

Tammy Van Wisse

Marathon swimming champion

Most people fly, some board a ship, but Tammy van Wisse has done it the hard way by swimming 1.5 times round the world. At 32, Tammy has swum 60,000 kilometres - a testament to her amazing stamina and strength.

Victorian born Tammy started her formal swimming training at age 11. She progressed through her teens winning Victorian State Swimming and Victorian Royal Life Saving Titles.

Lifesaving became an integral part of Tammy's career, and she entered events such as the Lorne Pier to Pub swim, which she won in 1986, 1987 and 1989.

Her first marathon swim was in 1986 from Beaumaris to Frankston, a distance of 20 kilometres.

A decade later, Tammy entered the Guinness Book of Records as the first person to swim Bass Strait. Tammy went on to establish other record times and wins for swimming Loch Ness, New Zealand's Cook Strait, the English Channel, the Olympic Games Centenary Marathon swim in Greece and the Manhattan Island Marathon Swim in New York.

Locally, Tammy is a member of the Black Rock Lifesaving Club and patrols the beach during summer. She trains at Haileybury pool and her marathon swims are overseen by Olympic swimming legend, Dawn Fraser.

On 18th February 2001, Tammy completed her greatest challenge to date by swimming the entire length of the Murray River from the Alps to the ocean - a feat no one else has achieved.

Starting from Corryong in Victoria's high country, it took Tammy 106 days to reach the Murray Mouth in South Australia, a distance of 2438 kilometres.

As a human water quality tester, Tammy has long been a campaigner for cleaner waterways. Through her amazing swims, Tammy raises awareness about environmental issues confronting Australia's river systems, such as poor environmental flows, salinity and toxic algal bloom.



Client testimonials

“ Tammy delighted the audience with her motivational talk . She was intelligent, entertaining and charming, and most of all - inspirational.

- *Australian Netherlands Chamber of Commerce*

“ Tammy was an absolute pleasure to work with. Her enthusiasm, commitment and professionalism absolutely made the Awards night one that our audience enjoyed immensely.. Tammy’s professionalism shone through in her effort and attention to detail that she utilised in her preparation for emceeing of the awards, and this paid big dividends as the night was one of the best award nights that Banksia has had in its thirteen years of presentations.

- *Banksia Environmental Foundation*

“ I believe that every company should have a 'shot of Tammy', every now and again, to show them that if you set your mind to anything, you can achieve it with a little effort.

- *Brumby's Bakeries*

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