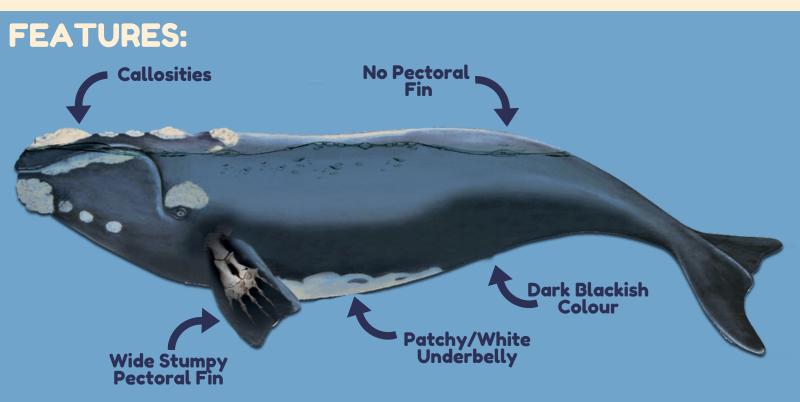


SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE

EUBALAENA AUSTRALIS







Breaching

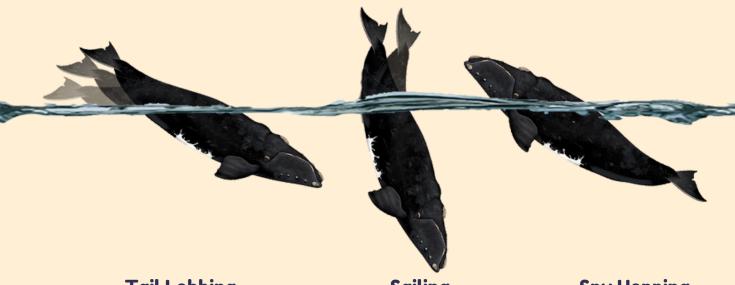
Launching out of the water

Blowing

Distinctive V-Shape. They also 'loaf' float/rest with only part of their body above the surface

Body Rolls

Rolling body on the surface, usually see pectoral fins.



Tail Lobbing

Slapping their tail fluke down on the water surface

Sailing

lifting their tail fluke in the air and letting the wind push them along

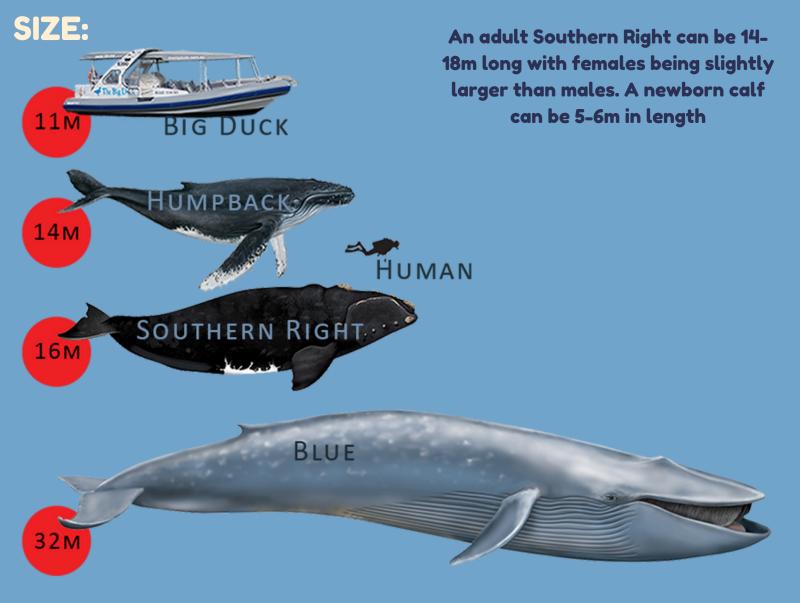
Spy Hopping

Raising their head out of the water. To see above the surface

DISTRIBUTION:

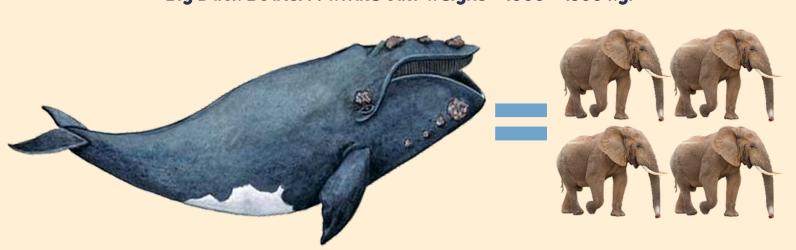
Southern Right Whales migrate to our relatively warmer waters during winter (June -September) each year to court, breed and calf. They then return to the Antarctic in summer to feed in the nutrient rich waters there. Their thick layer of insulating blubber means they stay at low latitudes and cannot cross the equator.





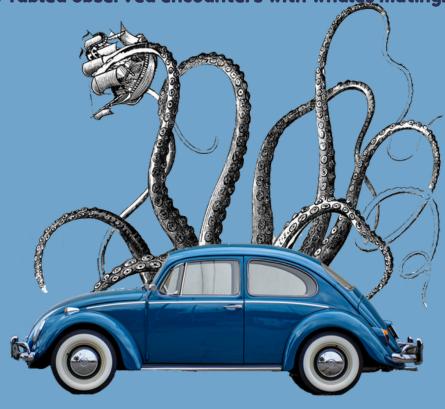
WEIGHT:

An adult Southern Right weighs ~23,000 kg - which is roughly 4x African Elephants or 4x Big Duck Boats. A whale calf weighs ~1000 - 1500 kg.



REPRODUCTION:

- The male Southern Right boasts some the largest genitals in the animal kingdom, with a pair of testicles weighing ~1-tonne (the weight of a VW).
- The penis can be up to 4m (12 feet) in length.
- It's surmised that the old sea-faring tales of sea-monsters and the mighty Kraken, are probably fabled observed encounters with whales mating.



FEEDING:

- Southern Right Whales are baleen whales, which means that do not have teeth, but instead long plates of comblike structures made of keratin.
- Baleen plates act like a filter as the whale swims through the water with their mouths wide-open engulfing large amounts of krill & copepods.
- Adult whales do not eat for the entire duration of their stay with us on the South Coast, returning to the waters of the Antarctic to feed.
- Whale Calves nurse from their mothers & can drink up to 150 litres of milk each day.

