Order LAMNIFORMES

Basking Shark

Family CETORHINIDAE

Gill 1861


Cetorhinus

Blainville 1816

cetus (L.), from ketos (Gr.) whale, referring to its size; rhinus, an ancient name for sharks, from rhine (Gr.), rasp, alluding to a shark’s jagged, rasp-like skin

Cetorhinus maximus (Gunnerus 1765) Latin for greatest, being the largest known fish (i.e., non-mammalian aquatic vertebrate) at the time (superseded by Rhincodon typus)