

maniken-walter-2018-10-30.mp4

Walter Maniken [00:00:10] I got introduced to it only recently about six months ago, so just new to it.

Jim Thull [00:00:17] Oh, so you've just started fishing?

Walter Maniken [00:00:19] Yeah. I did it as a, as a kid. We all did. And went out on boats but nothing like this, no, it's only just new to me.

Walter Maniken [00:00:36] No. Victoria. I grew up in Victoria so we used to fish on Port Phillip Bay, quite a lot, for Flathead and Snapper, occasional Bream and Gibbsland. But no. Here's just new to me.

Jim Thull [00:00:54] It was mainly saltwater fish?

Walter Maniken [00:00:56] Yes mainly saltwater.

Walter Maniken [00:01:05] I met the captain, he lives where I live, and he found out I was an water electrician. So he got me to do a bit of work on the boat, which resulted in more work on the boat, which then resulted in, "do you want to be a deckhand?" So, I've sort of stepped up in the world.

Jim Thull [00:01:22] Yeah! How do you like it?

Walter Maniken [00:01:25] It's fantastic! I live in my office, it's great. Yes it's absolutely fantastic.

Walter Maniken [00:01:37] Flathead, Managuy, Sweep. Sergeant Baker. Whiting. Yeah, quite a variety of fish, one or two sharks.

Walter Maniken [00:01:56] I take the fish off the line for you, on the way back in I clean the fish, fillet them, if you wish 'em filleted. Safety procedure, as we go out. When we stop, show you how to work the rods and the reels, and best way to bait up. Yeah, just generally help out the paying passengers.

Jim Thull [00:02:18] And so you're a trained electrician as well?

Walter Maniken [00:02:25] Water electrician, yes.

Jim Thull [00:02:26] So does that mean you're able to fix things on the boat, on occasion?

Walter Maniken [00:02:30] Yes. Yes, yeah.

Jim Thull [00:02:31] That's a good skill to have, I guess.

Walter Maniken [00:02:34] It does come in very handy. Does come in very handy, indeed. Sometimes we have electrical problems on the boat, so it helps if there's a bit of knowledge in there.

Walter Maniken [00:02:50] I sometimes get into it, yes. Not too many catching, or we have a small crowd on the boat, then, yeah. I usually tend to throw a line out myself.

Walter Maniken [00:03:08] Mainly the relaxation. And just the quietness out here, it's quite enjoyable. Once the engine stops, and the noise has stopped, it's good to get away from it.

Walter Maniken [00:03:29] Oh yes, oh yes. It's my second favorite pastime. First favorite, of course, is fishing and the second part is eating them.

Walter Maniken [00:03:45] I like my bread and butter fish. So that includes Whiting, Flathead, Bream, yeah. I don't mind me an old Barra, and um, Flake. Yeah, not really fussed.

Walter Maniken [00:04:08] I would love to go Marlin fishing, that's part of my bucket list.

Jim Thull [00:04:12] The what?

Walter Maniken [00:04:13] Marlin fishing.

Jim Thull [00:04:14] Marlin fishing.

Walter Maniken [00:04:15] Which is, up tropical North Queensland. From there, around Mackayaway. That's on the bucket list. I'd love to go Marlin fishing and see if I can catch em, catch and release, of course. But yeah, just to say I've done it.

Walter Maniken [00:04:38] Most decide to keep them, yes. We do have a few tourists that come on that, they're only here for one or two nights, and we give them option: of take the fish, or we can take you to a restaurant that will cook the fish for you, and you can have them there with a cold beer. But most taken, yes. I find most do.

Walter Maniken [00:05:09] Well, definitely go through us, of course, Deep Sea Charters. But just have a good time, and enjoy it. Don't expect a big Jaws, but do expect some lovely, edible fish.