



DolphinsOfPonta



DolphinEncountoursMozambique



DolphinEncountoursResearchCenter



AngieGullan

SNORKEL WITH WILD DOLPHINS

Original Operator Since 1996



MAIN BEACH

OPPOSITE 'PONTA BEACH BAR'



*Tours are subject to sea state

MON-SAT 08:00-16:00

SUN 08:00-13:00

CLOSED ON MAJOR HOLIDAYS

Ethical Dolphin Tours & Whale Watching

Humpback Whales: July-October

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connect@dolphinencountours.org

dolphinencountours.org

ORIGINS

Since the early 1990's, Angie Gullan has been sharing the magical wonder of coming face to face with wild dolphins, pioneering the way in ethical, educational & responsible practice for tours with sentient non-human persons whom she calls the "people of the sea."

Her life's purpose lies in protecting and nurturing the special relationship that exists between man and dolphin in the southern reaches of Mozambique. Angie's philosophy of "conscious interaction" has redefined how humans engage with dolphins.

This approach focuses on mutual respect, where interactions are on the dolphins' terms, fostering an environment where the animals decide the level of engagement.

By promoting non-invasive methods and strict codes of conduct, Angie has helped mitigate the potential adverse effects of tourism on these sentient beings. Her work has been instrumental in educating both tourists and locals about the importance of preserving marine life in its natural habitat.

Our experiences with wild dolphins are organic and spontaneous; by allowing oneself the opportunity of doing multiple launches almost certainly guarantees a bout of conscious interaction & an eye to eye encounter with wild dolphins in the big blue. Tours range from full dolphin encounter – with three sunrise tours, mini and casual.

- *Due to the nature of WILD dolphins we recommend multiple boat tours and a few nights stay in the area to avoid disappointment. Dolphins are wild, sometimes not in the area or simply don't feel like engaging. Book for the first day/s you are here; if in the event we need to reschedule for calmer seas we have some days to work with.*
- *IF dolphins are spotted, time in water is dependant on them; sometimes it's a pass through and sometimes they stop to engage and sometimes we don't see them at all – this is the way of the wild dolphin..*

ENCOUNTERS cater for the discerning dolphin enthusiast and offer an intimate look into the lives of our local dolfriends and the special relationship that has developed over the past decades.

We work with a gregarious, population of dolphins affectionately called the Dolphins of Ponta who find home in the coastal shallows of the Maputo National Park (MNP) which borders iSimangaliso World Heritage Site within the Lubumbo Transfrontier Conservation Area of South Africa & Mozambique.

By joining us you assist with the longterm monitoring of the resident dolphins which was started by our founders in 1997!

While we are at sea we follow a route looking for marine mammals (july to oct) and if species, behavior and location allow, you will enter into the water with Angie to observe them in a calm and respectful way.

During this time Angie will be recording the events for the Center's research.

During the humpback whale migration we combine Whale Watching





RATES 2025

Packages & Activity Rates

*SC self catering; DBB dinner bed & brunch; N night; Hr hour

STO less 10%

DOLPHIN Stay Packages – per person sharing – Prices subject to change with peak season, group size, single occupancy and without notice. <i>Encountours combine whale watching & reef snorkel depending in season.</i>	MOZ METICAIS 2025	SA Rand 2025
5N Dolphin Getaway SC bed beachfront @ <u>Mar e Sol</u> and full dolphin encountour with 3 sunrise dolphin tours, reef snorkel, tee, full dolphin diary of your experience online (min 4/6 peeps)	rate of day	6 680.00
5N Dolphin Retreat DBB dinner, bed, brunch beachfront @ <u>Mar e Sol</u> OR Retreat Lodge with 3 sunrise dolphin tours, reef visit, tee, snorkel course, dolphin diary of your experience (min 4/6 peeps) *excludes Center transfers if opting for Lodge.	rate of day	10 200.00
7N Week with Dolphins & Whales (July–Oct) SC Beachfront stay with 4 sunrise dolphin & whale tours, reef snorkel, tee, snorkel course, dolphin diary of your experience (min 4/8 peeps)	rate of day	9 115.00
Encountour Rates – On-site rates are charged in local currency meticaais. SA rates are subject to pre-booking and full payment prior to arrival.	MOZ METICAIS 2025	SA Rand 2025
Full Dolphin Encountour (3 x 1.5–2hr tours)	8 400.00	2 325.00
Mini Dolphin Encountour (2 x 1.5–2hr tours)	5 820.00	1 595.00
Casual Encountour (1 X 1.5–2hr tour) including marine tax 4+ peeps	3 000.00	800.00
Casual DolphinWhaleReef Watching Encountour (1 tour 3hr) (July–Oct)4+ peeps	3 500.00	1 000.00
Casual Encountour (1 X 1.5–2hr tour) minimum charter fee ex marine tax 1–4 peeps	10 220.00	2 920.00
Casual Encountour (1 X 1.5–2hr tour) private charter ex marine tax 1–10 peeps	26 400.00	7,300.00
Under 12 and passenger	-10%	
Snorkel Introduction with soft gear and practical session (min2)	1 000.00	300.00
Marine Conservation Fees per person per day (included in above)		
International visitor _____(7 days Mt450)	250.00	NA
National visitor _____(7 days Mt350)	150.00	NA

2025 2026 +10%

FULL DOLPHIN 3 tours

Day 1

5:30am Activity – Meet at Center for registration, paperwork, gear up and pre-tour dolphin, boat, sea and snorkel safety briefing. **Followed by** 1.5 – 2hr boat tour to check in on the resident dolphins..

Day 2

6am Activity – Meet at the center for our second boat tour to go and visit our finned friends. Lets see who we can spot today!

Day 3

6am Activity – Meet at the center for our final boat tour to go and visit our finned friends. Who's doing what in the bay today!

Mtn8 400 / R2 325 p/p
Min 4

MINI DOLPHIN 2 tours or 1 xl 3hr tour

Day 1

5:30am Activity – Meet at Center for registration, paperwork, gear up and pre-tour dolphin, boat, sea and snorkel safety briefing. **Followed by** 1.5 – 2hr boat tour to check in on the resident dolphins..

Day 2

6am Activity – Meet at Center for our second boat tour to go and visit our finned friends. Lets see who we can spot today!

Mtn5 820 / R1595 p/p
Min 4

Times may change due to season, tides and weather

ADD ON DAY PRIOR TO TOUR

Done day prior to Encountour -2:30pm Meet & greet at our Center, gear up & intro to snorkelling in the open ocean with the local dolphins of pontal; followed by a practical practice bay session. Get ready to get wet! Bring gear or borrow from us. Swimmers only!

Mtn1 000 / R300 (min 2 peeps)



CODE OF CONDUCT



BOAT TOUR



GEAR USE



MEDIA



MNP TAX

Day 1

CASUAL 2.5HR 1 tour

Meet at the center for registration & paperwork, gear up & pre-tour dolphin, boat, sea & snorkel safety briefing (40min).

We can then expect to be at sea for 1.5 to 2hr looking for dolphins and other marine megafauna, this is depending on how far we have to travel and how bums on board are feeling (seasick). Combine reef visit (Nov-June) & whale watching (July-Oct).

Mtn3000 / R800 p/p
Min 4

- **Minimum charter fee 1-4 peeps**
Mtn10 220/R2 920 excluding marine tax
- **Private charter 1-10 peeps**
Mtn26 400/R7 300 excluding marine tax
- **Marine Conservation Fees per person per day**
International Day Mtn250 / Week Mtn450
National Day Mtn150 / Week Mtn350

OPTIONS

Day 1

CASUAL DOLPHIN **WHALE REEF** **3HR** 1 tour (July to October) min 6 peeps

Meet at the center for registration & paperwork, gear up & pre-tour dolphin, boat, sea & snorkel safety briefing (40min).

We can then expect to be at sea for 2-2.45hr looking for dolphins and whales followed by a reef snorkel. Time is depending on how far we have to travel and how bums on board are feeling (seasick)

Mtn3500 / R1 000 p/p

TERMS CONDITIONS

INFORMATION

- Bank charges are for your account.
- Deposit: please reference invoice number & email-w/app proof of payment to connect@dolphinencountours.org
- Bookings require a **50% deposit**, balance due 30 days prior to arrival. **On-site bookings**, first come first serve. 20% CASH deposit 24hr in advance at the Center. Balance payable by card /cash back on the day. On-site payment Meticais or ZAR's (No Euro/Dollar). **ONLY Visa** card payments accepted.
- Refunds only apply if tours are canceled by DERC
- Due to the nature of wild animals, sightings are **not guaranteed**.
- Tours are **subject to sea state** and are best early morning when conditions are calmer, oceans quieter & dolphins generally more accommodating.
- DERC **reserves the right** to cancel & re-schedule and are not responsible for the weather, water visibility, species abundance & behaviour, all of which are factors that **influence your experience**.
- Encountours are governed by the **DolphinCare Code of Conduct** which includes no touch, chase or dive down, no flash photography, no swimming with newborns and no feeding of dolphins. Failure to adhere to the code will result in no-water entry.
- Tours require **min 4 adults** or the fees thereof.
- Swimming is a **prerequisite** for entering into the water.
- **Not suitable** under 5's, fragile, weak, fearful and over 140kg
- **Media**: All photograph's and material is copyrighted and consent is required to make use of them commercially. Material used is to be copyrighted to DolphinEncountours.Org. No pictures of humans touching dolphins can be used in publicity associated with DERC. As of the 101110 **commercial film/photo shoots** are required to obtain a permit from the Park – filming fee of 36 000,00Mt per 24Hrs and 3 copies of the completed work to be supplied to both the Park & DERC.



IMPORTANT

- **Refunds**: No refunds on missed launches, nights, meals & transfers.
- **Cancellation**: 100% cancellation fee is applicable 45 days or less to arrival. Volunteer stays are credited for a period of 12 months on cancellations resulting from **force majeure** as are tours. Accommodation refunds are subject to individual establishments terms and conditions.
- DERC is not responsible for any issues arising out of bookings with third parties. This includes land transfers, accommodation and catering. Resorts charge a refundable cash key deposit. Towels: bring your own beach towels.
- Lost or broken snorkel gear is charged for.
- Inebriated persons are not permitted to participate.
- Participants are to be on time for activities.
- Other: The use of recreational jetski's is **not permitted**. The flying of drones is not permitted without permit. No underage driving.
- Roads in and around Ponta do Ouro are **NOT tarred**. No entry to non 4x4 past certain points.



No tours in high winds, rough seas and heavy rain.



Swimming a pre-requisite
Snorkel experience advised



Age restriction 5
Weight restriction 140kg
Not suitable fragile/weak/fearful
Special needs & pregnancy by arrangement



Due to the nature of wild dolphins, sightings are not guaranteed.



Group size min 4- 10/2;
maximum three tours
p/day from sunrise.



Pre-booking required,
tours take place early
morning to avoid windy &
busy seas.

- **STO's and Retreats**: Please ensure participants receive the what to bring list in preparation for the experience and ensure guests get a copy of these terms and conditions.



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Main beach Ponta do Ouro, Mozambique



*Packages unless specified (volunteer & student) are self drive.
Packages unless specified (volunteer, student & retreat) self catering.*

Safety, transportation & Borders

- Ponta do Ouro is currently stable and free from any political unrest. All options here are self drive. The best way to reach us it through the Kosi Bay Border or Maputo. If in the event of political unrest in Maputo; airport transfer can take place from Richards Bay Airport. Travel route would then be Cape Town or Johannesburg – Richards Bay – Ponta do Ouro (road transfer ±3hr). www.richardsbayairport.co.za/index.php/flights/flight-schedule. Arrival 11:45 to transfer to PDO (border closes 5pm sharp). Departure PDO 8am for flight departure @ 12:25
- Kosi Bay Border times: 08h00 to 17h00 sharp.
- Car Park Fees: R50 per day payable cash on site.

Traveling with children

- Unabridged birth certificate are required if traveling with minors under the age of 18 over and above the passport, consult home affairs for requirements. [Border-post-formalities](#).

Temporary vehicle import

- If you are bringing your own vehicle you will require your car papers: registration documents & permission letter from insurance company. If not your car, then a letter from the owner stating reason and permission. Third party fees have gone up to R250 per vehicle.

Visa

SADC passport holders do not require a visa.
Internationals – check if you need a visa here:
www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visa_policy_of_Mozambique.
www.evisa.gov.mz prior to arrival to avoid delays on arrival in Mozambique.

What you need for a tourist visa:

1. Return Air ticket
2. Invitation letter – Supplied by accommodation
3. Passport with 3 empty pages and at least 6 months validity
4. Payment of 650mtn (~\$10USD).

Currency

Mozambican meticaïs is what is used. SA Rands are acceptable as are VISA cards. No Mastercards. There is a BCI bank in the village to exchange money. There are two ATM machine that do not accept Mastercard.

Communication

Mobile phone & SIM card are used. Cards can be purchased & registered in Ponta. Some of the restaurants & lodges have wifi. Data costs vodacom: 1000mt = 32Gb.

Malaria, Medial etc

PDO is a low malaria area, however some isolated incidents have occurred. Locals do not take meds. Travellers going north of Maputo should take meds. There is a clinic in the village & hospitals in Maputo. No vaccinations are currently required except yellow fever (depending on were you are traveling from); please arrange travel medical insurance prior to travel. Bring a small first aid kit & any necessary prescriptions for the duration of your stay. Bring your own motion sickness meds if you have a tendency to be sea sick.

Add-ons available through one of the area’s trusted service providers

Catering There are a number of great eateries in Ponta. Catered packages at accommodation can be arrange for groups of 6+ and include 2 course brunch & 3 course dinner.

Activities Holistic Yoga instructors, massage, meditation guides and sound journey facilitators available

Activities active Surfing, Scuba diving, paragliding, quad biking – Ponta delivers.

Activity Safari Spend the day at the Maputo National Park on a land safari through the African savanna – home to elephants, giraffe, buffalo and more



WHAT TO BRING

You WILL be getting wet!



what to wear

Board shorts over costumes. Winter wetsuits are advised. Summer rash vest & leggings. Limited wetsuit hire is available on-site Mtn300. We do not use weight-belts.



camera

Splash-proof & action cameras welcome; selfie sticks, flash/beeps are not. Due to salt water splash large DSLR's are not recommended.



soft gear

Mask, snorkel & fins provided. If you would prefer, bring your own.



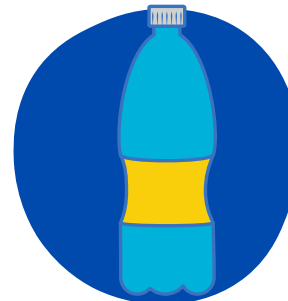
hats-glasses

Should be tightly secured. Sunnies & seeing glasses welcome, please put them on board for boat push in; they may get lost / broken.



towel

One towel between two peeps, space is limited



water snacks

Please provide your own.



sunblock

Opt for reef-friendly or zinc.



payments

On-site payments include visa, cash or bank to bank eft. No Mastercard.