



Tamara Bruce, Honor Swimmer, Australia, 2017



Tamara Bruce – fastest Australian swimmer to cross the English Channel: 6th U/18 Women's Surf Race, Kurrawa 1995

Videos: [Interview 1](#) [Show 1](#)

Tamara Bruce set the overall speed record for a Rottneest crossing in 1992 in 4 hours and 14 minutes at age 14. She beat IMSHO Honoree Shelley Taylor-Smith the 1991 FINA 25 km world champion. Tamara's overall record lasted until 1993 – but she lowered the female record to 4 hours and 10 minutes - which stood in 2024 (and beyond). She raced as well in 1994 to 1997 and 2001 to 2004 with numerous female wins.

Tamara swam the English Channel. In 1994 in a time of 7 hours and 53 minutes in 1994 in the English Channel. It was the 2nd fastest time overall and she remains the 3rd fastest female in 2024 (and beyond).

She started her marathon racing career with the 30 km International Sydney Harbour Marathon in 1991 taking 12th overall and 5th female. In 1992, Tamara completed the Magnetic Island Swim. She finished 2nd at the Australian Open Water 25 km Championships and finished 3rd in 1994. In 1995 Tamara as part of the Australian team won gold at the 25 km Pan Pacific Championships in Atlanta.

She was, for the Australian Open Water Team, coach/handler at 2000 FINA World Championships in Hawaii and manager for 2001 World Championships in Fukuoka.

[Expanded Biography \(Openwaterpedia\)](#)

[Long Swims Database \(Marathon Swimmers Federation\)](#)