



Manx seal code of conduct: on land



OBSERVE, RESPECT, ENJOY

The Isle of Man has a breeding colony Atlantic grey seals and Common seals. Seals often come ashore in order to rest and breed. It is crucial to avoid disturbing these animals when they are ashore as seals can become stressed, which can lead to injury and compromise breeding ability. By adopting a safe and respectful approach, you will be able to enjoy a longer and safer encounter.



If you see a pup which appears to be alone, do not approach. Pups will be left ashore for several hours whilst their mothers are foraging out at sea. They will return later but can abandon the pup if they feel threatened.

Code of conduct

- Observe from a distance - minimum of 50m
- Be quiet and remain out of sight
- For a better view use binoculars
- Use a zoom lens for photography
- Keep children and dogs well away
- Make sure the seal has a clear access route to the water
- Never touch or feed a seal. They have sharp teeth and receiving a bite may result in an infection and the need for medical treatment

If injured contact ManxSPCA on 01624 851672
or if dead contact Manx Wildlife Trust
on 01624 844432.

The Islands' seals are protected through the Wildlife Act 1990. It is illegal to recklessly disturb or injure any seal species. Please have fun and enjoy your experience whilst being respectful.



For more information or to report any signs of disturbance contact the Isle of Man Constabulary Wildlife Crime Team on 01624 631212.



Protecting *Manx Wildlife* for the Future

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www.manxwt.org.uk

enquiries@manxwt.org.uk | Manx Wildlife Trust, 7-8 Market Place, Peel, Isle of Man, IM5 1AB | 01624 844432 | www.manxwt.org.uk
Registered Charity 225 IOM | Registered Company 5297 IOM