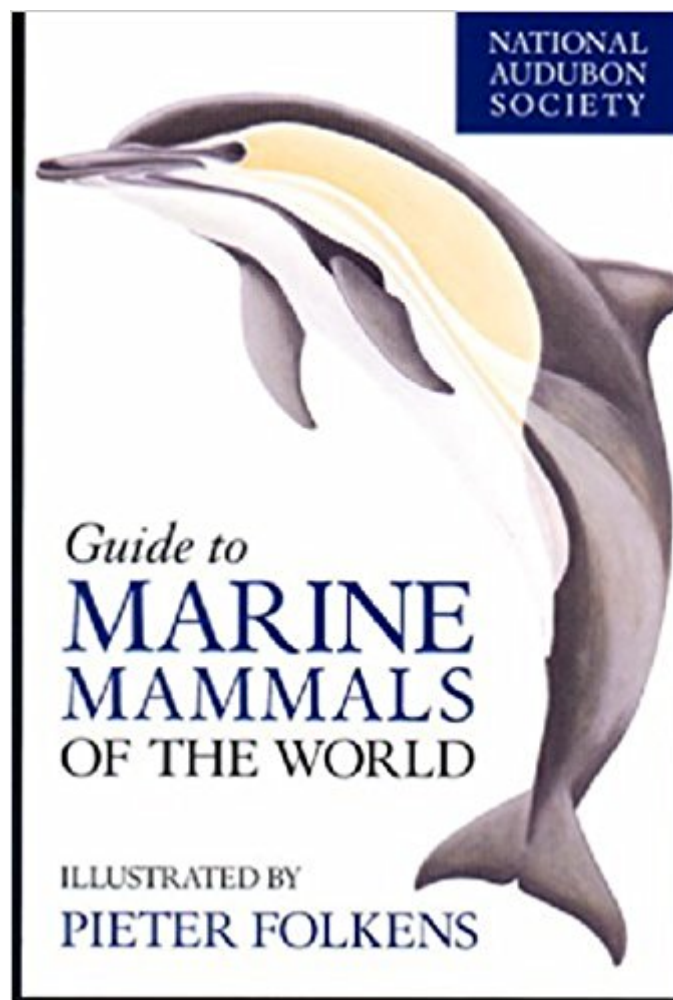




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National Audubon Society Guide To Marine Mammals Of The World (National Audubon Society Field Guides (Hardcover))



Synopsis

Written by a team of experts and featuring hundreds of illustrations, photographs, and maps, the most authoritative, up-to-date, and accessible information on marine mammals--perfect for your outdoor excursions or your home library. The National Audubon Society Guide to Marine Mammals of the World describes in fascinating detail all 120 species of the world's whales, dolphins, porpoises, seals and sea lions, manatees, Marine and Sea Otters, and the Polar Bear. Organized by the four major groups of marine mammals--marine fissipeds, pinnipeds, cetaceans, and sirenians--the species descriptions include: Full-color paintings, color photographs showing appearance in the wild and illustrating typical behaviors, life history data, range and habitat text and a full-color range map based on the most current information. Facts about social organization, surface behaviors, swimming, and diving. Information on mating behavior, breeding, and the rearing of young. Details about food items and foraging techniques. Estimates of population in the wild, plus current and historic threats. A general introduction outlines the evolution and taxonomy of marine mammals, distribution, migration, watching guidelines, identification techniques, organizations and laws that protect marine mammals, and more. Introductions to groups include comparative size illustrations, discussion of behaviors particular to the group, and other unique features. A useful illustrated glossary of terms and an index of species names complete the guide.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Among the most celebrated creatures on earth are the 120 species of water-dwelling mammals catalogued in this handsome and informative field guide, the latest in the National Audubon Society's family of nature publications. Photographs, drawings and paintings combine with maps, charts and essays to provide not only data but also insight into the behavior of these highly evolved and specialized animals. The book is sensibly arranged and easy to navigate, whether the reader is in an easy chair or on the open water. The introduction provides a general guide to marine mammals: their habitat, behavior, reproduction, diet and conservation status. The individual articles are packed with facts about each species and the best ways to find and identify them in the wild. The book is organized according to the four classifications of marine mammals: cetaceans (whales, dolphins, porpoises); pinnipeds (seals and walrus); sirenians (dugongs, manatees); and polar bears and otters. The charts on each species specify size, weight and longevity. The maps show the reach of each type of animal while helping the reader to visualize its range and habitat. The articles also describe ways of identifying similar species whose ranges overlap. Among this guide's best features are the appendixes, which break down the species by region and offer a chart of species morphology and an illustrated glossary. This book is ideal for students and amateur animal watchers. Color illus. and paintings, maps. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Adult/High School-Just about everything one could hope for in a guide can be found in this info-packed yet extremely user-friendly tome. Introductory pages cover the basics and more. The section "Watching Marine Mammals," which includes advice on what to bring along, proper etiquette, and what to do if a stranded animal is encountered, is particularly engrossing. Every group has its own overview with an illustrated spread showing relative sizes among species within it. Each species entry opens with a beautifully rendered color illustration accompanied by a brief list of key features to look for when trying to identify the animal. A neat little map indicates the mammal's range and is paired with a box containing vital statistics such as size, weight, and life span. A liberal dose of superb, high-quality action color photographs shows the creatures in their natural surroundings. Appendixes include a map that shows marine mammals by world region and a "Marine Mammal Morphology" with three line drawings indicating generic parts. While this book has obvious value as a research tool, students are sure to linger over the pages. An attractive presentation with satisfying content. Sheila Shoup, Fairfax County Public Library, VA Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

My son has been obsessed with sea creatures since he was a few years old. We went on a whale

watching trip recently and the marine biologist traveling with us had this book. I bought it for my sons 6th birthday last month and he loves it! He has spent time reading it every day after school! There is some information he cant quite understand when reading alone, but he will grow into it and can also read those pieces with an adult.

I know 2 more guides on this subject, and I have to say that this one is, by far, the best of all of them, with abundant scientific, accurate and reliable text and descriptions, lots of pictures and drawings, user friendly and easy to tote. I strongly recommend it.

This is the best marine mammal guide I've found. (and believe me, I'm always looking at marine mammal guides trying to find some good ones!) Over 500 pages dripping with information. It's a FANTASTIC reference guide and perfect for anyone who wants to learn about marine mammals. It has them all, from the well known sea otters and bottlenose dolphins to the rare and obscure vaquita porpoises and South Asian river dolphins. This book is great for many purposes, whether you want to learn about animals that are new to you, or ones you already know about.

Well illustrated

grteat

So good that I bought a second copy for my sister in Hawaii. Wonderful pictures and details about the various animals - where they are found, their range, what they eat, etc. A great reference for anyone who is looking to travel to find the various species or just as a handy reference guide.

This is my favorite book I have ever bought. Not only does it have Cetaceans (Whales & Dolphins) but also other Marine Mammals. The drawings were not too extremely reliable but it has real life photos too.

I have always wanted this book. I had to buy it because next semester I need it for my Marine Mammal Behavior and Cognition class. I'm so excited. This book is amazing!!!

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