

## Hotelplan: Increased commitment to dolphins

**Hotelplan Suisse is intensifying its collaboration with the Swiss NGO OceanCare, focusing its attention on the company's commitment to dolphins. With education and awareness, customers are advised against visiting dolphinariums or swimming with dolphins. Corresponding offers are no longer actively advertised.**

The aim of Hotelplan Suisse and OceanCare is to make travellers aware of the dolphin problem. Hotelplan Suisse with the travel brands Migros Holidays, Hotelplan, Tourisme Pour Tous, Travelhouse and Globus Reisen is pursuing 6 measures that will be implemented within the next 18 months:

1. There will be no new offers for captive dolphins and whales in the program.
2. The swimming with dolphins in captivity is no longer actively offered and no longer advertised online and in the catalogues.
3. Tickets to captive dolphin and whale attractions are no longer actively sold and are no longer advertised online or in the catalogues.
4. Hotels with dolphinariums are explicitly listed in the catalogues as well as online.
5. Product and sales representatives of the tour operator Hotelplan Suisse are trained by experts from OceanCare.
6. A brochure will inform customers about the problem of swimming with dolphins and dolphin farming.

The Swiss tour operator takes more responsibility: Swim with dolphins is undoubtedly an unforgettable experience. Dolphins, however, are often savagely caught in the wild for the pleasure of holidaymakers. This also endangers the survival of whole populations. "Dolphins can travel up to 100 kilometres daily and live together in sophisticated family structures. No pool provides the conditions to maintain these natural behaviors. That's how many animals get sick and die early," says Silvia Frey, Ocean Care's Science & Education Officer. "Dolphins and whales can be respected in the wild on responsibly managed dolphin or whale watching tours. It is important, to raise the awareness of potential visitors to dolphinariums to make a difference. This is precisely where the increased cooperation between Hotelplan Suisse and OceanCare comes into play," adds Kurt Eberhard, CEO of Hotelplan Suisse.

Further information on the overall commitment of Hotelplan Suisse in the area of sustainability can be found at [www.hotelplan-suisse.ch/sustainability](http://www.hotelplan-suisse.ch/sustainability).

Source: OceanCare.org