



DIVE SHOP

New Orleans

Great Barrier Reef Minke Whales

May 14-26, 2011

Minke whales are commonly seen along the Ribbon Reefs north of Cairns, Australia, between May and August. Mike Ball Expeditions conducts Minke Whale Expeditions with the entire second day devoted to finding and diving with these special cetaceans.



Since 1996, their usual hang-out areas have been discovered. A protocol with minimal impact on the whales has slowly developed allowing the whales to approach divers within their own comfort level. That and the Minke's natural curios-



ity allow for personal encounters and spectacular opportunities for close up videos and phenomenal photography.

We will be diving from the world famous *Spoilsport*. The *Spoilsport* is Australia's most awarded live-aboard dive boat. Her combination of space, stability and diver comfort and convenience is unmatched. You will enjoy the luxurious motor yacht atmosphere and sumptuous cuisine.



This fabulous seven-night, 450-mile Coral Sea Safari includes some of the best dive sites on Australia's Great Barrier Reef and the Coral Sea. Before venturing out to find the Minke Whales, you will have a spectacular first dive at Challenger

Bay, see man-size fish at Cod Hole, dive in gin-clear water along the walls of the Coral Sea, observe exciting shark and pelagic action in the Coral Sea, explore Lizard Island above and below the surface, make an outer edge big fish dive at Cod Wall, experience the best fish and coral bio-diversity at Ribbon's Reef, and more superior dives north of Cook Town.



Spoilsport accommodates 29 divers with varying levels of comfort, depending on how much you choose to spoil yourself. Because not everyone can occupy the same space at the same time, those who put their money on specifics first will be given preferential reservations.



Should folks not reserve specific levels of comfort, we will average the overall cost of space remaining and a lottery for specific accommodations will be conducted and awarded for a uniform price. From experience, we can attest to the superb value of the Premium Cabins.

The Trip at a Glance

Departs May 14, 2011

Returns May 26, 2011

Duration 13 Days/12 Nights

Cost Per diver:

- \$3,100* (Premium)
 - \$2,800* (Standard)
 - \$2,400* (Club)
 - \$2,100* (Budget)
- (*Subject to change)

Included Price includes:

- Accommodations
- Meals on board
- Diving
- Use of tanks, weights

You Provide Not included in price:

- Round-trip air fare
- Personal dive gear
- Taxes, gratuity

We anticipate the airfare to be around \$1,500 per person (but, these days, who can tell for sure). With a \$500 per person deposit, you can reserve your specific spot on this magnificent expedition. The available cabin classes are:



- **Premium:** Queen beds, a private bathroom and an ocean view.
- **Standard:** Twin beds, a private bathroom and an ocean view.
- **Club:** Twin bunks, a private bathroom and...no view.
- **Budget:** Four-person bunks, shared bathroom and...no view.

The Spoilsport expedition itself is May 17-24, but we need time to get there and time to get back plus we need time to experience some of the finer aspects of the countryside outback. We are currently arranging for various side trips for northern hemisphere residents (us) to better explore the outback of the “Down Under” in the southern hemisphere where the water runs down the drain the opposite way.

When traveling to the other side of the globe, we need you to provide a copy of your passport’s front page, scuba certification card, nitrox certification if applicable, emergency contact information, DAN insurance, a sealed envelope of personal medical information, a signed statement of understanding and liability release.

Don’t let the fact this is a 2011 trip lull you into thinking you can postpone a decision. Trust us: This trip will fill far in advance. For more info or to sign up, call or visit Harry’s Dive Shop.