

Fact file

Gray whale







One of the most watched whales, this map shows where gray whales can be seen.



WDC WHALE AND DOLPHIN CONSERVATION

■ Outgoing and curious, gray whales are one of the most watched whales in the world.
■ Their worldwide population is estimated at 26,500. The same population as a small town.

   
■ Gray whales travel 15,000-20,000km every year. Over a lifetime, a gray whale can travel as far as the moon and back.
■ Gray whales are active and friendly, and will approach boats to have a little nosy around.

■ As much as 200kg of barnacles and whale lice live on a gray whale's body. The same weight as 200 bags of sugar! The lice feed on the whale's dead skin.



■ Gray whales are benthic feeders, which means that they search for food on the sea bed. They eat tiny shrimp-like crustaceans, molluscs and worms.



■ They grow up to 14 metres long. The length of three London taxis!



■ Like humans, gray whales can be left- or right-handed.