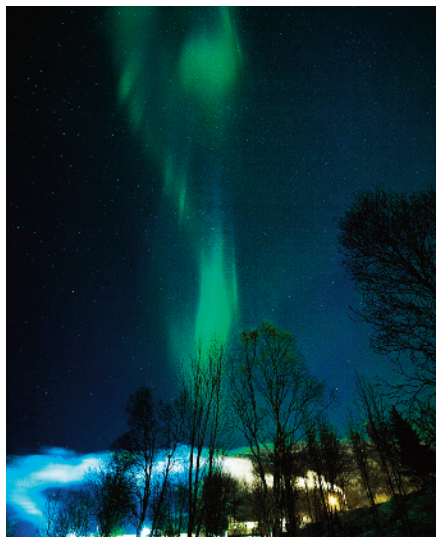
- NOV 20, 2016
 - At first light each day, we begin our search for Orcas. The following six days will be spent in cold, clear Norwegian winter water surrounded by a spectacular Arctic landscape, and the probability of seeing awesome displays of the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis.) We'll cruise in the protection of the fjords as other whale watching vessels, fishermen, and ferries radio information to help our search for Orca pods.

DAY 9

- NOV 26, 2016
 - After a day at sea, we depart M/V Sula in the early evening around 6pm and spend our last night at the Radisson Blu hotel.

RETURN

- NOV 27, 2016
 - The first morning flight to Oslo allows us to connect to our flights home.



**Trip details, e.g., dates, prices, vessel, accommodations, are subject to change without prior notice — unless deposit is received and application is approved*

PAYMENT POLICY AND DEPOSIT:

A non-refundable deposit of 33% of total trip price is required. Once deposit is received, a comprehensive and detailed trip preparation confirmation will be sent to you.

Prior to reservation confirmation, BigAnimals reserves the right to change trip costs without prior notice.

Full payment is due no later than 90 days before departure.

Space not paid in full 60 days prior to departure will be offered to those on waiting list.

If a written cancellation and refund is requested, and if that space can be filled, unrecoverable sales including administration and special promotions, will be deducted.

If cancellation is made 180 days prior to departure, deposits are non-refundable including any unused part of the itinerary. Destination circumstances may make dates and prices subject to change without prior notice. These policies afford the best possible adventure for the few who are able to secure our limited space.



APPLICATION FORM

Expedition Snorkeling with Orcas | Expeditions Dates: Nov. 18-26, 2016

PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Email _____

Citizen of _____ Passport # _____ Place Issued & Date _____

Trip price \$7900 per person. Deposit of 1/3 of trip price is required to secure space = \$2,600 Non-Refundable.

Final payment due 90 days before departure. \$ _____

Please make your check payment to BigAnimals Expeditions, 189 Evans Ave #A, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

Overseas payment can be done via bank wire, instructions will be sent to you upon receipt of this application.

Promotional code _____

Travel insurance: ☐ YES ☐ NO Provider _____ Policy # _____

Travel insurance is **prerequisite and mandatory** on BigAnimals adventures. We need to have your policy number.

The activity on this expedition is Free diving/Snorkeling and with Drysuit only.

No Scuba Diving Experience required and no Scuba diving is offered. Drysuits are available for rental onboard.

Do you carry diving insurance? ☐ YES ☐ NO Provider _____ Policy # _____

Diving Experience/Years in Diving _____

Where & When Last 3 Dive Experiences? 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

How do you rate your Diving Skills? ☐ Beginner ☐ Inter ☐ Advanced ☐ Expert

How do you rate your Photography and/or Video skills?

☐ No interest ☐ Beginner ☐ Inter ☐ Advanced ☐ Expert