

# Dolphin



# Introduce

**Dolphins** are marine and oceanic mammals closely related to whales. There are nearly 40 species of dolphins belonging to 17 genera living in the oceans, the remaining few live in some rivers in the world ( Yangtze River , Amazon River , Indus River , Ganges River... ).

The size of the dolphin can range from 1.2 m (4 ft) and 40 kg (90 lb), up to 9.5 m (30 ft) and 10 tons (9.8 long tons; 11 US tons) (Great Black Dolphin or Killer Whale).

Dolphins are found worldwide and usually inhabit the shallow seas of the continental shelf. Dolphins are carnivores, eating mainly fish and squid . The Delphinidae are the largest family of dolphins and also the last to appear: about 10 million years ago, during the Middle Age . Dolphins are among the most intelligent animals and are well known in human culture for their friendly appearance and playful and exuberant attitude towards humans.