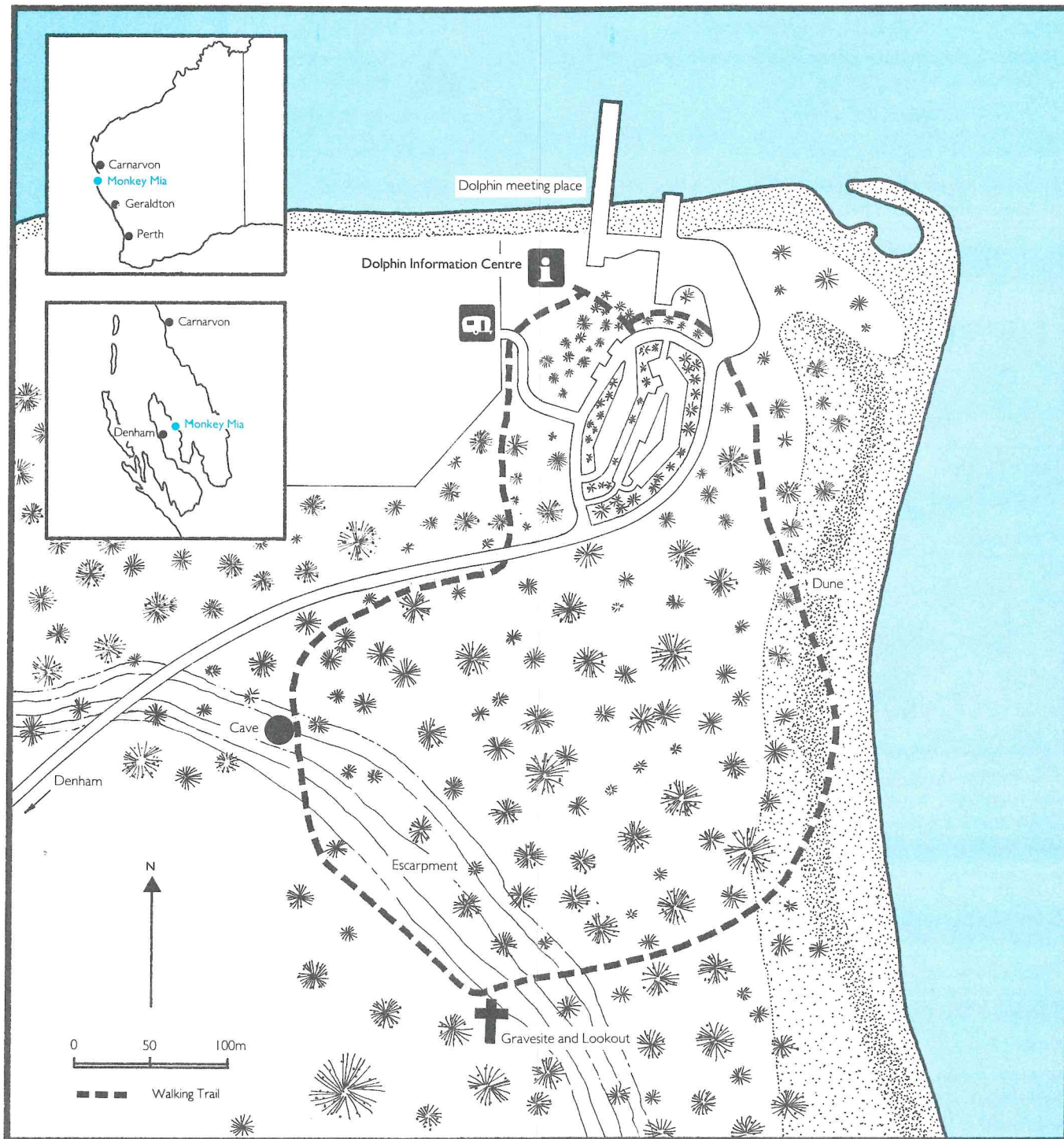
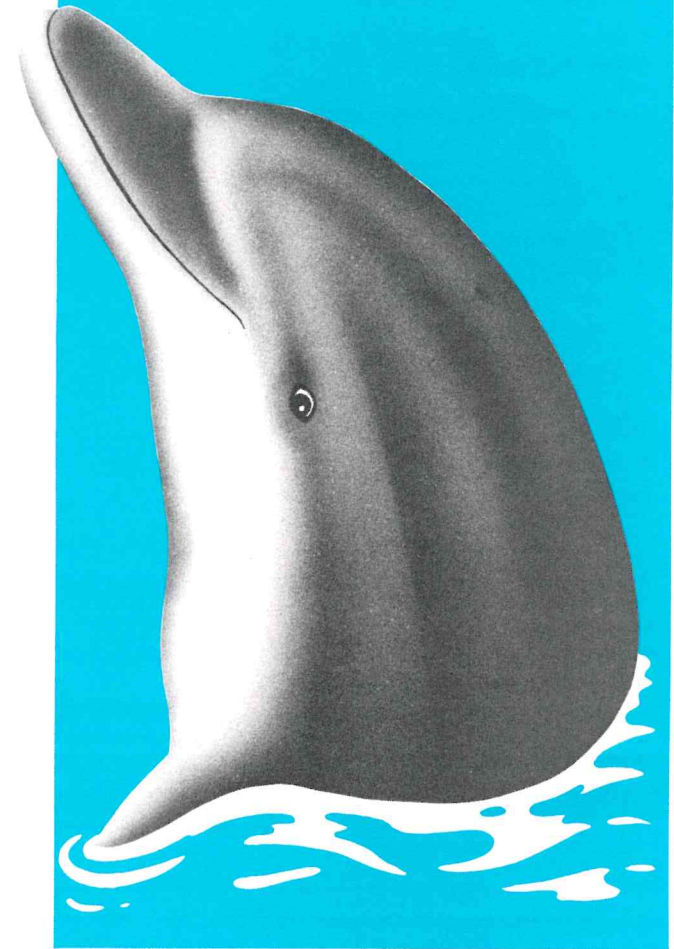


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# Before you meet the dolphins of Monkey Mia



Shire of  
Shark Bay



Department of  
Conservation and  
Land Management



## DOLPHIN INFORMATION CENTRE

Visit the information centre to ensure that you know how to treat the dolphins before you meet them.

The information centre provides the following services:

- informative videos about dolphins, whales and other sea life (check notice board for viewing times);
- displays of charts, maps, photos, diagrams and skeletons — a great insight into the unique Shark Bay region;
- souvenirs, postcards, books, information sheets, tapes and film can be purchased;
- fish are sold for feeding to the dolphins (check notice board for feeding times);

Check the notice board for other daily activities at Monkey Mia.

## RANGER SERVICE

Rangers are on duty every day at Monkey Mia. Their job is to assist and advise you, and ensure that the dolphins are treated in the correct manner.

If you have any questions about dolphins or another aspect of Shark Bay feel free to ask the rangers.

## PARENTAL SUPERVISION

A calm and orderly atmosphere will ensure a safe and pleasant meeting with the dolphins.

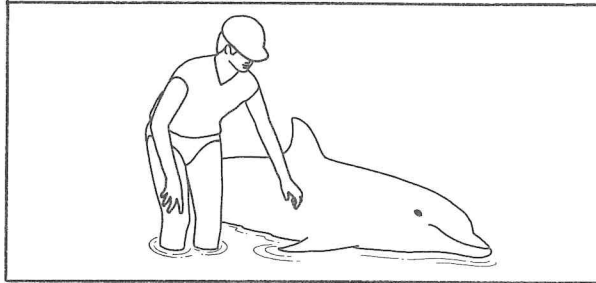
Parents, please;

- accompany your children, particularly while they are in the water with the dolphins;
- reassure your children so that they do not become over-excited or frightened by the dolphins;
- beware of the pelicans as they will intimidate children and steal their fish.

## HOW TO MEET THE DOLPHINS

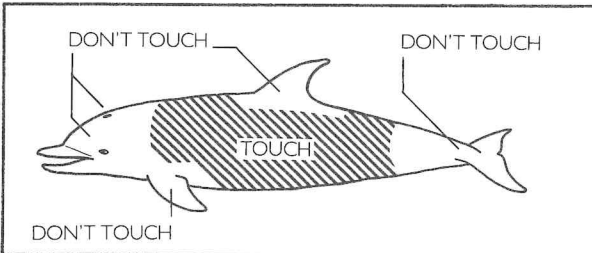
Follow these simple rules to ensure a pleasant meeting between you and the dolphins.

1. Stand knee deep in the water.
2. Wait for the dolphins to approach.
3. Stroke the middle side of the dolphin's body with the back of your hand.



Don't Touch:

- the blowhole; • the dorsal fin; • the tail.
- the head; • the flippers;



The dolphins (like humans) have individual personalities and characteristics. If a dolphin is being particularly intolerant, the ranger may ask you to leave the water. Please respect the dolphin's moods and the ranger's requests.

If you feed the dolphins:

- use only fish bought from the information centre or freshly caught whole fish;
- stand knee deep in the water;
- hold the fish on top of the water;
- don't tease the dolphins with their food.

A ranger will be in the water at feeding times so follow instructions and ask if you are uncertain of how to treat the dolphins.

## DOLPHINS ARE WILD ANIMALS



Dolphin behaviour is unpredictable. When a dolphin is upset or stressed it may bump or bite.

Watch for signs of stress:

- a flick of the head;
- a flick of the tail;
- bumping;
- swimming backwards or away from you.

Do not persist in approaching a dolphin which displays signs of stress.

## THINGS TO SEE AND DO

### Swimming

Monkey Mia is delightful for swimming, although swimming is only allowed outside the waters where you meet the dolphins. Take care to stay clear of boat traffic.

### Boating

Boats of all types are welcome, though certain areas are restricted for dolphin safety. Observe the regulation signs.

### Walking Trail

The walking trail features a superb look-out over the bay, an historic grave site, interesting landforms and a quiet beach. See the attached map for directions.

## MONKEY MIA RESERVE MANAGEMENT TRUST

Your season entry permit is valid till the end of the year. Further donations would be gratefully received.

All entry permit fees, donations and sales are paid to the Monkey Mia Reserve Trust which is jointly administered by the Shire of Shark Bay and the Department of Conservation and Land Management.

All proceeds fund dolphin research, the provision of visitor facilities and the management of the Dolphin Information Centre.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Monkey Mia rangers are keen to help make your visit enjoyable and informative. Don't hesitate to approach them for information or assistance.