



Oceanic Society
Exploring and protecting the natural world

PASSENGER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISKS

You are aboard the Coast Guard certified passenger vessel, *the Salty Lady*, for a 3 hour open-ocean trip to view the Gray Whale Migration.

By boarding this vessel and signing this document you acknowledge the following:

- The ocean is a moving surface and our vessel moves on that surface, sometimes in unexpected ways. These movements can include rocking, pitching and rolling with the swells and waves, or the appearance of fast-moving sneaker waves. While aboard this vessel, I agree to always keep one hand on a stationary object like a rail, table, bulkhead, railing, bench, etc so that I do not lose my balance and fall. Risks inherent with an open-ocean trip include falls, going overboard, and drowning. These are very rare occurrences but Oceanic Society wants you to be aware of the possibility.
- In addition to the movement of the ocean, the vessel's deck may have changes in elevation, or hatch openings, and I agree to be aware of where I am walking and to pay attention at all times while moving about the boat.
- While underway, all passengers must remain in the stern (rear of vessel), or in the galley. When a whale is sighted and the captain has cut the engines, you will be allowed to move forward to take pictures and marvel at these magnificent creatures.
- The decks of this vessel can become slippery during the trip and I agree to be careful at all times while standing and walking so as not to slip and fall. Flip-flops, high heels, slip-on shoes and leather soled shoes are not safe. I represent that I am wearing suitable shoes to safely walk about this vessel.
- I agree to listen to the instructions of the Captain, Deckhand(s), and Naturalist(s) while aboard the vessel as they are concerned for my safety. Failure to follow the instructions of the Crew can result in the vessel returning to port.
- I agree to safely stow all backpacks out of the walking pathways so as not to create a tripping hazard for myself or others.
- I agree that children in my party, 12 and under, will wear a life jacket at all times while aboard the vessel. Life jackets for children will be provided by the crew. Children must be age 10 or older to participate in this trip.
- I certify that I am physically capable of participation as a passenger aboard the Salty Lady for this whale watching expedition. If, at any time, I need assistance for any reason, I will ask for assistance.
- By signing the manifest I acknowledge that I have read and understand this **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK**, and I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume on my behalf (and on behalf of all minor children who accompany me) all risks inherent with being a passenger aboard a vessel. My participation is purely voluntary and I elect to participate despite known and unknown risks.

Passenger Signature: _____