

Minister launches Brisbane Whale Watching Season 2009

Over 100 domestic and international Guests joined in the celebrations aboard MV Eye-Spy to mark the opening of **Brisbane Whale Watching** Season 2009, officially launched on Saturday 27th June by the Minister for Tourism, Peter Lawlor.

“A huge thank you goes out to the Queensland Minister for Tourism, Peter Lawlor and also State Member for Redcliffe, Lilian Van Litsenburg for joining our official celebrations. It’s great to let people know this amazing experience is available within a splash from Brisbane CBD,” said Captain Kerry Lopez, Managing Director of Brisbane Whale Watching.

A total of eight pods comprising seventeen mighty Humpback whales in total put on an amazing opening show for all to enjoy an unforgettable up close encounter.

“It’s fantastic to see strong numbers for our opening cruise of Season 2009. We expect to see 10-12% growth in whale numbers on previous year and I look forward to sharing in the excitement with our Guests,” said Captain Kerry Lopez.

Brisbane Whale Watching is now in its 14th year of operation and is privileged to be one of only two permit holders licensed to operate commercial cruises in the Moreton Bay Marine Park.

The multi-million dollar purpose built luxury catamaran, MV Eye-Spy is skippered by the South Pacific’s only female captain of a whale watching venture, Captain Kerry Lopez.

Built to specifications for whale watching expeditions, Eye-Spy represents the ultimate in design, stability and technology. With a capacity to host up to three hundred guests, the six viewing decks and large bow allow for unobstructed viewing from all points. Floor to ceiling glass with air-conditioned comfort means staying inside will not hinder your viewing pleasure.

Enhanced seating along with excellent sea keeping qualities makes traveling to and from the whale sighting grounds both comfortable and enjoyable.

Fitted with low noise propellers to minimize noise, while electronically controlled engines reduce fuel usage and exhaust emissions all ensure MV Eye-Spy remains environmentally friendly to both the whales and all other marine life.

The Brisbane Whale Watching experience includes a delicious morning and afternoon tea, plus gourmet buffet lunch and expert marine commentary.

Tours depart daily at 10am returning at approximately 2.30pm from 27 June until November, leaving from Redcliffe Jetty, an easy 30 minute drive from downtown Brisbane. Daily coach transfers are available from Brisbane CBD, Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast.

For further information and bookings visit www.brisbanewhalewatching.com.au

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