

BLUE WHALE CRUISES Q & A

Do you really see whales?

Of course, the answer is yes. Blue whales are seen during summer months off the coast of San Diego and at the offshore banks. We have also seen finback, humpback, minke, and false killer whales.

We also see many other marine mammals including sea lions, seals, Risso's dolphins, common dolphins, Pacific white-sided dolphins and even orcas. Our captains and the naturalists (Museum Whalers) from the San Diego Natural History Museum will also highlight fish and sea birds.

What day of the week is better?

Sundays are always busier than weekdays, but no matter which trip you choose, the accommodations are comfortable.

How far will we cruise into the ocean?

Trips will generally travel offshore as far as the nine-mile bank in U.S. waters and as far as the Coronado Islands, located 14 miles south in Mexican waters.

How do I purchase tickets?

Vouchers can be purchased through the San Diego Natural History Museum by calling 877.946.7797 (9:30 AM –5 PM daily) or in person. Vouchers can be redeemed on H&M Landing website.

<http://pacificseafaritours.com/>

Combo packages which include Museum admission can be purchased at the Museum. Tickets can also be purchased directly from H&M Landing website <http://pacificseafaritours.com/> or by phone at 619.222.1144)

Should I make reservations?

Reservations are highly recommended since we often sell out. Ticket vouchers sold by the San Diego Natural History Museum can be redeemed through H&M Landing website <http://pacificseafaritours.com/> or by calling at 619.222.1144 (7 days a week; 9 AM–9 PM).

Are the boats handicap accessible?

Our boats can accommodate passengers in **manual wheel chairs**. The crew will carry the passenger aboard and then the wheelchair. Electric wheelchairs cannot be accommodated as they are too heavy for the crew to handle. Using the on-board restrooms can present problems.

Are there any age restrictions on the cruises?

Children need to be at least 2 years old and weigh 35 pounds. Minor children require adult supervision.

How should I dress?

We suggest dressing in layers as it can be much cooler on the ocean than on land. Consider wearing a t-shirt, sweatshirt with hood, and a windbreaker or a heavy jacket, long pants, rubber soled shoes, hat, gloves and scarf. Other suggested items include sunscreen, sunglasses, binoculars and camera.

Where do we depart and what time should I be there?

Blue Whale Cruises depart from H&M Landing at 2803 Emerson Street in Point Loma. Plan to arrive at 9:15 AM to park and check in. Once you have checked in at the H&M office you will receive boarding passes and directed down the dock to your boat. The cruise begins at 10 AM.

Where should I park?

There is parking available in two public parking lots near H&M Landing. The lot directly in front of the Landing at Emerson and Scott Street is \$7 per 24-hour period. Another lot across North Harbor Drive is available at \$8 per day credit card or coin. In case both lots are full, street parking is available. Please read parking signs carefully for any time limitations.

Can I bring food or drink on board?

For your convenience, our boats offer food service and beverages on board for sale. You are welcome to bring your own food and beverages if you choose, but no ice chests, coolers or alcohol are allowed aboard.

How much experience does H&M Landing have in whale watching?

H&M Landing has been offering whale watching and nature cruises since 1956 and our sea-going operations go back as far as 1935. Our captains and crews are experienced, skilled and certified. On your cruise you will enjoy narration by our knowledgeable captains and on-board naturalists (the Museum Whalers) from the San Diego Natural History Museum. The Museum has trained volunteer naturalists who assist our expert captains with narration, answer guests' questions, and point out facts about some of the specimens we carry on board from our whale exhibit.

What happens if it rains?

Our cruises are cancelled due to overall weather conditions (including wind and sea conditions) and not just rain. Many times, we will still go out when it rains. If we cancel due to weather conditions, you have the option to reschedule your cruise or receive a full refund. Decisions to cancel are made by our captain on the morning of the scheduled cruise. We will make every attempt to contact you ahead of time at the phone number(s) we have on file for you. Please call H&M Landing directly at 619.222.1144 if you have questions on the day of departure.

Will I get seasick?

If you tend to have a problem with motion sickness, you may experience seasickness. However, many of our guests experience no discomfort at all. You can pick up an over-the-counter medicine at any drug store or you can purchase Bonine at the H&M Landing ticket counter. We recommend getting your doctor's advice if you have any health concerns.

Are there life preservers on board?

Each vessel is 100% Coast-Guard inspected and certified and carries life preservers (including child life vests) and life-saving equipment for all aboard.

Is there a phone on board that receives calls?

H&M Landing's boats do not have phone service on board. You may be able to receive cell service depending on your carrier. You may be entering international waters and roaming charges could apply.



Is there anything else I need to know?

The U.S. Coast Guard requires all passengers over 18 years old to have valid photo identification. Please make sure to have your photo ID available at boarding.

You may call the landing directly at 619.222.1144 with any last-minute question or for directions. The landing is always open from 6 AM–9 PM for in-person reservations.