

Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin

(Tursiops aduncus, Ehrenberg, 1833)



Cat, an elder was last seen in June 2008. Here she is pictured with one of her calves.

Behaviour
Groups of >5 - <15
Mating year round
Fission fusion society
Resident inshore species
Calving peaks in the spring/summer months



Appearance

Longish prominent beak, varying shades of grey with lighter grey 'cape' that runs from behind the head
Freckles on the sides and belly start at sexual maturity
Small dark eye patches



Diet
Reef fish
Sandy bottom fish
Pelagic fish
Cephalopods (octopus, squid)

Size

2,5mt animal = 184kg's
1,5mt animal = 41kg's
1,1mt animal = 15 kg's

Longevity 60 years
Gestation 12 months

Teeth
35 pairs both upper & lower jaw



Newborn/Neonate delivered to us in June 2010. She had stranded on the beach and was dead. There were no apparent signs as to why she died.



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Indo-Pacific Humpback Dolphin

(Sousa plumbea, G. Cuvier 1829)



Appearance

Distinguishable with long elongated beak
Fleshy hump that bears the dorsal fin
Broad flippers with rounded tip
Indistinct line extends from flipper to eye
Calves born light grey - darkening with age

Behaviour
Groups of >5 (PDO)
Mating & year round
Calving peaks summer
Shy & illusive animal
Often seen in association with bottlenose
Beak out surfacing is characteristic of this species

Shallow waters (<20m), warm temperatures (15 - 36°C)
Tropical & temperate coastal waters
Rivers, estuaries & mangroves

Longevity >46 years
Gestation 11 to 12 months



Diet - fish, mollusks & crustaceans

2,5mt animal = 196kg's

1,5 mt animal = 39kg's

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Long-snouted Spinner

(*Stenella longirostris*, 1828)

Pan-tropical Spotted

(*Stenella attenuata*, 1846)



Generally seen offshore
in PDO region

Seen traveling in association
with each other

Enjoy riding the bow of
boats



Appearance & Diet

Beak edged with black, margins of the dark black & grey
sides are more or less parallel
prey on fish & cephalopods

Longevity ~20 years

Gestation ~11 months

1,8mt animal = 57,4kg

1,4mt animal = 28,9kg

Appearance & Diet

Long, narrow beak with white 'lips' & conspicuous
dark cape, with age belly darkens & speckeling starts
prey on fish & cephalopods

Longevity >46 years

Gestation 11 to 12 months

2,2mt animal = 93kg

1,5 mt animal = 33kg



Teeth

47-62 pairs upper jaw

46-61 pairs lower jaw

Teeth

35-43 pairs upper jaw

34-40 pairs lower jaw



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Humpback Whale - Rorqual

(*Megaptera novaeangliae*, Borowski, 1781)



Appearance: dorsal fin on the back &
ventral pleats lower jaw to belly. The
HBW's blow is straight and bushy to-
wards the top. Black on dorsal side, black
& white on ventral & fluke. Knob like pro-
tuberances on surface of the rostrum.

Distribution - HBW's occur in all
oceans worldwide. Regular migra-
tion route with summer feeding
grounds in temperate waters &
winter breeding grounds in polar
region.

Groups of 1-6 (PDO)
Dorsal & tail leave 'fingerprint'
Longevity >50 years
Gestation 12 months
Sexual maturity 6 to 10 years
Calf intervals 2 years
Calving july to october
Diet - krill, shrimp like
crustaceans; small fish (1 - 1,2 tons p/day)

HBW's sing songs that comprise of units
that are sung in a particular order. All
'singers' in the same area tend to sing
the same song, however the song
evolves within a season. Most singers
are lone adult males & there are de-
bates as to the songs purpose (the locating
of other whales, reproductive display to attract females or
establishing dominance ranking).

5mt animal = 1,9 tonnes
10mt animal = 14,9 tonnes

Lobtailing - slapping the surface of the water; said to be a
sign of aggression. Possibly a means of foraging in HBW's

Spy hopping with eye below the water surface.
Sailing aids the cooling of body temperature.

Breaching HBW's need to leave the water at a speed of 8mt per
second in order to clear 90% of its body.



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Freckling in tursiops aduncus

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Neonate / newborn <3 mths fetal lines visible



Calf 3 to 12 months



Juvenile up to 4 yrs freckling begins



~ 5 year old freckling apparent



~ 7 year old freckling becoming more pronounced



Adult stage 1 FM sexually mature



Adult stage 2 ~ 25 year old



Adult stage 3 Elder ~ 40+ freckling fused & running onto chin

Whaleshark

Rhincodon typus (Smith, 1828)



The Whale Shark is one of only three known filter-feeding sharks, suction feeding by gulping in dense aggregations of zooplankton, or passive feeding when plankton density is lower.

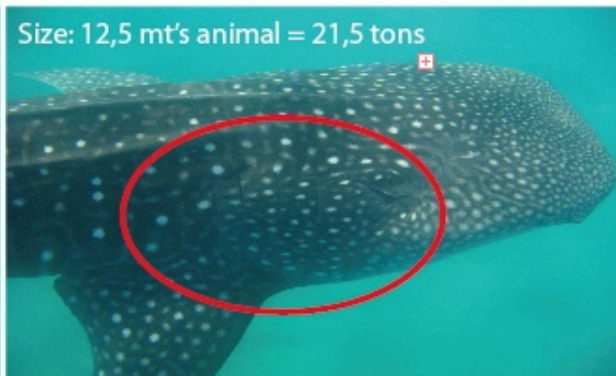
Distribution

Tropical & warm waters of all oceans, dive to depths of 700m, migratory, seasonal feeding aggregations.

Recorded in surface sea water temperatures of 18 to 30C



Size: 12,5 mt's animal = 21,5 tons



Diet
Krill
Crab larvae
Copepods
Phytoplankton
Macroalgae
Small fish
Uniquely id'd through the spotting

Appearance

Typical shark like look with white spot/line pattern
Largest living fish in the ocean up 20 mt long
Very slow moving with large mouth ~1.5mt & 1000's of minute teeth

Longevity >70 years

Gestation unknown

Birth intervals unknown

Ovoviviparous (eggs hatch in the uterus)

Bearing about 300 embryos of 48-58 cm