



Irish Whale and Dolphin Group

IWDG

Participant Guidelines for Land based Whale Watching Events

The Irish Whale and Dolphin Group is dedicated to the conservation and better understanding of cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) in Irish waters, through study, education and interpretation.

Registered Address:

Irish Whale and Dolphin Group Ltd.,
Merchants Quay, Kilrush, Co. Clare, V15 E762, Ireland

Tel: +353 (0) 65 9051783 ~ Mobile: 086 854 5450

Email: enquiries@iwdgie ~ Website: www.iwdgie

Registered Charity No.: 20029913 ~ Limited Company No. 332093
VAT Nr. 9502131Q

IWDG Landbased Whale Watching Events

Participant Guidelines

As a participant in this event you agree to the following guidelines which includes rules on participation, event health and safety, etiquette on wildlife interaction, accessibility, communications, photography, event changes and liability.

Participation

- Participation is voluntary and at your own risk.
- Participants should make themselves known to the event organiser on arrival at the designated event site.
- If the specific event allows children (under 18 years old) to participate, they should be accompanied and supervised by a responsible adult at all times. Please check the event notice for details.
- Participants must follow any instructions given by IWDG event organisers or volunteer officers.
- Participants must behave responsibly and be considerate of other participants, event organisers and the environment they are in.

Health and Safety guidelines

Participants should;

- Listen to and adhere to the event organisers instructions
- Dress appropriately for the weather conditions and wear suitable footwear, as the ground may be uneven, slippery, or muddy.
- Stay on public paths and designated viewing areas where possible.
- Take care near water, cliffs, rocks, slipways, piers, and roads. Be aware of changing tides and weather conditions.
- Do not enter restricted areas, climb barriers, or take unnecessary risks to obtain a better view of wildlife.
- Bring their own drinking water, sun protection, waterproof clothing, and any medication they may require.
- Participants are responsible for their own safety and the safety of those in their care.

Wildlife

Participants must:

- Observe wildlife from a respectful distance and not disturb, feed, or attempt to approach animals.
- Keep noise to a minimum to avoid disturbing wildlife and other participants.

- Dogs are not permitted at this event, with the exception of registered assistance dogs. This helps minimise disturbance to wildlife and ensures the best possible experience for all participants.

Accessibility

- While locations have been selected for ease of access where possible, however, terrain and facilities vary and may not be suitable for all members of the public. Participants should make their own assessment of the site's accessibility and decide whether a location is suitable for their own needs before attending.

Photography

- Photographs may be taken during the event for promotional and educational purposes and may be used on our digital platforms including social media. We do not take photographs of children without the permission of a parent or guardian. If you do not wish to appear in photographs, please let the organiser know on arrival.

Weather and Event Changes

- The event may be cancelled due to adverse weather, safety concerns, or other unforeseen circumstances. IWDG will try to give as much notice as possible about event changes and cancellations.
- All updates on the event will be provided through the event organisers' usual communication channels for example IWDG social media and website event page.
- The onus is on each participant to ensure that the event is going ahead before they make a journey to it. If in doubt please check the above referenced communications channels.

Liability and Participant Responsibility

- Organisers and landowners are not responsible for any personal injury, loss, or property damage sustained during the event.

Right of Admission

- IWDG reserves the right to ask anyone whose behaviour is disruptive, dangerous or likely to cause disturbance to wildlife to leave the organised event.

Thank you for helping us monitor and celebrate our marine wildlife while keeping yourself, others, and the wildlife safe.