

FAQs

Why are the dolphins leave the Zoo?

This transport follows a recommendation of the European Association of Zoos and Aquariums (EAZA) dolphin conservation programme, with the goal of ensuring the highest technical standards to keep the group together.

Now, there are international institutions collaborating in the marine mammal programmes of EAZA (European Association of Zoos and Aquariums). Hainan Ocean Paradise is a park with modern facilities and the most advanced technical means, which currently houses dolphins from other European institutions. The experience is proving to be satisfactory, which is why this decision has been taken within the conservation programme.

A key factor in the selection of the centre was the need to keep the group of dolphins together, which also contributes to their welfare and adaptation.

This modern zoo located in the privileged environment of Hainan Island has even built a complete veterinary hospital within the 2000 square metre Blue Ocean Conservation and Rescue Centre.

It's important to note that the facilities meet the strict Standards and Guidelines of the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums, an international umbrella organisation for marine mammal zoos and research facilities, and the requirements of the third-party certification programme for high quality zoos and aquariums known as the Humane ConservationTM programme.

What will happen to the Madrid Zoo dolphinarium?

The Zoo could collaborate as a temporary accommodation centre when the needs of other parks or institutions require it, while work is being done to resume educational activities in this space. Later, the adaptation of the dolphinarium for the conservation of other marine species will be considered.

How are the dolphins doing?

The dolphins have arrived safely, and they are acclimatising to their new facilities. The professionals who have looked after the welfare of these dolphins for years have travelled with them and will accompany them during the next few weeks in their process of adaptation and exchange of experience with the new team.

When will there be activities at the dolphinarium again?

We are working to resume educational activities in the coming months.