

OYSTER CATCHER



VESSEL TYPE	Twin Hull Butt Cat
LENGTH	8.4 m
BEAM/WIDTH	2.9 m
PASSENGER CAPACITY	12 pax + 2 crew
ENGINES	2 × Suzuki DF200ATX outboards
CERTIFICATION & SAFETY	SAMSA licensed, fully insured, life jackets for all passengers
PERMIT	Boat-Based Whale and Dolphin Watching (BBWW) operating permit

VESSEL OVERVIEW

Oyster Catcher has been a part of our fleet since the beginning and is a versatile **twin-hull Butt Cat vessel**. She is certified for **12 passengers plus 2 crew** and is registered as a **Boat-Based Whale and Dolphin Watching (BBWW) permit holder** with the Department of Environmental Affairs.

Her **twin-hull design** provides excellent stability and handling, making her ideal for navigating the Knysna Heads and venturing out into the Indian Ocean for close-encounter whale and dolphin tours.

The vessel's layout ensures **unobstructed views for all passengers**, comfortable cinema-style seating with back support, and watertight storage under each seat. Oyster Catcher delivers a safe, intimate, and memorable marine experience.

TOURS & EXPERIENCES

Oyster Catcher offers a **range of immersive marine experiences** along the Knysna coastline and estuary, designed for **intimate wildlife encounters** and scenic exploration. With smaller passenger numbers, each tour delivers a **personal, engaging, and educational experience**, showcasing the region's rich marine biodiversity.

- **Close-Encounter Whale Watching:** 1 June – 30 November; cruise the Knysna estuary, through Knysna Heads, and out to sea to observe whales up close.
- **Eco Marine / Dolphin Tour:** 1 December – 31 May; focused on dolphins and coastal marine life, with an educational component.
- **Heads Adventures:** Scenic cruises exploring the **Knysna estuary and Heads**, ideal for sightseeing and wildlife observation. **Bookable year-round.**
- **Sunset Safari Tour:** Late-afternoon cruise along the estuary or out to sea, timed to **arrive at Sirocco Restaurant for canapés and bubbly at sunset.** Available for private groups only.



Last updated : January 2026

BOARDING INFORMATION

- **Check-In:** Guests check in at our **Ocean Odyssey shop**, receive life jackets, and are briefed before boarding.
- **Boarding Location:** Walk-on jetties at **Thesen Island Blue Flag Marina**
- **Access:** Starboard-side boarding; deck coated with non-slip material for safety
- **Departure:** Skipper oversees smooth boarding and safe exit into the Knysna estuary

PASSENGER EXPERIENCE & SERVICE

- **Safety & Comfort:** SAMSA-approved ultra-lightweight inflatable life jackets provided. **Windbreakers, ponchos, and blankets available if needed, weather dependent.** Bottled water provided for all passengers.
- **Seating:** Cinema-style cushioned seats with unobstructed views; storage compartments under each seat
- **Guided Wildlife Spotting:** Crew provide expert guidance for whale and dolphin sightings
- **Eco-Conscious Operations:** Ultra-quiet, fuel-efficient engines minimize impact on marine life
- **Tailored Experiences:** Close-encounter whale and dolphin tours, estuary cruises, and private tours offer **engaging and educational experiences**



HIGHLIGHTS

- **Intimate Adventure Vessel**
Certified for 12 passengers, perfect for personalized marine experiences
- **BBWW Permit Holder**
Registered as a close-encounter whale and dolphin watching vessel with the Department of Environmental Affairs
- **Stable Twin-Hull Design**
Butt Cat hull ensures smooth, stable cruising in estuary and open water
- **Comfortable Seating**
Cinema-style cushioned seats with unobstructed views and storage underneath
- **Eco-Friendly Quiet Engines**
Twin Suzuki DF200ATX outboards provide power, fuel efficiency, and minimal disturbance to marine life



Last updated : January 2026