

# DOLPHIN CENTRE

It's a life-changing experience!

Bookings / Whatsapp : +258 84 658 5224

Cell Mozambique: +258 84 242 9864

info@thedolphincentre.com | www.thedolphincentre.com



Dolphin Swims | Dolphin Retreats | Whale Viewing | Film & Photo Shoots | Accommodation

RESPONSIBLE MARINE MAMMAL TOURISM - CONSERVATION THROUGH EDUCATION

## DOLPHIN CENTRE ACTIVITIES

### DOLPHIN SWIMS

Dolphin excursions range between 2 and 2,5 hours, with a pre-launch briefing on boat safety, marine life and responsible interactions. The trip includes snorkeling over one of our shallow reefs, in-water swim facilitation with one of our dolphin guides, and seasonal whale shark and humpback whale sightings. Dolphin in-water observations are not guaranteed due to sightings and the nature of the dolphins, and we do suggest booking more than one launch to have the opportunity to interact with our finned friends

Launches are run daily and subject to group size and sea conditions.

Group size is limited to a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 13

Booking in advance is essential

Snorkeling gear is included.

Rates: Pre-booked Dolphin Swim (1 dolphin excursion)

First excursion • Adult: R500 per person • Under 12: R420 per child

And additional R50 pp REEF TAX is added per first launch valid for duration of 7 days (Maritime Conservation Fees)

DOLPHIN TOURS - cater for those wanting more time on the water with our beautiful finned friends. These tours are simply three or four of our casual dolphin excursions set in a package.

Rates:

Dolphin Tour (3 dolphin excursions) • Adult: R1300 per person • Under 12: R1000 per child



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**What a launch involves:** Meet at our centre at your given booking time, soft gear is handed out, indemnity form is signed and the pre-launch briefing is watch. We then take you down to the beach with our people carrier and we all have a little fun pushing the boat into the water. Once all aboard boat, we take you towards the border line of South Africa and Mozambique giving you the opportunity to see the Lighthouse and Kosi Bay in the distance. We then start travelling North in search of dolphins. When we come across a pod of dolphins, our dolphin guide will either do on-boat observation or will slip into the water to further access the behaviour of the dolphins during which time you will be informed to gear up. The dolphin guide will give the go-ahead and only then will our guests slip into the water to encounter with the dolphins. Please do try not to make noise or splash and please swim with your arms to your sides. NO touching of the dolphins or any marine life and NO diving down during the dolphin encounter. If you are seen touching dolphins or any other marine life or diving down to the dolphins, you will be placed back on the boat for the duration of the trip. We then take you to a shallow reef normally outside Malongane for a short snorkel where diving down is allowed and thereafter we head back to the launch site

#### Booking Policy:

*All Rates includes (R50 maritime tax) + hire of the snorkel gear for the duration of the launch.*

*All dolphin excursions are pre-booked in advance with full payment as confirmation.*

*Please note last minute cancellations will not be refunded, as you are liable for the pre-booked amount of people. Our Dolphin Retreat group size is a minimum of four. Make sure when making a booking that you allow for unfavourable sea conditions and give yourself an extra morning for just in case.*

*If however weather and sea conditions do not permit us to launch, we can either re-schedule, or if this is not possible, then Dolphin Centre Management will issue a refund.*



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## WHALE WATCH CRUISE

Our Whale Watching cruise offers you the most amazing thrilling life time opportunity to experience a cruise in search of the oceans magnificent Humpback Whale, rare sightings of the Southern Cross Whale and the Whale Shark whilst cruising upon the blue waters of Southern Mozambique. During the trip, you get to sight-see at a distant the magnificent coastline from Ponta Do Ouro to Ponta Malongane and also gives you the possibility to see turtle and ray and so much more whilst in search of these most magnificent giants of the ocean. Take this opportunity to bring along the whole family. No water entry will be permitted. The duration of the ocean cruise is approximately 2 hours. Enquire within as to what to bring along. We require minimum of 8 passengers to launch with the maximum of 10 passengers  
R550 pp

## General Questions for Dolphin Swims, Dolphin Tours and Dolphin Retreats

### ***What time do we launch?***

Early morning is usually the best time to launch, as the wind tends to pick up throughout the day. We like to be on the ocean as early as possible to ensure you have the best possible experience.  
Summer times from 05h00, Autumn from 06h00 & Winter from 07h00

### ***What requirements do we need to swim with the dolphins or what experience is needed?***

You need to be able to swim and use snorkelling gear, if you have never snorkelled before then please book one of our dolphin retreats which includes a snorkelling course.

### ***What is your policy regarding rough seas?***

It's very difficult to spot dolphins when the sea is too choppy. Big swell can also make it difficult, as the dolphins tend to travel inshore close to the big waves where we cannot reach them. Safety and comfort of all on board the boat is our priority and we won't take you out in conditions that are not suitable.

### ***Do you cater for people with special needs?***

Yes, we do. Please contact us for further details and to make necessary arrangements.

### ***Can I swim with dolphins if I'm pregnant?***

Yes, you can up until 6 months, weather conditions permitting. Also discuss the activity with your doctor.

### ***What size are the groups that we go out with?***

Minimum is 6 people and max is 13 per trip. If you are doing a full dolphin retreat minimum number is 4. We limit the groups to 13 to ensure you have the best experience possible.

### ***Will we be allowed to touch the dolphins?***

No, these are wild dolphins and it forms part of the Dolphin Centre regulated code of conduct that no touching is allowed. They come close enough so there is no need to touch them.

### ***What are the age groups of participants?***

Children as young as one year have joined us as well as elderly people up to the age of 80 (weather conditions permitting).

### ***What can we expect to see on our trip?***

All year round you will see our friendly pods of bottlenose dolphins. Humpback whales give us spectacular surface shows from July to November and Whale sharks glide along our backline in the summer months. If you're lucky, you could possibly spot our rare indopacific humpback dolphins.

### ***What about sharks?***

We vary rarely ever spot any sharks on our dolphin excursions and it is most unlikely that we will see one. If by any chance we do see sharks it would be small reef sharks which are not a worry at all. Don't let this be any deterrent to your desire to swim with the dolphins.

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### ***Can we feed the dolphins?***

No, these are pods of wild dolphins that are perfectly capable of sourcing and catching their own food, so no feeding is permitted. We simply observe and interact with them as naturally as possible.

### ***What equipment do you provide?***

We provide masks, fins and snorkels. We do not provide wetsuits as we generally find that they are not necessary due to the warm temperature of the water.

### ***What should I bring along?***

Sunblock, bottle of water if needed and a towel. In winter we recommend a warm top or windbreaker. For those who really feel the cold you might want to bring along a scarf or a beanie. Ladies please try to avoid loose bikini bottoms and boob tubes. In summer you may want to wear a rash vest and board shorts over costumes for sun protection and general comfort.

### ***What can I do to prevent seasickness?***

If you know you are prone to getting seasick please bring along some motion sickness medication. The trick is to take one the night before your ocean experience and one the morning of the trip about an hour before departure. We also have Sturgeson available at the Dolphin Centre or you could try natural remedies such as ginger capsules or ginger tea before your launch.

### ***Can I bring a camera along on my swim?***

We do offer underwater photography at the Dolphin Centre, but you are more than welcome to bring along your own camera (if you have one with a waterproof casing). Cameras that don't have a waterproof casing are brought along at your own risk. Please ensure that you put your camera into a bag for safety. Our only request is that you make sure the flash is off for all underwater footage of the dolphins.

### ***Is there risk of Malaria in Ponta?***

This area is considered very low risk and it is not necessary to take prophylactics. However, we do recommend you use mosquito repellent in the evenings as a precaution (natural remedies include citronella oils or candles). To date we have had no recorded cases of any malaria in Ponta do Ouro itself for the last 16 years.

### ***Do you provide accommodation?***

Yes, we do. Please see our website for details.