

# Whale Sharks at Isla Holbox and Isla Mujeres



One Of The Best Places In The World To Swim With Whale Sharks

Whale sharks descend on the Mexican Caribbean around the coasts of Cancun and Playa Del Carmen between June 1st and September 15th. They congregate especially around Isla Holbox and Isla Mujeres which are the best place to see whale sharks. At Holbox they come to eat Krill and Plankton. At Mujeres they like to eat bonito eggs.

Whale Sharks are the largest shark and the largest fish on the planet. They grow to 40 feet or more, the length of a school bus, and they can weigh 20 tonnes. It's hard to believe they maintain this massive size by eating mostly plankton. A juvenile Whale Shark devours 46 pounds of plankton per day.

Whale sharks are Gentle Giants and do not bite or hurt humans. In fact they do not even bite or chew. They are filter feeders. They just cruise along, vacuuming up water and filtering all the plankton from it into their belly for digestion. It's very safe for you to get close to a Whale Shark without fear of being attacked or injured.

Whale Sharks ascend up to the surface to eat the plankton and this is when you can have a Whale Shark experience and snorkel beside them. All interactions between Human and Whale Shark are done on the surface. You are not allowed to scuba dive with the Whale Sharks.

When swimming with Whale sharks you must act respectfully. Whale Sharks do not want to be poked or prodded by tourists, and they don't like people swimming under them. When swimming with Whale Sharks you will wear a life jacket that keeps you at the surface and you will maintain a distance of 2-3 metres. The Peaceful Whale Shark is happy if you swim alongside them, but does not want to be hit in its face by your scuba fin, or crept up on from below.

Swimming with the Majestic Whale Shark is a beautiful communion and therefore a very popular tourist activity during Whale Shark season. The good news is there are many Whale Sharks that love to come to Isla Holbox and Isla Mujeres so you have an excellent chance of seeing one in Mexico. In fact, Cancun and Playa Del Carmen are among the best destinations in the world for swimming with Whale Sharks. If you are in Mexico during Whale Shark season do not miss your chance to swim with these prehistoric gentle giants of the ocean.