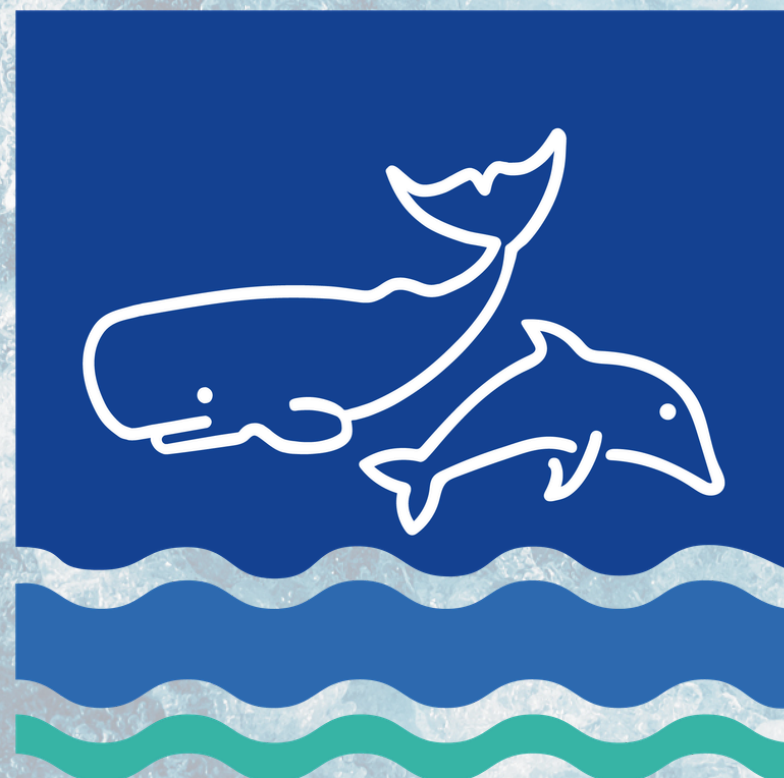




JDC EXPEDITION

Training Course:

“SCIENCE FOR THE BLUE”



**Jonian Dolphin
Conservation**
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

WHO WE ARE



Over the past decade, the way we approach and understand the wonders of the natural world has undergone a radical transformation. In this dynamic landscape, **Jonian Dolphin Conservation (JDC)**, with fifteen years of field experience, stands as an expert guide to explore the crucial issues related to marine conservation.

The beating heart of this mission is **Ketos**, a constantly growing center destined to become a point of reference for the community of Taranto, Puglia, a place of meeting and exchange of knowledge between people coming from all over the world. This cutting-edge research center offers coworking spaces and study rooms ideal for hosting training courses and practical activities in the fascinating world of science and research.

It is in this context that **JDC EXPEDITION** was born: the exclusive and professionalizing training course designed to provide a solid foundation of knowledge in marine ecology and biology, analyze the main threats to our ecosystems and discover how JDC is actively committed to countering them.

THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN A JDC EXPEDITION:

ONLY 16 SEATS

IMAGINE DEDICATING A WEEK TO THE SEA, DISCOVERY, SCIENCE. SEVEN INTENSE DAYS WITH A PROGRAM COMPLETELY DEDICATED TO THE SEA AND SUSTAINABILITY.

Through this path, you will have the opportunity to **learn fundamental research protocols**, actively participate in our campaigns at sea and contribute to broader scientific navigations.

At the end of the course, you will be able to design and develop advanced research activities, **actively contributing, through Citizen Science, to data collection and protection of our sea at Mediterranean and global level.**



THE AIM OF THE COURSE:

From theory to action, turn your passion into marine science with JDC.

1

Learn the **BEST PRACTICES** you can export into your own reality.

2

Deepen your knowledge on cetaceans of the Mediterranean Sea, with a focus on the Ionian Sea.

3

San Paolo Dolphin Refuge, learn about new unique projects as an alternative to captivity.

4

Ad hoc training for field research and data analysis activities.

5

Develop new skills for the dissemination and enhancement of **CITIZEN SCIENCE**.

6

Learn guidelines for developing new projects related to sustainability.



CALENDAR

JULY 2026 - from 20th to 26th

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE COURSE?

The course is open to students, researchers, volunteers, marine biology enthusiasts or anyone with an interest in conservation. The basic requirement is to become a JDC member and that you must be **OVER 18 YEARS OF AGE.**

BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH, the official language of the scientific world, is recommended. In fact, the course is open to all and available in two languages.

We will give priority to those who already have experience in the sector or those who have academic qualifications in the subject.



DAY 1

JDC AND MEDITERRANEAN SEA BIODIVERSITY

9.00 am - The meeting point is Ketos – Euro-Mediterranean Center of the Sea and Cetaceans. Welcome and meet the JDC team.

WORKSHOP 1: “The Cetaceans of the Mediterranean and How to Find Them”

Objective: You will discover which species and monitoring methods are used to study cetofauna with the guidance of JDC researchers.

Topic: In the Mediterranean Sea there are 12 regular species of cetaceans and many other occasional ones. Many of these also live or move in the waters of the Ionian Sea during their migrations.

ICE BREAKING

Welcome aperitif to break the ice and networking.



DAY 2

BIOACOUSTICS

CATAMARAN

Monitoring activities at sea

WORKSHOP 2: “Bioacoustics, how to record and analyze cetacean vocalizations”

Objective: You will learn what the main vocalizations are and what methods are used to record and analyze them.

Theme: In an era where the sea is increasingly noisy, it is essential to know how cetaceans communicate. Cetaceans' communication and survival is based on sound.



DAY 3

ETHOLOGY AND EUROPEAN DESIGN

WORKSHOP 3: “Ethology, the study of behavior and environmental drivers”

Objective: You will learn how to understand surface behaviors and, if we are lucky, some underwater behaviors thanks to the use of cutting-edge technologies.

Topic: Behavior is modified by the environment around us, studying the ethology of cetaceans means understanding their state of health in relation to the ecosystem.



The background of the entire page is a light blue illustration of an underwater scene. Numerous dolphins of various sizes are depicted swimming in different directions. Some are near the surface, while others are deeper. The overall tone is serene and aquatic.

DAY 3

ETHOLOGY AND EUROPEAN DESIGN

WORKSHOP 4: “Europroject Design, How to Grow Your Conservation Project”

Objective: You will study the marine environment, learn how to access calls for networking and accelerate development.

Theme: Every reality starts from a StartUp moment, focusing ideas, creating an identity and understanding where to go is fundamental.

LAND BASED MONITORING

Presentation of the protocol to be carried out in the following days for the land-based monitoring.

KETOS NIGHT - Dinner and networking with the team at the research center.

DAY 4

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION AND DATA ANALYSIS

WORKSHOP 5: “Photo Identification - from the fin to the name of the cetacean”

Objective: You will learn all the techniques of the protocol and try to analyze some photographic data.

Topic: Studying migrations has never been easier, taking and analyzing photos according to standard protocols allows you to monitor animals. Photo identification uses markers on the body of cetaceans to recognize each animal individually.

CATAMARAN
Monitoring activity at sea



DAY 5

GROUND MONITORING AND THREATS

LAND BASED MONITORING

WORKSHOP 6: “Threats and solutions for the protection of the sea”

Objective: You will learn what the main threats are and also know the solutions to deal with the anthropogenic pressure.

Topic: Human pressure is increasing day by day, increasing the threats to which cetaceans are subjected. Do we apply problems or solutions? Your choice can be the winning move.



DAY 5

GROUND MONITORING AND THREATS

WORKSHOP 7: “Strandings – Emergency manual”

Objective: You will learn the protocol to approach correctly when you find animals stranded along our coasts.

Topic: It often happens that animals are stranded along our coasts and the reasons can be different, from natural causes to human activities. The JDC experts will tell you some of the episodes on which they have intervened over the years.



DAY 6

CITIZEN SCIENCE AND COMMUNICATION

CATAMARAN - Monitoring activities at sea

WORKSHOP 7: “Scientific communication - your strategies for effective outreach”

Objective: You will learn some communication techniques to overcome blocks yourself and speak confidently in front of an audience or how to be effective on your social channels.

Theme: Today, between social media, public speaking and uncomfortable questions, it is increasingly important to convey news in the right way. There is a difference between being informative and popular, watchwords: EMOTION.



DAY 7

FINAL CEREMONY

WORKSHOP 8: “YOU AND THE FUTURE - From study to conservation policies”

After a week of workshops and experiences you’ll ask yourself “So, what do I do now?”. We know it is not easy to your way in this world, so our final woorkshop is just for you. We want to show you stories of those who made it, answer your questions, and share some tips to help you start shaping your future in marine conservation.

DEBRIEFING AND DELIVERY OF CERTIFICATES



ATTENTION: IN CASE OF ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS AND/OR CAUSES BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE ORGANIZATION, THE PROGRAM MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGES.



Participation fee

THE INITIAL PARTICIPATION FEE PROPOSED IS
TO PARTICIPANT.

€ 1.000

THE PRICE INCLUDES:

- **Membership fee for the year 2025** and all the member benefits.
- **Welcome Kit JDC.**
- **7 days of training: 50 hours** of theoretical/practical courses.
- Visit to the **San Paolo Dolphin Refuge.**
- **Research activity on board the catamaran** (approximately 10 hours);
- **Evening networking event.**
- **Meals** (Coffee Station, lunches and 2 dinners)
- **Teaching material and final certificate.**

THE PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Travel expenses **Shipping costs** **Accommodation** **Extra expenses of the student**

In this case, the association will provide SUPPORT in logistics, proposing affiliated activities and providing a list of recommended accommodation facilities and catering activities.

IMPORTANT NOTE: REGISTRATIONS EXPIRE 1 WEEK BEFORE THE START OF THE COURSE.

Payment Methods

Payment must be made once participation has been confirmed and registration has been completed. The payment deadline is **ONE WEEK BEFORE** the course begins.



CONCESSIONS:

EARLY BIRD:

Those who register by **June 10, 2026**, will receive a **20% discount**, with a final cost of €800.

AFFILIATED STRUCTURES

For your stay in Taranto, some structures have offered **discounted rates for booking accommodation**. A PDF will be sent to you upon registration.

VOLUNTEERS 2025:

can participate by accessing the **EARLY BIRD**.

CONTACTS

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