

LEAFY SEADRAGON

The Leafy Seadragon (*Phycodurus eques*) is a rare, unique and spectacular fish found in the cool waters of Southern Australia. "Leafies" are masters of camouflage and males are "perfect" dads that will carry approximately 200 eggs on special brood pouches until the young hatch as 30mm long replicas of their parents. These gentle dragons appear to have a home range and they are popular with scuba divers who can anticipate their whereabouts in coastal waters. Leafy Seadragons are the only totally protected bony fish in South Australia and they are the subject of contemporary research to study behaviour, habitat and distribution. They are the unofficial flagship for marine life that is found nowhere else in the world. Southern Australia can boast more than 85% endemism for its marine flora and fauna. This compares favourably with an estimated 15% endemism for the Great Barrier Reef.



Actual size: 170 mm x 117 mm



This classic sized poster celebrates original artwork by Kangaroo Island artist, Bryan Balck, "Leafy", 1997.

Purchase of this card will assist efforts being made to promote the development of a world class Marine Interpretive Centre at Glenelg, South Australia's premier tourist precinct. The intention of this project is to raise awareness and understanding of our unique marine life heritage and the impact that we have as individuals on all aquatic life in the driest state of the driest continent on planet Earth.

X

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