



SHARK CAGE DIVING WITH
CALYPSO STAR CHARTERS
NEPTUNE ISLANDS - PORT LINCOLN SA
WWW.SHARKCAGEDIVING.COM.AU

SHARK CAGE DIVING WITH CALYPSO STAR CHARTERS

Story by Karen Crosby

If you are keen to have a go, check Calypso Star Charter's website: www.sharkcagediving.com.au



After returning from our holiday in Port Lincoln and Adelaide, I thought it would be good to share our experience with the Great White Sharks. But before the sharks, can I say we had an excellent time. From swimming with the Tuna at Port Lincoln, touring the Barossa Valley, experiencing the Clipsal 500 with the V8 super cars and seeing 'Wolfmother' in concert, the two weeks were jammed packed. Mind you, it was nice to wear jeans and jumpers for a change, as the weather was quite chilly at times for us softies from Broome. OK, back to the Great Whites.

Upon leaving Port Lincoln at 6.30am we just missed being interviewed by Fife from the 'Sunrise' team on Channel 7 as they were in town at the same time as us. The 'line' dropped out so we missed out on being TV stars (bugger!).

When we arrived at the docks, I was surprised with our fellow passengers, as they came from all over the world to experience this and most of them had booked 12 months in advance, so they wouldn't miss out. The 'Calypso Star'

crew were Simon, Matt and Ceylena and there were 20 of us. Sailing time was 2 and a half hours to the Neptune Islands. The trip was going well until we reached open water and the swell. Well, I think you know what happened next. Poor Croz got as sick as a dog and a few of the passengers including myself, were not feeling too flash either. We were relieved to arrive at the Neptune Islands. Within a half hour of dropping the anchor, the sharks arrived.

The day was cloudy at times, so when it was overcast, it was scary how you couldn't see the sharks in the water, until they were right at the back of the boat. Unfortunately, Croz never recovered enough to go diving but did see the sharks from the boat. Now I can understand how people are attacked, as they just appear out of nowhere. And yes, they are bloody huge. When they are only three foot away from you, to see these creatures that ranged from 4 to 5 metres long and their sheer size just blows you away. And yes, I did go into the cage but the funny thing was that I

was more frightened of how cold the water was, even though we had wet suits. So it took me a while to breathe properly through the mouth piece (as you can tell, I have never snorkeled or dived before) so this was all new to me.

The cage was big enough for three to four people at a time. I didn't stay in the water as long as some of the others but I saw plenty of sharks. The locals told us that we were very lucky to see up to three sharks, which came and went all day, as there are days they don't show up at all. Remembering they are wild animals.

I hope the photos justify the size of these buggers. I certainly can say I faced one of my biggest fears BUT don't expect to see me in the water any time soon. Give me Dampier or Crab creek any day for a fish... but I would not have missed this trip for anything.

It's the experience of a life time. The crew really looked after us and for those who had an appetite; there was plenty of food provided through out the day.

