



**David O'Brien, OAM, Honor Swimmer, Australia,
2017**



Videos: [Interview 1](#) [Interview 2](#) [Show 1](#)

David O'Brien, OAM was the first to complete the 33 km swim from Kurnell to Sydney Harbour. He set the overall Rottneest speed record of 4 hours and 2 minutes in 1993 - which held until 2000. He completed the race 5 year in a row – winning his first 4 and coming second in the 5th. David won the 36 km Capri to Naples Marathon Swim in 1991 and maintained a top 10 FINA World Ranking from 1991 to 1995.

His international wins included: USA Men's 15 km in Fort Lauderdale in 1991; FINA World Open Water Championship (team medal) in Rome in 1994; Pan Pacific Championships in Atlanta in 1995; and bronze at the FINA World Open Water Championship in the 25 km in Perth in 1991.

He was the Australian champion in the following events: SLSA Surf Belt Championship 1988; 15 km in 1989; 25 km from 1990 to 1994; and 10km from 1992 to 1994. He also

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

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