

Sea Turtle Comparison Chart

	Green Turtle	Loggerhead Turtle	Hawksbill Turtle	Olive Ridley Turtle	Leatherback Turtle
Scientific name	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>
Sinhala names	gal/mas/weli/kola kasbaewa	olugedi/kannadi kasbaewa	pothu/leli/pana kasbaewa	batu/mada kasbaewa	daara/tun daara kasbaewa
Tamil names	pal/pachchai/perr amai	perunthalai/nai amai	nanja/alunk amai	pul/kanga matteya amai	dhoni amai
Weight	110-200 (300) kg	90-170 (200) kg	50-80 (125) kg	30-45 (50) kg	300-700 (900) kg
Carapace length	80-120 (150) cm	80-110 cm	65-100 cm	60-70 cm	140-210 (300) cm
Carapace colour	brown or olive, streaks	reddish brown, no streaks	streaks of brown & black on amber background	greyish green to olive green, no streaks	black to dark grey with white spots
Carapace shape	broadly oval, margin scalloped not serrated	moderately broad, heart shaped	elliptical with serrated margin	nearly circular and smooth	teardrop, 7 raised ridges
No. of central scutes	5	5	5	5	none
No. of costal scutes	4 per side	5 per side	4 per side, overlapping	5 to 9 per side	none
Head shape	lizard-like	large broadly triangular	narrow, hawk like beak	broadly triangular	triangular
Prefrontal scales	1 pair	2 pairs	2 pairs	2 pairs	none
Claws on flipper	1 claw	2 claws	2 claws	1 or 2 claws	none
Adult plastron	yellow	yellowish-brown	light yellow to white	creamy yellow	-
Time of nesting	night	night	day or night	night	night
Clutch size	100-150 eggs	100-125 eggs	120-150 eggs	100-120 eggs	70-100 eggs
Egg diameter	4.5 cm	4 cm	3.5 cm	4 cm	5 cm
Incubation period	50 to 70 days	60 to 80 days	60 days	45 to 60 days	60 to 70 days
Clutches per season	2 to 5	3 to 6	3 to 6	1 to 3	4 to 7
Re-nesting interval	10-14 days	12-17 days	12-14 days	20 to 28 days	9 to 10 days
Remigration interval	every 2 to 4 years	every 2 to 3 years	every 2 to 5 years	every 1 to 2 years	every 2 to 3 years
Diet	herbivores; sea grass and algae	omnivores; algae, mollusks, sea urchins and crabs	carnivores; crabs and ascidians (sea squirts)	carnivores; jellyfish, tunicates, sea urchins, prawns, crabs	almost entirely on jellyfish. Also sea squirts and cephalopods
Sand track	Fairly symmetrical diagonal	Asymmetrical alternating comma shaped	Asymmetrical oblique	Asymmetrical alternating comma shaped	Fairly symmetrical
IUCN status	Endangered	Endangered	Critically Endangered	Vulnerable	Vulnerable