



H U M A N S

of T H E

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What is your favourite part about working at the reef?

The reef always surprises and never disappoints. Every day is different, no matter how many days in a row you are out guiding guests and running tours. The smiles and excited yelps from our guests are infectious and make it feel like its my first time out on the reef too. The animals are as inquisitive as the humans and the interactions are just mind blowing.

In your opinion, what is the state of the reef?

Generally, Ningaloo Reef is in great condition, even the parts visited regularly on a day to day basis from Coral Bay & Exmouth. We have spectacular fields of Coral gardens and forests that stretch for miles containing hundreds of species of different corals and fish life. Although having minor damage from past cyclones, we have been lucky to not have suffered any mass bleaching events to date and due to a much smaller number of visitors here than other reefs in the world, our sites are not crowded and overused. Any parts of the reef that we are lucky to experience on Shore Thing (ex Coral Bay) are very remote and inaccessible to day charters due to the distances that must be traveled so our guests are the only ones that really go there.

Everyone who works on all the boats at Ningaloo is an advocate for keeping the reef safe, so educating each and every one of our guests is at the top of the to-do list, which hopefully helps protect our reef for the future.

What questions do people always ask you about the reef?

We get the usual questions such as 'What will I see here?' (So many options) and 'Will there be sharks here?' (Probably, no need to be scared!) Sometimes we get 'Why is the coral not brightly coloured like on TV?' (It's mostly hard corals at Ningaloo which are brown, green and blue) and 'Can the Manta Ray sting me?' (No, they have no barb on their tail).

What is your favourite reef critter?

I always get asked this and it is such a hard one. I don't have one favourite but Blue-Green Chromis and Raccoon Butterflyfish always make me smile and hanging out with turtles is so therapeutic. Also swimming next to an inquisitive Manta Ray eye-to-eye takes your breath away!

Find out more about Sail Ningaloo here: www.sailningaloo.com.au

