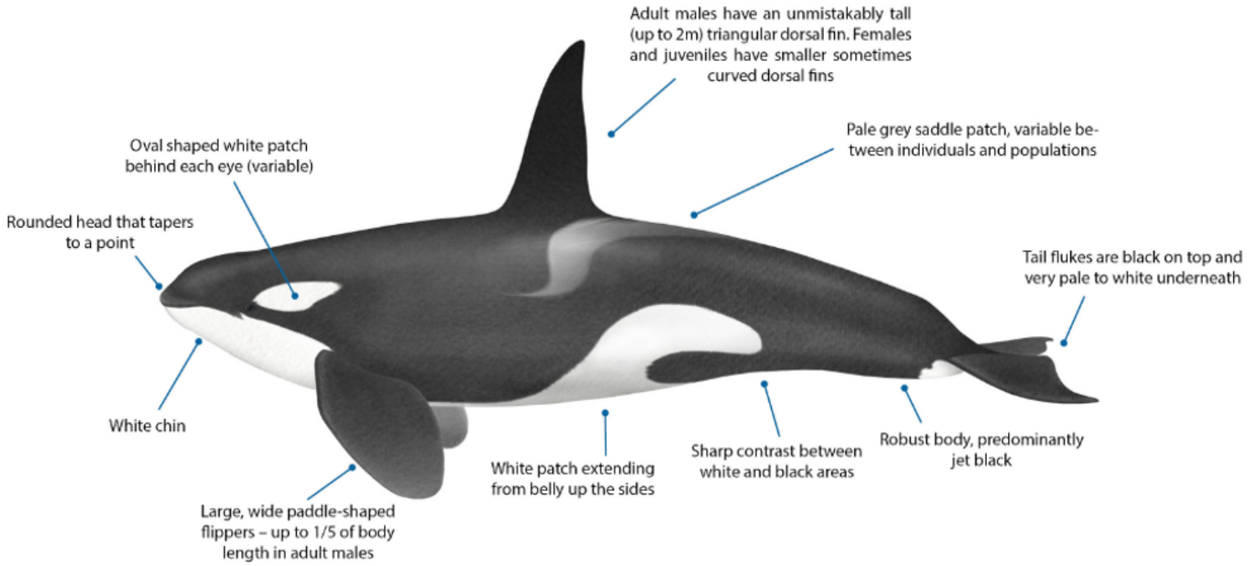
The Iberian orca (*Orcinus orca*)



A confusing fin...

Though their characteristics make them very distinguishable, orcas may sometimes be confused with other cetaceans that share the same habitat. From a distance, a group without adult males might initially be confused with Risso's dolphins (*Grampus griseus*), for example. However, once the bodies are visible, the white and black patterns will leave no doubt about the species in question.

Quick facts:

- Orcas belong to the family Delphinidae (same as dolphins and pilot whales).
- Adult size is between 5-6 m in males and 4-5 m in females.
- Adult males can weigh around 4,000 kg.
- Newborns are usually 2-2.5m long, weigh 160 – 180kg and present a cream coloration that later fades.
- The Iberian orcas feed mainly on Atlantic bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*).



Males (left) are larger than females (right) and have taller and straighter dorsal fins.

Orca blow and surfacing pattern



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Orca (*Orcinus orca*)













Not to be confused with

Common bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*)



Risso's dolphin (*Grampus griseus*)



False killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*)



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