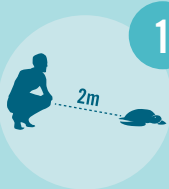


# Nesting Beach Code of Conduct

Sea turtles may be nesting on this beach. Please follow our simple code of conduct to avoid disturbing these beautiful creatures.

## NESTING TURTLES

Nesting females can be easily disturbed. Make sure that you:



### 1 DO NOT approach the turtle

Monitor her behaviour from a distance and only approach the turtle if she is laying/has laid eggs and stay at least 2m away. Otherwise, keep at least 10m distance between you and the turtle.



4

### Stay quiet

Noises might scare her away. Minimise talking and just enjoy the beauty of this natural process.



### 2 ALWAYS stay behind the turtle and out of her field of view

If she sees you, she may return to the sea before laying her eggs.



3

### DO NOT use white light or flash photography

Red light may be used, but should be kept out of the turtle's field of view.



5

### DO NOT touch or take the eggs

Only 1 out of 1,000 - 10,000 eggs will rear a hatchling that will survive to adulthood. We must give them all a chance.

## HATCHING TURTLES

This is an important time in a hatchling's life. Make sure that you:



3

### Watch your step!

Keep at least 2m distance. Even footprints in the sand can act as obstacles for hatchlings.



### 1 DO NOT use white light or flash photography

Red light may be used, but should be kept out of the hatchling's field of view.



4

### Let the hatchlings run down the beach on their own

Their frenzy-like behaviour is crucial for their survival! This is not stress, so please do not interfere. This natural process allows hatchlings to imprint on the magnetic signature of the beach and primes their flipper muscles for swimming.



2

### DO NOT handle hatchlings

Holding hatchlings can cause them to become stressed and use up their energy reserves. If some hatchlings appear disoriented or have gone inland, you may gently rotate them to face the ocean under the supervision of a biologist.



5

### Do not keep the hatchlings in buckets or in water

Hatchlings have limited energy reserves to get themselves to the sea and into the open ocean. Keeping them in unsuitable conditions can cause them to use up these energy reserves.

