

**ADDENDUM A****Two Orcas Changed Shark Tourism in South Africa – and What It Means for Marine Life and Tourism.** *Jack Cooper in Gansbaai. Thu 23 Jan 2025.*

In 2017, the body of a young great white shark washed up on the beach in Gansbaai, a small coastal town in the Western Cape. There was no sign that people had killed it. Soon after, scientists noticed something worrying: the great white sharks that had made Gansbaai famous were gone.



[Photo: Orcas attack a great white shark in Mossel Bay, about 190 miles east of Gansbaai on the Western Cape, South Africa. Photograph: Drone fanatics SA.]

For many years, Gansbaai was known as the great white shark capital of the world. Tourists, scientists, and nature lovers came from around the globe to see these sharks. A company called **Marine Diving Experience** offered shark cage diving tours, giving people a safe and exciting way to see sharks up close. *Marine Diving Experience* is known for being ethical and responsible, and they are Fair Trade in Tourism certified. This means they support the environment, local communities, and sustainable tourism. They also work with the Dyer Island Conservation Trust to protect marine life and educate the public.

**[CONTINUED ON PAGE ii]**



## Marine Diving Experience

HOME SHARK CAGE DIVING THE AREA RATE US

BOOK NOW

# Marine Diving Experience

Marine Diving Experience is an award-winning ecotourism and marine company committed to offering exceptional marine experiences and the preservation of the marine environment. Based in Gansbaai, South Africa, the great white shark capital of the world, we offer captivating shark cage diving experiences and marine big-5 tours.



The disappearance of great white sharks affected both the ocean ecosystem and tourism in Gansbaai. Marine biologist Dr Alison Towner, working with Marine Diving Experience, had tagged several sharks. Her data showed they had travelled over 500 km to Plettenberg Bay and Algoa Bay. Strangely, each time a dead shark was found, the rest would leave the area—and fewer returned.

After studying four shark carcasses, scientists discovered that two orcas, known as Port and Starboard, were killing the sharks. These orcas had been seen near Gansbaai since 2015 and were often spotted around the time dead sharks appeared.

In 2022, a drone filmed Starboard and other orcas killing a great white shark in Mossel Bay. On the same day, three more sharks were killed. Just as in Gansbaai, the remaining sharks fled the area. The orcas were targeting the sharks' nutrient-rich livers. By 2024, great whites had almost vanished from Mossel Bay too.

This had serious effects on the marine ecosystem. With fewer great whites, cape fur seals and bronze whaler sharks increased. The seals began hunting endangered African penguins, lowering their numbers. In mid-2024, some seals were found to have rabies. Scientists believe sharks might have helped control the spread by preying on sick animals.

The shark loss also impacted tourism businesses like Marine Diving Experience, which rely on shark sightings. As a Fair Trade in Tourism certified company, they adapted by focusing on marine

education, conservation, and eco-tourism, staying committed to protecting the ocean and supporting local communities.

While Port and Starboard changed the marine environment, experts warn that the biggest threats to sharks remain human-related – including overfishing, pollution, and climate change. Still, responsible tourism companies like Marine Diving Experience offer hope that tourism can help protect nature, even as it changes.

[Adapted from: <<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/jan/23/south-africa-gansbaai-marine-biology-apex-predators-orcas-conquer-great-white-sharks-seals-penguins-trophic-cascade-aoe>>  
[Accessed: 23 February 2025]

**ADDENDUM B****TripAdvisor reviews on Marine Diving Experience, a company in Gansbaai specialising in Shark Cage Diving**

**Kathy F**  
Shirley, NY

***The entire crew was Fantastic, but ...***

Feb 2025 •

We had to travel 3 hours each way, it cost more than \$500 for 2 people. We were only in the cage for 10–15 minutes. While everyone was friendly and upbeat, it was a lot of travel and money for such a short experience.

**Pippie**  
Harrow, UK

***No great whites but still plenty of sharks***

I did two shark cage trips a week apart with Marine Diving Experience. Admittedly I was wanting to see a great white which was disappointing not to.

**Clevafatboy**  
Coventry, UK

***Massive Disappointment***

Jan 2025 •

Having looked forward to this 'bucket list' experience for a long time, I was extremely disappointed for a number of reasons.

1. Shark Cage Diving was founded on the huge Great White Sharks hunting seals in the area, but it turns out that they are no longer present, having been killed and/or frightened off by Orcas. On arrival, during an interesting presentation, the Marine Biologist explained that this had been the case since 2017!!! The Bronze Whaler Sharks that are now the 'stars of the show' are simply not a comparative replacement, while the price of the trip remains extremely high.

I understand that nature has caused the change, but all the operators in the area still give the impression that seeing Great Whites is likely/possible, whereas in reality they are long gone. They have had ample time to amend their websites and explain the situation, rather than waiting until clients have travelled thousands of miles and spent an awful lot of money based on completely false hope. Personally, if I had known in advance then I would have gone elsewhere in the world to tick this off my list.

So in summary, if you want to see Great Whites do not go to Gansbaai (or False Bay).

**dave r**

London, UK7 contributions

***Provide honest information on what you will see***

Jan 2025 • Solo

Marine Diving Experience should be very clear you are very unlikely to see great whites. Two spotted in last 3 months. We didn't even go to the shark alley as listed. We were all packed in like sardines for dips in the cage for 20–25 mins in 10s, to see bronze whalers. Like a conveyor belt.

**Leandri B*****Not great white shark diving ... shark diving***

Jan 2025 • Family

We went shark cage diving on the 6th of January 2025 – booked & paid for a great white shark dive. I find it very disappointing that they last saw a great white in October – I strongly suggest that you inform your guests that there's a shortage of great white sharks due to the orcas – and you could definitely revise your prices.

[Source: <<https://tinyurl.com/Marine>>]

## ADDENDUM C

### What Makes Cape Town the Best City in the World?

Thursday, January 16, 2025



[Source: <<https://www.travelandtourtworld.com/news/article/what-makes-cape-town-the-best-city-in-the-world-time-outs-ranking-solidifies-its-place-as-a-premier-global-destination/>>]

### Cape Town Named the Best City in the World to Visit in 2025

Cape Town has reached an exciting milestone – it is now ranked as the best city in the world to visit, moving up from second place. This ranking was based on a survey of 18,500 people and input from over 100 experts. The city's amazing food, nightlife, affordability, and culture helped it secure the top spot.

### Why Cape Town is So Special?

The survey looked at many factors, including how easy it is to live there, its natural beauty, and its cultural attractions. Cape Town performed well because it offers a mix of stunning landscapes and a vibrant city lifestyle. Tourists and locals love the city for its breathtaking views, exciting food scene, and rich history.

### What Makes Cape Town Stand Out?

Cape Town's success is not by chance. It has many features that make it one of the best cities in the world:

- **Natural Beauty** – From Table Mountain to beautiful beaches, Cape Town has some of the most stunning scenery in the world.
- **Great Quality of Life** – Many people not only visit but choose to live in Cape Town because it has good infrastructure, services, and a comfortable lifestyle.
- **Culture and History** – The city is full of museums, art galleries, and historic sites that showcase both its past and modern creativity.
- **Exciting Social Life** – Cape Town has a lively nightlife, great restaurants, and a variety of food options, making it a fun place for everyone.

Cape Town's ranking proves it can appeal to all kinds of travellers, from nature lovers to history fans. This recognition is expected to boost tourism and bring more business opportunities.

### **How This Ranking Will Affect Travel and Tourism?**

Being ranked as the best city to visit in 2025 is likely to have a big impact on tourism. More people will want to travel to Cape Town, leading to:

- **More flights** – Airlines might add more routes to Cape Town, and travellers may find cheaper and better flight options.
- **Economic growth** – Local businesses, hotels, and restaurants will benefit from more visitors.
- **More cultural tourism** – People interested in art, history, and culture will be drawn to Cape Town's rich heritage.

This ranking also shows the world that cities outside of traditional tourist spots can offer amazing experiences. Cape Town is setting an example for other unique destinations.

### **What's Next for Cape Town?**

Looking ahead, Cape Town is expected to continue growing as a top tourist destination. With more visitors expected in 2025, the city may invest in improving infrastructure and attractions to make travel experiences even better.

As tourism increases, it will help showcase not just Cape Town but the entire African continent to travellers worldwide.

**ADDENDUM D RUBRIC FOR ESSAY QUESTION 5**

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTORS				Possible score	
Introduction, format and title	2		1	0	2	
	Provides a compelling introduction with clear context and background information. Essay is well-structured, with logical progression of ideas. Relevant title provided.		Provides a good introduction with some context but may lack depth. Structure is generally clear, but transitions may be weak. Title provided.	Introduction is weak, lacks clarity, or does not set up the discussion well. Essay lacks organization. No title		
Evaluation of Great White Shark Population Decline	6	5	4–3	2	1–0	6
	Thoroughly analyses the impact of the decline on tourism and the triple bottom line. Uses well-supported arguments and relevant examples.	Addresses the impact with some analysis but lacks depth or relevant examples. May miss one aspect of the triple bottom line.	Addresses the impact, but only positive or only negative impacts identified OR May miss more than one aspect of the triple bottom line.	Superficial discussion with minimal analysis. Few or no examples provided.	No evaluation or completely incorrect discussion.	
Assessment of Alternative Marine Tourism Opportunities	3		2	1	3	
	Provides an insightful assessment of how increased Cape fur seals and bronze whaler sharks may offer new tourism opportunities. Uses strong examples and insights.		Discusses alternative tourism opportunities but lacks viable examples or clear reasoning.	Minimal discussion, vague points, or missing aspects of alternative tourism.		

<b>Justification for Conservation Intervention</b>		3	2	1	0	<b>3</b>
		Provides a well-reasoned argument on whether conservationists should intervene, supported by strong examples and logical reasoning.	Argument is presented but may lack depth or strong justification. Some reasoning is weak or unsupported.	Weak or unclear justification. Argument is superficial with little supporting evidence.	No justification or completely incorrect information.	
<b>Advice on Responsible Tourist Behaviour</b>		6-5	4-3	2	1-0	<b>6</b>
		Clear, well-structured advice based on all 3 pillars of the triple bottom line. Strong, practical recommendations with relevant examples.	Provides some good advice but lacks strong connections to the triple bottom line or is somewhat generic.	Minimal discussion or vague advice. Weak link to the triple bottom line.	No advice given or completely irrelevant response.	
<b>Health Tips for Tourists</b>		4	3	2-1	0	<b>4</b>
		Provides relevant and practical health tips specific to Gansbaai. Shows strong understanding of potential health concerns linked to the article.	Provides general health tips but lacks specificity to Gansbaai or is somewhat vague.	Weak or minimal discussion on health tips, lacking relevance or clarity.	No health advice or completely incorrect information.	
<b>Role of Government in Sustainable Tourism</b>		3	2	1	0	<b>3</b>
		Clearly discusses government roles in sustainable tourism, including regulations, policies, and initiatives. Uses relevant examples.	Addresses the role of government but lacks depth, examples, or clear policies.	Minimal discussion, Limited understanding of the role of government in sustainable tourism.	No discussion or completely incorrect information.	
<b>Quality of discussion</b>		3-2		1	0	<b>3</b>
		Reasoning is clear, response is compelling and cohesive with some minor repetition/loss of focus.		Reasoning is hard to follow. Rambling and repetitive.	Missed the point of the question.	
<b>TOTAL [30]</b>						

**ADDENDUM E RUBRIC FOR CONCEPT MAP QUESTION 6**

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTORS					Possible score
<b>Factors Contributing to Cape Town's Top Ranking</b>	8–7	6–5	4–3	2	1	<b>8</b>
	Clearly identifies and connects 4 key factors with examples. Well-integrated into the map, with clear examples.	Mentions key factors but lacks depth or fails to connect them effectively. Some examples.	Some factors included but poorly linked or explained.	The point is attempted but vague and/or lacking in relation to the other concepts.	Key factors are missing or not addressed at all.	
<b>Positive Impacts of Increased Tourism</b>	6–5					<b>6</b>
	Effectively illustrates economic, social, and environmental benefits. Uses relevant examples, own knowledge and data from the text.	4	Covers positive impacts but lacks detail in one or more areas.	3–2	1	
<b>Future Developments and Strategies</b>	4					<b>4</b>
	Thoughtfully presents strategies for maintaining Cape Town's ranking. Suggestions are practical and well-supported.	3	Includes future strategies but may lack clear justification or details.	2	1	
<b>Impact of Reviews on Tourism</b>	5					<b>5</b>
	Clearly explains how negative TripAdvisor reviews could harm Cape Town's tourism industry. Uses examples effectively.	4	Mentions negative reviews but does not fully develop their impact. Some examples are weak or missing.	3–2	1	

<b>Actions by Marine Diving Experience to Improve Visitor Experience</b>					2	1	<b>2</b>
					Clearly outlines specific actions taken by Marine Diving Experience to enhance tourism. Provides relevant examples and logical connections.	Minimal discussion of Marine Diving Experience's role, with vague or missing examples.	
<b>Links and explanations, key, and colours</b>	5	4	3	2	1	<b>5</b>	
	Clearly explains the interrelationships between professional image, marketing, and business success, integrating examples from the article and additional knowledge. Key and colours are effectively used.	Explains interrelationships between professional image, marketing, and business success, incorporating examples from the article, but may lack some depth or additional examples. Key and colours are present.	Explains interrelationships but may lack clarity or depth in illustrating them. Either key or colours are omitted.	Presents limited or unclear explanations of interrelationships. Colours and/or key are omitted.	Does not effectively explain the interrelationships between concepts. Colours and key are omitted.		
<b>TOTAL [30]</b>							

### ADDENDUM F WORLD TIME ZONES MAP

