

See Spectacular Seabirds

Kaikōura is regarded as one of the world's hotspots for viewing pelagic (ocean-going) birdlife with up to ten species of albatross able to be found at various times of year.

The local marine environment is home to more seabird species in a compact area than anywhere else in NZ which has a huge appeal for whether an avid birdwatcher, wildlife enthusiast or keen photographer.

Albatross Encounter provides close up views of a diverse array of seabirds including albatross, petrels, shearwaters, shags, terns and other species... all within close proximity of the Kaikōura Peninsula.

Within just 15 minutes travel time by boat; it is possible to encounter a number of albatross.



Sub-antarctic Black-browed Albatross.



Hutton's Shearwater.



White-capped Albatross.



Gibson's Albatross.



- Seasonality:** All year round (subject to suitable weather, sea conditions)
- Departures:** Winter: 1 tour per day
Summer: 3 tours per day
- Tour Duration:** 2.5 hours incl approx 2 hrs on the boat
- Min/Max numbers** Min 3 pax to guarantee departure
Max 11 pax on the boat
- The Vessel:** Purpose built for viewing wildlife at close range. With adequate deck space and an open plan design, superb photography opportunities are guaranteed.
- Minimum age:** 3 years old
Infants < 3 y.o not permitted aboard
Child rates apply from 3 to 14 y.o

What we provide:

Experienced guides on board are able to assist with identification of the birds and provide an educational and memorable commentary.
Return transportation from base to the Marina.

What to bring:

Warm clothing, sunscreen and a camera or smart phone to capture these beautiful birds.

We care!

A percentage of all successful tours is donated to the Encounter Foundation which redistributes the accumulated funds to research, conservation and environmental projects.

Large group tours and/or Private Charters

Available on request and subject to availability as well as customised extended tours.

