



CUNARD
THE MOST FAMOUS OCEAN LINERS IN THE WORLD™



New York to Southampton

Sightings Record

Whales, Dolphins, Porpoises and other Marine Ocean Life

Robin Petch - www.TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk



Thank you for joining me on deck throughout this Queen Mary 2 voyage and helping to spot and record whales, dolphins, porpoises and other marine life.

The detailed records of position, sea conditions and sightings add to the global record and knowledge of these magnificent creatures. I have the honour of serving as Chair of Sea Watch Foundation, the leading UK cetacean research charity which has been collecting sightings data since the 1970s to create Europe's biggest whale, dolphin and porpoise sightings database. This is used to inform EU and national governments, scientific and environmental

agencies and NGOs, as well as independent research scientists who have an interest in studying and protecting cetaceans and the marine environment.

- Monitoring the numbers and locations of whales and dolphins in order to gain valuable knowledge of the health of our marine environment, and insight into the effects of chemical pollution, noise disturbance, over-fishing, accidental capture in fishing gear and climate change
- Involving the public in scientific monitoring
- Raising awareness and understanding of marine mammals and the threats they face
- Educating, informing and advising for better environmental protection



Please do consider making a donation, or reporting future sightings to

www.seawatchfoundation.org.uk or via my own website

www.TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk

I hope to meet you again somewhere, sometime!

www.seawatchfoundation.org.uk

www.dolphinspotter.co.uk

www.TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk



Sightings – New York to Southampton

17/05/16 **New York** No sightings during departure

18/05/16 **At Sea** An amazing day, one of our best at sea, with multiple sightings!
Passenger sightings began before the start of our watch at 0700.

- 0600 Minke Whale reported close to the ship by Rob Young
- 0620 2 Humpback Whales reported a distance off the port side
- 0645 20+ (40+?) Dolphins and a probable Minke Whale reported close to the ship
- 0708 Humpback Whale c.2miles to starboard
- 0748 Minke Whale surfaced 4 times, close to starboard side
- 0804 Whale, unidentified, c.2miles off port quarter
- 0816 Minke Whale, close to starboard side
- 0823 Minke Whale, off starboard bow
- 0829 - 0837 5+ Whales 1-3miles to starboard, two probably Fin Whales, one probably Humpback, one Minke Whale within 250m
12+ Dolphins, probably Common, c.1mile to starboard
- 0845 25+ Common Dolphins leaping in to starboard side
- 0903 Northern Right Whale blowing, before diving c.1.5miles to starboard
- 0915 4+1 probable Sperm Whales 2-3miles to starboard, 3 breaches
30+ Common Dolphins to port, reported by passengers
- 0929 Whale, unidentified, 2miles to starboard
- 0945 8+ Common Dolphins at the starboard bow, 20-30 more and a whale further out
- 0955 5 Humpback Whales and 1 Minke Whale reported to port by Rob Young
- 0956 300+ Common Dolphins in 6 groups, and 4 unidentified whales (one of which breached) 1-3miles to starboard
- 0958 2 Sperm Whales resting on the surface, 1mile to starboard and a breach near the horizon
- 1002 6 Common Dolphins alongside
- 1012 Large whale lunging or breaching 3miles to starboard
- 1025 Sperm Whale 300m to starboard
- 1315 Large, probably Fin Whale, blew and surfaced, then 2 Sperm Whales, all spotted through our stateroom window!
- 1427 Possible Sei or Fin Whale, 2miles off starboard quarter
- 1432 Fin Whale and a second large whale, 1.5miles to starboard

Sadly, after this wonderful start, the Atlantic storm prevented further watches. At c.1415 on 20/5/16 we did see 5 dolphins from the library and Rob Young reported 10 to starboard at c.1800 on 24/5/16

Photographs – New York to Southampton on QM2



Minke Whale



Common Dolphin



Northern Right Whale



Common Dolphins



Fin Whale



Sperm Whale



Sei Whale



Northern Gannet