



Manx Wildlife Code of Conduct

The Isle of Man is full of amazing wildlife from the beaches, to the water and the air. Some of which use the Island as a safe place to rest, breed and rear young. In order to enjoy and keep it this way there are certain guidelines we must adhere to. When these rules are followed, it will mean you will enjoy a better encounter.



In the water...

- **Basking sharks, seals and cetaceans** are always an exciting sight but to ensure it is safe, make sure you are not in their path and avoid their fins and tail! Try to anticipate their direction, and wait for them to approach you.
- Do not pet, feed, chase or touch the wildlife.
- Once an animal is spotted, vessels should slow to 5 knots. Use steady, consistent direction and do not box them in, allow an escape route at all times.
- Keep a distance of 100m between you and any wildlife, unless they approach you.
- Near seabird colonies, navigate your vessel at slow speed.

**OBSERVE,
RESPECT,
ENJOY**



On land...

- Nesting **birds** should always be kept at a distance and never disturbed. Dogs should be kept on a leads between 1 April—31 August. Use binoculars and avoid loud noises. When nesting, birds incubate their eggs and if spooked may fly away, Jeopardising the survival of the eggs or chicks.
- **Seals** hauled out are resting and recovering from their foraging dives, if disturbed they won't return for an entire tide cycle, causing unnecessary stress. Breeding mainly occurs September—November so extra caution should be taken.

The Islands' wildlife are protected through the Wildlife Act 1990. **It is illegal to recklessly disturb or injure many key species.** Please have fun and enjoy your experience whilst being respectful.



If you find an injured or stranded animal contact ManxSPCA on 01624 851672.

For more information or to report any signs of disturbance, contact the Isle of Man Constabulary Wildlife Crime Team on 01624 631212.



Manx Wildlife for the Future

Bea-Feie Vannin son y traay-heet



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