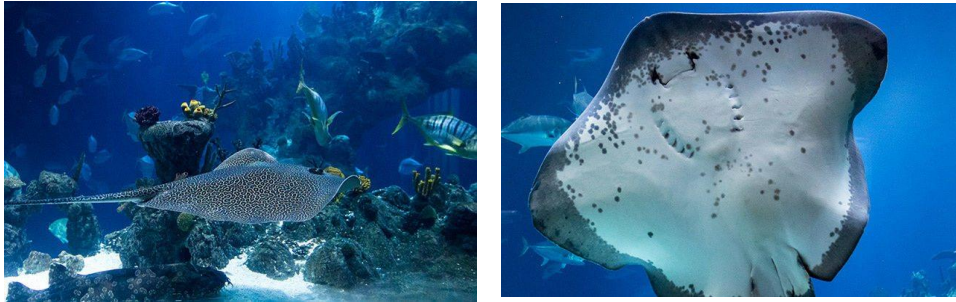


Stingray facts

Stingrays come in all shapes and sizes and are one of the most beautiful creatures in the sea, but let's face it, they are a little bizarre looking! Check out our cool facts about them, below...



1. Rays are flattened fish closely related to sharks.
2. These guys are pretty special as they have no bones in their body – their skeleton is made up of flexible cartilage (the bendy stuff that your ears and nose are made from!).
3. There are many different types of ray including stingrays, electric rays, butterfly rays, round rays, manta rays, guitarfish and sawfish.
4. Stingrays use a super set of senses to search for food. Special gel-filled pits across the front of their face, allow them to pick up electrical signals from other animals when they move! This helps them catch their prey.
5. Some never stop swimming and migrate in their thousands to feeding grounds each year. These large groups can reach up to 10,000 individuals and are known as a “fever“.
6. Rays protect themselves with venomous spines or barbs in their tail.
7. Stingrays feed on small fish, snails, clams, shrimp and other small creatures. Stingrays’ natural predators are sharks, seals, sea lions and other large fish.
8. Electric rays are named for their ability to use a strong electric current to stun prey and for defence from potential predators.
9. Sadly, stingray numbers are falling. This is because they are over fished and often used to make medicines.