

## Shark Safety Protocol & Operational Overview

Offshore Adventures – Plettenberg Bay



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### Overview

Sharks are a natural and seasonal presence at the seal colony during winter, as they follow the annual sardine movement and feed on the abundance of marine life. Seal pups, born approximately six months prior, begin actively hunting sardines during this time. Due to their inexperience, they may present opportunistic prey; however, they learn quickly to evade predators.

Historically, increased shark activity is limited to June and the first two weeks of July.

***Importantly, we have not recorded any white shark activity at the seal colony over the past two years.***

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### Safety Protocols & Operational Adjustments

Safety protocols are in place year-round. If a shark is sighted within our area of operation, all swimming activities are immediately suspended and will only resume once conditions are confirmed to be safe.

As a safety-first operator, we follow strict seasonal protocols and implement enhanced safety measures when necessary, including:

- Dedicated shark spotters positioned on elevated viewpoints
- Direct communication between spotters and vessels
- Increased vigilance on the water

We also maintain continuous, year-round communication with the Plettenberg Bay shark-spotter network to stay informed about potential shark activity in the area.

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### On-Water Safety Measures

- Seal behaviour is closely monitored, as it serves as a reliable natural indicator of potential shark presence
- A dedicated support vessel always remains nearby, maintaining a vigilant lookout
- All guides and crew are trained to respond immediately to any changes in conditions

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### Operational Timing

All trips are scheduled at:

- 08h00 (on request)
- 10h00

- 12h00
- 14h00
- 16h00 (on request)

These times are selected to ensure optimal sunlight conditions, improving visibility above and below the water and enhancing overall safety.

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### **Our Commitment**

Operating in the open ocean means working in a dynamic, ever-changing environment. While marine wildlife movements cannot be controlled, risk can be effectively managed through experience, systems, and vigilance.

With over 15 years of operation and an excellent safety record, Offshore Adventures remains committed to delivering a safe, responsible, and professionally managed marine experience.

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