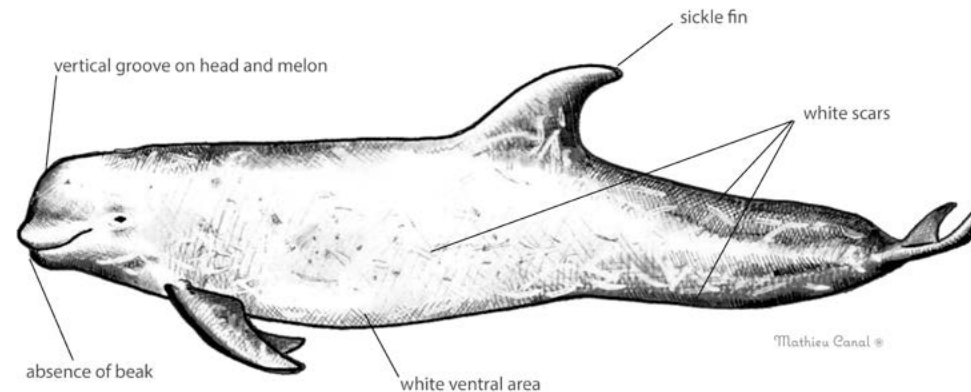


# RISSO'S DOLPHIN

*Grampus griseus*

To observe is to protect, The Peoples of the Sea will thank you for that



**Marine mammal, class Mammals, species: *Grampus griseus*.**

**Size:** 2.50m to 4m.

**Weight:** from 300 to 500 kg.

**Gestation period:** about 13 to 14 months.

**Food:** octopus, cuttlefish, squid. They fish at night and prefer deep waters.

**Sexual maturity:** sexual maturity 8 to 10 years. Lifespan: 30 to 25 years.

**Distribution:** in tropical and temperate waters, they prefer deep seabeds and slopes, they are found in the marine canyons of the Gulf of Lion.

**Threats:** sonars, driftnets, targeted hunting, accidental fishing, global warming, pollution.

**Protection:** minor conservation concern IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), rare in the Gulf of Lion.

**How to recognize them:** Robust animals. Gray at birth but this color changes during their lifetime because of the scars, mainly caused by interactions between congeners: very old animals are almost white. Globular head devoid of rostrum. Central and high sickle-shaped dorsal fin. Fairly long pectoral fins. Risso's Dolphin is active but less demonstrative than other dolphins.

**How to meet them:** since 01/01/2021, in France it is forbidden to intentionally approach protected cetaceans and sirenians within 100 m in marine protected areas and in marine waters under sovereignty and under jurisdiction, maximum speed of 5 knots, don't cut them off, limit encounters to 1/4 hour, don't force the approach. Maintain a speed of 2 to 5 knots and keep your distance.

