

Inshore Cetacean Distribution off the South West Coast of Ireland

An opportunity exists to join a sailing expedition off the South West Coast of Ireland to take part in a survey looking at the spatial and temperate distribution of cetaceans - with particular emphasis for habitat preference and the dynamic variables that affect such habitat.

Participants will be expected to participate in a visual survey of the area and record sightings using Logger 2010 (courtesy of IFAW and Marine Conservation Research).

The expedition will be run over 2 separate weeks (7 days and 6 nights each), 7-13 October and 15-21 October 2018, with participants taking part in one or both weeks. The survey will be conducted during daylight hours only and the boat will return to the coast each evening to moor or anchor in the bays of the Irish south west coast.

The cost for one week is €800 and €1300 for 2 weeks. The cost includes accommodation on board a 37ft sailing yacht, all food, fuel, marina fees and sailing gear. There is a break of 2 nights between each week where participants on the 2 week trip can make their own arrangements for food and accommodation.

For undergrad and masters students interested in a particular subject for their thesis, which relates to the area and marine fauna therein, we can arrange the expeditions to accommodate their particular subject if enough notice is given.

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- **Dates:** 7 – 13 October and/or 15 – 21 October 2018
 - **Cost:** €800 1 week or €1300 for 2 weeks
 - **Vessel:** Jessy of Adrigole, Sun Odyssey 37 Department of Marine passenger licensed sailing yacht.
 - **Skipper:** Ocean Yachtmaster, RYA / Irish Sailing Yachtmaster Instructor, Marine biologist.
 - **Embarkation and disembarkation port:** Bantry / Adrigole, Co Cork or Valentia Island Co Kerry (tba).
 - **Berths:** 3 double cabins (price above is based on single person occupancy – shared cabin price available for double bookings, email for details).
 - **Meals:** All meals included. Vegetarian.
 - **Bedding:** Bring your own sleeping bag (rental bags available).
 - **Clothing:** Offshore gear available if required.
 - **Cork Airport / Train / Bus Station:** Collection available if timing fits (or bus options from Dublin, Kerry and Cork). Contact us directly for advice on transport options.
 - **Accommodation:** We can advise on accommodation locally for the days before, in-between or after, if required.
 - **Qualifications / Experience Required:** It is desirable that participants are able to identify cetaceans, but is not essential as you can learn as we go. A knowledge of basic sailing or boat handling is desirable but not essential.
 - **Duties on board:** Participants will be members of the crew in sailing the vessel, carrying out visual surveys, data collection.
 - **Opportunities:** Data collection can be used for masters / undergrad thesis. Wildlife and Irish coastal photography opportunity. Logging marine conservation survey experience. Developing sailing and boat handling skills. Irish marine mammal/fauna identification.

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