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Department of Biodiversity,
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The Dolphin Interaction Area

Help care for the beach-visiting dolphins and make the most of your interaction:



- Swim only outside the Dolphin Interaction Area.
- Avoid using sunscreen on your legs before entering the water. Sunscreens can irritate dolphin eyes.
- Stand no more than knee deep in the water and wait for the dolphins to approach you.
- Avoid touching the dolphins. Touching discourages them from coming close and can make them aggressive.
- Always follow the CALM Officers' directions.

The beach-visiting dolphins are wild animals and their behaviour is unpredictable.

- Stay away from dolphins that seem agitated as they can bite. Dolphin stress signs include tail slapping, head jerks, loud popping noises and an open mouth with bared teeth. You should leave the water if a dolphin is acting aggressively.
- You will be asked to move out of the water when the dolphins are fishing in the shallows or when a newborn calf up to 6 weeks of age is in shore.
- Children must be supervised by adults when in the water.
- Pets are prohibited.



Visitor fees

Visitor fees for entry to Monkey Mia Reserve pay for the costs of managing the human-dolphin interaction and maintaining visitor facilities. Fees apply to all including Resort guests.

CALM Park Passes do not apply to Monkey Mia Reserve.

CALM gratefully acknowledges funding assistance for the new Visitor Centre from the National Tourism Development Program & the Regional Assistance Program.



Further information

CALM Officers at Monkey Mia can provide further information and assistance.

Department of Conservation and Land Management

Monkey Mia Reserve Office
Telephone: (08) 9948 1366
Facsimile: (08) 9948 1512

Department of Conservation and Land Management

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DENHAM Western Australia 6537
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Conserving the nature of WA

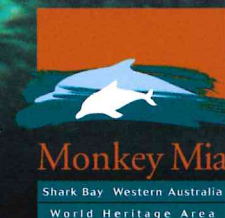
www.naturebase.net



Monkey Mia Magic



PAM02641





Managing the magic

Monkey Mia Reserve is managed by Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) to ensure that the dolphins maintain their natural functions & continue to interact with humans.

Dolphin management at Monkey Mia benefits greatly from the work of many research scientists. Dolphin research conducted here is the most comprehensive in the world.

Sustaining the interaction

Several female dolphins are offered small amounts of fresh fish when they swim to the shore.



Dolphin feeding is carefully controlled and dolphins must only be fed under CALM Officer supervision at the Dolphin Interaction Area.

Feeding times vary between 8am and 1pm, with up to 3 feeds each day. The dolphins are encouraged to spend their afternoons offshore socialising and foraging for wild food.

- There are many visitors to Monkey Mia but only a few can be chosen to feed the dolphins.
- It is an offence under the Wildlife Conservation Act to feed dolphins in the Shark Bay Marine Park without CALM Officer supervision.

