

Coastal views

We couldn't celebrate WDCS's 25th birthday without also celebrating the fact that about 25 species of whales, dolphins and porpoises can be found in British waters! You don't have to head for exotic climes to see whales and dolphins. Some, like the mighty blue whale and the orca pass through regularly but some, like the bottlenose dolphins of the Moray Firth and Cardigan Bay, are resident all year round. The best time to spot them from our shores is late spring and throughout the summer. Watching whales and dolphins hunting, feeding, socialising or just playing in their natural environment is one of those experiences you never forget, so why not get out to the coast and see what you can spot. Here's a handy guide to some of the best locations and the most commonly seen species.



KEY



1 Bottlenose dolphin



2 Common dolphin



3 Fin whale



4 Harbour porpoise



5 Long-finned pilot whale



6 Minke whale



7 Orca



8 Risso's dolphin



9 White-beaked dolphin

Let us know

If you see a whale, dolphin or porpoise please let us know! We ask the public to report their sightings to us because it helps us to build a more accurate picture of what species and individuals are out there, and importantly, where and when they're seen. The more information we collect the better we can assess what protection measures are needed to keep them safe and the more evidence we have to support our recommendations to government. Let us know what you've seen at whales.org/sightings