

For Immediate Release

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7th Annual Whalefest Monterey to be held on January 28 & 29, 2017 at Old Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey, California

The Whale Watching Capital of the World™

June 2016 (Monterey, CA) – Save the Date! The Monterey Fisherman's Wharf Association is proud to again sponsor and hold the 7th ANNUAL WHALEFEST MONTEREY at and around Old Fisherman's Wharf, in Monterey, California, *The Whale Watching Capital of the World™* on **Saturday, January 28th and Sunday, January 29th, 2017** from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

This free fun and educational, interactive family event for all ages celebrates the migration of the gray whales. The event also benefits many local and national marine organizations that inspire, educate, explore and empower the public to protect the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

Among the highlights will be a 2-day symposium with lectures and documentaries related to ocean and marine life conservation, musical performances, and many educational displays by participating organizations. Thousands of attendees are expected to attend this coming 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.

Weather permitting, whale watching tours, fishing, sailing and glass bottom boats (for a fee) will be operating from the Wharf, and Wharf restaurants will be serving lunch and dinner.

Wharf shops will also be featuring marine-themed merchandise.

Whale watchers come from around the world to Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf 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 fissioned (sea otter).

For more information and Whalefest Monterey updates, go to www.montereywharf.com or call [831-238-0777](tel:8312380777).

About Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf

Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf is open 365 days a year including during the holidays (holiday schedule is on the events page on www.montereywharf.com). Visitors to Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf will want to plan their visit to include lunch or dinner at one of the many

Wharf restaurants. A visit to the beautiful Monterey Peninsula just isn't complete without a rendezvous with Old Fisherman's Wharf near downtown Monterey that was built in 1845 for regular passenger and freight service. Known as the "Whale Watching Capital of the World™" and a top destination of visitors from around the world, Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf provides a wide array of award-winning dining, shopping, live theater, special events, whale watching, bay cruises, a glass bottom boat, marine life, fishing and sailing, and strolling leisurely in a gorgeous setting overlooking the Monterey Bay. Savor delicious cuisine at a myriad of fabulous restaurants featuring stunning views and award-winning Italian food, sustainable seafood, grass-fed steaks, including the region's famous clam chowder and calamari. Enjoy salt water taffy, homemade chocolates, caramel apples, cotton candy and many other yummy treats. View sea otters, sea lions, harbor seals, dolphins, whales, sea birds and other wildlife "up close and personal" that also share the Wharf. Watch people who have gone out and caught their own fish on the local and chartered fishing boats return with their own "catch of the day". Celebrate the first location in Monterey County where tender abalone was cooked and served in a restaurant. Check out the many fun shops to find the perfect memento of your visit and a variety of unique gifts. Enjoy the exquisite views and the "best place to walk and people watch" in Monterey County!

By going to www.montereywharf.com , visitors to Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf can also access the "Wonders of the Wharf" free VIP Card promotion with 25 special offers (coupons) easily accessible on the website that can be shown on a smart phone or iPad. For more information, email info@montereywharf.com or call [\(831\) 238-0777](tel:(831)238-0777).

Situated near downtown Monterey, Old Fisherman's Wharf is conveniently located along the Monterey Bay Recreation Trail and has plenty of nearby parking. Residents with Monterey County ID can park free for 2 hours in the adjacent Waterfront parking lot.

For more information about Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf, go to www.montereywharf.com.