

SAN DIEGO WHALE WATCHING GUIDE



MEET THE EASTERN PACIFIC GRAY WHALE, THE STAR OF THE SHOW

Courtesy of the whale experts at Birch Aquarium at Scripps

2 blowholes create a heart-shaped blow up to 15 feet high

Average weight **70,000 LBS**

A fully grown gray whale can weigh just as much or more than 5 adult elephants.

Length **40-50 FT**

Dorsal ridges or "knuckles"

Fluke (Tail) Width **10-12 FT**

Once hunted near extinction, the now-protected gray whales were **REMOVED FROM THE ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST IN 1994**

Avg Speed **3-6 MPH**

Short and pointed flipper

2m

BRING THE RIGHT GEAR

- sunglasses sunscreen layered clothing binoculars camera

FLAGSHIP CRUISES HAS BEEN SAILING THESE WATERS SINCE 1915.

Together with Birch Aquarium, we've learned a lot about whale watching. With these tips, you can become an expert too!

1

TIMING IS EVERYTHING

From December through April, more than **20,000** gray whales will swim right past San Diego, offering an incredible opportunity for up-close viewing.

2

EYES ON THE WATER

Scan the surface of the water looking for the whale's blow. This is usually the first thing you'll see. It appears when the whales surface to breathe.

3

IDENTIFY YOUR TARGETS

Gray whales are the main attraction, but keep on the lookout for fin whales, humpbacks, dolphins, pelicans, sea lions, and cormorants.

4

PATIENCE IS KEY

There's no way around it, whales spend a lot of time underwater. So be patient and enjoy the experience on a boat in beautiful San Diego!



Boards: 990 N. Harbor Drive
Book Online or Call: (619) 234-4111 / (800) 442-7847
Visit: FlagshipSD.com

Guess the grays
you could
& WIN

2 TICKETS
to Birch Aquarium and
a Gourmet Dinner Cruise
on San Diego Bay
enter by
03-15-16