




































































































# Presence of Whales & Dolphins: Northwestern Seaboard

## Bar Reef - Kandakuliya - Talawila - Alankuda - Mampuri





Species	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Blue whale									
Bryde's whale									
Sperm whale									
Orca									
Pilot whale									
False killer whale									
Risso's dolphin									
Bottlenose dolphin									
Striped dolphin									
Spotted dolphin									
Spinner dolphin									

# Symbols

The distribution colour keys located at the bottom right of each species description page provide information on the probability that the species is present in Sri Lankan waters as per geographic maritime area by month.

The probability of presence is the probability that a whale watcher would sight an animal.

The colour keys are as follows:

<i>Probability of presence</i>	<i>Symbol</i>
Most likely	
Likely	
Unlikely	
Most unlikely	

## Notes

1. Tabulated above is a selected list of whales and dolphins from 27 species present in Sri Lankan waters.
2. June to August are strong monsoonal months when sea conditions are less than ideal.
3. Probabilities are for whale-and-dolphin watching and are based upon historical and contemporary marine mammal records up to 2016 in the Centre for Research on Indian Ocean Marine Mammals (CRIOMM) marine mammal distribution database (MMDD).
4. Spinner dolphin superpods or megapods are frequently sighted. Rough-toothed dolphins, and long-beaked common dolphins are highly pelagic species and very rarely sighted. In addition, the dugong is present north of Kalpitiya, beyond the range of daily commercial whale-and-dolphin watching trips.
5. Fin whale, sei whale, Longman's beaked whale, Cuvier's beaked whale, Deraniyagala's beaked whale, pygmy killer whale and rough-toothed dolphin are all species that are currently not known to be present on the northwestern seaboard.