



## Marine Wildlife Sightings Record Yuletide in East Asia

**A record of the interesting marine wildlife seen during the cruise which can be downloaded for free from [www.TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk](http://www.TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk)**

- 21/12/16 Leaving Port Kelang: Brahminy Kites and White-bellied Sea Eagle soaring over the coast and Swallows around the terminal. Terns and a Heron late in the day.
- 22/12/16 Arriving at Penang: A White-bellied Sea Eagle, Terns and a couple of probable Petrels. Also unusual long-bodied fish leaping/flying away from the ship on three separate occasions.
- 1855 4-5 Indo-Pacific Humpbacked Dolphins swam past the ship as we cast off!
- 23/12/16 Three Frigatebirds and quite a few Flying Fish on the sail-in to Phuket. Brahminy Kite hunting in the harbour area on and off all day.
- 24/12/16 A White-bellied Sea Eagle hunting frequently near the Langkawi Star Cruises pier, as well as a few Herons. A large Jellyfish, with long tentacles also seen.
- 25/12/16 1120 3 Frigatebirds, probably Greater flying above or near the ship  
1210 White-bellied Sea Eagle flew across our wake, between the islands  
1323 Two groups of Dolphins (25+, 8+), possibly Spinner, c.1.5miles to port  
1535 15+ Bottlenose Dolphins (probably the tropical "aduncus" species) approached the port side and bow, then surfed in the wake  
1410 8+ Dolphins, possibly Spinner c.1.5miles to port  
**Not a bad way to spend Christmas Day! MERRY CHRISTMAS**
- 26/12/16 Monitor Lizards in the Malacca River and harbour
- 27/12/16 A large Cuckoo-like bird and a couple of Frigatebirds
- 28/12/16 1238 Large leaping fish  
Distant birds and lots of oil/gas rigs as well as our first view of Krakatoa, WEST of Java, or EAST of Sumatra!
- 29/12/16 A Masked Booby and a couple of Frigatebirds near Krakatoa and then 3 or 4 more and a couple of Terns, Swifts or Swallows off Jakarta and a Dragonfly on deck! Passengers also spotted a Ray on the starboard side earlier in the day and a Dolphin, possibly Bottlenose, on the starboard side at 1206.
- 30/12/16 1120 8+ Terns flying near the ship  
1230 Frigatebird

- 31/12/16 0925 5 (3+2) Dolphins port side, one small. Described by passengers as mid-grey, with the youngster silvery. Possibly therefore Bottlenose
- 1047 5 (2 mother and calf pairs, plus one other) Bottlenose Dolphins
- 1054 Sea Snake
- 1058 2 Bottlenose Dolphins close to starboard and three more further aft
- 1225 Shoal of Tuna and smaller fish leaping to starboard
- 4 more Sea Snakes, and a couple of small Sharks seen by 1545

There were no further sightings 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Jan around Singapore or during what turned out to be the final voyage to Port Kelang. It was a pleasure to be part of Voyages of Discovery and I shall miss the ship and all the wonderful people who worked and sailed on her. I hope I will meet you again somewhere,

*Robin* [www.TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk](http://www.TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk)



White-bellied Sea Eagle, Langkawi, Phuket and at sea



Bottlenose Dolphin 26/12/1628/11/16



Monitor Lizard, Melaka (Malacca)



Frigate Bird (f), South China Sea, Krakatoa & Jakarta



Dragonfly, Deck 8 fwd, Jakarta



Bottlenose Dolphin, mother & calf, New Years Eve