



EXPERIENCE

# HUMPBACK WHALES

CURATED GUIDED EXPERIENCE BY

JONO ALLEN

YOUR EXPERIENCE

# OVERVIEW



Vava'u, Tonga



max 7 guests



8 days / 7 nights



Photography Package



Whale Swims



5 days on the water



# A PACIFIC PARADISE

# TONGA

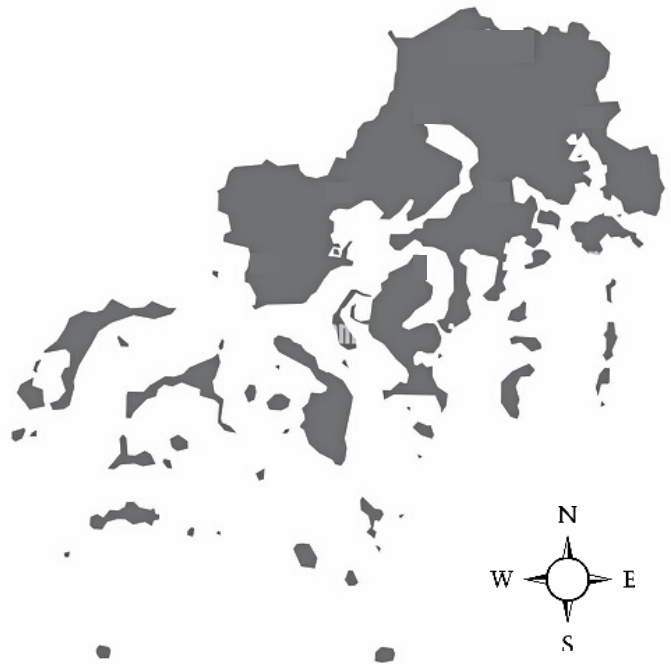


The Kingdom of Tonga is situated just east of the International Date Line in the middle of the South Pacific Ocean. It is also known as the "Friendly Islands". With 176 islands to explore, and only 40 inhabited islands, it is easy to imagine yourself on one of the deserted islands and become friends with the local sea life. An authentic mix of centuries-old traditions and modern culture, surrounded by azure waters and scenic settings, the nation is famous its fantastic snorkelling opportunities, and most importantly: for being the winter breeding ground of humpback whales.

The crystal blue waters of Tonga are home to some of the most majestic creatures on earth - humpback whales! Every year these gentle giants make their way to Tonga's warm waters to breed and give birth. Witnessing these magnificent creatures in their natural habitat is a truly unforgettable and life changing experience.

# THE ISLAND OF VAVA'U

The Tongan island of Vava'u is a heaven for wildlife. Every year, thousands of humpback whales make their annual migration from the freezing feeding grounds of Antarctica, to the warm blue paradise of Tonga to mate and give birth. Despite their large size, weighing over 30 tonnes, humpback are inquisitive and highly intelligent gentle giants.

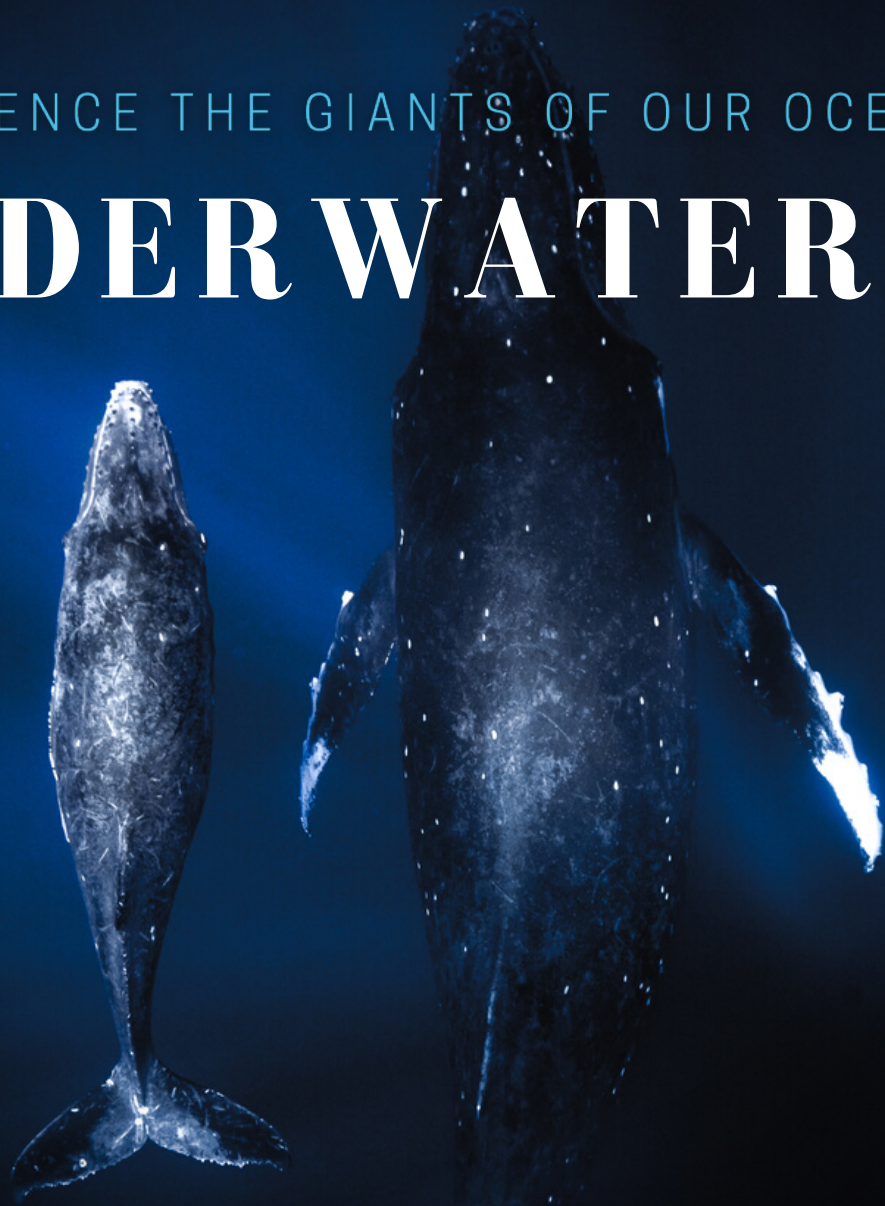


**HUMPBACK  
WHALE SEASON**

***AUG - OCT***  
***3 months / year***

EXPERIENCE THE GIANTS OF OUR OCEANS

# UNDERWATER



## 3 OCEAN EXPERIENCES



### **WHALE WATERS:**

Freedive / snorkel  
with the beautiful  
ocean giants



### **ISLAND REEFS:**

Swim through  
pristine coral  
seascapes



### **OCEAN CAVES:**

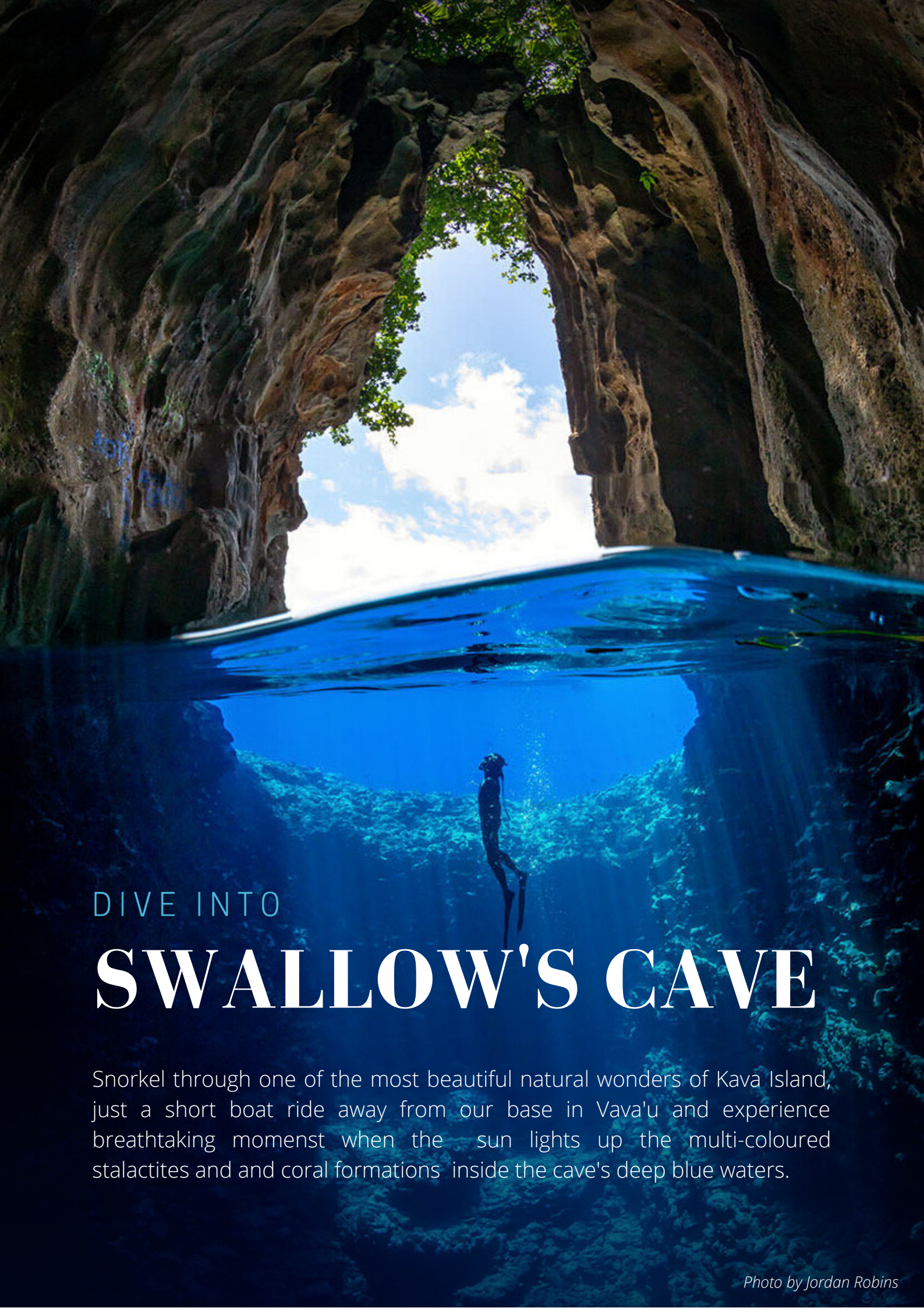
Explore the  
electric blue  
Swallow's cave

An underwater photograph of several humpback whales swimming near the surface of the ocean. The water is a deep, vibrant blue, and sunlight filters through the surface, creating a shimmering effect. The whales are dark grey with characteristic white patches on their heads and bodies. They are swimming in a loose formation, with one whale in the foreground and others behind it.

# MEET THE HUMPBACK WHALES

"The most humbling experience you can ever have underwater is to share moments together with these gentle giants. Nothing in our oceans compares to being face to face with a creature five times the size of an African elephant, and for it to gently welcome you into its home below the surface. While they may not be able to speak with words, but they radiate kindness and curiosity."

- Jono Allen



DIVE INTO

# SWALLOW'S CAVE

Snorkel through one of the most beautiful natural wonders of Kava Island, just a short boat ride away from our base in Vava'u and experience breathtaking moments when the sun lights up the multi-coloured stalactites and coral formations inside the cave's deep blue waters.

*Photo by Jordan Robins*

WHALE BEHAVIOUR

# WORKSHOP

Learn how to connect and interact with marine life in both safely and respectfully with ocean megafauna guide, underwater photographer and environmental scientist Jono Allen. Dive deeper into the unique behaviour and personalities of whales as we carefully position ourselves to achieve those once in a lifetime face to face encounters we dream of.





YOUR GUIDE AND TRIP LEADER

# JONO ALLEN



Jono is a professional wildlife photographer, marine environmental scientist, expedition guide and freediver. A deeply passionate ocean advocate he is a storyteller for Ocean Culture Life and co-founded of Fuvahmulah Marine Foundation after rescuing an entangled whale shark together with local shark diving pioneer Lonu Nasheed and spending over 9 months documenting marine life in Fuvahmulah. Whether it be leading encounters with giant humpbacks in Tonga or apex sharks in the Maldives, Jono's experiences are guided by one motivation: to facilitate unique connections with wildlife by providing guests with the opportunity to exchange eye contact, and experience that once in a lifetime moment of silent face-to-face dialogue with the giants of the sea.

[www.jonoallen.com](http://www.jonoallen.com)

YOUR GUIDE AND TRIP LEADER

# ADAM SELLARS



Adam Sellars is an Australian Freediver and Freedive Instructor, as well as the Founder of "The Pressure Project" As an athlete Adam has always grappled with the pressure that is part and parcel of the sporting experience and the other is his own battles with the pressures in life which at one point threatened to cripple and derail his life. The misunderstood sport of Freediving has opened Adam's eyes to a new way of living and coping with the pressures of sporting, work, and his personal life, which Adam wishes to share with teams, organisations and individuals alike. The principles of meditation, power of breath and breath hold and the ability to embrace and withstand the powerful messages from the brain which limit us is what Adam has used to empower himself and others in his new path of helping people unlock their potential through releasing the shackles of pressure.

[www.thepressureproject.com.au](http://www.thepressureproject.com.au)

# SUMMARY



## INCLUDED

- 7 nights accommodation in water front accommodation
- 5 full days on the water looking for whales
- Breakfast & lunch each day
- Interacting with marine megafauna workshop
- Underwater photography workshop
- Freedive workshop
- Photography package of trip highlights
- Airport transfers
- Snorkelling on tropical coral reefs
- Swimming and exploring hidden ocean caves

## NOT INCLUDED

- International flights & travel insurance
- Cafe items between meals
- Alcoholic drinks & dinner

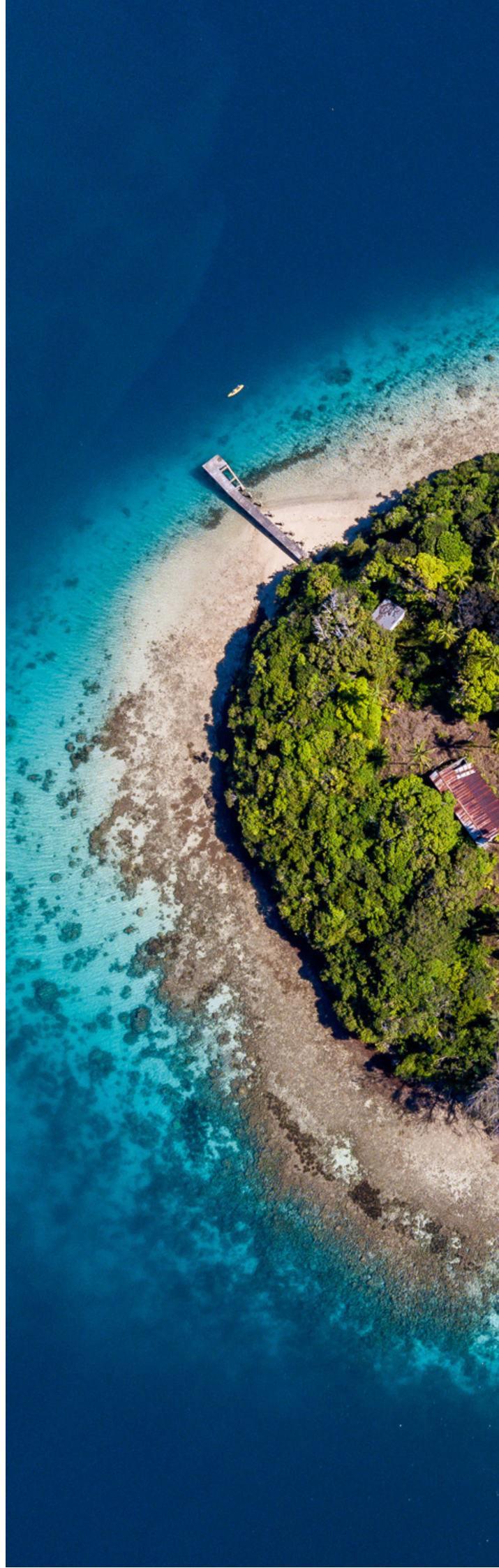
**\$6,750 AUD**

based on twin shared accommodation

# YOUR ITINERARY

## DAY 1 - 2:

- You'll be greeted at the airport by our transfer to the accommodation.
- Meet-and-greet with your guide, Jono Allen over lunch.
- Settle into your waterfront accommodation
- Tongan welcome feast!
- Sunday cultural experience!
- Masterclass by Jono Allen on interacting with & photographing, the whales in a responsible manner.





# DAY 3-7

- Breakfast 6am
- On the boat 7am
- 7 hours of searching for and swimming with humpbacks!
- 2pm return back to base, rinse gear and enjoy some sunshine.
- Interactive Underwater Photography Masterclass
- Dinner out on the town
- Early night at our accomodation

# DAY 8

- Breakfast at our accomodation
- Jono Allen will present a final Masterclass on Photography Editing. Apply your new skills to your own photos!
- Sadly it's time to say goodbye, but with memories that will last forever.
- Return transfer to Vava'u airport.



# PRIVATE WATERFRONT ACCOMMODATION



FREQUENTLY ASKED

# QUESTIONS

## **Why swim with Humpback Whales in Tonga?**

Swimming with humpback whales is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that will leave you in awe. These majestic creatures are known for their intelligence and beautiful songs. Not only will you get to witness their incredible size and grace up close, but you'll also have the opportunity to learn more about their behaviour and habitat. Swimming with humpback whales is an unforgettable adventure that will leave you with a newfound appreciation for the ocean and these gentle giants.

## **Do I need to have experience scuba diving?**

No! You don't need any scuba dive experience for this trip. The whales come to the surface, and we meet them there! You will sometimes have the option to 'free dive' with the whales, allowing you more time with them. Especially when they're moving in heat runs, or singing down into the depths at about 20 meters deep!

## **Do you have snorkelling equipment and safety vests?**

While we can help with some gear, we strongly encourage you to bring your own snorkel, mask, fins and wetsuit that you have tested and are comfortable with! For those less competent swimmers we encourage the use thick and highly buoyant wetsuits over safety vests, however it is your choice!

## **What level of fitness and experience in the water is required?**

Many of the activities involve swimming and snorkelling so we recommend a moderate level of fitness. It is also recommended that you are comfortable in the ocean and able to swim 200m unassisted.

## **How do I get to Tonga?**

Flights currently operate from Australia, Fiji & New Zealand. While flights options are limited our team is here to help you find the best flights all the way to Vava'u.



CONFIRM YOUR SPOT

# IN PACIFIC PARADISE!

FOR TRIP BOOKINGS, QUESTIONS OR INQUIRES:

**JONO ALLEN**

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