



VENUE COLOUR CODE

Festival Hub
Hall
Masonic Hall
Woolamai Beach SLSC
Other (check details)

FRIDAY 30TH JUNE

10am – 4pm: FESTIVAL HUB OPEN

The Festival Hub is open with an array of stalls, activities, talks, presentations, & live music on the Wildlife Coast Cruises stage. **Location:** St Philip's Anglican Church Hall & Grounds, 102 Thompson Ave, Cowes

10.30 – 11am: Smoking Ceremony, Welcome to Country & Official Opening
A Welcome to Country & Smoking Ceremony will be provided by the Traditional Owners of the land, the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation. *Presented by: Bunurong Land Council*
Cost: FREE **Location:** Festival Hub

10am – 12pm: Library Story Time & Activities

Join the librarians who will share stories & interactive activities with the little ones. *Presented by: Myli Libraries*
Cost: FREE – drop in **Location:** St John's Church Hall, 86 Chapel Street, Cowes

10.30am, 12.30pm & 2.30pm: Our Ocean - Our Health - Our Whales Health
Join a beach tour to explore for signs of a healthy biodiversity, while also recognising & learning about the pollutants that affect our environment. *Presented by: Phillip Island Eco Tours* **Cost:** A \$15 A – C \$10 C - Family \$45 *Children must be accompanied by an adult. This session is weather permitting. **Location:** Departs from car park (left side beach lookout), Woolamai Beach SLSC

11am – 11.45am: How to Draw Cartoon Whales Workshop

Join local illustrator & artist Zev Landes (the creator of our whale mascots) in a fun workshop learning how to draw whales. No drawing experience necessary. *Presented by: Zev Landes*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

11am; 1.30pm & 3.30pm: VR Experience: Great Southern Ocean Reef

Learn about the spectacular reefs around Australia's southern coastline, while you explore Victoria's biodiverse Marine National Parks, 'snorkelling' with dolphins, seals & rock lobsters – without getting wet! *Presented by: Southern Ocean Environment Link*
Cost: FREE – Drop in **Location:** Masonic Hall, 92 Church St, Cowes

11am – 1pm: Make a Whale Pom Pom

Make your very own cute whale & learn about these majestic animals that live in our oceans. **Cost:** FREE – drop in. **Location:** Phillip Island Visitor Info Centre, Newhaven

11.30am & 12pm: Paint Your Own Whale Cookie

Join Brooke from the Island Cookie Box who will assist your little ones to create their own whale cookie masterpiece! Yum! *Presented by: Island Cookie Box*
Cost: \$12 - Bookings available online & tickets available in marquee **Location:** Festival Hub - Marquee

12pm & 2.30pm: Recycled Plastics Workshop

Recycle & transform plastics using new, innovative technology into a unique item for you to keep! Learn about the impact of plastic on our marine environment & about solutions to tackle plastic waste. *Presented by: Southern Ocean Environment Link*
Cost: \$5 – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Masonic Hall, 92 Church St, Cowes

12pm – 12.45pm: Wildlife Victoria – On Call To Help

Wildlife Victoria's CEO shares knowledge from her decade long experience in wildlife rescue, rehabilitation & explains Wildlife Victoria's important role in caring & advocating for Victoria's wildlife. *Presented by: Lisa Palma, Wildlife Victoria*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

12pm – 4pm: Meet the Dolphin Research Institute's team

Meet the team of DRI researchers & volunteers & ask questions about their work, getting involved & careers in marine science. *Presented by: Dolphin Research Institute & Two Bays Whale Project* **Cost:** FREE – Drop in **Location:** Woolamai Beach SLSC

12pm – 4pm: Whale Tail Identification

How many flukes and fins can you identify? Learn how scientists identify whales by their patterns or marks on their fins or flukes (tails), which are similar to fingerprints for humans. *Presented by: Dolphin Research Institute & Two Bays Whale Project*
Cost: FREE – Drop in **Location:** Woolamai Beach SLSC

1pm – 1.45pm: Common Good - Citizen Science & Common Dolphins

Common dolphins are often spotted along the Bass Coast. Are these local dolphins similar to those in Port Phillip who exhibit residency behaviour & a social structure not typical of the species? Help untangle the mystery by sharing your tour boat images to #finDatSea *Presented by: Dr Sue Mason*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

2pm – 2.45pm: Coastal & Marine Wildlife:

The Need For A Long-Distance Relationship

Hear all about how the Conservation Regulators are working tirelessly to safeguard our beloved Hooded Plovers (the 'Hoodies'). You'll also learn about the crucial role we all play in ensuring the safety & wellbeing of our beautiful marine mammals when we interact with them. *Presented by: Conservation Regulators*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

3pm – 4pm: Spot a Whale

Learn how to spot a whale with local researchers, while enjoying the magnificent views of Cape Woolamai. This is the perfect location to learn the tell-tale signs of a whale presence in our coastal waters. *Presented by: Dolphin Research Institute & Two Bays Whale Project*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Woolamai Beach SLSC

4pm, 5pm & 6pm: Festival Silent Disco

Experience the silent disco magic through ocean themed music and an immersive dance journey of movement, fun & connection for the whole family. The crew will show you some guided, simple & fun movements - no dance experience necessary! *Presented by: POHSS Studio*
Cost: \$5 - Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall & grounds

6.30pm – 9pm: Sip & Paint A Whale

Come join the fun & learn some acrylic painting techniques. Laugh, drink & leave with your own masterpiece. All material provided. Must be 18+. *Presented by: Studio 3922*
Cost: \$55 – Online bookings required **Location:** Penguin Parade Visitor Centre

PLEASE NOTE: Program details may be subject to change. Please check details online for up-to-date information and for all bookings **www.islandwhales.com.au**

  @islandwhales, @visitphillipisland, #islandwhales

WILDLIFE COAST CRUISES STAGE

Bring a picnic rug & listen to some beautiful music from some of our talented local performers & entertainers including: Maddy May, Nic Huigsloot, Garry & John, Paul 'Fonz' Patten, & Esta Christensen (*check program online & on the stage for times)

FESTIVAL PROGRAM 2023

SATURDAY 1ST JULY

9am, 1pm & 3pm: Spot a Whale

Learn how to spot a whale with local researchers, while enjoying the magnificent views of Cape Woolamai. This is the perfect location to learn the tell-tale signs of a whale presence in our coastal waters. *Presented by: Dolphin Research Institute & Two Bays Whale Project*
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10am – 4pm: FESTIVAL HUB OPEN

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10am – 3pm: Art Show

View ocean inspired works from some of Millowl's (Phillip Islands) talented local artists. **Cost:** FREE – Drop in **Location:** The Nobbies Centre, 1320 Ventnor Road, Summerland

10am – 10.45am: Whale Blessing Ceremony

Traditional Custodian, Ceremony Maker & Artist Uncle Steve Ulula Parker will facilitate a Ceremony to bless the whales & wish them safe passage on their migration past Millowl (Phillip Island) to the warmer northern waters. **Cost:** FREE – Join in **Location:** Cowes Foreshore Beach (left of Jetty), The Esplanade

10am – 4pm: Whale Tail Identification

How many flukes and fins can you identify? Learn how scientists identify whales by their patterns or marks on their fins or flukes (tails), which are similar to fingerprints for humans. *Presented by: Dolphin Research Institute & Two Bays Whale Project*
Cost: FREE – Drop in **Location:** Woolamai Beach SLSC

10am – 4pm: Meet the Dolphin Research Institute's team

Meet the team of DRI researchers and volunteers and ask questions about their work, getting involved and careers in marine science. *Presented by: Dolphin Research Institute & Two Bays Whale Project* **Cost:** FREE – Drop in **Location:** Woolamai Beach SLSC

10am, 12pm & 2.30pm: Recycled Plastics Workshop

Recycle & transform plastics using new, innovative technology into a unique item for you to keep! Learn about the impact of plastic on our marine environment & about solutions to tackle plastic waste. *Presented by: Southern Ocean Environment Link*
Cost: \$5 – Bookings available online and recommended **Location:** Masonic Hall, 92 Church St, Cowes

10.30am, 12.30pm & 2.30pm: Our Ocean - Our Health - Our Whales Health

Join a beach tour to explore for signs of a healthy biodiversity, while also recognising & learning about the pollutants that affect our environment. *Presented by: Phillip Island Eco Tours* **Cost:** A \$15 A – C \$10 C - Family \$45 *Children must be accompanied by an adult. This session is weather permitting. **Location:** Departs from Smiths Beach car park

11am & 2pm: Ocean Messages – Interactive Art Piece

Local Community Artists Camille Monet & Helen Matthews will facilitate the decoration of a large-scale whale puppet with messages about the importance of caring for whales, the oceans and the Living World. *Presented by: For Our Future Arts Project*
Cost: FREE – Drop in **Location:** Festival Hub – Marquee

11am – 11.45am: Eating Whales: A Megalodon Story

Come on a journey to uncover the largest sharks that ever existed. How did one of the largest macro-predators of all time go extinct? Examine the evolution, rise, and ultimate downfall of this monstrous shark. *Presented by: Ben Franchiselli, Palaeontologist*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

11am; 1.30pm & 3.30pm: VR Experience: Great Southern Ocean Reef

Learn about the spectacular reefs around Australia's southern coastline, while you explore Victoria's biodiverse Marine National Parks, 'snorkelling' with dolphins, seals & rock lobsters – without getting wet! *Presented by: Southern Ocean Environment Link*
Cost: FREE – drop in **Location:** Masonic Hall, 92 Church St, Cowes

11am – 1pm: Make Your Own Clay Sea Creature

Cost: FREE – drop in **Location:** Phillip Island Visitor Info Centre, Newhaven

11.30am – 12.30pm: Ocean Lovers Family Yoga

Ocean lovers' family yoga session: a celebration through movement of the ocean waters & all the creatures that live in them. Suitable for all ages & limited numbers. *Presented by: Myli Libraries* **Cost:** FREE – Bookings available online **Location:** San Remo Library, 92 Back Beach Rd, San Remo

12pm – 12.45pm: Citizen Science Project - SealSpotter

Hear about how Nature Parks scientists use drones & citizen science to understand the fur seals in the Bass Strait ecosystem. Marine mammals are shy & difficult to study but drones can help us learn about them without causing disturbance. Here we dive into using technology to study marine mammals, particularly seals with the help of 'people power' on the internet. *Presented by: Dr Rebecca McIntosh, Phillip Island Nature Parks*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

1pm – 1.45pm: Deep Listening Circle

Uncle Steve will facilitate a Deep Listening Circle in which he will share stories, songs and dances of the Whale Dreaming, the Great Whale Migration & the importance of being in the right relationship with the Living World. *Presented by: Uncle Steve Ulula Parker*
Cost: FREE – Limited spaces - online bookings required **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

1pm & 1.30pm: Paint Your Own Whale Cookie

Join Brooke from the Island Cookie Box who will assist your little ones to create your own whale cookie masterpiece! Yum! *Presented by: Island Cookie Box*
Cost: \$12 - Bookings available online & tickets available in marquee **Location:** Festival Hub - Marquee

2pm – 5pm: Ocean Film Festival

Don't miss the only opportunity to see The Ocean Film Festival in Victoria this winter. The unique collection of 7 short films from around the globe document the beauty & power of the ocean through captivating cinematography, complete with awe-inspiring scenes from above & below the water. **Cost:** Adults \$20 Concession \$10 – online bookings required **Location:** Newhaven College, Black Box Theatre, 1770 Phillip Island Road

2pm – 2.45pm: Whales of Victoria

Where do whales come from & where do they go? Have you seen whales today? Join this discussion & presentation on the whales we see in our water each year. Learn about how you spot & report sightings. *Presented by: Dolphin Research Institute & Two Bays Whale Project* **Cost:** FREE – Bookings available online and recommended **Location:** Woolamai Beach SLSC

2pm – 5pm: Whale Spotting Photography Workshop & Tour

Trek up along the high Cape Track that provides one of the best lookout spots for local wildlife, migrating whales & some of the most stunning landscapes on the island. In this workshop, we'll be teaching fundamental principles of wildlife photography so that you get the best shot possible. *Presented by: Photo Rangers* **Cost:** Cost: \$90 – bookings essential **Location:** Starting at Cape Woolamai Surf Lifesaving Car Park

2.15pm – 3pm: What's in a Face (WhaleFace)

Learn about how DEECA studies endangered Southern Right Whales using the unique patterns on their head & find out how you can join the WhaleFace community & contribute to this important research. *Presented by: Dr Kasey Stamation*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online and recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

3pm – 4pm: Whale Crown Creations

Join a workshop with local Community Artists Camille Monet & Helen Matthews to create your own beautiful whale crown, incorporating natural materials & recycled cardboard. The crown will celebrate whales & recognises the importance of caring for the living world. *Presented by: For Our Future Arts Project*
Cost: FREE – Limited spaces, booking in marquee **Location:** Festival Hub - Marquee

3.15pm – 4pm: Marine Career session

Have you ever wanted a career in marine science? Ever wondered what it's like to work in the field? Come along to hear from & ask questions of local marine scientists, project officers, educators & wildlife managers. *Presented by: Dr Sue Mason, Dr Kasey Stamation & Dr Rebecca McIntosh* **Cost:** FREE – Bookings available online and recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

4pm – 6pm: Sip & Paint A Whale -

Come join the fun & learn some acrylic painting techniques. Laugh, drink & leave with your own masterpiece. All materials provided. Must be 18+. Cheese platters available for pre-purchase & alcohol available for purchase at venue. *Presented by: Studio 3922*
Cost: \$55 – online bookings required **Location:** Penguin Parade Visitor Centre

7pm – 10pm: Ocean Film Festival

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SUNDAY 2ND JULY

9am & 1pm: Spot a Whale

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10am – 10.45am: Blue Carbon in the UNESCO Biosphere

The Western Port Biosphere Foundation is leading an exciting partnership that will reveal just how much the Western Port UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve region can and could help fight climate change thanks to its wealth of carbon-absorbing marine habitats. *Presented by: Westernport Biosphere*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

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11am – 11.45am: Careers in Marine Science

Join our panel of experts for a discussion on how, when and where opportunities exist for a career in marine science. We will have three generations of marine scientists to help you on your way towards achieving your career goals. Not academically minded? No problem, we have solutions for you too! *Presented by: Dolphin Research Institute & Two Bays Whale Project*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Woolamai Beach SLSC

11am – 1pm: Make Origami Whales

Cost: FREE – drop in **Location:** Phillip Island Visitor Info Centre, Newhaven

11am – 11.45am: When Whales Walked

50 million years ago, the ancestor of all whales walked on land. At the size of a Labrador & superficially resembling an otter, it would eventually make its way into the water. Come on a journey to uncover the evolution of the whale & hear about fossil whales Ben is finding in Australia. *Presented by: Ben Franchiselli, Palaeontologist*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

12pm – 12.45pm: How We Can Make a Difference

Follow a published author and wildlife photographers' journey to help the natural world through the camera. Chris will show how his passion has developed him into a Citizen Scientist who helps researchers like Kasey Stamation track the endangered Southern Right Whales along the South East coast of Australia. *Presented by: Chris Farrell*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall

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3pm – 3.45pm: Welcome to the Humpback Whale Migration 2023

Dr Wally Franklin has studied eastern Australian humpback whales in Hervey Bay for thirty-years. He summarises what has been learnt about the incredible annual humpback whale migration. *Presented by: Dr Wally Franklin, The Oceania Project*
Cost: FREE – Bookings available online & recommended **Location:** Festival Hub – Hall