Dingle Oceanworld – Expertise in Sea Turtle Rescue & Rehabilitation

Dingle Oceanworld Aquarium has been actively involved in the rescue, care, and rehabilitation of stranded and injured sea turtles for over **20 years**. Our dedicated team brings deep expertise in marine life conservation, with a strong focus on rehabilitating cold-stunned and distressed turtles that are often found stranded along the Irish coast due to oceanic drift and temperature changes.

Purpose-Built Facilities for Sea Turtle Care

Our aquarium is equipped with **state-of-the-art quarantine and rehabilitation units**, specifically designed to cater to the needs of injured or hypothermic sea turtles. These facilities include:

- **Temperature-controlled rehabilitation pools** that help regulate the body temperature of cold-stunned turtles gradually and safely.
- **Veterinary and diagnostic equipment** for performing health checks, blood work, and X-rays on arrival.
- **Isolation areas** to minimize stress and reduce the risk of cross-contamination.
- **Nutritional support systems**, including tailored feeding regimes based on the specific needs of each turtle during recovery.

These facilities ensure that rescued turtles receive the highest standard of care in a controlled, stress-minimized environment.

The Rehabilitation Process

1. **Rescue and Intake:** Upon discovery, stranded turtles are carefully transported to Dingle Oceanworld, where our team performs an initial assessment to determine the extent of injury or cold-stunning.
2. **Stabilization:** The turtle is slowly re-warmed in temperature-regulated tanks to prevent shock. Supportive care such as fluids, antibiotics, and nutritional support is administered as needed.
3. **Ongoing Monitoring:** Each turtle is monitored daily by trained aquarists and veterinarians, with regular assessments to track progress in mobility, feeding, buoyancy, and overall health.
4. **Pre-release Conditioning:** Once the turtle regains full health, it undergoes conditioning to build strength and adapt to ocean conditions. This stage ensures the turtle is fit for survival in the wild.
5. **Release:** In partnership with international conservation bodies, rehabilitated turtles are released back into warmer waters when conditions are optimal, often accompanied by tagging for post-release monitoring.

Dingle Oceanworld is proud to play a vital role in marine conservation and remains committed to the protection and rehabilitation of endangered sea turtle species. Through education, community involvement, and expert care, we continue to make a meaningful impact on the survival of these incredible animals.