



# 8th Annual Whalefest Monterey

Don't miss a free fun and educational, interactive family event for all ages that celebrates the migration of the gray whales and more. The event also benefits local and national marine organizations that educate, inspire, and empower the public to protect the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The Monterey Old Fisherman's Wharf Association will sponsor and hold the 8th Annual Whalefest Monterey at and around Old Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey, California, The Whale Watching Capital of the World™ on Saturday, January 27 and Sunday, January 28, 2018 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Among the highlights will be an outstanding Symposium with lectures and documentaries related to ocean and marine life conservation presented at the Wharf Theatre. Check [montereywharf.com/event/whalefest-monterey.html](http://montereywharf.com/event/whalefest-monterey.html) for details. Besides musical performances, there will be many educational displays by organizations that affect the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Thousands of attendees are expected again this year that range from local families and school children who want to learn more about our maritime environment to visitors from near and far who want to explore the annual whale migration.

Whale watchers come from around the world to view hundreds of whales, orcas, dolphins and pelicans who continue to feast on a "krill and anchovy

buffet" in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Throughout the year, this Whale Watching Capital of the World offers sightings of 15 species of whales, 10 species of dolphins, 2 species of porpoise, 6 species of pinnipeds and 1 species of Fissiped (sea otter).

Weather permitting, whale watching tours, fishing, sailing and glass bottom boats will be operating from the Wharf (for a fee). There will also be many colorful photo ops with costumed animals roaming the Wharf area including a whale, leatherback turtle, mola-mola, shark and the Bag Monster. The event will feature many other interactive "edutaining" displays and activities on both days from American Cetacean Society, California Coastal Commission, Camp SEA Lab, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Heirs to Our Oceans, Hess Design,

Marine Life Studies, Marine Mammal Center, Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club, Otter Project, Pacific Grove Museum, Save the Whales, Seafloor Science ROV. Sea Otter Savvy, Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, Student Oceanography Club and Sustainable Monterey, with

additional organizations to be confirmed soon.

The event will feature an array of great live music including Nick Fettis and his "Orca"stra, Richard Carr (Creator/performer of piano/keyboard soundtracks for the soul, mind & body), Mark Richardson ("Mountain Dulcimer

of an Eclectic Kind"), Bill Minor (keyboards) & Richard Rosen (harmonica), Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band, Monterey High School Jazz Band and Jonah and the Whale Watchers. Whalefest commemorative t-shirts and whale and dolphin print aprons will be available for a \$15 donation.

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