

# What's In A NAME ?

The name “saltwater crocodile” is somewhat misleading. Despite being masters at tolerating saltwater conditions Saltwater (Estuarine) Crocodiles are more accurately fresh water animals, being found not just in the coastal environs (and occasionally swimming hundreds of kilometers out to sea) but also up to 100km upstream and in freshwater swamps and billabongs (pools of water attached to a waterway).

Whilst being able to tolerate saltwater they cannot survive for ever in that environment. Being in saltwater causes dehydration and if the animal drinks the saltwater it increases the levels of dehydration. All crocodiles need to excrete the salt from their system. They do this by secreting the crystallised salt out through salt glands on the tongue.

