

ATLANTIC WHALE AND DOLPHIN FOUNDATION

2018

INDUCTION PACK



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1. VOLUNTEERING TENERIFE

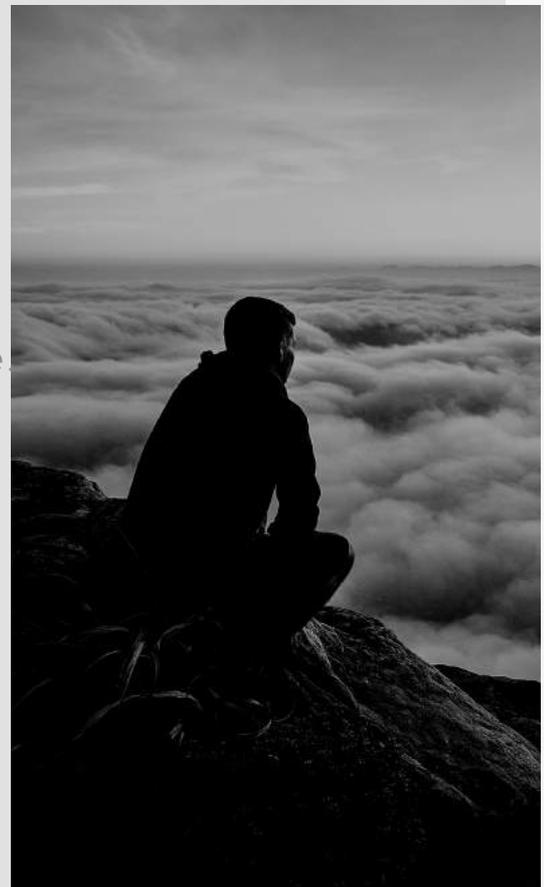


MISSION STATEMENT

To inspire positive action in the defence and protection of habitats, endangered species and threatened communities through raising awareness globally.

To encourage concerned, enthusiastic individuals to share our passion, so that we pass on a better world to future generations. The AWdF exists to provide low cost opportunities for people to give of themselves in the certain knowledge that, in so doing, the volunteers will 'grow' as people

We are not a business and certainly not a tour operator and it is important that all volunteers understand this. What we are attempting to deliver is far more valuable and infinitely less tangible than a mere product or service. It is a partnership, between you 'the volunteer' and the organisation, and the success of it all depends on the amount that BOTH parties put into the project.





BACKGROUND TO THE AWDF & SISTER PROJECTS



Founded along with the London offices in 1995 the original motto was:

“Encouraging individuals to make a difference through positive action within communities, the environment and in nature, globally”

The Atlantic Whale & Dolphin Foundation has a specific brief to help in the conservation of whales and dolphins in the Atlantic Oceans. Its operating base is in Tenerife, in the Canary Islands, where it runs the volunteer programme on the whale watching boats, one of the top three whale watching destination in the world and it has done so for some 25 years.

The AWDF has always been a low cost scheme open to people from all walks of life. Meaning we have a wonderful mix of nationalities joining us in Tenerife, adding to the unique chance to experience of different cultures.

ECO TOURISM

True Fair Eco Tourism CIC was developed to facilitate the development of eco-tourism opportunities, travel that benefits local communities as well as tourists by giving them access to real experiences. We are currently developing programmes to give tourists insights into the very beautiful island of Tenerife with their monies going to local communities. But our vision is bigger, initially with programmes in Sri Lanka, Vietnam and in time... the World!



True Fair Trading CIC was established to give artisanal producers, (mainly from developing worlds) access to global markets. Instead of giving 'charity', crippling communities further with dependence but, rather, to give them the means to get back onto their own feet, to become sustainable and independent; they have great assets- in their artisanal production and in their nature and culture.

Fair Earth FOUNDATION

The Fair Earth Foundation mission is to work towards the alleviation of poverty around the world through helping people to stand on their own feet and thus empowering them to attend to their own needs be they educational, environmental or enterprise creation. The Fair Earth Foundation provides educational support and training in language, environmental issues, and enterprise development as well as logistical support including micro-financing and volunteer input.

VOLUNTEERING

Tenerife acts as a central hub to the whole AWdF network. Students and graduates have visited frequently over the years to set up their own exciting projects, some of which have gone on to become the core of AWdF.

The hub of the AWF's global network of projects is its whale and dolphin programme in Tenerife. Volunteers spend three days each week as research guides and two days on their own individual projects.

The core volunteer programme will run throughout the year from the research station in Arona. This facility is a charming old Canarian farmhouse which can accommodate up to twenty or so people.

Volunteers will work as research guides on the whale watching boats three or so days per week and spend the rest of the time in the research room assisting where their skills lend best. Weekends are free to engage in a range of activities or to explore the extraordinary island of Tenerife. We have a strong expectation of volunteers and their attitude.

EXPECTATIONS OF VOLUNTEERS

- **Positive Attitude**
- **Enthusiasm**
- **(Hard) Work Ethic**
- **Tenacity to get things done**
- **Flexibility**
- **Communicative**
- **Team playing**
- **Idealistic**
- **A willingness, to support all projects**
- **Contribution to ideas at daily meetings**
- **Responsible behaviour**
- **And, above all else, RESPECT - for each other, for neighbours and everyone we work with**

If you have a problem please don't bottle it up or complain to others. Talk to a coordinator or discuss during a team meeting.

VOLUNTEER CODE

Volunteering is a privilege! It is an opportunity to give back, to contribute to the common good. Common to all religions and to all philosophies is the notion that we grow and develop as individuals through giving to others. How much should we give? Until it hurts!

Don't define your life by how much you have in the bank, by how big your house is or your car, how pretty your partner. Rather, by how much you have contributed, how much you have enriched other lives, our nature and the environment.

Do to others as you would want to be done unto!!



• NEVER EXPECT THANKS!

Volunteers do what is right because it is the right thing to do. They don't do it to receive thanks and praise, that is something else altogether! Volunteers are thankful that they have been given the opportunity to give of themselves!

• ALWAYS HAVE RESPECT

for your colleagues and friends, family, the communities you live and work with and, most importantly, for yourself.

• RESPONSIBILITY OF ACTION

is individual both for themselves and for others. If they regard something as wrong they should speak their mind and if others are being abused they should stand up for them. Volunteers stand up for what is right.

• HONESTY IS EVERYTHING

of speech, action and thought.

• GIVE ALL

that you have to any given task

• UNDERSTAND SITUATIONS

have EMPATHY, show COMPASSION. Help others to understand

• POSITIVE ATTITUDE-

intelligent, optimistic, enthusiastic

• CONTRIBUTE FULLY

in all ways - in conversation, in physical effort

VOLUNTEERS DON'T

- Take Advantage'
- Steal
- Lie
- Feel that society, others owe them, that they are entitled

- Hold grudges
- Do things half hearted
- Be pessimistic and negative

- Use others
- Judge others or speak badly of them
- Have greed
- Abuse others, bully
- Be lazy

Is the above idealistic? No, not all! It is within all of us to achieve these attributes and we all know the rightness of them. There is no excuse for low and base behaviour

OUR COMMITMENTS

- To provide rewarding opportunities for volunteers to give themselves for the common good, be it for conservation, social or humanitarian causes.
- To create entrepreneurial environments (social or otherwise) through which volunteers can be empowered to achieve for themselves.
- To create an experiential learning environment through which volunteers are inspired to take ownership of the learning process.
- To actively develop individual volunteers' employability skills.
- To provide adequate training, preparation and support for volunteers.
- To develop individual plans for volunteers so they can develop employability and life skills of greatest value to them.
- To provide educational programmes to develop individual volunteers' skill sets and knowledge base.
- To inform volunteers of any health and safety risks that they should be aware of.
- To actively support attempts to achieve individual sustainability wherever possible
- To facilitate individual research efforts
- To promote constructive feedback and a certificate acknowledging individual volunteers' contributions

2. THE HOUSE



Accommodation is provided in the research station itself; a charming old Canarian farmhouse, and in surrounding properties 4-5 people in a room (more if we are busy).

The research station is situated in the traditional Canarian town of Arona. Around 600 meters above sea level, Arona is only a 20 minute drive from the boat ports but a world away from the tourist centres of Tenerife.

Breakfast and evening meals are provided and are prepared by volunteers on a rota basis, as are cleaning duties. Lunches are not provided but sandwiches and baguettes can be bought at several of the local bars for under 3€. Volunteers can also use the kitchen facilities at the house to cook their own food bought from the local shop.

HOUSE RULES

the important things we all do to keep a happy home



CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF

There should never be any mugs/plates etc. in the kitchen or around the house. Everyone is responsible for what they use!



NOTHING DOWN THE LOO!

Except poo (and other organic waste)! No paper/no organic materials can be put down the toilet! This includes bleach, the drainage system is delicate, if you block it you'll be sorting it! Toilet paper and any other non-organic material goes into the bin beside the toilet.



NOISE CURFEW @ 10.30PM

Respect this! We live in a quiet neighbourhood with small children.



NO DRUGS/EXCESSIVE DRINKING

Drug use, excessive drinking and general boisterous behaviours will NOT be tolerated. Simply, you WILL be sent home.



NO SMOKING IN THE HOUSE

Do not leave cigarette ends in flower pots, use the designated ash trays!



TIDY YOUR STUFF

Do not leave your belongings around the house. Everything will be put into the 'Lost & Found' box during the morning clean up. If it's not collected within the week it's 'fair game'!



TURN OFF THE LIGHTS

When your the last one to leave the room - turn off the lights!



NO CATS

Or other animals are allowed in the house. Do not bring strays home with you!



DAILY ROUTINE

A TYPICAL DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN AWDF VOLUNTEER

7AM - 9AM - Wake up and get ready! - Have breakfast, take a shower, do what you need to do!

Boat Days - You'll need be ready for your lift down to the port - there will be schedule! If you're late - your left behind

House Days/Activity Days - Be ready for the meeting @ 9am

9AM - House Days - Be ready and waiting outside of the kitchen. You will be given cleaning chores, which you must complete.

10AM - 5.30PM - House Days - Meet at 10am for the morning meeting to agree your goals for the day. Work on your projects (you're allowed a 1 hour for lunch)

Boat Days - As per the rota you will be on speific boats or working in the visitor centre on your projects.

6PM - 2 volunteers cook the evening meal (with guidance from the Coordinators if needed).

7PM - Volunteers on the boats get picked up. As soon as you get back from the port enter your data from your sightings.

7.30PM - Dinner!! Best time of the day, depending on who's cooked.....

8PM - 2 volunteers clean the dishes/kitchen from dinner and take the bins out.

8.30PM - 9PM - Evening meetings (5.30pm on Fridays)

11PM - Research room gets closed. The main house is locked down by 11.30pm

FOOD POLICY

We aim to provide a varied and healthy diet cooking meals fresh each day and always providing fruit and vegetables. On-site volunteers help with the cooking alongside their other responsibilities and project work- see induction pack.

Breakfast and evening meals are provided and facilities are available during the day for those on-site to organise their own lunches if required- cafes in the village offer very low cost alternatives!

BREAKFAST

Consists of a choice of cereals, bread (toast), jams, fruit, coffee, tea etc.

EVENING MEAL

Are varied and have vegetarian options. We will accommodate all dietary requirements but need advising of them.

We are particularly keen to improve the range of foods available and to experiment with more exotic offerings.

If you have an interesting dish, please send us details including the recipe - we are really keen on 'national' dishes and developing a range of international dishes.

TYPICAL MENUS :

Soups: pumpkin soup, chickpea soup, Thai noodle soup, Tomato soup, White Bean soup, Potato soup, Canary dishes - Rancho Canario, Ropa Vieja

Main meal: Irish stew, Cottage Pie, Chilli Con Carne, Carbonara, Coddle, Pasta bake, Chicken curry, Spaghetti Bolognese, Meatballs

Vegetarian Options (a selection): Spicy Kale and Coconut stir-fry, Risotto, Chickpea Curry, Cauliflower and Broccoli Bake, Baked Potato, Shakshuka, Indian Curry, Quinoa and Black Beans, Veggie Burger

Fruit: Fruit of the Season

OUR GOAL

We will endeavour to provide three course evening meals with a delicious soup, main course (veggie option) and seasonal fruits for dessert.

We will have one 'meat-free' day each week and may extend this policy in the future- we will see how it goes. Part of our induction process will include a session on meat production and the devastating environmental and conservation consequences it poses. Animal farming accounts for 51%+ of global greenhouse gas emissions, 1,850 gallons of water are needed to produce a single pound of beef, compared to 39 gallons approximately for a pound of vegetables, 70% of deforestation of the Amazon jungle can be attributed to cattle ranching, chemicals used in animal farming are polluting the planet.

We will also endeavour to have one tapas based meal each week with a wide range of typical Canarian dishes to sample.

“Earth provides enough to satisfy every man’s need but not every man’s greed” - Mahatma Gandhi

3. GENERAL INFORMATION



WHAT TO BRING

You can come to the island any time of the year, for a short or longer period of time. The summers are extremely warm (averaging around 28 degrees) and can be higher down at the ports. However in winter, it can get quite cold in the house which is slightly up on the mountain, so jumpers, jeans and a vest are definitely not a waste of space in your suitcase.

Remembering necessities such as clothes, toiletries, shoes is common sense, but below is a here's a list of things you might need that you may not necessarily think to bring with you:

- ✓ **Warm clothing** – even though you'll be living on an island famed for its warm beaches, up here at around 600m above sea level it does get a bit chilly in the mornings and evenings. So a few jumpers or hoodies and some long trousers are a necessity.
- ✓ **Raincoat** – the weather here is usually clear and calm, but the island does see sub-tropical rainstorms from time to time. A waterproof coat will be useful if you get caught out in the rain somewhere on the island!
- ✓ **Sleeping bag, bed sheet, pillowcase, towel** – we have a limited number of these available for you to borrow here at the house, but having your own bedding will surely make your stay here a bit more comfortable.
- ✓ **Hiking boots** – bring these if you have a pair. There are hundreds of amazing hikes on the island, many of which are right on your doorstep here in Arona. Also, if you want to climb Spain's highest mountain, Mt. Teide, you'll need a sturdy pair of boots.
- ✓ **Laptop** – if you have one, definitely bring it with you. It will allow you to enter data, finshots and complete your personal project work. If you don't have one, a tablet or iPad is the next best thing.
- ✓ **Torch** – essential for climbing Teide at night or any camping you might like to do at the weekends.
- ✓ **Compact or dSLR camera** – you were probably going to bring it anyway, so this is just a reminder. A camera with a decent optical zoom is invaluable for taking finshots of whales and dolphins, which is an integral part of our research. Also, there are so many incredible sights and activities on Tenerife, you'll want a good camera to record your memories!
- ✓ **Backpack** – not essential but will definitely come in handy when hiking or going to the beach
- ✓ **GoPro** – don't worry if you don't have one, it isn't at all necessary; but if you have one, be sure to pack it with you! It will allow you to film the whales and dolphins underwater, which we can use for our research and on social media. Also, they are great for recording your activities on the island.
- ✓ **Binoculars** – if you have a pair, these are very useful for spotting whales and dolphins from the boats.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON ARRIVAL

Day 1

- Airport pickup can be arranged for a fee of 20€
- Upon arrival you will be shown to your room where a bed will be made-up for you. (please bring your own sleeping bag/bedding if possible)
- A coordinator will give you a tour of the house and if the shops are open you will be taken to the local town and shown where the amenities are.
- If you arrive before dinner time you will be provided with an evening meal.

Day 2

- Beginning at 9:00am you will participate in the morning chores and cleaning
- At 10:00am you will be given a full induction with a coordinator, and have our research work fully explained to you.
- You will then have the chance to talk to all of the project leaders about what you would like to get involved in on your days off of the boats.

Day 3

- You will be on the boats and either a more experienced volunteer or a coordinator will show you how to practically carry out the data collection.

DIRECTONS TO THE HOUSE

By Bus

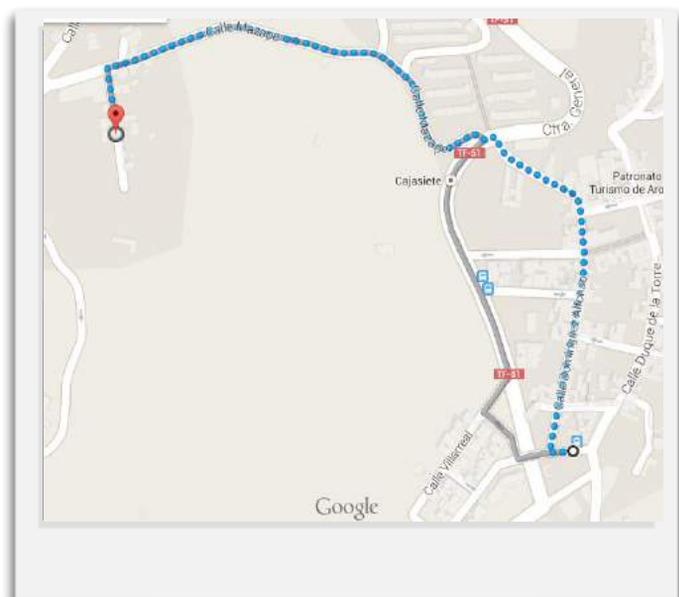
1. From the bus stands at the front of the airport, take the 111 Titsa bus to Los Cristianos (3.10€).
2. At Los Cristianos bus station walk up the hill to stand number 7 and take the 480 bus to Arona (1.49€).
3. From the bus stop at Arona, turn left off the bus and take the first street on your right (you will see a children's park on the left hand side).
4. Follow this street all the way to the top.
5. At the top (just past the town square on the right) the road curves to the left; keep following it.
6. At the end of this street you will get to a crossroads-type junction with two zebra crossings.
7. Take the street directly in front of you, which curves immediately left then right up another hill.
8. Keep following this street as it curves left again and levels off (enjoy the wonderful view on your left!).
9. The street then slopes downhill slightly and you will pass a small reservoir on your left (say hi to Zorro the duck!).
10. After about 30m, on your left will be a street called Calle Virgen de Fatima.
11. Turn down this street and we are number 5, the big house on the left with the dolphin on the roof!

By Taxi

Use the house address, most taxi drivers even know us by 'The Dolphin House' which is Casa de los Delfines in Spanish. If they aren't sure, have yourself dropped off at the bus stop in Arona and follow the 'By Bus' directions.

House address:

Casa de los Delfines
Calle Virgen de Fatima,
5-7 Vento, Arona
Tenerife
Espana



directions to the house from Arona

Congratulations, you made it!

CONTACT INFORMATION

USEFUL NUMBERS

Country code: +34

Research station and house: +34 922 725 736

Ed's Mobile: +44 7757 766 564

Gemma's Mobile: +44 79798 994 421

Teresa's Mobile: +34 642 25 19 04

ReinaSofia International Airport (Tenerife south) - 922 77 00 50

Los Rodeos Airport (Tenerife North)- 922 63 58 00

Titsa Buses (Guagua) - 922 21 56 99

Radio Taxis - 922 64 11 12

Traffic - Police- Civil Guard - 922 25 55 48

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Red Cross - +34 922 28 29 24

Medical Emergencies – 061

Fire Department – 080

Police - Tourist Attention - +34 922 21 25 11

National Police - 091

Local Police – 092

Emergency – 112 (Police, fire, ambulance services)

Citizen Information - 010

EMAIL:

ed@whalention.org

gemma@whalention.org

WEBSITE

www.whalention.org

INTRODUCING YOURSELF

Frases Útiles - Useful Phrases

Hola, ¿cómo estás?

Hello, how are you?

Bien, ¿y tú?

Fine and you?

¿Cómo te llamas/ cuál es tu nombre?

What's your name?

Me llamo/ mi nombre es

My name is...

Este es mi amigo Juan

This is my friend Juan

¿De dónde eres?

Where are you from?

Soy de...

I am from...

¿Hablas español?

Do you speak Spanish?

Si, hablo un poquito español

Yes, I speak a little Spanish

¡Adiós, hasta luego!

Bye, see you later!

Verbos - Verbs

querer	to want
yo quiero	i want
tú quieres	you want
tener	to have
yo tengo	i have
tú tienes	you have

Vocabulario - Vocab

¿Como estas?	How are you?
estupendo	great
regular	not to good
fatal/ mal	bad
motivado	motivated
¡Tengo sueño!	I am tired!
¡Buenos días!	Good morning!
¡Buenas tardes!	Good evening!
¡Buenas noches!	Good night!
¡Hasta la próxima!	Until next time!
¡Hasta mañana!	Until tomorrow!
Te veo mañana	I will see you tomorrow
el sábado	on Saturday
la semana que viene	next week
el próximo viernes	next Friday

EATING OUT

Frases Útiles - Useful Phrases

Tengo reservada una mesa a nombre de...

I have a table booked to the name of...

Desearía una mesa para cuatro personas

May I have a table for 4 please

¿Está abierto todavía?

Are you still open?

¿Podría ver el menú?

Could we see the menu please?

Estamos listos para ordenar la comida

We are ready to order food

¿Qué desearía como plato principal?

What would you like as main course?

¿Qué me recomiendas?

What would you recommend?

¿Tiene alguna especialidad vegetariana?

Do you have any vegetarian special?

¿Ya terminaron?

Are you done?

¡Que aproveche!

Enjoy!

Verbos - Verbs

querer	to want
yo quiero	i want
tú quieres	you want
tener	to have
yo tengo	i have
tú tienes	you have

Vocabulario - Vocab

el desayuno	Breakfast
el almuerzo	Lunch
la cena	Diner
la merienda	Teatime
la entrada	Starter
el plato Principal	Main course
el postre	Desert
Bien cocido	Well done
Medio/ a punto	Medium
Poco cocido	Rare
Sin cebolla por favor	without onions please
pequeño	small
grande	big
el pollo	chicken
el cerdo	pig
la carne de vaca	beef

AT THE BAR

Frases Útiles - Useful Phrases

- ¡Vamos a tomar algo al bar!
Let's go to the bar!
- ¡Hola! ¿Qué quieres beber?
Hi, what would you like to drink?
- ¡Me gustaría una cerveza por favor!
I would like a beer please!
- ¡Me gusta una cola con hielo por favor!
I would like a coke with ice please!
- ¿Y para usted señorita?
And for you lady?
- ¿Tienes algo para comer?
Have you got something to eat?
- ¿Algo más?
Anything else?
- ¡Lo mismo por favor!
The same please!
- ¿Cuánto es?
How much is that?
- ¿Dónde están los servicios?
Where are the toilets?



Verbos - Verbs

querer	to want
yo quiero	i want
tú quieres	you want
tener	to have
yo tengo	i have
tú tienes	you have

Bebidas - Drinks

un refresco	a softdrink
una limonada	a lemonade
un batido de fresas	a strawberry smoothy
un zumo de naranja	an orange juice
un café solo	a dark coffee
un cortado	a white coffee
un café con leche	a latte
un te inglés	an english tea
un chocolate caliente	a hot chocolate
un vaso/ botella	a glass / bottle
de agua	of water
de agua con gas	of sparkling water
de vino blanco	of white wine
de vino tinto	of red wine
de vino rosado	of rose wine
una cerveza	a beer

4. ON THE BOATS



THE BOAT DAY

The AWF works with tourist whale watching boats from two different ports. Puerto Colon and Los Galletas.

The boats are tourist whale-watching boats that hold from 30 to 70 people per trip. The volunteers will act as research guides on these boats, collecting data, taking fin-shots, asking for petitions (when relevant), giving information to the tourists and helping with the general running of the boat.



All boats have different personalities and rules. Act conservatively at first until you get to know them but we expect people to act with professionalism at all times.

The days on the boats will begin from 9:00 am. There will usually be a 3 hour morning trip and a 5 hour afternoon trip immediately after. Volunteers must stay on both trips unless told otherwise.

When out on the boats there will often be two people. One person to take the photographs, the other fills in the data sheets. If allowed by the crew, it is both of your responsibilities to go around and talk to the tourists, giving them as much information as you can.

You will be picked up from the boats at an arranged pickup point and time. Make sure you are there or the car WILL leave without you !

BOAT RULES

- The owners of the boats do not have to let us on their boats, so it is important we act in a professional manner. Always ask in the office, the captain or owner of the boat if it is alright for you to go on, do NOT assume you can just walk on. Do not get on the boat until all of the tourists have got on, unless asked to do so by the crew.
- Make sure you are wearing your t-shirt well before you arrive at the boat - it looks unprofessional to start getting changed in front of the boat and keep your T-shirts clean.
- Once you are on the boats you are part of the crew, so it is important we act in a professional manner. You should help with the general running of the boat where possible,
- Help out with chores around the boats, such as giving people ashtrays, clearing up around the boat, serving food and drinks, handing out sick bags and taking the rubbish off the boats at the end of each day. If you make yourself useful on the boat it will generally be appreciated.
- Only swim if told it is ok by the crew and do not swim for too long.
- Only eat food if offered after the tourists have eaten.
- NEVER sunbathe or get drunk on the boats. We are on there to do a job, not look like tourists.
- ALWAYS thank the captain, crew and owners after a trip .
- ALWAYS be the last off the boat. Ask the crew if any extra cleaning needs to be done after the tourists have left.



COLLECTING DATA



Date: _____ Observer: _____ Photographer: _____
 Boat: _____ Speed of Boat on Approach: Appropriate (1) /Fast (2)

Start time of Excursion: _____ Start time of Interaction: _____
 Finish time of Excursion: _____ Finish time of Interaction: _____

CETACEAN SHEET

Species Observed During Interaction

Pilot Whale YES/NO _____
 Bottlenose Dolphin YES/NO _____
 Other _____
 Give photos of migratory whales to the person that collects them (with boat name/date)

GPS Coordinates

Start of Interaction End of Interaction
 N: _____ N: _____
 W: _____ W: _____

Oceanic Cloud Cover
 (Circle Number as Appropriate)

0% (0) Up to 25% (1)
 Up to 50% (2)
 Up to 75% (3)
 Complete Cover (4)

Beaufort Scale of Sea State (Circle Number as Appropriate)

0 Flat: Flat means flat, comparable to a swimming pool.
 1 Ripples: 0.1m
 2 Small Wavelets: 0.2m
 3 Large Wavelets: 0.6m
 4 Small Waves: 1m
 5 Moderate Longer Waves: 1.2m Some foam and spray.
 6 Large Waves: 3m Foam crests and spray.

Cetaceans Present

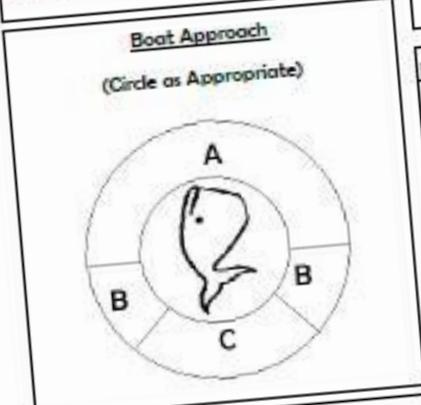
Total Number of Individuals _____
 Number of Adults _____
 Number of Juveniles _____
 Number of Calves _____
 Number of Indistinguishable _____

General Group Behaviour

Traveling (1) Bow Riding (2) Logging (3)
 Milling (4) Surfing (5) Wake Riding (6)
 Start behaviour _____
 End behaviour _____

Group Formation:

(1) Tight
 (2) Loose
 (3) Groups Tight
 (4) Groups Loose



Individuals Behaviours (Number of times each activity is observed.)

Porpoising (Swimming, whole body out of water) _____
 Spy-Hopping (Head & eyes vertical, out of the water) _____
 Feeding (Chasing & eating prey) _____
 Breaching (Most of body out of the water) _____
 Fluke Slapping (Hitting surface with tail) _____
 Flipper Out (Pectoral fins held above water) _____
 Fluke Out (Tail held above water) _____
 Cetaceans present upon departure: Yes / No _____
 Other (Specify): _____

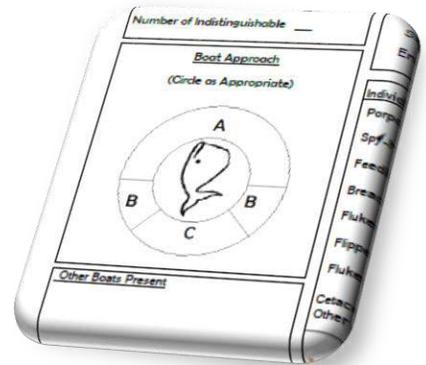
Other Boats Present

Calf Behaviour (Circle as appropriate.)

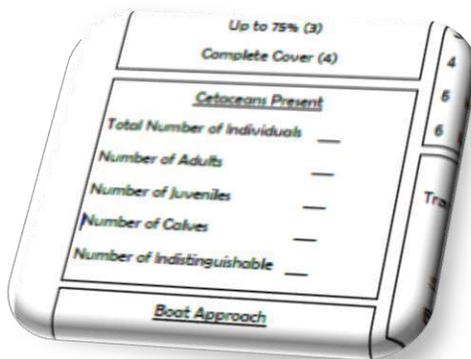
Calf Behaviour	Interaction of Calf with Boat	Position of Calf (if travelling)
Calf 1: Clinging to adult (1) Free in pod (2)	Yes (1) No (2)	Front (1) Side (2) Middle (3) of pod
Calf 2: Clinging to adult (1) Free in pod (2)	Yes (1) No (2)	Front (1) Side (2) Middle (3) of pod
Calf 3: Clinging to adult (1) Free in pod (2)	Yes (1) No (2)	Front (1) Side (2) Middle (3) of pod
Calf 4: Clinging to adult (1) Free in pod (2)	Yes (1) No (2)	Front (1) Side (2) Middle (3) of pod

When you go out on the boats and have an interaction, you need to fill in a datasheet. We use one datasheet per interaction. This way the data doesn't get mixed up. Here are the steps for as soon as an interaction with whales or dolphins begins :

1. You arrive near the animals, see how you approach them. From the front? From the side? From the back? (Circle A-C). How fast does the boat approach, appropriate or fast? (circle 1 or 2).
2. Check the time and ask for the GPS coordinates from the captain. These coordinates are always 7 digits, and you need to record both North and West. (i.e. N. 28.45.345 and W. 16.05.375). Write this down in Start time of interaction and the GPS section.



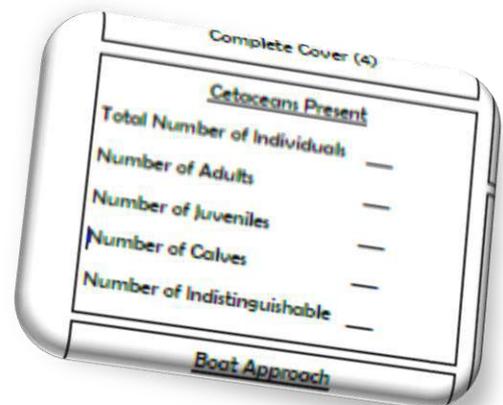
3. Identify which species are present and circle the appropriate word (yes/no). If you have any other species, write it down. If you have a mixed interaction, circle the species you see. If you have more than one species present, make sure you write everything twice on the same sheet and make sure you know which data belongs to which species. You want to start counting the individuals at this point as well (usually the job of the photographer).



4. Write down the start behaviour of the species (1 – 6) and circle it as well! (if the cetaceans display any of the written down behaviours during the interaction, circle them. You can have more than two 'General Group Behaviours').

5. Do another count to be sure you have the correct number of individuals. See how many of them are adults, juveniles and calves. If you can't recognize them, put a tally in the indistinguishable.

If you have calves in the group, look at their behaviour as well (bottom box) and circle what they do. You should be able to see the group formation at this point.



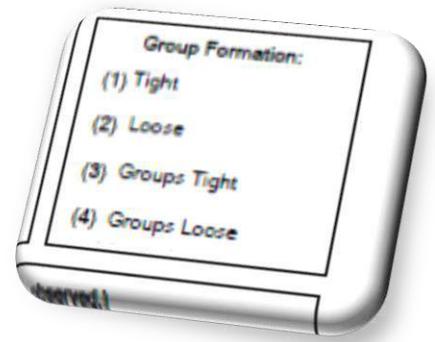
5. With the group formation, you can choose from 1 to 4

1 = tight. All animals are close together

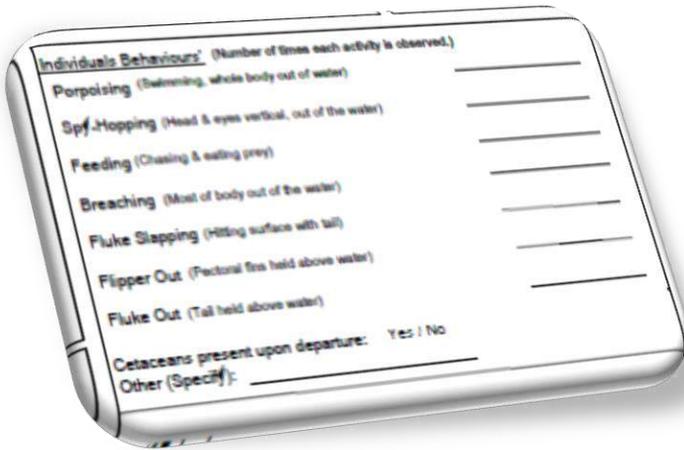
2 = loose. The animals are spread out

3 = Groups tight. There are several (little) groups around, and in those groups, they are close together.

4 = Groups loose. There are several (little) groups around, but the individuals are more spread out.



If there is just a single whale or dolphin, you cannot fill this part in. You might write down 0, as in no group available.



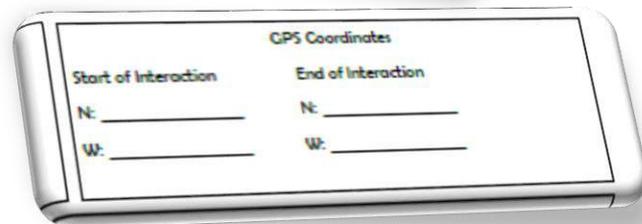
7. All the above parts can be completed very quickly. Keep your eyes open for individual behaviours like; spy hopping, breaching, porpoising, fluke slapping, flipper out, fluke out. Count those behaviours with a tally.

8. When you've finished the parts above, you can check the weather and sea state. If you're not sure, ask!

7. When you start leaving the group, see what the animals are doing and write down the number. Walk up to the captain to get the coordinates and write them down. Once again, they should have 7 digits.

8. If there were any other boats during the interaction, write down their names. Also write down the beginning of the excursion time, boat name, date and the name of the person who entered the data sheet and the name of who did the photos.

9. When you get back to port, you can write down the end of excursion time.



Here are the steps for as soon as an interaction with whales or dolphins begins :

Enter date, name of boat and name of the observer, as on the cetacean datasheet

Enter start time and finish time of the interaction (should correspond to cetacean interaction times, if recorded during an interaction)

Date _____ Boat _____ Observer _____			Time (start) _____ (finish) _____	
Species Code BHG - Black-Headed Gull BUP - Bulwer's Petrel CSH - Cory's Shearwater ESP - European Storm-Petrel GRH - Grey Heron HRG - Herring Gull MSH - Macaronesian Shearwater LBG - Lesser Black-Backed Gull LEG - Little Egret OSP - Osprey SWT - Sandwich Tern YLG - Yellow-Legged Gull	Species seen	Abundance		Location _____ Weather conditions Air temperature (°C) _____ Cloud cover (%) _____ Sea state _____ GPS coordinates Start N _____ Start W _____ Finish N _____ Finish W _____
		Adult	Juvenile	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	

Fill in this section with the appropriate species code

Tally the number of birds present in the appropriate column

Date _____ Boat _____ Observer _____			Time (start) _____ (finish) _____	
Species Code BHG - Black-Headed Gull BUP - Bulwer's Petrel CSH - Cory's Shearwater ESP - European Storm-Petrel GRH - Grey Heron HRG - Herring Gull MSH - Macaronesian Shearwater Shearwater LBG - Lesser Black-Backed Gull LEG - Little Egret OSP - Osprey SWT - Sandwich Tern YLG - Yellow-Legged Gull	Species seen	Abundance		Location _____ Weather conditions Air temperature (°C) _____ Cloud cover (%) _____ Sea state _____ GPS coordinates Start N _____ Start W _____ Finish N _____ Finish W _____
		Adult	Juvenile	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	
		_____	_____	

Location: must be either « fish farms », « Los Gigantes » or « interaction »

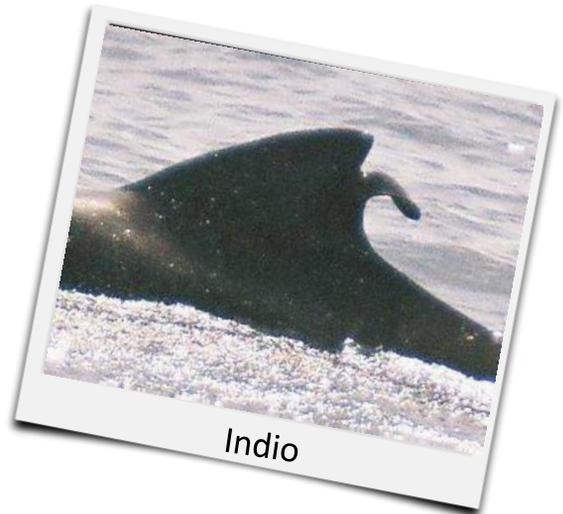
Enter the weather conditions (similar to cetacean datasheet)

GPS coordinates, as on the cetacean datasheet (start and finish)

FIN SHOTS

Dorsal fins are used for identification because each fin is unique, like the fingerprint of a human. Taking fin-shots are an extremely important part of the data collection as it is the only way we are able to identify individual cetaceans and their unique behaviours. This allows us to create associations between individuals and determine connections between family pods.

1. Try to make the photos of the dorsal fins as zoomed in and focussed as possible.
2. Make sure that the whole fin is in the photo.
3. Try to take the photos from the sides of the dorsal fin as much as possible.
4. Take a photo of the top of the data sheet in between each interaction so as to easily determine the different interactions when identifying cetaceans.



Always try to get photos of as many different individuals as you can!



Resident Species Family Groups

Grupos Familiares de Especies Residentes

② Pilot Whale Family: Bruja

Familia de Ballenas Pilotos: Bruja



Jupiter
Adult Male



Emanuela
Adult Female



Susanita
Adult Female



Bruja
Matriarch



Arte
Adult Male

Help us to monitor them! Send us your pictures (with the date, time and the name of the boat that you were on) to research@whalenation.org
Envíanos tus fotos a research@whalenation.org

Fin Shapes

Forma de Aletas



Bruja



Emanuela



Susanita



Jupiter



Arte

Get more information at www.whalenation.org





Resident Species Family Groups

Grupos Familiares de Especies Residentes

1 Pilot Whale Family: Indio

Familia de Ballenas Pilotos: Indio



Arsenio
Adult Male



Indio
Matriarch



Tanta
Adult Male



Dion
Adult Male



Mendo
Adult Male



Suneo
Adult Male



Lydia
Adult Female



Lies
Adult Female

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Envianos tus fotos a research@whalenation.org

Get more information at www.whalenation.org



Fin Shapes

Forma de Aletas



Indio



Dion



Mendo



Lies



Lydia



Suneo



Tanta



Arsenio



Resident Species Family Groups

Grupos Familiares de Especies Residentes

③ Pilot Whale Family: Trind

Familia de Ballenas Pilotos: Trind



Cruzcampo
Adult Male



Merlin
Adult Male



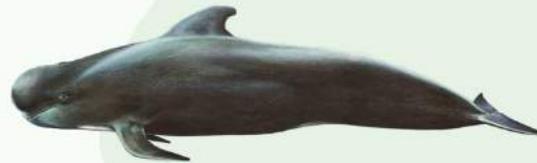
Trind
Matriarch



Mateo
Adult Male



Yubena
Adult Female



Oscar
Adult Male



Trind



Merlin



Cruzcampo



Oscar



Yubena



Mateo

Help us to monitor them! Send us your pictures (with the date, time and the name of the boat that you were on) to research@whalenação.org
Envianos tus fotos a research@whalenação.org

Get more information at www.whalenação.org





Resident Species Family Groups

Grupos Familiares de Especies Residentes

4 Bottlenose Dolphin Family: Southwest Coast

Familia de Delfines Mulares: La Costa de Suroeste



Help us to monitor them! Send us your pictures (with the date, time and the name of the boat that you were on) to research@whalenation.org
Envianos tus fotos a research@whalenation.org

Fin Shapes

Forma de Aletas



Get more information at www.whalenation.org



The Photo ID Work

How to get the perfect Finshot:

- Remember to take the lens cap off.
- Switch the camera on and go to automatic (the green camera icon) or sports mode (the runner icon).
- Make sure your camera is pointed at a 90 degrees angle to the animal, so the fin is visible from the side.
- Make sure that the entire fin is out of the water and visible.
- Get as close as possible to the animal
- Try to zoom in as close as possible
- Use a fast shutter speed (min 1/100 sec)



Uploading Finshots to database:

- Go through the pictures and select only the ones that show a clear closeup of the fin with no obstructions
- Connect computer to black drive (Alfred)
- Go to Fin Identification/Fin Shots/
- Go to the appropriate month
- Create a folder with the date of the interaction
- Create a folder with the boat that you were on
- Create a folder with the start and end time of interaction
- Paste the photos

TALKING TO TOURISTS

Besides collecting data on the cetaceans, the main objective when on the boats is to raise awareness.

What you should know and be able to tell people if asked:

- ✓ About the work we do here at the AWF: Education, Conservation, Research, Awareness.
- ✓ Keep yourself up to date with work and projects other volunteers are doing.
- ✓ Be very knowledgeable about cetaceans and other marine life.
- ✓ Refer people to places where they can get more information, books, websites.
- ✓ Be knowledgeable about conservation issues especially those that threaten marine life.



Volunteers should try to communicate with the tourists in their native tongue using an appropriate dialect or find someone who can speak their language well. We are on the boats to communicate to tourists how amazing nature is, the dangers that are facing it and what we can do to protect it. It is essential you try and communicate with all tourists, no matter how little of their language you speak.

ON THE BOATS

Frases Útiles - Useful Phrases

¿Hola, hay espacio para nosotros en el barco?

Hi, is there space for us on the boat?

¡Muchas gracias para dejarnos subir al barco!

Thank you very much for letting us on the boat!

¿Cómo se llama usted?

What is your name? (formal)

¡Mi nombre es... ¡

My name is...

¿Quién es el capitán?

Who is the captain?

¿Puedo ayudarle?

Can I help you? (formal)

¿Necesita ayuda con eso?

Do you need help with that?

¿Cuánto dura el segundo viaje?

How long is the second trip?

¿Puedes mostrarme las coordenadas, por favor?

Can you show me the coordinates, please!

¿Podemos nadar también?

Can we also go for a swim?

¿Quieres comer algo?

Do you want to eat something?

¡Sí, muchas gracias!

Yes, thank you very much!

¿Sabes si hay espacio para nosotros en el segundo viaje?

Do you know if there is space for us on the second trip?

¿Quieres que cambiemos las bolsas de basura?

Should we change the bin bags?

¿Le ayudamos a limpiar algo?

Should we clean something?

¿Hay algo más que podemos hacer?

Is there anything else we can do?

¡Hasta luego, muchas gracias!

See you later, thank you very much!

¡Hasta la próxima!

See you next time!

Verbos - Verbs

querer | to want

yo quiero | i want

tú quieres | you want

tener | to have

yo tengo | i have

tú tienes | you have

*“We don’t know who we are until we see what we can do”
- Martha Grimes*

5. ACTIVITIES





Kayaking

With the massive cliffs of Los Gigantes calling your name, and the crystal blue waters spraying you as you paddle, kayaking is one of the best activities in Tenerife. With a snorkeling stop half-way through, no one leaves disappointed, and if snorkeling isn't for you, no need to fret, crack open a drink and enjoy lounging on your kayak while the others dive deep for the mystery which surrounds the sacred rock face.

Tucked away in the rustic landscape of el desierto is Oscars horse riding centre. Oscar caters for beginners through to the experienced riders, and has hacks in the local countryside and down to the local beaches below.



Horse riding

Surfs up! Paddling out into the ocean, waves rolling past, you motion to a surfer nearby the famous Shaka sign, and wait for your wave. With some of the best conditions for beginners all the way to advanced, Tenerife is a surfing paradise, so grab your board and enjoy the ride. PURA VIDA!



Surfing

Welcome to the underwater world, you can dive wrecks, caves and deep-diving among giant groupers and large schools of barracudas. Are you looking to a career in marine conservation or related areas? If so, experience and acquired skills are everything.



Diving



Paddle boarding

For those looking for a more relaxed activity but still wanting to feel the ocean breeze, stand-up paddle (paddleboarding) is the answer. Take your time and breathe in the salty air as you paddle your way to rest and relaxation while still getting a great workout.



Trekking in Tenerife and the neighbouring islands is huge, with breath-taking scenery and all year round sunshine.



Paragliding

Archipelago Paragliding. Fly down from the mountains of Adeje to the beaches of Playa de las Americas. With only a parachute, the wind, the views and Cristo strapped to your back. An unbeatable experience!

Not for the faint of heart, this race down the steep volcanic site keeps you clutching the handles, veering through the changing backdrop stopping along the way for everything from hot chocolate to delicious mojo. Strap on your helmet, get on your bike and enjoy the crazy adventure that cycling Tiede has to offer!



Cycling



Boat handling

Choose your destination and go as far as you want with the wind in your hair, because you are licensed to drive your own boat, Captain. Boat handling courses leave you with skills that all your friends will be envious of while still having full pockets to be able to afford your brand new Captain's hat!

Tenerife's famous for many activities, but no one can deny that wind surfing may be the most popular activity on the island. With constant wind's on beaches like El Medano, Wind surfing remains the most exhilarating activity and a must try! From beginners to some of the most famous wind-surfers in the world, this island will not disappoint.



Wind surfing

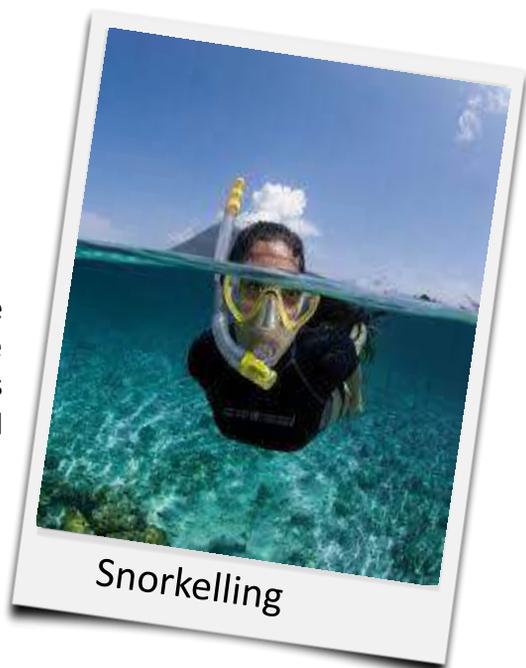


Canyoning

Ocho Escalada is a climbing/canyoning school established in Tenerife by a team of passionate climbers who left their native lands in search of new challenges on rock faces.

These guys are super professional and passionate, you can't help but enjoy time spent with them

There are hidden snorkelling gems all over Tenerife but along the south coast you might just get to see some of the resident turtles. Even if those guys don't make an appearance there are some colourful fish out there!



Snorkelling

In climbing there are no helpful genes or miraculous training to make you a good climber. You have to learn it step by step, using your head. So if you fancy trying something new or if you really want to push yourself to be the best you can be, the team at El Ocho are waiting to get you scaling those rock faces.



Climbing

El Médano is the island's 'coolest' resort, it is Tenerife's kite boarding and wind surfing capital, with it's laid back and friendly atmosphere you'll soon be feeling like a local.



Kite Surfing

"Without water, our planet would be one of the billions of lifeless rocks floating endlessly in the vastness of the inky-black void."

— Fabien Cousteau, Grandson of Jacques Cousteau

6. WHALES AND DOLPHINS



WHY TENERIFE?



Tenerife is a paradise for whales and dolphins. The ocean is calm, deep and filled with squid and fish, the favourite foods of cetaceans. Twenty-seven species of whale and dolphins have been seen in the ocean around Tenerife - That's one third of all species on the planet!

When can we see the whales and dolphins?

The short finned pilot whales and bottlenose dolphin are residents here and usually seen every single day! The other species that migrate through are usually seen between December to May and again at the end of the summer.

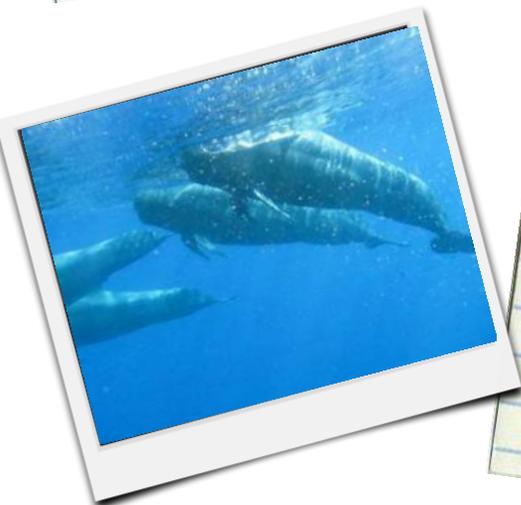


But, why so many?

Deep waters - between Tenerife and La Gomera there is a 3000m deep ocean trench but in certain places around the island it goes down to an amazing 5000m!

Warm waters - It is tropical here so the sea surface temperature rarely drops below 15°C.

Food - The ocean here is bursting with squid, fish, octopus and billions of microscopic plankton.



RESIDENT SPECIES



Short finned pilot whale

Short finned pilot whales are easily recognisable with their bulbous head. They are almost guaranteed to be spotted on every trip as it is estimated there are between 600 to 1000 individuals residing between Los Cristianos and La Gomara.

Bottlenose dolphins are commonly seen around the cliffs of Los Gigantes or feeding at the fish farms. There is a pod of around 34 dolphins that are resident here all year round as well as transient individuals that migrate through these waters.



Bottlenose Dolphin



Risso Dolphin

These dolphins are easily recognised by the extensive scarring seen all over their bodies. They used to be abundant in these waters but since the military sonar testing in the 90's, they are thought to have migrated elsewhere.

Sperm Whales are resident between Tenerife and Gran Canaria and sometimes pop round to say hello. They have been seen less commonly in recent years since the introduction of the slow ferry from Tenerife to La Gomera, which has caused several collisions with these large whales.



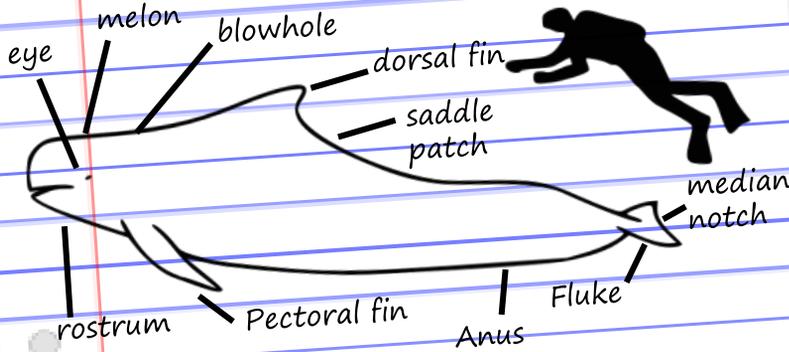
Sperm Whale

SHORT-FINNED PILOT WHALES

FIELD GUIDE ID CHECK

- No beak, with a rounded bulbous head.
- Dark Grey in colour with faint grey saddle patch behind dorsal fin
- A light grey strip running underneath it's body
- Dorsal fin is positioned far forward on it's body.
- 3.6 - 6.5 meters in length

PILOT WHALE SIZE COMPARISON WITH HUMAN



The Short-finned Pilot Whale is part of the Delphinidae family, although its behaviour is more similar to that of larger whales. It is one of the two species in the genus *Globicephala* along with the Long-finned Pilot Whale.

Kingdom	<i>Animalia</i>
Phylum	<i>Chordata</i>
Class	<i>Mammalia</i>
Order	<i>Cetacea</i>
Family	<i>Delphinidae</i>
Genus	<i>Globicephala</i>

PROFILE

WEIGHT AT BIRTH: 60 kg (135 lbs)

ADULT WEIGHT: 1-4 tonnes

MALE MAX AGE: 45 years

FEMALE MAX AGE: 63 years

DIET: variety of fish and squid

STATUS: DATA DEFICIENT

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Globicephala macrorhynchus*



Short-finned pilot whale

BEHAVIOUR & SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Short finned Pilot whales live in stable matriarchal groups consisting of related females and their immature offspring. The pod centres around mothers and calves. Males tend to leave these groups of their mothers, aunts and sisters as they reach sexual maturity. Males live for 35 – 45 years, but females can live up to the age of 60.

Gestation is 15 months and females usually have around 4 – 5 calves in a lifetime. Females are post reproductive at 45 years and take on a 'grandmother' role and are responsible for the offspring whilst mothers go to feed.

Short-finned Pilot whales are most active at night when they feed. During the day they can usually be seen logging on the surface.

Other cetaceans, such as the bottlenose dolphin will often associate with pilot whales, as they have very advanced echolocation systems, which makes them good at hunting for giant squid and other food in the deep waters.



When feeding, they dive to depths of up to 1000 metres at speeds as fast as 9 meters per second.

They were called pilot whales because they are always found in deep, calm water. This would show ship captains the way to go.

DISTRIBUTION

Widely distributed throughout warm temperate to tropical waters, although exact geographic range is unknown due to confusion with the long-finned pilot whale.

Generally nomadic without set migration routes, but some north-south migration routes are related to prey movements. Inshore-offshore migrations are related to spawning squid. Some populations are present all year round such as those in Hawaii and here in the Canary Islands.

This species is not thought to inhabit the Mediterranean Sea or Persian Gulf, but has been observed in the southern Red Sea.

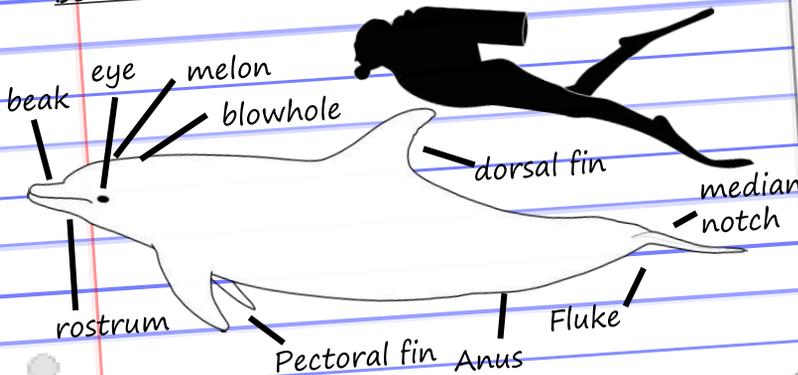


BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN

FIELD GUIDE ID CHECK

- Dark grey back with light grey underside (gives camouflage from both above and below).
- Short-beaked with sloping forehead.
- High dorsal fin, midway along the body.
- Distinct smile expression.
- 3 - 4.2 meters in length

BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN SIZE COMPARISON WITH HUMAN



The common Bottlenose dolphin belongs to the family Delphinidae, the oceanic dolphins, which also includes orcas, pilot whales, pygmy and false killer whales. The genus *Tursiops* includes two other species, the Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin and the Burrunan Dolphin.

Kingdom	<i>Animalia</i>
Phylum	<i>Chordata</i>
Class	<i>Mammalia</i>
Order	<i>Cetacea</i>
Family	<i>Delphindae</i>
Genus	<i>Tursiops</i>

PROFILE

WEIGHT AT BIRTH: 15 – 30 kg (35 - 65 lbs)

ADULT WEIGHT: 150 – 650 kg (330 – 1,435 lbs)

MALE MAX AGE: 30 – 40 years

FEMALE MAX AGE: 40 + years

DIET: variety of fish

STATUS: PROTECTED BY MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION ACT (NORTH AMERICA) LEAST CONCERN (IUCN)

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Tursiops truncatus*



BEHAVIOUR & SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Bottle Nose Dolphins live in fission-fusion societies in which individuals associate in small parties that frequently change. Groups can stay stable for relatively long periods of time, or just for a few hours. Strong bonds exist between different individuals of the pod. Average lifespan in the wild is 45 to 50 years.

Bottlenose dolphins express affiliation by proximity, physical contact and synchronous movement. There are also more active forms of affiliate touching: gentle stroking, rubbing or putting the pectoral fins on the side of another individual. Females have a large network of associates and are linked to most other females. They are supportive throughout life, helping each other with tasks such as raising young.

Males associate in groups of two or more to both deter other males that approach their females or to take females from another group.

They are powerful, acrobatic swimmers. They are often seen carrying out various different behaviours such as bow riding, fluke slapping, porpoising, breaching and wake riding. Can reach speeds of over 18 miles (30 kilometres) per hour.

Use echolocation to detect prey up to 200 meters away and consume roughly 15kg of food per day. Bottlenose dolphins can dive to depths of up to 50 meters and for 8 to 10 minutes. They can also lower their heart rate whilst diving to reduce their oxygen consumption.

DISTRIBUTION AND THREATS

Fairly common and distributed worldwide throughout tropical and temperate inshore, coastal, shelf and oceanic waters. However population declines have been recorded in parts of northern Europe, the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

Do not generally range pole-ward of 45° except in northern Europe (as far as the Faroe Islands) and southern to New Zealand.

Some populations are transient and others are long term multi-generation residents such as those of the Canary Islands.

Coastal and island-centred populations are especially vulnerable to hunting, incidental catch and habitat degradation.

Acute conservation problems exist in the Mediterranean and Black Seas, Sri Lanka, Peru, Ecuador and Chile, Taiwan and Japan. Hunting for human consumption and bait occurs in many of these countries, using harpoons and gillnets, as well as incidental catch in many types of fisheries including artisanal, gillnets, driftnets, purse-seines, trawls, long-lines, and on hook-and-line gear used in commercial and recreational fisheries.

Live capture of common bottlenose dolphins for display, research and military applications have occurred in several parts of the species' range.

Environmental contaminants likely impact health and reproductive success of bottlenose dolphins in parts of its range.

LESS COMMON RESIDENT SPECIES



Risso's dolphin – a very distinctive species due to its dark grey body which is covered in extensive white scarring from social interactions. They also have a large bulbous head and a relatively large dorsal fin. Adults typically measure around 3m. They are found in temperate and tropical waters worldwide; however they are absent from most of the eastern Atlantic Ocean, except around the Canary Islands. This species prefers deep off-shore waters and feeds mostly on squid.

Sperm whale - is by far the largest species of toothed whale, with adults growing to over 20m in length. It is also the largest toothed predator, the loudest animal and the deepest diving animal in the world. Sperm whales are easily identifiable by their huge bulbous heads and relatively thick, triangular tail flukes. They are relatively abundant in all of the world's oceans, preferring deep, off-shore waters. They feed mainly on squid including the giant squid and the colossal squid. Sperm whales are named for spermaceti, the semi-liquid waxy substance that is found in their heads.



BEHAVIOURS



Travelling – animals travelling in the same direction, often at speed.



Milling – animals moving slowly in various directions.



Bow Riding – animals riding the waves created at the front of the boat.

Surfing – animals gliding/swimming in waves or swell.



Wake Riding – animals riding the waves created behind the boat.



Fluke Slapping – Hitting surface with downwards movement of tail fluke.

Logging – animals floating, stationary on the surface.



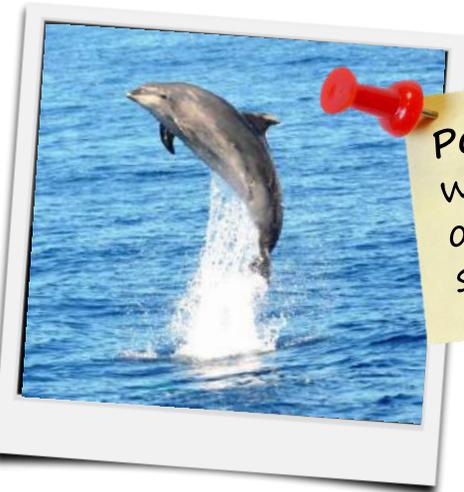
Fluke Out – Tail fluke held vertical and still above surface of water.



Flipper Out – Pectoral fins held still above surface of water.



Spy-hopping – Head and eyes lifted above the water. Head vertical.



Porpoising – whole body out of the water to swim fast and aid breathing.

Breaching – Most of body above surface; re-entry on lower body surface.

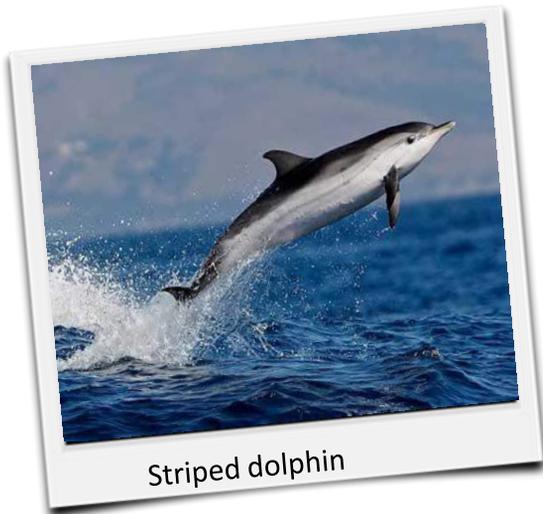


MIGRATORY SPECIES

Atlantic spotted dolphin – this is the most commonly seen migratory species. They grow up to around 2.3m in length and are easily identifiable by the black spots all over their bodies. The number of spots increases with age and calves are born with none at all. They eat mostly small fishes and cephalopods. This dolphin lives in tropical and temperate waters of the Atlantic Ocean, with populations around Florida, the Bahamas and the Azores. They migrate through the Canary Islands in early spring and autumn.



Atlantic spotted dolphin



Striped dolphin

Striped dolphin – distinctive due to the dark grey dorsal side with a blue-grey stripe running from the rostrum to the dorsal fin. The underside is usually white or pink. They grow up to 2.6m and feed on small fish and squid. Striped dolphins are found in temperate and tropical waters in oceans worldwide. They also migrate through the Canaries in spring and autumn.

Short-beaked common dolphin – identifiable by the hourglass pattern on the sides, which is yellow-grey at the front and grey at the back. They are found in warm-temperate coastal waters of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and Mediterranean and Black Seas. They measure 2.3-2.6m as adults and feed on shallow-water fishes and squids. Common dolphins are also very social animals, often travelling in large pods of 1000s of individuals.



Short-beaked common dolphin

Fin whale — identified by the large, falcate dorsal fin positioned two-thirds of the way along the back. They are the second largest species of baleen whale, growing up to around 20m long. Fin whales are found in deep waters worldwide and feed mainly on small fish, squid and crustaceans. The species is listed as endangered, due to intense commercial hunting. Most hunting occurs in Iceland, where the meat is then shipped to Japan for consumption.



Fin whale



Sei whale

Sei whale — the next largest rorqual after the fin whale, adults of this species average 14-15m in length. They live in deep waters, spending the summer in cool northern waters and migrating south to temperate and sub-tropical waters in the winter. They have a upright, sickle-shaped dorsal fin positioned two-thirds of the way along the back. Sei whales are endangered due to commercial hunting in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; although they are now internationally protected.

Bryde's whale — this species is very similar to the Sei whale, though it is slightly smaller (adults average 13-14m in length). Fin shape and position is also similar to that of the Sei whale. Bryde's whales live in deep waters and prefer the warm tropical and sub-tropical waters of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans. They feed on zooplankton, cephalopods and a wide variety of fish.



Bryde's whale



Rough-toothed dolphin

Rough-toothed dolphin – this species has a long, thin snout and is dark grey on the dorsal side, with light grey flanks. Adults measure between 2 and 3m and like most dolphin species, they feed mainly on fish, squid and octopuses. These dolphins live in temperate and tropical waters worldwide, preferring deep, off-shore waters.

Common minke whale – one of the smallest of the baleen whales, adult minkes measure around 7m in length. They have a small, triangular head and are dark grey on the dorsal side, with a white underside. They are widespread in the northern hemisphere, living further north in the summer and migrating south towards the Canary Islands in the winter. They are filter-feeders and eat mostly small fish and crustaceans.



Common minke whale

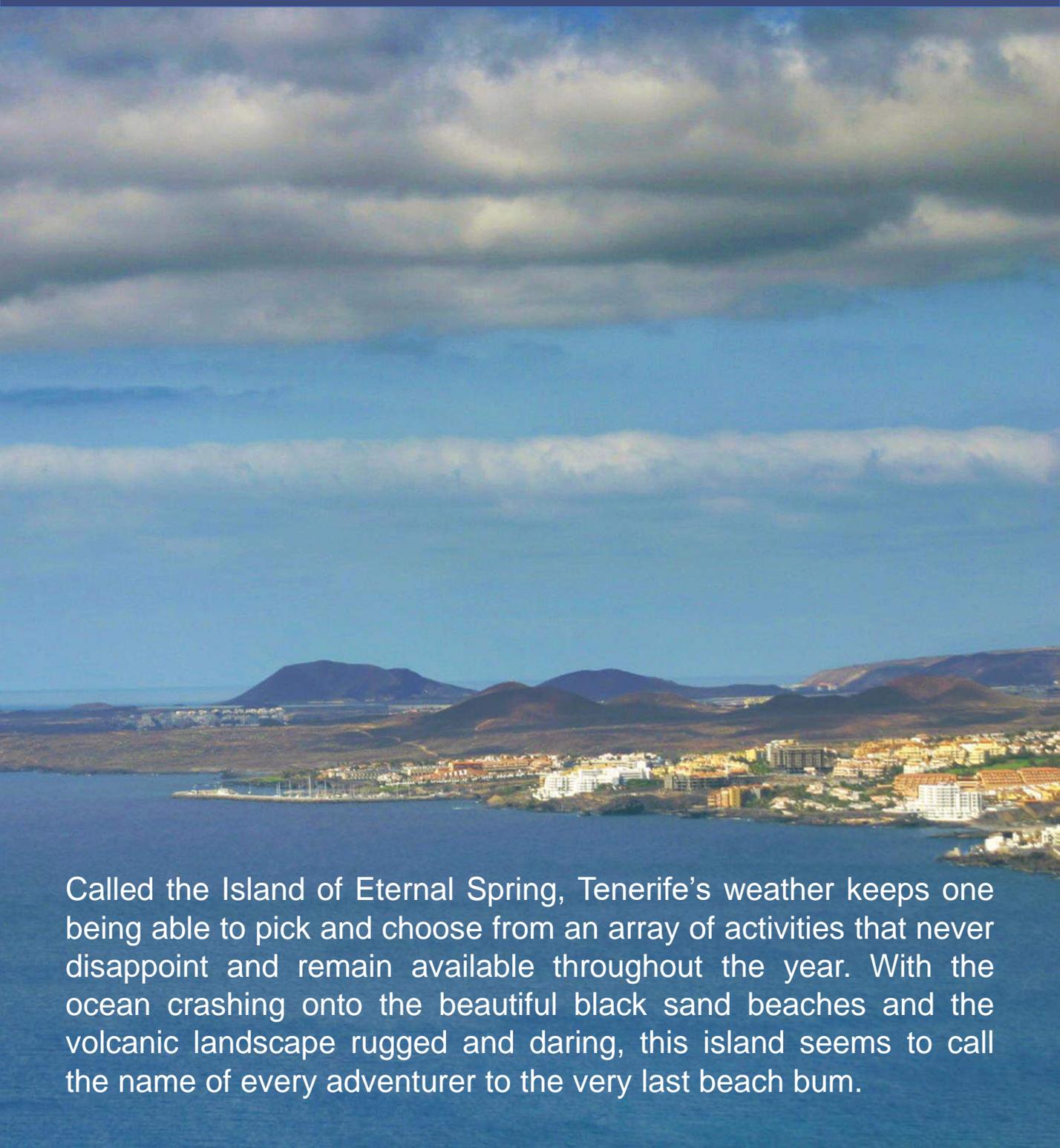
Other species that have been spotted around Tenerife include:

- Northern right whale
- Cuvier's beaked whale
- Blue whale
- False killer whale
- Pygmy sperm whale
- Killer whale
- Bryde's whale
- Northern bottlenose whale

- Dwarf sperm whale
- Gervais' beaked whale
- Pantropical spotted dolphin
- Blainville's beaked whale
- True's beaked whale
- Fraser's dolphin

“What a country chooses to save is what a country chooses to say about itself” - Mollie Beattie

7. TENERIFE

An aerial photograph of the Tenerife coastline. The foreground shows the deep blue ocean. In the middle ground, a coastal town with numerous buildings is visible, situated along the shore. Behind the town, a range of dark, rugged mountains stretches across the horizon under a sky filled with soft, white clouds. The overall scene captures the island's diverse landscape and coastal beauty.

Called the Island of Eternal Spring, Tenerife’s weather keeps one being able to pick and choose from an array of activities that never disappoint and remain available throughout the year. With the ocean crashing onto the beautiful black sand beaches and the volcanic landscape rugged and daring, this island seems to call the name of every adventurer to the very last beach bum.

ABOUT TENERIFE



Imoque mountain from Arona

Tenerife is the largest Spanish island as well as the largest of the seven Canary Islands

It is located just off the northwest coast of mainland Africa and was used by the Spanish Empire on their way to America as they favoured the easterly winds

Its geographical location has gifted Tenerife with a diverse landscape, highlighted by the difference between the south of the island, which is mainly volcanic and rocky in appearance and the north, which contains a wealth of laurel forest (Anaga)

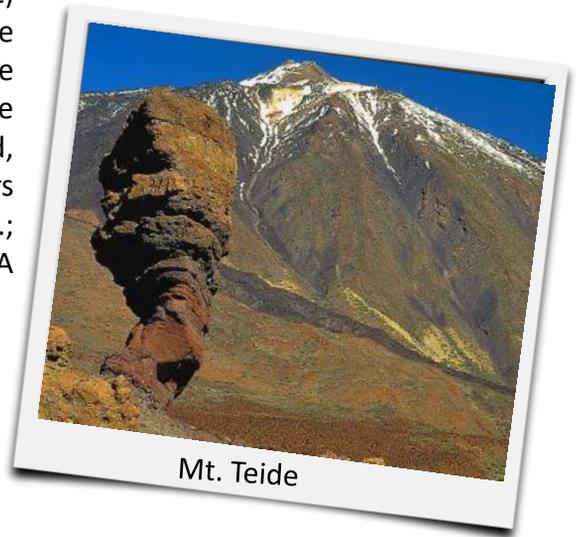
- The Canarian people are proud to have the third highest volcano in the world. Standing at 3,718m it also attributes to Tenerife being the 10th highest island in the world
- The original settlers were the Guanche People. During this time Tenerife was divided into 8 kingdoms, each with its own king
- Many myths and legends surround the Guanche people. A famous legend was the discovery of the statue of the Black Madonna, the patron saint of the Canary Islands, by Guanche goat herders in 1392, on a beach near Candelaria



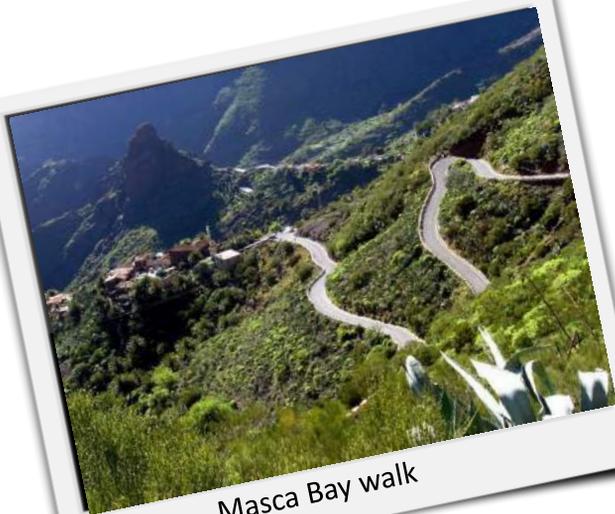
Santa Cruz

MUST SEE IN TENERIFE

Mount Teide (*Pico del Teide*) is 3,718-metres (12,198 ft) high. Its summit is the highest point in Spain and the highest point above sea level in the islands of the Atlantic. At 7,500 m (24,600 ft) from its base on the ocean floor, it is the third highest volcano in the world, after Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa in Hawaii. Volunteers regularly climb Teide to raise money for the charity; setting off in the evening to be at the peak for sunrise. A truly unforgettable experience.



Mt. Teide



Masca Bay walk

Masca is one of the most picturesque parts of the island and is located to the west of the island at the foot of the Teno Mountains. This beautiful little village may be somewhat difficult to reach but it is well worth the journey, the walk takes you through deep ravines interlaced with lush green flora and winding roads with hairpin bends. The scenery on the way is breath taking and once you reach Masca, the natural beauty of this stunning location is overwhelming. Reputed to have been a pirate hideaway, the small Bay of Masca on the coast is a three-hour walk from the village through dramatic scenery.

Santa Cruz de Tenerife (commonly known as **Santa Cruz**) is the capital (jointly with Las Palmas) of the Canary Islands, the Province de Santa Cruz de Tenerife and capital of the island of Tenerife. The Carnival de Santa Cruz de Tenerife aspires to become a world heritage site and is the second largest carnival in the world (second only to Brazil). The city contains one of the most diverse communities in the country and is the focus for domestic and inter island communications in the Canary Islands.



Santa Cruz Carnaval

Taganana is a village in the municipality of Santa Cruz de Tenerife. It's name is derived from the Guanchan word 'Anagan' meaning 'surrounded by mountains'. It is home to some famous black beaches and is loved by surfers and walkers alike.



Taganana



La Gomera

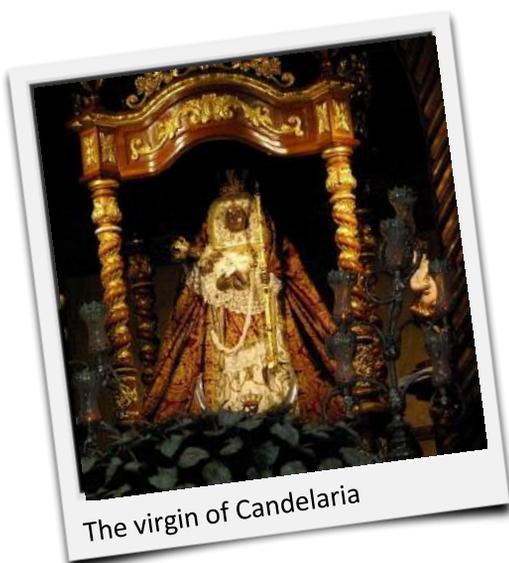
La Gomera is the second smallest island in the Canary Islands and is also a part of the province Santa Cruz de Tenerife. It has been largely untouched and boasts an almost prehistoric nature. It is a must visit due to it's unique culture and cuisine and is still the only place in the world to have developed whistling into a language: *Silbo Gomero*. A must visit for any hiker, traveller or anyone interested in culture.

With some of the most beautiful black sand beaches on the island and the famous Virgen of Candelaria, one cannot skip this incredible town. Bring your camera because the massive statues protecting the town and the incredible cathedral make Candelaria a must-see.



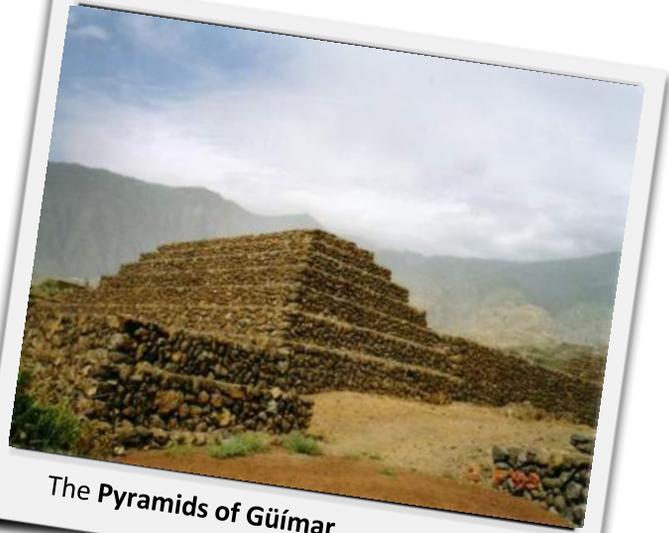
Candelaria

The cult of the Virgin of Candelaria or Our Lady of Candelaria (*Virgen de Candelaria, Nuestra Señora de la Candelaria*), popularly called *La Morenita*, celebrates an apparition of the Virgin Mary on the island of Tenerife. The centre of worship is located in the city of Candelaria in Tenerife. She is depicted as a Black Madonna. She is the patron saint of the Canary Islands and her feast is celebrated on February 2 (Candlemas) and August 15.



The virgin of Candelaria

The **Pyramids of Güímar** refer to six rectangular pyramid-shaped, terraced structures, built from lava stone without the use of mortar. They are located in the district of Chacona, part of the town of Güímar. There are claims that the structures have been dated to the 19th century and their original function explained as a by-product of contemporary agricultural techniques.



The **Pyramids of Güímar**



Dragon Tree

With a life span now recorded to be over 1000 years old, this sacred tree is said to be what becomes of a dragon when it dies. With a 23 metre circumference and weighing more than 150 tonnes, this tree takes your breath away when first seen and leaves all in wonder.

Like a scene from an epic movie, the laurel forest remains full of mystery. Named as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1986, it is the largest surviving laurel forest in the world and contains endemic species sure to impress every last visitor.



Laurel forest

"Water and air, the two essential fluids on which all life depends, have become global garbage cans."

- Jacques Yves Cousteau, Oceanographer

8. MARINE LIFE



TURTLES

There are a number of species of turtles that can be seen in the waters around Tenerife.

Atlantic Green Turtle – these are the largest hard-shelled sea turtles, averaging around 1m in length. Green turtles feed on sea-grass and algae and can be found in tropical and sub-tropical waters around the world. They are listed as endangered due to destruction of habitats and nesting sites from human disturbance. Poaching and dynamite fishing are also exacerbating problems.



Atlantic Green Turtle



Atlantic Loggerhead Turtle

Atlantic Loggerhead Turtle – has large jaw muscles to crush the shells of crustaceans and molluscs. Loggerheads can be found in warm and tropical waters around the world. Threats include incidental by-catch in commercial fisheries, pollution and the destruction of nest sites due to coastal development. They are listed as endangered.



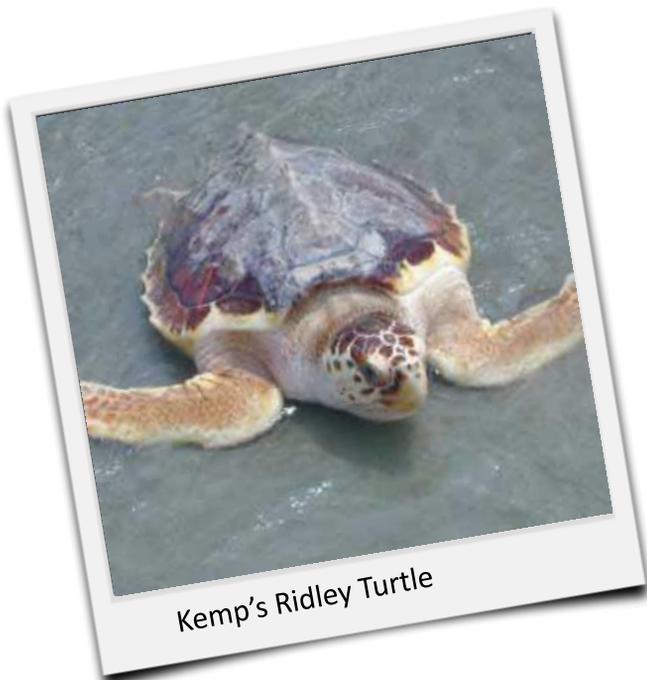
Hawksbill Turtle

Hawksbill Turtle – takes its name from its sharply pointed beak. Feeds mainly on sponges, but also on molluscs, crustaceans and fish. They prefer coastal habitats such as reefs and are highly migratory. Hawksbills are critically endangered due mainly to poaching for their meat and shells.

Leatherback Turtle – is the largest living turtle species, growing up to 2.7m in length. It is named for its shell, which is leather-like rather than bony as with all other turtle species. They can be found in tropical and temperate oceans around the world and feed almost entirely on jellyfish. Leatherbacks are listed as vulnerable, due to egg poaching and fisheries by-catch.



Leatherback Turtle



Kemp's Ridley Turtle

Kemp's Ridley Turtle – has a dark olive-grey shell, and is the smallest and rarest turtle species to be found around Tenerife. They are an endangered species, with major threats being human encroachment on nesting grounds and drowning in shrimp nets.

SHARKS

Angelshark – is an unusual looking shark, with the front end bearing a superficial resemblance to a ray. However, the tail is more shark-like. It measures up to 2.4m in length and is found in coastal waters of the north-eastern Atlantic, Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea. It is a nocturnal ambush predator, feeding mostly on benthic bony fishes. Angelshark populations have been decimated through by-catch from commercial fisheries, and it is listed as critically endangered.



Angelshark



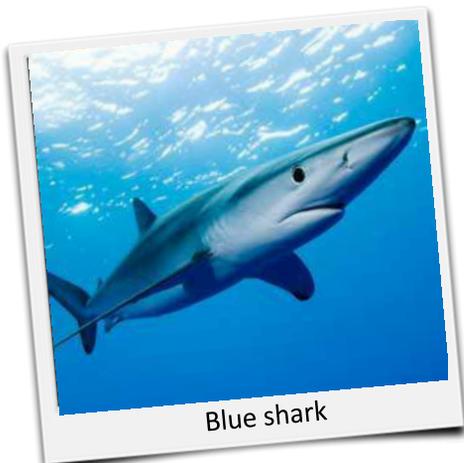
Smooth hammerhead shark

Smooth hammerhead shark – is a very distinctive-looking shark, with a flattened, laterally extended head that resembles a hammer. They measure up to 5m in length and unlike their relative the great hammerhead, prefer temperate coastal waters. They feed on bony fish, invertebrates, rays and other sharks.

Mako shark – is a pelagic species that inhabits offshore temperate and tropical seas worldwide. The mako has a pointed snout and grows to around 3.2m in length. They are the fastest species of shark, swimming at up to 74kph in short bursts. They feed mainly on mackerel and tuna, but will also prey upon cephalopods, turtles, porpoises, seabirds and other shark species.



Mako shark



Blue shark

Blue shark – is found worldwide, inhabiting the deep waters of tropical and temperate seas and oceans. Adults usually measure 2-3m in length and have long pectoral fins. They are blue on the dorsal surface and have a white underside. Blue sharks can move very fast and feed mostly on small fishes and squids.

RAYs

Common Stingray – has plain colouration, mostly smooth skin and a whip-like tail. They grow up to 2.5m in length and inhabit shallow, coastal waters of the Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and the eastern Atlantic Ocean. They feed on bottom-dwelling crustaceans, as well as on molluscs, polychaetes and bony fishes. Stingrays are venomous and are able to strike with their tail in self-defence.



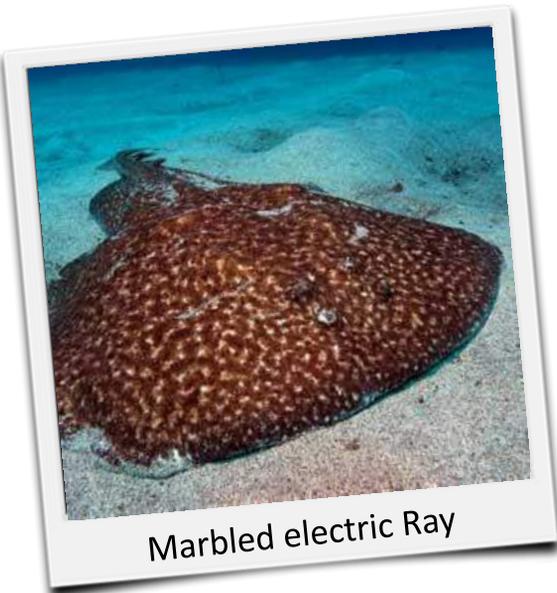
Common Stingray



Manta ray

Manta Ray – is the largest species of ray, averaging around 6m in length and 9m in width. Have a very distinctive body shape, with triangular pectoral fins and horn-shaped cephalic fins. They can be found in temperate, sub-tropical and tropical seas. Mantas are pelagic and are filter-feeders, consuming large quantities of zooplankton through their open mouths as they swim.

Eagle Ray – takes its name from its snout, which resembles a bird's beak. The dorsal side is black or blue with white spots, and the ventral side is white. They have triangular pectoral fins and also have a long tail with up to 6 spines. They feed on molluscs and crustaceans and live in relatively shallow waters.



Marbled Electric Ray – can be found in coastal waters up and down the eastern Atlantic. They have brownish-red pigmentation which camouflages them well for ambushing prey. They use electricity in their tail spines to capture small bony fish. Marbled electric rays are listed as an endangered species.

Spiny Butterfly Ray – is patchily distributed through tropical and temperate coastal waters of the Atlantic Ocean. They can measure over 2m in width and feed on small fishes. The meat is highly sought after and some populations are listed as critically endangered.



SEA BIRDS

There are a range of seabirds found off Tenerife, but the three species listed here are the most common.

Cory's Shearwater- lives on cliffs and islands in the Mediterranean and north Atlantic Ocean. They have long flexible wings for skimming along the water surface. They are brownish-grey above and white below, and have a yellowish bill with a black tip. They feed on fish, molluscs and offal and can dive up to 15m deep in search of prey.



Yellow-legged Gull- is a large gull species, found along the Mediterranean coast and the islands of the north-east Atlantic Ocean. They have a yellow bill with a red spot, a grey back and distinctive yellow legs. They are omnivorous and have a wide range of prey including fish, invertebrates, molluscs, crabs, small reptiles and bird eggs. They will also scavenge from offal and from refuse pits.

Grey Heron – is found throughout temperate Europe, as well as in parts of Asia and Africa. It is a large bird, standing up to 1m tall. It is mostly grey, with a long neck that is tucked in during flight. Grey herons feed in shallow waters, preying upon fish, frogs and insects, as well as on small mammals, reptiles, and occasionally small birds.



*"Only we humans make waste that nature can't digest."
— Charles Moore, Marine Researcher*

9. THREATS



BY-CATCH

The global fishing fleet exceeds the capacity of the oceans sustainability; it is currently **2.5x larger** than the ocean can support, meaning the rapid decline in fish populations leaves cetaceans with fewer fish to feed upon.



By-catch

The accidental capture of non-target cetaceans in fishing nets is known as by-catch and is responsible for **over 300,000 incidental deaths per year** through the misuse of fishing equipment. For over 20 years the United Nations have banned the use of driftnets longer than 2.5km long in international waters and the EU banned driftnets of any size altogether, **however illegal activity still goes on undeterred.**

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) recognizes by-catch as one of the greatest threats to the survival of cetacean populations.



Whaling

WHALING

Before the International Whaling Commission (IWC) announced the ban on commercial whaling in 1986 many of the great whale species, such as the blue whale, were almost hunted to extinction. Since the whale ban, whales have continued to be hunted. Every year, 1500 - 2000 pilot whales are slaughtered in the Faroe Islands, and hundreds more are hunted each year under the pretence of "scientific research" in countries such as Japan.

DEATH MACHINES. Whaling boats are a fleet of killing machines. They use explosive harpoons which puncture the skin and explode within. Even with these brutal weapons the whales can spend several hours in pain before they die.

A return to whaling would sign the global death warrant for at least two species of whales, and the death warrant for many other populations of whales globally.

HUMAN DISTURBANCES

Although there are physical disturbances to cetaceans such as collisions, there are other factors involved such as noise pollution. Cetaceans rely on hearing more than any of their other senses and are disturbed by humans via industrial activities at sea, shipping, military exercises and by aircraft. They communicate at the same frequency range as large ships and boats and subsequently the noise pollution makes communications between individuals a challenge.



This noise pollution is thought to be a factor to the noticeable shift in the migration route of some of the whales which migrate past California. Grey whales are avoiding the Southern Californian sea traffic and are subsequently making a detour around the Channel Islands.

VESSEL STRIKES

No species of cetaceans are safe from boat collisions with the global network of boat traffic increasing annually. These boats easily crush skulls, break bones and the propellers can even slice through whale flukes. Not all boat collisions result in fatality on the day though, many whales swim off and die slowly away from site, meaning these deaths are largely unaccounted for.



The two main species of whale which are in serious danger due to vessel strikes are the Blue Whale and the Northern Right Whale.

A population of Blue Whales migrate past the west coast of the United States, which unfortunately has high levels of boat traffic bringing goods to and from Asia. Similarly, collisions with vessels killed at least 24 of the 67 Northern Right Whales reported dead between 1970 and 2007.

It's hoped to reduce vessel strikes still further using an array of auto-detection buoys. The buoys feed information to alerts such as the Northeast U.S. Right Whale Sighting Advisory System, giving vessel captains the information they need to slow down when whales are present.



POLLUTION

One of the highest ever 'pollution accumulation' in a cetacean was recorded in a dead bottlenose dolphin CALF discovered at Cardigan Bay in 1988.

Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) are human produced chemicals that become bio-accumulated in cetaceans as they are absorbed at a much higher rate than they are lost. They result in **endocrine system disruption and immunotoxicity** whilst exposure to other pollutant agents such as organochlorides have been shown to have effects on reproduction and early neural development of calves even whilst still in the womb!

Deceased sperm whales that were beached on the shores of Belgium and Holland had acquired such an extreme concentration of organochlorides that they had to be classified as toxic waste.

CLIMATE CHANGE

As a direct result of global warming the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere has increased by **0.8°C**. The increase in temperature can have a detrimental effect on the oceans and the cetaceans that reside because of food depletion, habitat degeneration and migratory species interference.



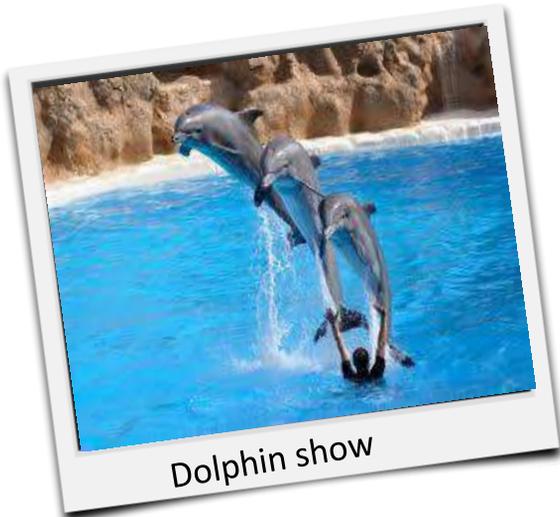
Habitat degeneration: Certain cetaceans, such as belugas and bowhead whales reside in icy polar water; the lack of sea ice cover will mean they no longer have a suitable habitat.

Migratory species interference: The increase in CO₂ emissions will cause the CO₂ levels in the water to rise, further forcing cetaceans to migrate and change their behaviour.

Food depletion: A primary source of food for many cetaceans is krill and the new high levels of UV radiation will lead to a drastic decline in the population of krill, meaning there are fewer food sources available for cetaceans.

CAPTIVITY

Thousands of whales and dolphins are kept in small tanks around the world, forced to perform tricks for the amusements of humans. They are taken from their natural family groups and kept either alone or with unrelated individuals. Captivity has been shown to be detrimental to the health of cetaceans, and for their conservation, for a number of reasons:



- Most aquaria and dolphinariums have no intentions of ever releasing cetaceans back into the wild, and a tiny percentage of their profits goes to conservation.
- Bottlenose dolphins are 6 times more likely to die during and immediately after capture.
- The stress of captivity weakens the immune system, making captive cetaceans more susceptible to disease.
- Cetaceans are voluntary breathers, consciously coming to the surface to breathe. Former *Flipper* trainer Ric O'Barry reported that one of his dolphins committed suicide by deliberately not coming to the surface to breathe.
- Attacks on humans by wild orcas are virtually unheard of, whereas hundreds of aggressive acts by captive orcas have been recorded, including four deaths.
- In December 2009, trainer Alexis Martinez was killed by a captive orca at Loro Parque, Tenerife.
- Whales and dolphins have strong family bonds, which are lost when they are separated in captivity.
- New calves are often removed from their mother when they are very young, causing significant stress to the mother.
- Whales and dolphins travel long distances in the wild, often hundreds of miles per day, which they are not able to do in small tanks.
- Wild cetaceans spend only 10 – 20% of their time near the surface, but in captivity they are forced to be near the surface around 50% of the time.
- Being near the surface a lot of the time has led to dorsal fin collapse in 100% of captive male orcas. This phenomenon occurs in only 1% of wild males.
- Life expectancy is often reduced in captivity; 92% of SeaWorld orcas do not reach the age that they typically would in the wild.

