



Manx seal code of conduct: in water



OBSERVE, RESPECT, ENJOY

The Isle of Man has breeding colonies of Atlantic grey seals and common seals. Seals are naturally inquisitive and they enjoy interacting with divers, snorkellers and swimmers. By adopting a safe and cautious approach you will be able to enjoy a longer and more exciting encounter.



Code of conduct

- Do not feed the seals
- Move slowly and smoothly in the water
- Don't put your hands near a seal's mouth
- Where possible keep a good distance away
- Do not approach or attempt to chase them; given time they may come to you
- Keep noise to a minimum and avoid splashing
- Avoid using flash photography as this may startle the seals
- Do not take toys into the water to play with seals

Seals have sharp teeth and claws that could hurt you. If you observe any behaviours which might indicate stress such as increased vocalisation or teeth baring please move away and allow the seal to recover.

Keep your speed below 5 knots within 100m of seals



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



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



Manx Wildlife for the Future

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