

# Kingdom Of The Blue Whale – Programme Academic Verification

Two of the world's leading authorities on marine mammals bring their lifetime of dedication to marine mammals, scientific research and their honorary academic credentials to Kingdom of the Blue Whale. This compelling documentary takes us into their world of research and unveils their extraordinary recent biological discoveries.

## **Bruce Mate**

Bruce Mate is best known for pioneering the tracking of whales using lightweight satellite radio transmitters attached to the animals' backs. The transmitters send radio signals to satellites, which then transfer the information to the offices of the Marine Mammal Program. Through this exciting research, Bruce and his associates are discovering new information about critical habitats, migration routes, and behaviours of several whale species. He studied sea lion migrations to earn his doctorate at the University of Oregon in 1973, and has since done research on seals, dugongs, manatees, sea otters, dolphins, and whales. With his graduate students, Bruce is currently studying the endangered great whales.

One of the world's leading authorities on whales, Bruce Mate is the director of the Oregon State University (OSU) Endowed Marine Mammal Program and a Professor of Fisheries and Wildlife at OSU. Most recently, Bruce and his research team have studied sperm whales in the Gulf of Mexico, blue and humpback whales in the eastern North Pacific, humpback whales off Alaska, blue whales off Chile, fin whales in the Mediterranean, humpback whales off Gabon, and southern right whales off South Africa.

## **John Calambokidis**

John Calambokidis has authored two books on marine mammals (on blue whales and a guide to marine mammals) as well as more than 50 technical reports and publications in scientific journals. He has conducted studies on a variety of marine mammals in the North Pacific from Central America to Alaska. He has directed long-term research on the status, movements, and underwater behavior of blue, humpback, and gray whales.

John is a Research Biologist and one of the founders of Cascadia Research, a non-profit research organization formed in 1979 based in the U.S. He periodically serves as an Adjunct Faculty at the Evergreen State College teaching a course on marine mammals. His primary interests are the biology of marine mammals and the impacts of humans. John's recent research has included attaching tags to whales with suction cups to examine their feeding behavior and vocalizations.