Common Name	Scientific Name	Size (meters)	Compared to a Human	Identifying Markers	Commonly Found	Seen in the UK	How Often?
Harbour Porpoise	Phocoena phocoena	1.4- 1.8		Small, triangular dorsal fin, dark grey coloration, no beak or forehead bulge	Northern Atlantic, Northern Pacific	Shetland, Orkney,, Eastern Scotland, Eastern England, Southeast England, Southern England, Channel Islands, Southwest England, Wales, Northwest England, Western Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Republic of Ireland	Very Common
Short-beaked Common Dolphin	Delphinus delphis	1.5- 2.5		Dorsal fin curved, hourglass pattern along body, cream flank markings	Temperate and Subtropical waters	Southern England, Southwest England, Wales, Northwestern England, Western Scotland, Eastern Scotland, Northern Ireland; Republic of Ireland; rare in Northern Isles	Very Common
Bottlenose Dolphin	Tursiops truncatus	2- 4		Large, central dorsal fin, grey coloration, distinct beak and rounded forehead	Temperate, Subtropical and Tropical waters	Southwest England, Wales, Northwest England, Western Scotland, Eastern Scotland, Eastern England, Southern England, Channel Islands, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland; Rarely seen in Northern Isles, Southeast England	Common
White-beaked Dolphin	Lagenorhynchus albirostris	2.5- 2.8		Black with white on sides and over back behind fin, tall, curved dorsal fin, short, thick white tipped	Northern Atlantic waters	Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern Scotland, Eastern England, Southwest England, Republic of Ireland; Rare in Southeast & Southern England, Wales, Northwest England, and Northern Ireland	Common

Striped Dolphin	Stenella coeruleoalba	1.8-2.5	Dorsal fin slender and curved, distinct grey blaze and two black stripes	Temperate, Subtropical and Tropical waters	Southwest England, Republic of Ireland; Rare elsewhere	Occasional
Sowerby's Beaked Whale	Mesoplodon bidens	2.4-2.7	Small head, concaved forehead, slender beak, protruding jaw with two flattened teeth, slightly hooked fin	Deep Northern Atlantic waters	Republic of Ireland, Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Southwest England; Rare elsewhere	Rare
Atlantic White-sided Dolphin	Lagenorhynchus acutus	2.5- 2.8	Tall, curved dorsal fin, black back, white into yellow patches on side, no white on back behind fins	Northern Atlantic waters, mainly along shelf edge	Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern Scotland, Republic of Ireland; Rare elsewhere	Common
Dwarf Sperm Whale	Kogia simus	2.7	Slightly smaller than Pygmy Sperm Whale, larger dorsal fin, white false gill behind eye	Deep Tropical and Subtropical Waters	Mounts Bay, Penzance, Cornwall (9 Oct 2011)	1 record

Fraser's Dolphin	Lagenodelphis hosei	2.75	Light grey coloration along body, with dark grey band, often pink belly	Deep Tropical and Subtropical waters of Atlantic	South Uist, Outer Hebrides (1996)	1 record
Melon-headed Whale	Pepenocephala electra	3.0	Melon head, tall, pointed dorsal fin, blunt head	Deep Tropical waters	Chsrlestown, Cornwall (Sept 1949)	1 record
Risso's Dolphin	Grampus griseus	3.5	Adults heavily scarred around head & flanks, often grey or white body, large rounded head, no beak	Temperate, Subtropical and Tropical waters	Southwest England, Wales, Northwest England, Isle of Man, Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern Scotland, Channel Isles, Republic of Ireland; Rare elsewhere	Uncommo n
Pygmy Sperm Whale	Kogia breviceps	3-3.5	Shark-like head, false gill behind eye	Deep Tropical, Subtropical and Temperate waters	Southwest England, Wales, Western Scotland, Republic of Ireland	V. rare
Narwhal	Monodon monoceros	3.95-5.5	Large tusk, mottled brown coloration	High Arctic waters	Northern Isles, North Sea	V. rare
False Killer Whale	Pseudorca crassidens	4- 5	Black with grey throat and neck	Deep Warm Temperate, Subtropical and Tropical waters	Southwest England, northern North Sea	V. rare
Blainville's Beaked Whale	Mesoplodon densirostris	4.4-4.6	Beak, brownish body	Deep Subtropical and Tropical waters	Aberaeron, West Wales (July 1993)	1 record

Gervais' Beaked Whale	Mesoplodon europaeus	4.5	Very straight mouthline, small head, short beak	Deep tropical, Subtropical and Warm Temperate waters of the Atlantic	English Channel (1840), Ballysadare (Jan 1989)	2 records
Cuvier's Beaked Whale	Ziphius cavirostris	5.1-6.9	Small sloping head, triangular, slightly hooked dorsal fin, brownish coloration, older adults have white heads	Deep Warm Temperate, Subtropical and Tropical waters	Southwest England, Republic of Ireland, but very rare everywhere	Rare
True's Beaked Whale	Mesoplodon mirus	5.3	Grey to brownish grey coloration, males have two teeth at tip of lower jaw	Deep waters of Northern Atlantic, Southern Indian Ocean and Australia	Western Ireland	Very Rare
White Whale or Beluga	Delphinapterus leucas	5.5	White bulbous melon	Arctic and Sub- Arctic waters	Western Scotland, Eastern Scotland, Eastern England, Northern Ireland, but rare everywhere	Rare/ Occasional
Long-finned Pilot Whale	Globicephala melas	5.8- 7.6	Bulbous head, backwards pointing low dorsal fin, very long pectoral fins	Deep Temperate waters of Northern Atlantic, Southern Atlantic & Pacific Oceans	Southwest England, Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern Scotland, Republic of Ireland; rare elsewhere	Common

Killer Whale	Orcinus orca	6-8	Black & white coloration, distinct white patch behind eyes, pale saddle patch behind dorsal fin, males have very tall erect dorsal fins	Mainly Deep Temperate & Arctic waters	Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern Scotland, and Western Ireland; Rare elsewhere	Uncommo n
Common Minke Whale	Balaenoptera acutorostrata	6.9-8.5	Slender, pointed head with central ridge, tall dorsal fin two- thirds along body, diagonal white band on flippers	Mainly Temperate, Subarctic & Arctic waters	Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern Scotland, Eastern England, Channel Isles, Southwest England,, Wales, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland	Common
Northern Bottlenose Whale	Hyperoodon ampullatus	7.5-9.8	Bulbous forehead, tall, erect, hooked dorsal fin, two-thirds along body, short dolphin- like beak	Deep Northern Atlantic waters	Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Western & Southern Ireland; Rare elsewhere	Rare
Sperm Whale	Physeter macrocephalus	11-16	Large square head, distinct triangular dorsal hump two-thirds down the body	Deep waters of Atlantic, Pacific & Indian Ocean	Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern Scotland, and Republic of Ireland	Rare

Humpback Whale	Megaptera novaeangliae	12-16	Low dorsal fin two-thirds along the body, knobs on head and lower jaw, long flippers with white markings	Breeds in Tronics	Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern Scotland, Eastern England, Southwest England, Wales, Republic of Ireland; rare elsewhere	Uncommo n
Northern Right Whale	Eubalaena glacialis	13-16	Black with callosities, no dorsal fin, V- shaped blow	Deep offshore Atlantic waters	Western Scotland, Western Ireland	Very Rare
Bowhead Whale	Balaena mysticetus	14-18	Grey or brown, no dorsal fin, large mouth	Arctic waters	Isles of Scilly (20 February 2015) and Cornwall (15 May 2016)	2 records
Sei Whale	Balaenoptera borealis	12-18	Tall, sickle shaped dorsal fin two-thirds along body, bluish or dark grey coloration	1 1	Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern England	Rare
Fin Whale	Balaenoptera physalus	22-26	Long and slender body, brownish-grey coloration but with white right lower jaw	Breeds mainly offshore in Tropics & Subtropics, migrating to feed in Temperate and Arctic waters	Western Scotland, Northern Isles, Eastern England, Southwest England, Wales, Isle of Man, and Republic of Ireland; rare elsewhere	Uncommo n

Blue Whale	Balaenoptera musculus	23-29		Broad, flat U- shaped head, v. small dorsal fin two-thirds along body, bluish-grey coloration	deep Tropical &	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Very Rare
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