

Why Whale Sharks Should Not Be Fed

Feeding whale sharks disrupts their natural behavior and puts them at risk. While it allows close encounters, scientists and conservationists warn against this harmful practice. Responsible tourism means respecting whale sharks' biology.

**To protect them, we must observe without interfering,
letting them follow their natural rhythm.**

1. Boat interactions put them at risk.

If whale sharks learn to approach boats for food, they become more vulnerable to injuries from propellers or illegal hunting by poachers.



2. They're protected by law.

Local and international laws safeguard whale sharks, an Endangered species.

Feeding them is illegal in the Philippines.

See: JMC No. 2020-01: Rules and Regulations Governing the Conduct of Marine Wildlife Tourism Interaction in the Philippines



3. Feeding disrupts their natural diet.

Whale sharks need a wide variety of plankton and fish to stay healthy.

Artificial feeding with only one type of food can lead to malnutrition, affecting their growth and ability to reproduce.



4. They belong in the deep.

Whale sharks naturally spend time in deeper waters too. Encouraging them to stay near the surface for food disrupts their natural behavior.

Rolling in the deep



5. They're born to roam.

As migratory animals, whale sharks travel vast distances. Luring them through feeding to stay in one area prevents them from following their natural migration patterns.