

Antigua 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 Aurora cruise 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!



Sightings – Antigua to Southampton

19/10/16	Antigua	Magnificent Frigatebirds flying around as we sailed
20/10/16	St Maarten	No significant sightings
21/10/16	St Lucia	Great sightings of Fraser's Dolphins on the ship's tour
22/10/16	Barbados	No significant sightings
23/10/16	At Sea	No significant sightings
24/10/16	At Sea	Only Flying Fish seen
25/10/16	At Sea	
	1204	The first Flying Fish recorded, sightings continued throughout the day
	1445	Quite upright blow, c.2-3miles to starboard, unknown whale species
26/10/16	At Sea	No sightings, declining sea conditions
27/10/16	At Sea	No watching due to poor sea conditions
28/10/16	Sao Miguel	Good encounter with Common Dolphins during the ship's tour but just a Cory's Shearwater on sailaway
29/10/16	At Sea	
	1700	Dolphin reported by passenger
	1710	Female Kestrel flying alongside and landed on aft rail!
	1807	4+ Dolphins
30/10/16	At Sea	
	1233	Whale surfaced c.1mile to port then again further away A flock of Starlings has also joined us on board!
31/10/16	At Sea	
	1129	5+ Common Dolphins, starboard side
	1240	30+ Common Dolphins, in small groups until 1310, heading west
	1539	4-5 Common Dolphins photographed leaping in to the side
	1550	4-5 Common Dolphins approaching starboard side

On the following page are photographs taken during the cruise to illustrate the sightings outlined above. Thanks you for your contributions, and company on deck and at my talks.

Photographs – Antigua to Southampton on Aurora



Magnificent Frigatebird (f) (Antigua)



Fraser's Dolphin (St Lucia)



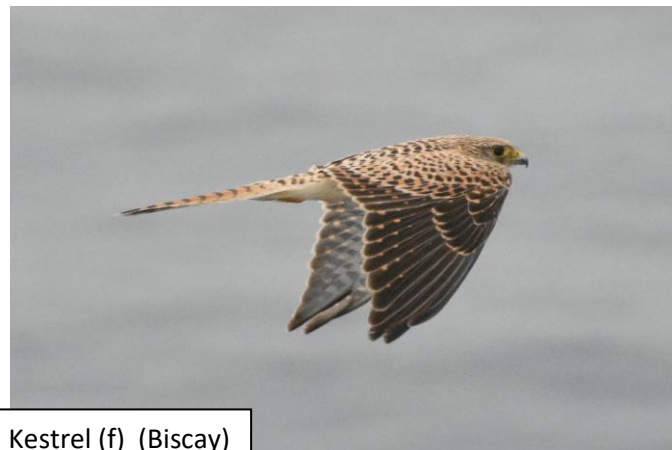
Fraser's Dolphin (St Lucia)



Common Dolphin (Azores)



Cory's Shearwater (Azores)



Kestrel (f) (Biscay)



Common Dolphin (Biscay)



Common Dolphin (Biscay)