



## LOCATION:

Kaikōura, New Zealand

## WHY US?

- Small groups - max 6 guests
- Fun & friendly skipper
- Beginner & family friendly
- Sustainable catches
- Fish filleted onboard to take home
- High quality gear provided
- Private charters available
- Qualmark Silver accredited

# Top Catch Charters Kaikoura

**Fun & Friendly Small Group Fishing Experiences amongst Kaikōura's stunning scenery & unique marine environment!**

Discover Kaikōura's rich marine environment on a fun, relaxed, and expertly guided fishing charter.

With small group sizes and personalised service, every trip feels like you're heading out on the water with a friend.

Led by highly experienced skipper Malcolm Halstead, Top Catch Charters offers an authentic, hands-on fishing experience suitable for all ages and skill levels.

[www.topcatchcharters.co.nz](http://www.topcatchcharters.co.nz)



# About Us

Born into a local crayfishing family, owner and skipper Malcolm Halstead brings over 40 years of local fishing experience to every trip.

After stepping away from a corporate career, Malcolm returned to Kaikōura to follow his dream - sharing his passion for fishing with others.

His deep local knowledge, calm professionalism, and genuinely friendly approach create an experience that feels both safe and personal - whether guests are first-time fishers or seasoned anglers.

Every charter is tailored to the trip, with a strong focus on:

- Safety and comfort
- Genuine connection
- Making the most of Kaikōura's incredible fishing grounds

Guests don't just go fishing - they leave with stories, skills, and a true connection to the place.

## Our Vessel

"First Light" is a purpose-built 6.2m Osprey, designed for comfort, safety, and performance. Powered by a 150hp ultra low-emission Yamaha engine, guests enjoy a smooth, efficient ride with quick access to Kaikōura's abundant fishing grounds.

## Sustainability

Top Catch Charters is committed to protecting Kaikōura's marine environment. As members of the Kaikōura Charter Fishers Association, we follow sustainable fishing practices developed alongside Te Korowai o Te Tai o Marokura to help protect these waters for future generations.

## Bookings & Information

Phone: +64 (0) 21 843 908

Email: [info@topcatchcharters.co.nz](mailto:info@topcatchcharters.co.nz)

Website: [www.topcatchcharters.co.nz](http://www.topcatchcharters.co.nz)

## Trips Depart From:

South Bay Marina, Kaikōura 7300

## Mailing Address:

21 Kotare Place, South Bay, Kaikōura  
7300

## Sales & Marketing - Fiona Farquhar

Phone: +64 (0) 21 241 7950

Email: [marketing@topcatchcharters.co.nz](mailto:marketing@topcatchcharters.co.nz)

## Follow Us:

Facebook: [Top Catch Charters - Kaikoura](#)

Instagram: [@topcatchcharterskaikoura](#)

[#topcatchcharterskaikoura](#)



Your Skipper

Malcolm  
Halstead

Owner / Operator



# The Experience

Departing from South Bay Marina, guests are just minutes away from some of New Zealand's most productive fishing grounds.

## What Guests Can Expect

- Catch species such as Blue Cod & Perch
- Opportunity to assist with checking craypots (a seasonal local highlight!)
- Expert guidance throughout the trip
- A relaxed, fun, and social atmosphere onboard
- Incredible scenery

## A True "Catch & Take Home" Experience

All fish are expertly filleted onboard, ready for guests to take away and enjoy. They might even be lucky enough to take a crayfish home too! This is a genuine hands-on experience - simple, rewarding, and uniquely Kaikōura.

## Trip Options:

- 2 Hour Shared Charters
- 3 Hour Shared Charters
- Private Charters (most popular for travel trade)
- Ideal add-on for self-drive itineraries or as a standout half-day activity.

## Departure Point / Check In

At South Bay Marina Jetty opposite 24 Moa Road, South Bay, Kaikōura.

**Note:** we do not have an office at this location, your Skipper Malcolm will have the boat ready & will meet guests upon arrival. Please have your booking confirmation ready.

## Parking:

Free parking is available on Kaka Road which is a 2 minute walk from our jetty.

## What Guests Should Bring:

Warm clothing, sunscreen, sea sickness precautions (if prone to travel sickness), camera, refreshments and a sense of adventure!

## What We Provide

We supply all the rods, reels, bait and lifejackets, along with a Top Catch bucket to take home your catch. Electric reels are available on request.

## When We Operate

Everyday, weather & sea conditions permitting.  
Closed Christmas Day

It felt like we were fishing with friends

"Just finished the most awesome charter with Malcolm - what a great guy and really special experience. I felt like we were fishing with friends, not a business. Highly recommend. Thanks"

Amanda - June 2022

[More Reviews](#)



# How to Book

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## Agent Bookings

- Agents can book directly via FareHarbor with live availability.
- To set up an agent login, please contact us.

## Contact Malcolm or Fiona

- **Email:**  
info@topcatchcharters.co.nz
- **Phone:** +64 (0) 21 843 908

## Details Required:

- Travel date
- Preferred time (AM/PM)
- Trip option
- Number of guests (adult/child)
- Lead traveller name
- Contact details while travelling
- Booking reference / voucher number



# Terms & Conditions

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## Cancellation Policy

- Cancellations made within 24 hours of the scheduled departure time are non-refundable.

## Weather & Operational Changes

- For the safety of our guests, we reserve the right to cancel or amend departure times due to weather or sea conditions.
- If conditions prevent the trip from operating, we will offer to reschedule where possible. If a suitable alternative cannot be arranged, a full refund will be provided.



# Signature Experience

## Catch & Cook – Kai Moana with Hapuku Kitchen

**A true Kaikōura “Ocean-to-Table” experience like no other!**

**We’re all about celebrating seriously fresh ingredients, that’s why Top Catch Charters have teamed up with Hapuku Kitchen to provide an exceptional local experience - Catch & Cook, Kai Moana"**

Guests begin their day with Malcolm for a fun packed private fishing charter to catch their main kai moana ingredients.

From there, with their prize catch safely transported, their experience continues with ex Masterchef Fiona Read at Hapuku Kitchen, where they learn the skillful art of preparing and cooking their own fresh catch.

The day finishes with their beautifully prepared meal, enjoyed with local wine or craft beer.

Duration: 6 – 7 Hours

**HAPUKU**  
**KITCHEN**  
KAIKŌURA, NEW ZEALAND



## What's Included

- 2 hour private fishing charter
- Safe, chilled transportation of your prize catch to Hapuku Kitchen
- Welcome morning tea
- Half day hands on cooking experience
- Forage for fresh ingredients, learn how to scale & fillet your catch & prepare a whole crayfish (when available).
- Relax and enjoy your feast, accompanied with local wines or locally brewed craft beers.
- A recipe booklet to take home
- Great stories & lifetime memories!

