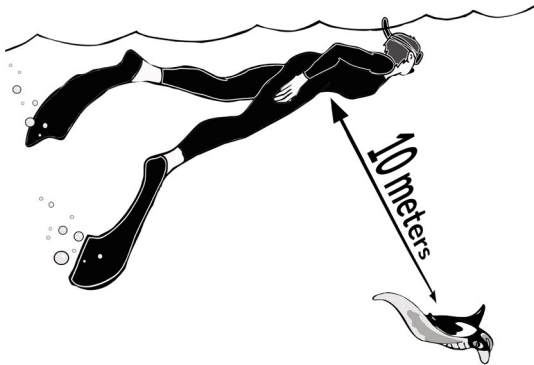


HOW TO SWIM WITH MANTA RAYS

By following this Tourism Code of Conduct, you will avoid disturbing the mantas you encounter. At the same time you will increase your chance of having a life-changing experience with these gentle giants.



STEP 1

Enter the water quietly and calmly, no closer than 10 meters / 33 feet from the manta ray.

STEP 2

Keep your fins below the water's surface when swimming. Splashing and noise can scare mantas away, so you want to approach as quietly as possible.

STEP 3

Do **NOT** approach closer than 3 meters / 10 feet. Instead, remain still and let the manta come to you.

STEP 4

You should approach the manta from their side, giving them a clear path ahead.



STEP 5

As the manta swims past you, **do NOT chase after it!** You will never catch up to a manta anyway, and will likely scare it away in the process.

STEP 6

Do **NOT** touch a manta ray. You will ruin the encounter, and may receive a fine depending on local laws.



STEP 7

For scuba divers only.

If you are diving with mantas, you will most likely be encountering them on a cleaning station. These are important sites for manta rays.

During the encounter, **remain at the side of the cleaning station. Do NOT swim onto the main cleaning area.**



STEP 8

For scuba divers only.

Keep low and hover close to the seabed, but **be careful not to damage the reef** beneath you. Depending on the dive site, you may need to stay in an area designated for divers.



STEP 9

For scuba divers only.

When a manta swims towards you, **do NOT block their path as they swim overhead.** Stay low, and stay where you are.

STEP 10

Be sure to **follow any extra rules**, laws and regulations that may be specific to the manta site you're visiting.

To watch a film version of this guide, and learn more about sustainable manta tourism, visit:

www.SwimWithMantas.org

This guide was created by:

