

The Great white Shark

Carcharodon carcharias

Interesting Facts

- White sharks are the only shark known to poke their head out of the water to have a look at what is going on in the area.
- White sharks have the ability to move their teeth back and forth by about 10 degrees.
- Shark eyes are similar to cat eyes as they are able to magnify the amount of available light by reflecting light inside the eye on a series of shiny plates.
- White sharks can detect electric fields as weak as one hundred millionth of a volt, the equivalent of a torch battery with terminals separated by 1600kms.



- White sharks can accelerate very quickly up to speeds of 60 kmph over short distances
- White sharks only completely breach in South African waters.
- White sharks are quasi warm blooded and are able to maintain their body temperature about 5-10 degrees above the water temperature with some organs like the brain, stomach and eyes being up to 15 degree warmer.
- White sharks have about 300 teeth in their mouth at any one time, however, they only bite with about 80. They continually lose and replace teeth all way through their life.
- The white shark could lift 1500 kgs with its lower jaw; such is the strength of its bite.
- The jaws of the white shark are able to protrude out of the mouth in order to maximize the size and effectiveness of the bite.
- Have a natural smile!
- Male White Sharks have two penises
- The only real predators that the White Shark has are larger White Sharks and Killer Whales – and Humans

