

Magellan Sightings Record

A record of Whales, Dolphins, Porpoises and other Marine Life

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I hope you enjoyed joining me on deck throughout the cruise and helping to spot and record whales, dolphins, porpoises and other marine life. There were amazing opportunities throughout to spot many different species and these are all recorded on the following pages. Thank you for your support.

If you would like a 7x5 (or larger) print of any of the photographs included in the report, these are available to order from my website. Sales support my own work and also include a donation of at least 20% to Sea Watch Foundation.

The detailed records kept 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



To keep in touch with my activities, please request to be added to my free mailing list. Check out the latest news on the websites below.

Magellan – Norway & Northern Lights (28/10/18 – 11/11/18)

28/10/18 TILBURY

No sign of “Benny the Beluga” during the sail-away but plenty of Herring Gulls and Black-headed Gulls, a few Great Black-backed Gulls and a Glaucus Gull!

29/10/18 ROTTERDAM

A Grey Heron and a Great Crested Grebe were spotted by a passenger in the Old Port. During the sail-away we saw Black-headed and Herring Gulls, Cormorants, Mute Swans and Crows.

1601 2 Harbour Porpoises off the starboard bow as we left the river, first spotted by passengers.

1603 2 Harbour Porpoises off the port bow.

During the evening a passenger (7058) reported “what looked like a petrel!” based on its size and colour, flying the length of the ship before disappearing into the dark.

30/10/18 SEA DAY (Sea State/Wind Force 10-11!)

Late in the day, a couple of Great Black-backed Gulls were flying to starboard.

31/10/18 NORDFJORD (AM), OLDEN (PM)

0951 5 White-beaked Dolphins swam across the bow and then down the port side, 50 metres off, between the ship and a small headland. (Photograph from an earlier trip, off Whitby)

1003 Probable Harbour Porpoises, possible Dolphins, in Hundvik Bay, 1½ miles away to port.

1147 5 White-beaked Dolphins, then 2 more, initially 200 metres to port/aft then racing away, just as we began the approach to Olden quayside.



Herring and Common Gulls, Cormorants and an Osprey were also seen during the morning.

Passengers reported Swans (likely Whooper), 10 adult and 7 immature, on Lake Floen and 2 Dippers on River Olden.

01/11/18 KRISTIANSUND

Cormorants and Eider Ducks were reported by passengers and as well as these we saw Great Black-backed Gulls, Herring Gulls and 10 Herons in tress around the harbour. A Raven was spotted on Grip Island and during the sail-away, more of the same as well as an immature White-tailed Sea Eagle. Passengers later reported 2 Eagles on the journey along the Atlantic Ocean Road and 5 White-tailed Sea Eagles on Halolmen Island as well as Red-breasted Mergansers, Black Guillemots and Tufted Ducks.

02/11/18 SEA DAY, off LOFOTEN ISLANDS

Only a single Gannet and a 2yr old Herring Gull seen during a windy grey morning! Later in the day, a few Kittiwakes and other Gulls including Great Black-backed. Cormorants were also reported.

c.1400 3 or 4 Dolphins reported off the starboard bow and also a few others further away by two different passengers. These are likely to have been White-beaked Dolphins.

03/11/18 ALTA

1145 2 Seals swimming from the landing stage concrete ramp at the end of the airport runway.

Long-tailed Ducks and Mallards spotted by passengers at the Alta Museum. Gulls around the bay. And of course, the Northern Lights.



04/11/18 HONNINGVAG

Only a few Herring Gulls during a grey, wet sail-in and some Jackdaws around the harbour.

05/11/18 TROMSO

c.1055 2-3 Orca (Killer Whales), mid fjord (too far for good photographs), heading towards the bridge.

As expected at this time of year, large numbers of whales have arrived in the fjords “near” Tromso, feeding on the large shoals of herring... but 50 miles to the north. This is 2½ hours or more each way by fast boat. Sadly the timing was too tight to go and see them. Photograph is one I took in Canada but similar to the sighting here in Tromso.



06/11/18 SEA DAY

A few Great Black-backed Gulls and one or two Gannets

07/11/18 TRONDHEIM

0800 Passengers spotted 5 Geese flying in a “V” formation as the ship moored. The usual Herring Gulls and a few Cormorants were also around the port and Hooded Crows in town (see right).



08/11/18 ANDALSNES

1015 Large Eagle flying in the valley towards Bjorli and a White-tailed eagle sitting on a stone in the river, seen by passengers.

1400 Eagle, far side of the river towards the fjord and wool factory, flying along the road along the mountainside.

1630 2 Harbour Porpoises working the far shoreline.

Earlier there was an Eagle along the far ridgeline and a number of Herring Gulls and Cormorants over the water. Around the town there were Crows, and one or two Ravens as well as a small mammal on the rocks and swimming in the fjord near the ship. Later, quite a few Jellyfish, mainly Lion’s Mane (see right), drifted past the ship before departure.



09/11/18 **BERGEN**

0815 Seal, looking at the ship, spotted by passenger

Lunchtime Porpoises reported, apparently feeding, aft of the ship, out in the fjord.

10/11/18 **SEA DAY (Force 8 winds and rough seas)**

Just a few glimpses of Gannets and possibly Kittiwakes from behind the screens on Deck 10 midships.
Thank you to all those who came for a chat and to watch from a while.

I hope you enjoy the report and the photographs. Copies of the photographs in 7x5" format are available on request (£6 each or 2 for £10) from robin@TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk, every purchase supports my work and the Sea Watch Foundation. Please visit, and perhaps make a donation at, the websites below:

www.TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk

www.seawatchfoundation.org.uk

You can also sign up to make *free* donations to the charity of your choice, every time you shop! I'd love it to be Sea Watch Foundation but you may have another charity you'd like to support. It takes 5 minutes of your time and from that time on, the shopping site you are using will make a donation every time you buy!

Sign up at: **smile.amazon.co.uk** and **easyfundraising.org.uk**

To keep in touch with my activities, please request to be added to my free mailing list. Check out the latest news on the websites below.

www.TheWhaleandDolphinMan.co.uk

www.seawatchfoundation.org.uk