

## LOBSTER TALES

1 hour documentary

**Duration:** 55 minutes

**Format:** Digital Betacam

**Network:** ABC, Discovery Canada

**Distributor:** Granada Media International

Financed by the Australian Film Finance Corporation and Screenwest

### Production Team

Director and Co-Producer	Celia Tait
Producer, Executive Producer	Brian Beaton
DOP & Underwater Photography	Ulrich-Stephan Krafzik
Additional Underwater Photography	Leighton de Barros
Sound Recordist	Laurie Chlanda
Editor	Peter Pritchard
Writer & Researcher	Sarah Rossetti
Production Manager	Angela Higgins
Composers	Tim Count & Keith Geyzel
Sound Mix	Ric Curtin
Narrator	Lynn Summers

### Synopsis

**Lobster Tales tells the story about cray fishing off the West Australian coast and the fisherfolk whose livelihood depend on them.**

*Lobster Tales* brings together a kaleidoscope of people who marvel at Crayfish, risk their lives harvesting them, gastronomically revere them, and export them live into lucrative overseas markets. From the remote Abrolhos Islands of Western Australia to the other side of the continent where Larry, Australia's Giant Lobster monument, towers above the highway, *Lobster Tales* are told.

Crayfish, by and large, lead lazy uneventful lives at the bottom of the sea – so the majority of us believe. But this is not the case off the coast of Western Australia. On the sandy bottom of the Indian Ocean, hundreds of thousands of Crayfish are on the move. Every Summer they march, crossing great distances, for reasons known only to themselves. For decades, fisherfolk have followed the crays out to sea, living precariously perched on a group of limestone rocks near to their catch. They puzzle over the strange behaviours of their quarry, and profit by second-guessing the direction of their migrations. From this remote outpost come tales of enduring cultural traditions - a church built by the Italians, a sauna by the Finns and a pub by the Australians – and here they stay 'millionaires in tin huts' until the season closes.

Lobster fan-fair and festivity heralds the annual Blessing of the Fleet. Fisher-Folk nod at the patron saints as the boats are blessed with great aplomb and the Lobsters wished well. As the leggy crustaceans get down to the business of mating, fighting, giving birth and leaving home, the human hunt begins...