

Timor Leste!

Marine Mammals, Walls and Muck Diving!

Sunday 1st November to Monday 9th November 2026



DESMOND LEE
TIMOR LESTE

Now that I have your attention, let me start with a few of the reasons I am organising this trip here.

Firstly, they have what they call a resident dugong at their house reef. Whilst I would not call this a given, the above photo proves that they are there sometimes at least!

Secondly, they do whale swims! I have booked this trip at the peak of their whale swim season. They sit on a whale highway as they call it. At this time of the year many species use this highway to move from the Pacific to the Indian Ocean. Think sperm whales, pilot whales, Bryde's whales, fin whales, several species of dolphin, and if we're really lucky; blue whales. We're not sure what we'll get, but it will be interesting!!



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Thanks to Aquatica Resort for the use of all of the photos here.

And check out [Swimming with Blue Whales, Timor-Leste](#)

I'm not sure who the operator is in this video, but it shows you a bit about what happens.

And [Home | Whales and Dolphins of Timor-Leste](#)

I haven't been to this country or resort yet, so it will be a bit of a new one for me too.

We leave Melbourne on Sunday 1st November 2026 at about 12.30pm and arrive in Darwin about 6pm. We stay at the Quality Darwin Airport Hotel, which has complementary airport transfers and is only about 1.5km away from the terminal.

www.qhda.com.au

The next day (Monday 2nd Nov) we fly to Timor Leste, leaving at 6.35am and arriving at 7.35am. From there we will proceed to our resort.

[Aquatica Dive Resort | Scuba Diving at Timor Leste / East Timor |](#)

I think you can see from their home page that there will be a lot to see here!



We have eight dive package, (four local boat dives, two shore dives, and a double dive day at Atauro Island). We also have two half day whale swim days, leaving about 8am and returning about 1pm.

Atauro Island is pristine wall diving, while the local dives will tend to be more towards muck diving, with lots of strange critters, and of course the chance for the dugong. I have been seeing some very interesting critter shots out of here lately, including rhinopias scorpionfish, dottybacks which I have not seen anywhere else, and more.

We leave Dili at 8.05am on Monday 9th and arrive back in Melbourne at 8.20pm.

The whale swim boat can only take ten passengers, so for that reason I am capping this trip at ten people (divers plus snorkellers), plus any non-diving, non-snorkelling partners if they want to come, though I don't recommend this trip if you're not snorkelling as I don't think there is a lot to do or see in Timor Leste at the moment.

As of writing this I only have one position vacant on this trip. If I get a lot of people interested I'll add a second trip leaving on Sunday 8th November 2026.

Also please be aware that trying to swim with any marine mammal is not a 100% hit rate. But if we don't try we won't have any chance. I've been seeing some brilliant photos come out of this area in the last few years, so let's see how we go!



Dates: Sunday 1st November to Monday 9th November 2026

Cost:

Divers \$5,820.50

Snorkellers \$4,794.50

Single supplement add \$750 AUD (Inc overnight Darwin)

Upgrade to deluxe room at Aquatica an additional \$250 AUD per person twin share

Includes:

Airfares ex-Melbourne

One night's accommodation in Darwin (no breakfast, we leave too early.)

Seven night's accommodation at Aquatica Dive Resort, Timor Leste, twin share, includes breakfast.

Airport transfers.

Does not include meals aside from breakfast's as above.

Includes two whale swim days for both divers and snorkellers. (Please note that the whale swim days are snorkelling, we do not use scuba.)

Eight dives for the divers, two shore dives, four local boat dives, two dives at Atauro Island.

I hope to see you there, and please contact me to reserve a spot.

Cheers

Ken

For a full itinerary, booking form, and more trip information please contact Ken on khoppenphoto@optusnet.com.au or 0408126100.

Bookings are sent to:

Allways Dive Expeditions:

Email: ian@allwaysdive.com.au Web: www.allwaysdive.com.au



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Please note: Prices are valid at the time of first publication, but can change due to fluctuations in the Australian Dollar and airline prices.

All deposits are non-refundable and non-transferrable.