

MARBEF's SPECIES GALLERY IMAGES IMPRESSIVE MARINE LIFE

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The EU-Network of Excellence on Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning (MarBEF) has recently launched a photo gallery containing images of a number of marine species which will help to visually show the variety of marine life found in Europe <http://www.marbef.org/speciesgallery>. These images will also be shown on the European Register of Marine Species web site (ERMS - <http://www.marbef.org/data/erms.php>) when appropriate. Everyone with reasonable quality pictures of marine species (from the deep sea to the intertidal zone, including brackish waters such as estuaries and mudflats) are encouraged to submit these images online or by email to info@marbef.org.

We believe that by contributing images to the MarBEF Species Gallery you are:

- promoting marine biodiversity (through providing information to as wide an audience as is possible);
- contributing to science (publishing pictures on the internet is comparable to publishing scientific data and information);
- increasing the general knowledge on marine life (a user can click on an image to find out the species name – ultimately leading to better identifications);
- making this marine biodiversity information available for general (non-commercial) use and joining in the philosophy of free and open access of data and information.

There are already some hundreds of pictures available, and genuinely there are many very beautiful ones! As long as the user has no commercial intentions these pictures are free to use, on the condition that the user acknowledges the author in accordance with the MarBEF copyright statement. Although it is always nice to receive high-quality photographs they do not necessarily have to be artistic, we are particularly interested in receiving pictures showing specific characters of the species and also pictures of the species in their natural habitat.

Special thanks go to all our contributors who so generously provided all these amazing pictures.

You can find the MarBEF Species Gallery and further info on:
<http://www.marbef.org/speciesgallery>.