

# Kayaking with wildlife



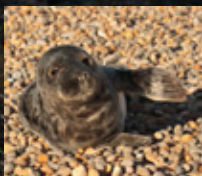
Enjoy disturbance-free wildlife watching from your kayak in Dorset

Take your rubbish home.

Assess each encounter-  
learn how your actions might disturb wildlife.

Use binoculars, not proximity,  
for close viewing.

Report marine sightings to  
Dorset Wildlife Trust.



Part of a  
nationwide network  
of Wildlife Trusts

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Protecting **Wildlife** for the Future

# Kayaking with wildlife



## How to AVOID DISTURBANCE of sea-life

- Explore in small groups only.
- Never split a mother and young.
- With cetaceans, stay on course – help them predict your movements.
- Move on after 10 minutes watching.
- Let animals decide how close to be.
- Always allow animals an escape route.
- Do not approach marine mammals or rafting birds.
- Do not land where large numbers of birds are gathered.
- Avoid trampling seabed wildlife when beaching your vessel.
- Keep at least 200m clear from seabird nesting sites/cliffs.



Photos: Steve Trehella/ [www.ukcoastalwildlife.co.uk](http://www.ukcoastalwildlife.co.uk)  
Sarah Sherran and Les Wilkins

## What might happen if YOU DISTURB animals?

- Animals become distressed.
- Animals become vulnerable to predators.
- Young become disorientated and separated.
- Nesting birds regurgitate food, dislodge eggs or desert eggs and chicks.
- Vital feeding time is lost and precious energy wasted.
- Seabed wildlife can be trampled.
- Danger to the watcher from large, powerful animals.



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### Sick, injured or entangled animals.

Report live strandings of cetaceans, and injured/entangled marine mammals to **British Divers Marine Life Rescue (BDMLR)** on **01825 765546** (24hrs). Report all other live injured or entangled animals to RSPCA **08705 555999**

For more detailed guidance go to [www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/kayaking](http://www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/kayaking)