

Marine Manager

Lead our fleet and crew on Canada's wild west coast, Tofino & Ucluelet, British Columbia

Since 1982, Jamie's Whaling Station has been taking guests out to meet the whales, sea lions, and bears of Canada's wild Pacific coast. We were the first whale-watching company in British Columbia, and four decades on we are still family-run and proud of it. We are looking for a Marine Manager to lead our fleet and our crew — a working skipper who belongs on the water and can carry the operation behind it.

The role

This is not a desk job, and we won't pretend otherwise. The Marine Manager is a full-time, salaried working skipper first — running tours and crewing alongside the team — with the leadership of the fleet, crew, safety, and winter refit layered on top, the way this job has run here for over 35 years. Through the season the management side is light and fits into the gaps. When the boats come off the water in the late fall, it turns into hands-on full days getting the whole fleet ready for spring, with a genuine stretch of time off over the holidays.

What you'd be doing

- Lead a crew of up to 30 skippers and deckhands — coach the newer ones, set the standard for the rest.
- Own the quality of every tour. We are in the entertainment and education business, and the guest experience is the product — you'll make sure every crew member knows the material and delivers it well.
- Run our safety management system and day-to-day Transport Canada compliance — certifications, drills, and safe manning.
- Keep the fleet turning: review engine hours and skipper reports each morning, pass defects to Maintenance, and bring vessels back into service.
- Run the marina — moorage, dock placement, and billing — and keep the fleet's gear and inventory in good order.
- Act as our Transport Canada liaison and own vessel certification — and any new-build work, if and when it comes.
- Plan and drive the winter refit: build the winter-works list through the year, price it with the Maintenance Manager, and get every boat back in the water and ready for the season.

Where you'd live and work

Tofino and Ucluelet sit at the far western edge of Vancouver Island, where old-growth rainforest meets the open Pacific. Grey and humpback whales feed offshore, black bears forage along the shoreline, and the light on a summer evening here is something people travel the world to see. Surf beaches, winter storm-watching, hot springs reachable only by boat, and a close coastal community — this is one of the most beautiful working coastlines anywhere, and it would be your office.

The role is based in Tofino, with occasional work at our Ucluelet base, including skippering there when the need arises. Both ports are part of the job; Tofino is home.

What we offer

- Starting salary of \$65,000 to \$75,000 per year, depending on qualifications.
- A share in our success through the annual Staff Share Bonus Programme, paid to eligible crew every year.
- Paid time off, plus the natural rhythm of the season — a real break over the winter holidays.
- A respected, tight-knit team we call The Family, on a coast people dream about.
- Help getting settled: temporary accommodation for a short while when you arrive, so you can find your feet before you find your home.

A straight word on housing

You will need your own place to live, and we'll be honest with you — housing in Tofino and Ucluelet is tight. It is the one real hurdle of moving here. But it is out there if you look, and we'll give you a soft landing with temporary accommodation for a short while so the search doesn't all have to happen at once.

What you bring

- A current Transport Canada Master 60 GT, Domestic certificate (or higher).
- Real time on the water and the confidence to skipper larger vessels in open-coast conditions.
- Strong, proven leadership — you can take charge of a crew, set the standard, and hold it.
- Eligibility to work in Canada — Canadian citizenship or permanent residency.
- A clean criminal record and a valid driver's licence.
- A level head, thick skin, and the maturity to take direct feedback or a reprimand without it becoming a problem — this is a demanding, no-nonsense workplace, and it isn't for everyone.
- Safety-minded, guest-focused, and happy in a small coastal town.

How to apply

Send your application to GM@jamies.com, with a copy to jamie@jamies.com. Tell us about your ticket, your time on the water, and why this coast. We read every application.

Jamie's Whaling Station welcomes applicants of every background; we hire on character, seamanship, and heart. If you have the credentials, and the idea of running boats on this coast makes you sit up a little straighter — we'd love to hear from you.