

Dolphin ID

All dolphins are common bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) unless otherwise noted

How do you tell the dolphins apart?

The tail flukes and dorsal fin of each dolphin are one-of-a-kind (no two dolphins have the same shape or markings on their tail flukes or dorsal fin)! For this reason, we say that a dolphin's tail flukes and dorsal fin are a dolphin's fingerprints. Dolphins can also have special color patterns on their skin, freckles, and a personality that is all their own.

Betty

DOB: Undetermined, known to be in her 50s as of 2019

Key Features: white markings along dorsal fin & tip of rostrum, tail flukes and dorsal fin featuring many notches

Relations: mother of Aqe & Dazzle



Boomer

DOB: September 2, 2015

Key Features: curved dorsal fin, notch in dorsal fin, lower rostrum lighter in color than top rostrum

Relations: son of Shaka & Sunny



Briland

DOB: March 17, 2004

Key Features: lighter in color dorsally, pink ventral side, hooked dorsal fin, white on dorsal fin

Relations: no direct familial relations at Marineland at this time



Casique

DOB: April 30, 2002

Key Features: notch in tail fluke, long narrow rostrum, sloped melon, lightning bolt-shaped markings on rostrum

Relations: daughter of Dazzle



Dazzle

DOB: April 7, 1989

Key Features: D shaped notch in dorsal fin

Relations: daughter of Betty, mother of Casique



Lightning

DOB: Undetermined, estimated to be 42 years as of 2019

Key Features: large tail flukes that curve upwards

Relations: father of Miramar



Miramar

DOB: August 20, 2011

Key Features: high contrast between dorsal coloration and ventral coloration, short rostrum

Relations: son of Lightning



Dolphin ID

Niele*

DOB: June 30, 1994

Key Features: zigzagged dorsal fin, white on dorsal fin

Relations: no direct familial relations at Marineland at this time
**Niele means "nosy" in Hawaiian*



'Oli

DOB: July 8, 2016

Key Features: "lasagna noodle" dorsal fin, large melon, round body

Relations: son of Sunny



Shaka

DOB: Undetermined, known to be in her 30s as of 2019

Key Features: zigzagged edge of dorsal fin, freckles, largest female

Relations: mother of Boomer



Sunny

DOB: January 12, 1984

Key Features: longest of our dolphins, freckles, notch on peduncle

Relations: father of 'Oli, Boomer, Surge



Surge

DOB: September 29, 2016

Key Features: lower rostrum longer than top rostrum, lean body shape

Relations: son of Sunny



Tocoi

DOB: June 11, 2008

Key Features: notch in upper dorsal fin, dark lines around eyes

Relations: no direct familial relations at Marineland at this time



Zac

DOB: February 23, 1995

Key Features: largest by weight, triangular dorsal fin, darker in color

Relations: no direct familial relations at Marineland at this time
**Zac's grandfather was a Pacific bottlenose (*Tursiops aduncus*) dolphin, which may account for his larger size*



General Atlantic bottlenose dolphin facts

Scientific name: *Tursiops truncatus*

- Early scientists incorrectly believed that worn, truncated teeth were a characteristic of the species, giving the species the genus name "truncatus".

Average adult length in ocean: 7.2-8.9 feet

Average adult length in human care: 8.5 feet

Average adult weight: 485-595lbs

Average life expectancy in ocean: 8.3-17.4 years

Average life expectancy in human care: 22.8 years

- Survival rates of dolphins both in ocean populations and in human care have been increasing. Life expectancy may vary based upon geographic location and researcher study methods.

Source: AMMPA