



The moment a killer strikes: Great white shark targets a tiny seal as it breaches waters off the coast of South Africa

By DAILY MAIL REPORTER

PUBLISHED: 20:21, 8 July 2012 | UPDATED: 08:06, 9 July 2012

[Comments \(55\)](#) [Share](#) [+1](#) [2](#) [Tweet](#) [0](#) [Like](#) [Confirm](#)

This is the heart-stopping moment a great white shark leaps from the ocean to catch a seal - showing the true extent of its deadly power. Erupting out of the sea with its jaws open the monstrous creature can be seen hurtling towards a Cape fur seal at a speed of almost 25mph. The dramatic moment was captured within a split second by famed wildlife photographer, Steve Bloom, who waited a painstaking 16 days for the incredible shot.



This is the heart-stopping moment a great white shark leaps from the ocean to catch a seal just off the coast of South Africa

The 59 year-old, who is originally from South Africa and now lives in Kent, waited in a tiny boat just off the African coast for more than two weeks to secure the once-in-a-lifetime picture.

He said: 'For 16 days I huddled in a small boat off the African coast in an attempt to get a picture of a great white shark breaching in its hunt for seals. Fast reflexes and a responsive camera were imperative as the boat rolled in the swell. I crouched low for a more dramatic image, fighting seasickness and never knowing when or if a shark would appear.'



Anytime
Anywhere,
MailOnline on
ANDROID
**AND
IT'S
FREE**




**Download
it now**

'My head throbbed and muscles ached from holding the camera steady for hours on end. When the shark finally burst out of the water, it was so fleeting, over so quickly, that as the sea settled in its wake I wondered if I was dreaming. The entire sequence lasted less than a second.'

MOST READ NEWS



- 'Armed police surround property' amid reports body
- From a £350,000 terrace to a £3m piece of history...
- Body of Stone Roses fan who went missing after reunion
- Attacked for being a goth: Thugs who left girl unable to...
- Police officer who answered 999 call from hospital bed
- 'Is Wimbledon always held in London?': Massive backlash

Share this article:



+1 2 Tweet 0

Print article Email article

Like You like **The moment a killer strikes: Great white shark targets a tiny seal as it breaches waters off the coast of South**

Ads by Google:

Lose 4 Stone in 3 Months?
Discover the Shocking Truth About Britain's Hottest Diet...
TrimRecipe.com/Diet

C1 Driver Training
Free Theory Tests 02392 123555
Horse box, Ambulance, 7.5ton
www.2start-training.com

Ads by Google:

Luxury African Safaris
Safari Vacations.Private Game Lodge Packages from R4350.00
www.wildlifeafrica.co.za

Study Your AAT With BPP
Excellent Teaching From A Leading Provider of AAT Qualifications
www.bpp.com/AAT

Comments (55)

[Add your comments](#)

Here's what other readers have said. Why not add your thoughts, or [debate this issue live on our message boards](#).

The comments below have not been moderated.

Newest	Oldest	Best rated	Worst rated
View all			
Eh why would anyone think this a picture of a whale????? did i miss something???			
- Laura, Kilmarnock, ayrshire, 09/7/2012 14:23			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 4			
Hardly newsworthy :-s These sorts of shots are common place on National Geographic/Discovery!			
- Mooseybaby, Bournemouth, Dorset, 09/7/2012 13:04			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 19			
This is a very very old picture.			
- paul, this once great land, 09/7/2012 13:02			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 3			
Wow stunning picture of a truly amazing and extremely rare animal.			
- Me, Out there, 09/7/2012 12:25			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 23			
That's not a picture captured by hair-trigger reactions, that is a frame (or whatever it is now called) from a video film. There are enough picture sites on the interweb to find the same or better at the click of a mouse. - Brad, Stockport, 09/7/2012 10:47 Obviously you've never heard of 'burst mode' in a camera.			
- Rod, Hull, 09/7/2012 11:47			
Report abuse			
Click to rate Rating 18			
What a horrible picture, I know it's nature, but why would anyone wait 16 days to take this dreadful picture, what pleasure can he get from looking at the death of this poor seal over and over? - shop lady, Derby, 8/7/2012 21:38 - Plenty thanks. Its a great snap. And stop crying.			
- mothhawk9, San Roque Spain, 09/7/2012 11:37			

Trail camera trap offers
Film animals remotely, day and night High quality, low price
www.handykam.com

Range of case sealers
Semi and fully automatic case sealing machines
www.endline.co.uk

Free International O2 Sim
Enjoy International Calls From Just 1p Per Minute. Order a Free O2 Sim.
o2.co.uk/FreeSim

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate Rating
34

I didn't notice the gills straight away. What made me recognise it as a shark rather than an orca, was the shape and anatomical location of the open mouth. Good picture but I think that instead of wasting a couple of weeks of your life on a boat waiting to capture the photo, he could have scanned it from National Geographic.

- Farmer Giles, Truro, Cornwall,
09/7/2012 11:15

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate Rating
41

Regardless of what animal type it is or the age/accuracy of the content either way its a blooming good photo!

- Phil, UK, 09/7/2012 10:50

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate Rating
52

That's not a picture captured by hair-trigger reactions, that is a frame (or whatever it is now called) from a video film. There are enough picture sites on the interweb to find the same or better at the click of a mouse.

- Brad, Stockport, 09/7/2012 10:47

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate Rating
44

Eric and Bruce... Whales are mammals. Mammals cannot breathe underwater. Whales breathe through blowholes. Sharks are fish. Fish breathe through gills. The animal pictured has gills. Are you sure it's a whale?

- Maya, Kent, 09/7/2012 10:37

[Report abuse](#)

Click to rate Rating
28

The views expressed in the contents above are those of our users and do not necessarily reflect the views of MailOnline.

Add your comment

Name:

Town &
Country:

Your name and location will appear next to your comment.

You have 1000 characters left.

Libellous and abusive comments are not allowed. Please read our [House Rules](#).

I agree to the House Rules

Remember me - this will save you having to type out your name and location when you next leave a comment.

For information about privacy and cookies please read our [Privacy Policy](#).

[Terms](#)

[Back to top](#) [Popular](#)

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Sport](#) | [TV&Showbiz](#) | [Femail](#) | [Health](#) | [Science](#) | [Money](#) | [RightMinds](#) | [Coffee Break](#) | [Travel](#)

[Columnists](#)

[Popular searches in news:](#) [Daily Mail Facebook](#) [Daily Mail News Twitter](#) [Daily Mail Google+](#) [Daily Mail e-Paper](#) [London 2012](#)
[Celebrity News](#) [US Showbiz](#) [US Home](#)

[Sitemap](#) | [Newsletters](#) | [RSS](#) | [Archive](#) | [Text-based site](#) | [Reader Prints](#) | [Top of page](#)
[Daily Mail](#) | [Mail on Sunday](#) | [Widgets](#) | [This is Network](#) | [This is London](#) | [This is Money](#)
[Metro](#) | [Jobsite](#) | [Mail Travel](#) | [Find a property](#) | [Motors](#) | [Prime location](#) | [Villa Holidays](#)

Published by Associated Newspapers Ltd
Part of the Daily Mail, The Mail on Sunday & Metro Media Group

© Associated Newspapers Ltd
[Contact us](#) [Advertise with us](#) [Terms](#) [Privacy policy & cookies](#)