

# DOLPHIN & WHALE WISE



THROUGHOUT MOZAMBIQUE SPECIAL SPECIES ARE SUBJECT TO HUMAN ENCOUNTERS WHICH CAN BE DETRIMENTAL TO THEIR WELL-BEING. TAKE A STAND AND FOLLOW THE CODE! **BE AWARE & TAKE CARE!**



## BOAT CODE

- Vessels are not to approach marine mammals within 300 meters.
- Approach from the side & leave a seaward gap.
- No person will chase, herd, catch, kill, harass, feed or disturb marine mammals at any time.
- No boats are to trawl through dolphins. Reel in if dolphins are present.
- Keep a slow, steady speed without changing course <5km. Should bow-riding occur, avoid any sudden direction changes.
- Minimize noise disturbance by maintaining a slow, steady speed.
- Do not approach dolphins/whales with jet skis.
- Marine mammals have right of way.
- Refrain from interference if signs of disturbance are apparent (change of directional swimming, fast 'escape' swimming, extended dive times, erratic directional surfacing, distress-related behaviours).
- Avoid mother and calf pairs / nursery pods.
- Keep noise levels to a minimum. (No shouting or loud whistling).
- Limit your viewing time to 20 minutes.
- Do not pursue if they move off.
- Limit the amount of vessels to one within 300mt.



## SWIM CODE

Refrain from swimming with marine mammals unless with authorized operators. If in the event you find yourself in the company of dolphins or whales in the water remain calm. Do not swim after or towards them. Refrain from diving down and do not touch. Do not use flash photography & under water scooters. Do not enter into the water with newborns. Permitted operators are encouraged to follow the dca in-water code of conduct. The same guidelines apply to whale-sharks and manta rays. When over reef, remove only litter. Collection of shells & corals is not permitted within the Ponta Partial Marine Reserve.

### Did you know!

- The Dolphins of Ponta have been part of a long-term monitoring program since mid 90's.
- We have a population of around 300 resident & transient bottlenose dolphins.
- They are non-human persons who deserve our respect
- Bottlenose dolphins are said to be the most intelligent of all dolphins.
- Humpback dolphins are shy and illusive!
- Research is funded by eco-tourism.
- Humpback whales migrate through the PPMR between July and November.



To report an incident, stranding or sighting:  
DolphinCareAfrica +258 82 316 7690  
Natural History Museum Maputo: +21 48 54 01  
[www.eoth.org](http://www.eoth.org) | [www.marinemegafauna.org](http://www.marinemegafauna.org)

**ADOPT A DOLFRIEND OF PONTA  
VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS 30 DAYS  
ANNUAL WHALE WATCHING DAY  
BEACH CLEAN-UPS  
CONSERVATION  
ACTION  
RESEARCH  
EDUCATION**

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