



COMMON DOLPHINS

The Common Dolphin is a mammal.

They can grow to a length of 2.5m.

They can weigh up to 150kg.

Males are generally longer and heavier than females.



Common Dolphins can be found throughout the year in our waters, particularly in summer when they are spotted from the beach. The colour pattern on their body is unusual and therefore easy to spot. On each side they have an hourglass pattern, lightly coloured in front and dirty grey in back.

These dolphins have a varied diet, including many species of fish and squid. Because Gibraltar's waters are full of life, including many different species of fish, our waters are perfect feeding grounds for dolphins.

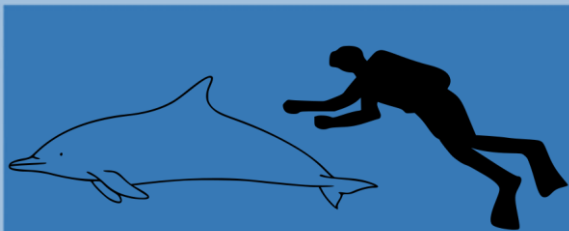
THREATS TO COMMON DOLPHINS

Common dolphins face a number of threats due to human activities.

Pollution, especially certain types of metals, in our seas are particularly bad for dolphin health. Whilst marine pollution can be obvious, it is often the pollutants that cannot be seen that cause the most harm to these dolphins as well as all other life in our waters.

They also get caught in fishing nets, by accident, which can lead to their death by drowning.

Over-fishing by fishermen in boats is another important threat, because the more fish caught means there is less fish for the dolphins to eat.



This is the size of a Common Dolphin compared to the size of an average human.

