

Definition of a Working Dog:

A working dog is a canine working animal that is not merely a pet but learns and performs tasks to assist and/or entertain its human companions.

Diesel is a rescue dog from Kentucky. He's an 85 pound Black Lab Mix. He is 3 years old. He is a sweet and loving dog, but he is a working dog and not to be confused with your dog at home.

Diesel is a working Dolphin Dog. He can hear the dolphins. He lets us know where they are and talks to them. He has also built a relationship with all of our dolphins, and because of this they will come to the boat to play with him or say hi. He has also alerted us to their distress signals when they are being harassed or feel threatened.

His attendance is optional, and in order to have him join your tour, everyone must follow our rules. This helps keep him safe, as well as all of our customers, and allows him to do his job undistracted. If you are not happy with, or feel that your group cannot abide with any of these rules, just let me know via text/email/or call and we won't bring him that trip.

Things to be aware of:

1. Diesel will bark during your trip. He talks to the dolphins. He announces his presence on the water or in a area. He will bark at boats (some bark back, say hi to him, have dogs that he talks to, or drives over his dolphins and/or close to us). We do ask that no one besides us tell him to stop barking because this confuses him. He has learned to differentiate between the dolphins talking to each other, echo-locating for food, or talking to him. He will only bark at the dolphins when they are talking to him or playing with him. If he is constantly barking while on dolphins, then they are having a conversation (we only wish we knew what they were saying).

2. Diesel will run around the boat. He gets very excited about his dolphins. They feed off of that. The more excited he gets, the more excited they get. We call him their "furry land toy". They love getting him running all around the boat. We do ask all customers to be mindful of him and make sure to stay out of his way. He does try to go around people, but it's best not to stand right in his way. We do ask everyone keep the corners of the boat (front and back) and the doorways clear at all times. That's where the dolphins come to talk to him, so those are Diesel zones. The dolphins like to get him running from side to side and front to back.

Rules:

1. No food is allowed on the boat.
2. No kids toys or stuffed animals are allowed on the boat.
3. He is not to be petted at any time unless you ask permission first or are told its ok.
4. No one is to hug, pull, bite, tug, grab, poke, twist, kick, or hit any part of him at any time for any reason.
5. No one is to try and ride, sit on, lay on, or put clothing or accessories on him for any reason.
6. No one is allowed to sit on or stand in-front of the steps at any point.
7. No one is allowed to grab or hold his life jacket or collar for any reason.
8. No one is to bring their own dog without letting us know first.

The main reason of this letter is to educate our customers on what a working dog is and what he does. It is also to explain the responsibilities that must met in order for him to be able to perform his job. His safety, as well as our customers is our #1 priority.

Most people understand and want him for the experience he provides with the dolphins. If you are unsure about any of the rules, feel free to give me a call before your trip and ask. If you decide it's best not to have him along just let me know via text/email/or call before your trip and we will leave him at home. Please feel free to check our TripAdvisor reviews because most of them mention Diesel and loved having him on board.

If you decide to bring him and anyone in your group fails to follow the rules and won't listen to our warnings, for Diesels safety and yours, we will bring you back to the dock and you will still be charged for your trip.

Captain Paul and Heather
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