

# Eschrichtius robustus

## Gray Whale - A Baleen Whale

These whales have two blowholes, shaping their spout into a heart.

Barnacles and whale lice

Knuckles: gray whales lack a dorsal fin and instead possess 6-12 bumps, or knuckles.

Spyhopping: behavior in which they pop their heads out of the water; common behavior exhibited by gray whales. Thought to be used for navigation, as well.

Sift through muddy sand with their baleen to eat amphipods.

Gray whales get their names from their gray spots, created by barnacle and whale lice scars.

Annual Migration: From Alaska to Baja, California 10-14,000 mile round trip. Feed in summer in Alaska in nutrient rich waters; breed in Baja in winter months. Swim at 4-5 mph, 85-100 miles per day, seasonal movements are predictable.



45 ft long, 35 tons  
Lifespan: 70 years

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