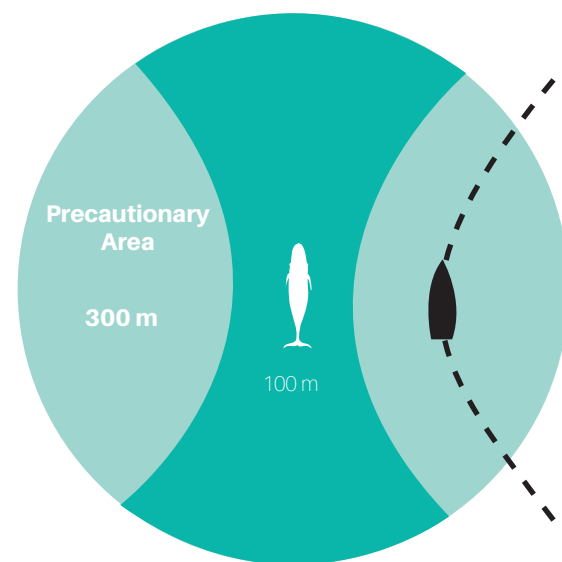


THE CODE OF GOOD CONDUCT

- Length of observation **limited to 30 mn**, 15 mn if other boats are waiting ;
- Do not approach closer than 100 meters ;**
- Keep your distance in case of new-born animals ;
- Do not try to touch or feed animals even if they come voluntary near the boat ;
- Do not suddenly change speed or direction ;**
- Stop immediately any approach **if animals attempt to move away from observers and are disturbed.**

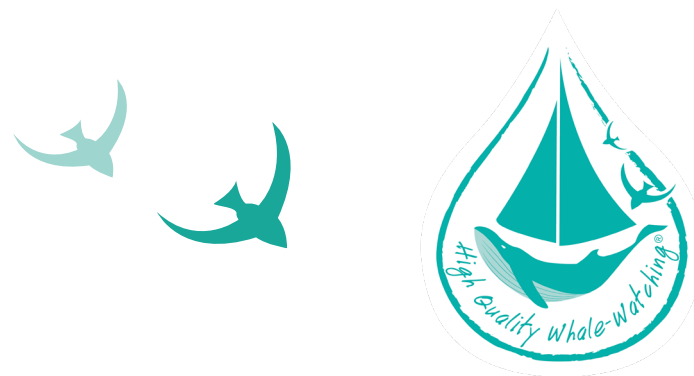


PRECAUTIONARY AREA

- One boat at the time** with a limited speed of 5 knots ;
- Sounders and sonars **must be switched off** to limit acoustic disturbance ;
- Keep a **parallel trajectory** to the animals.

SOUFFLEURS D'ECUME ORGANIZATION

724, avenue des Berges 83170 Brignoles - France
 whale-watching@souffleursdecume.com
 www.whale-watching-label.com



#HQWW

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THE ACCOBAMS

The ACCOBAMS is the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area. Through a range of recommendations, it fosters the State members to settle a framework to manage and develop whale-watching activities according to good practices. **The “High Quality Whale-Watching®” certificate is an ACCOBAMS registered trademark established since 2014.**

More information : www.accobams.org

THE PELAGOS SANCTUARY

The Mediterranean Sea owns the largest International Marine Protected Area located between France, Monaco and Italy : the Pelagos Sanctuary. This Sanctuary was created to **protect all the marine mammals and their habitats from anthropogenic threats** within the area. On behalf of well-conducted and respectful observations, the Pelagos Sanctuary edited a Code of Good Conduct. The Pelagos Sanctuary is the pilot area for the rollout of the “High Quality Whale-Watching®” distinction.

More information : www.sanctuaire-pelagos.org

THE MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

In the French part of the Mediterranean Sea there are more than 70 Marine Protected Areas. They all conduct a wide range of actions that contribute to the presence of cetaceans on its coastal areas. The “High Quality Whale-Watching®” is one of the actions encouraged by the Marine Protected Areas.

More information : www.afbiodiversite.fr

THE “HIGH QUALITY WHALE-WATCHING®”

To go whale watching is a touristic activity that consists in observing marine animals in their natural environment. This recreational activity directly depends on the **presence of the animals** and so, it is important to protect them. The “High Quality Whale-Watching®” was created to support touristic operators who want their activity to be recognized as **respectful** for animals and their habitat. Whales and dolphins are essential to ensure an **ecological balance** and pursue this economic activity.



THE COMMITMENTS

- ◆ To respect the Code of Good Conduct for whale-watching when approaching cetaceans
- ◆ To show the tourists all the marine biodiversity
- ◆ To give an educational talk on cetaceans and their environment
- ◆ To participate in research programs
- ◆ To adopt eco-friendly attitudes while on board
- ◆ Do not go swimming with marine mammals
- ◆ Do not use aerial survey so there is less pressure on animals

All the “High Quality Whale-Watching®” operators attended a training course conducted by scientists specialized in the marine environment. Follow-up is ensured by Souffleurs d'Ecume.

