

A swimming pool is no place for a dolphin. These remarkable sea animals deserve to be free to swim the world's oceans with their family



The Asia for Animals (AfA) Coalition is composed of 15 animal welfare organisations that have a shared focus on improving the welfare of animals in Asia. We are committed to providing support to organisations to help with their campaigns to tackle some of the most pressing animal welfare concerns in the region.

Recycled Paper

Dolphins deserve better

Many scientists believe dolphins should be given “human rights” for their high intelligence and behaviour, according to “Scientific American” magazine, as they’ve been shown to demonstrate consciousness, self-awareness, individuality and tool use. It is morally unacceptable to remove dolphins from the wild for a life in captivity.



How you can help

- **NEVER** swim with dolphins or take part in dolphin-assisted therapy sessions.
- **DON'T** book rooms at hotels that have captive dolphins.
- **DON'T** use tour operators that book tours to marine parks, sea pens, etc.
- **WRITE** to your local Indonesian Embassy to call for a ban on dolphins in captivity in Indonesia.
- **REPORT** places that house dolphins, or other cetaceans (whales, porpoises) to **Jakarta Animal Aid Network** <http://www.jakartaanimalaid.com> and **Bali Animal Welfare Association** <http://bawabali.com>



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Don't pay for their suffering: stop the capture of wild dolphins for tourist attractions in Bali



Bali promotes itself as a “clean and green” tourist destination. But did you know increasing numbers of wild-caught dolphins are being held captive at several of the tourist island’s resorts? Together we can end this exploitative industry that threatens their welfare and survival.

End their suffering

The worldwide marine mammal captivity industry continues to threaten wild populations and inflicts suffering on thousands of individual animals.

Despite claims that the dolphins in resorts or “sea pens” are rescued from circuses or from



entanglement in fishing nets, sometimes awaiting rehabilitation for the wild, the reality is that these dolphins are caught to supply the lucrative trade. They are captured to be sold to commercial operations, fuelled by people’s desire to see these amazing animals up close. However, life in a swimming pool is miserable for these highly intelligent animals.



Death and trauma

Dolphins often die from acute stress as a result of being caught by fishermen. Once stolen from their natural environment, dolphins are transported to small enclosures that not only lack members of their social group, including family, but also the open waters to which they’re accustomed.

Dolphins can swim around 75km a day, attaining speeds of 36kph, diving to around a hundred metres below the water’s surface – so life in a swimming pool is an inconceivably terrible change for them.

Imprisoned

In Asia, many captive dolphins are confined in small tanks or swimming pools containing chemically treated water that can contain dangerous levels of chlorine. In some cases, dolphins have suffered eye damage, skin disorders and a decline in overall health due to poor water quality.



Wild and unpredictable

People have been badly injured swimming with captive dolphins. These are wild and unpredictable animals. The public may also be at risk of transmitting diseases to, and contracting illnesses from, dolphins.

Dolphin Assisted Therapy (DAT) programmes also exploit the hopes of vulnerable parents of autistic children. Families not only pay a heavy financial cost for this unverified treatment, but may forgo more effective treatments because of their emotional and monetary investment in DAT.



Lives cut short

Dolphins rarely live as long in captivity as they might in the wild. Their shortened lifespan may be caused by being fed inappropriate foods, and ingestion of foreign objects like glasses, coins and even cigarettes tossed into their tanks.

Forced to perform

The captive-dolphin industry would like you to believe that dolphins love to perform, but this isn’t true. In fact, it’s just a job to them. They’re trained to perform and are paid in food.

Tricks dolphins are trained to perform for the public – including rapid opening and closing of the mouth, and slapping the water surface with their tail flukes and flippers – are considered aggressive actions in the wild.