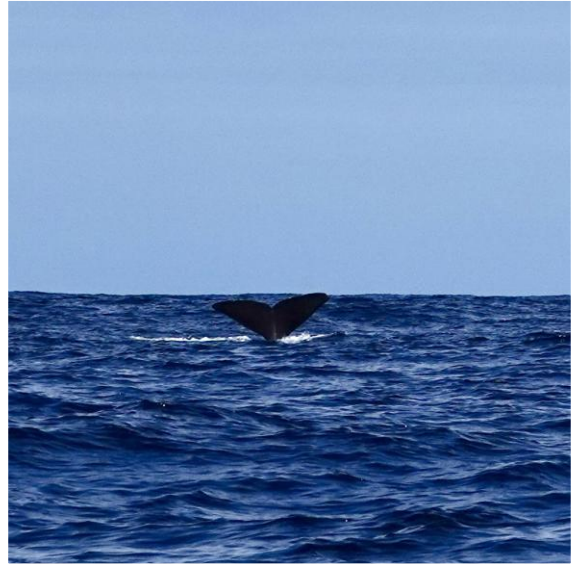


Tour Report Whales & Dolphins of the Azores 11 – 18 May 2025

Fogo Caldera



Sperm whale



Bottlenose dolphin



Azorean robin



Compiled by Helen Bryon

Sunday 11 May 2025

Day 1:

London Heathrow to Ponta Delgado

Weather: sunshine at our destination, 17°C

Our party of eight came together in stages today. Four flew out on the group flight from London to Lisbon with Helen, meeting at the Heathrow departure gate. Another two joined us there having flown in from Manchester, and although our onward connection to Ponta Delgada was delayed, we made up a little time in the air, arriving 20 minutes behind schedule. Met by Stephanie and Raquel, we were dropped off at the lovely Hotel Caloura in time to make our dinner rendezvous with the final member of the group at 20.30. We tucked into our buffet meal and lapped up the 180-degree views afforded to us by our cliff-top position on Sao Miguel's dramatic south coast. Our beds were more than welcome after our long travel day and we drifted off to the chatter of Cory's shearwaters roosting in the cliffs beneath us. Welcome to the Azores!

Monday 12 May 2025

Day 2:

Whale watching and Furnas excursion

Weather: rain to start, clearing to sunshine, 18°C

Waking up to a dramatic low, grey cloud swirling against dark, rain-drenched cliffs, the scene was certainly atmospheric as we met up for breakfast at 07.15. The view out to sea promised blue sky and sunshine ahead, and we weren't disappointed. We were collected apologetically by Brazilian skipper Savi, two minutes after our scheduled pick up of 08.15, and soon found ourselves at whale watching HQ in Vila Franca do Campo, a short drive along the coast to our east. In bright, glorious sunshine, we signed a waiver and were introduced to our Portuguese naturalist guide, Alex, and to our skipper who conveniently shared the same name. After a safety briefing and an introduction to the resident and migratory species that we hoped to see, we donned the good quality waterproof dungarees and outer layer provided, along with our life jackets and were ready to go.

The group had opted to sit towards the back of the 28-seater RIB for a less bumpy ride and we set off from the safety of the marina in a southerly direction. With the wind in our hair, calm conditions, and Cory's shearwaters skimming the waves around us, it was only ten minutes into the ride when we enjoyed our first sighting, bottlenose dolphins. The pod of perhaps 20-30 individuals leisurely swam ahead of us, slicing through the water surface with ease. For the next 20 minutes, we stayed with them, their dorsal fins always in sight and an occasional leap clean out of the water, an utter delight.



Leaving them, we soon came across a few of their smaller cousins, short-beaked common dolphins. Distinctive with their pale yellow hourglass pattern on their sides, they disappeared as quickly as they'd arrived and we headed straight out to sea at full throttle. Sometime later as we were lost in our thoughts, eyes raking the ocean around us for blows, breaches, flukes, gatherings of birds and other signs of activity, a dolphin suddenly leapt out of the water on our port side. Literally, right next to us, its action elicited squeals of delight, being so close that it looked as though it may land in the vessel!

Continuing on, common terns flew above us and we eventually came to a stop. At this point, naturalist Alex explained that one of our cliff top spotters (who spends their day glued to binoculars capable of seeing 32 kilometres out sea) had seen blows from a baleen whale, as yet unidentified, and our plan would be to stay in the area to see if it may surface. It felt like we were halfway to Antarctica, but we were 24 kilometres out and we bobbed in the Atlantic, all eyes on storks for a blue, fin, sei or possibly humpback whale. After some time with no sign of life, we turned back towards Sao Miguel, still scanning in every direction, coming across

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a larger group of short-beaked common dolphins. We got a good look at them as they moved acrobatically through the waves hunting. After they dived, they were usurped closer to land by bottlenose dolphins once again. It was certainly proving to be a dolphin-tastic morning.

Towards the end of our excursion, we approached and circumnavigated Vila Franca Islet (something we would do every day), a volcanic caldera just offshore Vila Franca do Campo. The result of a single explosion 4,000 years ago, it is now a protected breeding site for Cory's shearwaters. Opportunistic yellow-legged gulls loitered on the cliffs, nesting too, but also waiting for the right moment to predate on shearwater eggs and chicks. We were advised that whimbrels and ruddy turnstones can sometimes be seen on shelves just above the waterline, but today, red rock crabs showed themselves, clinging onto the basaltic layered rock. We headed back to the marina, not having seen any whales, but knowing that we had had a taster of what was to come.



In the now hot sunshine, we drank locally produced green tea and then met Austrian Flora, our guide for our afternoon excursion to Furnas. Half an hour later, having driven through lush pastures and fields full of cows, along winding roads lined with azaleas, arum lilies, lantana and hydrangeas about to burst into flower, we arrived at our destination. Heading straight for Vale de Furnas, our lunch spot, we were looking forward to being treated to a local speciality, cozidos. Local cheese laced with chilli sauce and bread was for starters, after which a huge (and I mean huge) plate of chicken, pork, sausage, black pudding, potatoes, carrots and cabbage arrived that had been steamed for six to eight hours by geothermal activity. It proved to be a hit! Followed by fresh pineapple grown on the island, and coffee, we departed to view the town's fumaroles not far away. Giant billows of water vapour were being disgorged into the atmosphere, and we walked past steaming mud pools, bubbling springs and natural water fountains, all accompanied by the lovely smell of sulphur!

Later, a visit to the botanical gardens saw half of the group explore the flora and fauna found there, while the other half indulged in a swim in a large thermal pool the colour of gravy. It was a far nicer experience than it sounds! To finish off a great first day, we visited a neo-gothic church built beside a crater lake and then enjoyed the views at the 'Isla Verde' which was shown off beautifully in the late afternoon sunshine.

Home by 17.45, we relaxed before meeting for an animated dinner at 19.30 where we discussed favourite destinations, bucket lists, shared loves of cheese, cake, and more, as we got to know each other. Helen briefed the group on tomorrow's plan and we retired to bed early, more than ready for adventures yet to come.

Tuesday 13 May 2025

Day 3:

Whale watching and Fogo excursion

Weather: sunshine with cloud at high ground, 18°C

Our day got off to a great start with 25 minutes of endorphin-inducing bottlenose dolphins not long after we'd left Vila Franca do Campo's marina! With sunshine and calm seas in the offing, we split up today, with half of the group occupying the front four seats of the RIB and four remaining at the back. All happy with their choices, we had the dolphins energetically swimming our bow, leaping high out of the water, surfacing together in small groups, and the encounter just went on and on. Fantastic.

Conditions were perfect and grinning madly, we left them to head south out to sea, stumbling across perhaps four or five short-beaked common dolphins who turned up out of nowhere, swimming head-on to us like

rockets from starboard to port cutting right underneath our bow as they went. We slowed in case a larger group was following them but when no further individuals appeared, we continued, stopping a short while thereafter to learn that our spotter had previously seen a number of whales in the area, so the idea was to sit and wait for them. Suddenly, there was a blow. It was very low and we couldn't see much more of the animal but it blew again. It was clearly on the move. After a few more blows, it moved to the west, framed by Sao Miguel some way behind it, and we could see the brown skin and smooth, rounded dorsal fin of a juvenile sperm whale swimming briefly ahead of the bow. Probably left on the surface while an accompanying adult went to feed, it kept moving and we eventually lost sight of it. Through moving the RIB and scanning the horizon constantly, we found it again and moved towards it, always keeping a respectful distance and not approaching directly from behind. We kept seeing blows but the whale kept moving and eventually, an adult appeared for a short while, seemingly leading it away. It was a start though, we'd seen our first two whales briefly and were very much hoping for more.



With the wind picking up, it was a bumpier ride as we did a wide arc back towards Sao Miguel's south coast and headed in a westerly direction along it, circumnavigating Vila Franca Islet, and arriving back at the marina shortly before 12.00. A quick green tea to rehydrate later, and we walked up to the Black Whale restaurant in town, where we would have lunch for the rest of the week. A local shredded cod dish with creamy potatoes or pork chops with salad were on the menu and both proved to be tasty. Following Queijadas da Vila, a delicious local individually wrapped cheesecake-type dessert covered in icing sugar, and coffee, we were picked up by guide Alex, and we headed for Fogo.



Our second caldera of the trip, Fogo is an untouched crater lake with no human habitation at all. Climbing up to 800 metres above sea level, the views over the south coast were stupendous and we caught our first glimpse of the northern side of the island too. We drove into cloud cover and parked up at a viewpoint not expecting to see much of the lake on the other side, but to our surprise, the cloud lifted and we were treated to full views of the crater lake that had an almost Washington State/British Columbia type quality to it with its tall cedars, clear water and grey sand beach. The colours in the water were gorgeous, and the shadows of clouds drifted across the surface, as yellow-legged gulls

flew at eye level, and below us, two seemingly courting and one flying over us with an injured leg by all accounts. We drove to two more viewpoints that just got better and better and we could clearly see the Atlantic Ocean behind the crater wall to the east.

Dropping down onto the northern aspect of the island, we drove to Salto do Cabrito, a waterfall and hydroelectric plant where we were greeted by incense trees and an obliging Azorean chaffinch who posed for photos on a branch, on the path and rocks. After admiring the waterfall, our first Azorean robin landed on a fence post, dipping down into the grasses below and then a super inquisitive cockerel paraded around our vehicle. We continued to Caldeira Velha, a dense, verdant, and tree-fern-filled ravine where some of us bathed in the hot thermal springs and others walked up and down, enjoying the lush, tropical foliage while searching for frogs.

Our last stop for the afternoon was Ribeiro Grande, the surfing capital of Sao Miguel located on the north coast. Here, Alex talked us through a series of World War II bunkers located within the lava rocks and we watched wall lizards scurry here and there, disappearing into crevasses. We then walked down to the black sand beach hoping to find it littered with Portuguese Man-o-war so that we could take a close-up look at

these incredible multi-faceted organisms, but with none to be seen, we drove the twenty minutes back to our hotel for some well-deserved downtime. While half of the group enjoyed 'Happy Hour' and sampled a few cocktails, we gathered together for dinner at 19.30, enjoying another great meal and talking well into the evening.

Wednesday 14 May 2025

Day 4:

Whale watching

Weather: sunshine and cloud, 18°C

A forthcoming change in the weather, with high winds forecast for tomorrow had resulted in a change to our schedule meaning two whale-watches today. We were quite excited about this, intending to use the few spare hours after lunch, to walk around town and explore Vila Franca do Campo.

With more of the group moving towards the front of the RIB, we left a grey Sao Miguel behind us and headed towards the clearer skies offshore. Within minutes we were surrounded by a large and active group of bottlenose dolphins, staying with them for 20 minutes or so, during which Sophie, our Irish naturalist, gave a running commentary on their behaviour and habits. Providing plenty of detail, we observed them moving with their usual grace and agility through the somewhat choppy ocean as she talked. They played and leapt all around us with one particular highlight being an inquisitive individual close on our port side, who repeatedly lifted its head right out of the water, seemingly checking us out. Three times it popped up and by the time we'd trained our cameras on it, it, of course, disappeared under the waves. What do they say? Never work with animals or children!



We continued south, with our skipper making obvious turns at various points, and we hoped that the lookouts had seen something. By 10.15 we had run into a group of short-beaked common dolphins. They were on the move, furiously darting through the waves, dorsal fins barely visible through the white water they were creating. Most likely hunting, they changed direction repeatedly, speeding across our bow, with just a few coming to ride it. They kept us entertained for a further 20 minutes or so until we moved quite far east, just off the coast of Povoacao, and began heading west toward Vila Franca do Campo. As we got closer, we were asked to look up, and there, high above us,

was the small figure of Nicole, one of our spotters, waving from her clifftop lookout. Soon after, more dorsal fins were spotted between us and the land, and we were back with a small group of bottlenose dolphins. Moving in a far more leisurely manner, they swam briefly around us, we then visited Princess Ring Islet, noticing the clarity of the water, and by 11.45, were back in the marina.

Helen had told the group about a fisherman who carved whales out of Japanese cedar and she suggested trying to find him en route to the Black Whale restaurant. We were delighted to find him by the old port and after a quick survey of his wares, we advised we'd be back after lunch for a closer look. After tucking into roast chicken or ox-tail, we split up to walk the streets of the town.

Admiring lava bricks, white-washed and colourful low-lying buildings often adorned with ceramic tiles depicting various saints, we visited a local supermarket, and a pottery museum, and saw our first collared doves and starlings as we walked along the coast. We returned to our whale carver and sat in the sunshine eating ice creams until our second whale watch at 15.40.

After the safety briefing, there was a delay in providing everyone with waterproof gear and we were advised that the spotters had not yet given us the green light to depart due to concerns about wind. The crew returning from the 13.00 whale-watch had told us it was incredibly choppy out there so we waited for their

decision. At 16.30, the departure was cancelled and we all agreed that safety had to come first. Knowing that we could re-schedule, subject to the weather, of course, we returned to Hotel Caloura and enjoyed a very welcome few hours of downtime. The sun was shining, the pool and bar were open, and we gathered for dinner at 19.30.

Thursday 15 May 2025

Day 5:

Azorean whaling history, vigia visit and Priolo quest

Weather: overcast, 18°C

With high winds forecast, we were land-based today so enjoyed a lie-in accordingly, breakfasting when it suited us and gathering in Reception for our 09.00 transfer to HQ. Here, we met French naturalist, Mary Lou, a resident here for ten years, who took us through an informative presentation on the history of whaling in the Azores. The first official record of whaling here is dated 1851 taking place on islands to the west, Flores, Faial and Pico, before reaching Capelas on Sao Miguel in 1945.

Whaling was not a career as such, instead, many villagers had one vessel, powered by five to seven men using oars, who when news of a whale off the coast reached them, downed tools and left their day jobs to try and reach it. Fires were lit on the clifftops by spotters who laid out clothes and flags to show the direction of travel. Many of these men could not swim, many lost their lives getting caught in ropes once the harpoonist had wounded the animal, and we watched televised documentaries with old whalers who spoke of vessels breaking up. We learnt how the whales were rowed back to land until engines were introduced in the 1920s and 30s, and how the various body parts were used. Spermaceti oil-powered lights and candles were made from it, while bones became corsetry and umbrella handles with teeth decorated into scrimshaw. Here, whale meat was never eaten, instead, it was broken down and used as fertiliser. We were taken through the unique physiognomy of sperm whales, discovering the natural purpose of spermaceti, and to conclude, were advised that whilst the whaling era is not celebrated, it is part of the culture here and efforts are being made to educate and preserve information for the next generation.

45 minutes later, we walked across the marina to view a replica whaling vessel, 'Senhora de Fatima', moored just outside and then were driven to the next village, Ponta Garca, passing multiple tractors and milk being delivered on horseback en route. We then met Nicole and Miguel, two of the full-time spotters, based in a small white-washed building on the edge of a sheer cliff. They talked us through what they look for, how they recognise species, and how they plot their whereabouts in order to direct skippers to the right place. We all had the chance to look through various binoculars and one eagle-eyed client found some dolphins close to a boat perhaps five kilometres out to sea! An impressive feat, especially in choppy conditions.



Returning to Vila Franca do Campo via a lighthouse also used as a spotting point, the wind was picking up as we stopped for lunch (pork or fish today). We were picked up at 13.30 and as we left town, a lone dog trotted along a pavement holding a basket in its jaws! Crossing the island, we drove through cloud cover to the clear north coast, before heading east to a small patch of indigenous forest, home to an endemic bird, the Azorean bullfinch. Known locally as Priolo, it is now confined to the far eastern extremities of the island. Meeting Luis and Lucia, who work for the Portuguese equivalent of the RSPB, we learnt of their demise not only due to habitat loss but primarily due to persecution in the 1800s when the orange industry was booming. Having a penchant for orange blossom, Priolo had a bounty on their heads and were almost wiped out as a result. To try and find them, we commenced a botanical walk through Japanese cedar woodland to a low-lying laurel forest learning about the vegetation as we went. Unfortunately, despite May being a good

time to find them as they were building nests, our quest was unsuccessful, but we'd had an interesting afternoon and a good leg stretch.



Driving home through ridiculously thick fog, we found that traffic calming measures have reached the Azores...they are called cows! We stopped to let a number of them cross the road ahead of us and line up to feed in a field to our left. Much jostling and barging in had us giggling as a cattle dog efficiently rounded them up. Getting home at 17.30, we freshened up and rested before meeting for dinner at 19.30.

Friday 16 May 2025

Day 6:

Sete Cidades excursion and The Science of Cetaceans

Weather: sunshine and wind, 17°C

Rain had fallen overnight but we woke up to bright, glorious sunshine as we drew back our curtains this morning. The wind was blowing though and the swell, combined with white caps out to sea, set the expectation that we might not be going whale watching today. Our suspicions were confirmed upon arrival at HQ shortly after 08.30, so we immediately re-boarded the vehicle and set off for Sete Cidades with Mary-Lou at the helm. We were quite excited as with such clear conditions, we were hopeful for great views over the twin crater lakes there.

Taking the highway to Ponta Delgada, an accident caused delays as we approached the town, but we soon turned off onto winding azalea-lined roads, passing omnipresent cows and enjoying fabulous ocean views to our left. Climbing into cloud cover, we remained hopeful that the far western coastline would be clear and it was. Yay! We were rewarded with a superb view over the blue and green lakes from our first stop, by an abandoned hotel. It was busy with people far and wide enjoying the weather after yesterday's overcast, cool conditions. We continued to a second viewpoint, looking out towards the Atlantic beyond, and then headed down into town, to visit the gothic church there that dates back to 1865.

Continuing around the lake, we stopped at a tunnel completed in 1937, that is essentially an outlet for lake waters, linking it directly to the ocean. At 4.7 kilometres long, we took it in turns to literally see the light at the end of the tunnel, while we learnt that it is used by pilgrims (men only), who walk through it annually praying for Mother Nature to be kind in terms of seismic activity. The area was ridiculously picturesque and we took the opportunity to photograph some cows close to the road and to check out a small cove used for shelter from the elements.



We then commenced the drive back towards Vila Franca do Campo, stopping to view an aqueduct, Carvao Wall, constructed back in the 1830s, where as soon as we stepped out of the vehicle, the sound of Iberian green frogs was immediately noticeable. A little further on, we stopped again at a viewpoint from where we could see both the north and south coasts of Sao Miguel as we looked east. Talk about an epic view! Arriving back at 13.00, we were dropped off at the Black Whale for a delicious lunch of either fried whole sardines or beef.

By 14.30 we were back at HQ, where a few clients departed for a leisurely afternoon back at the hotel and the rest of us met Portuguese Ines, a marine biologist who took us through the 'Science of Cetaceans' for an hour and a half. The first half of her presentation covered the evolution of land-based mammals to marine ones, adaptations made for aquatic life, dental structure and feeding techniques. After a brief break, we continued with the threats marine mammals face, why we need to do more to protect them, and what we can all do to help. Briefly discussing her research with fin whales and turtles too, it was an informative afternoon.

By 16.30, we were all back at our hotel taking advantage of the afternoon sunshine, relaxing, swimming or walking. When we reconvened for dinner at 19.30, the white caps had all but disappeared but there was still quite a swell. Hopeful for tomorrow, we chatted into the evening and giggled as our resident bathing gull used the pool for its ablutions, continuing a trend we'd been watching all week!

Saturday 17 May 2025

Day 7:

Whale watching

Weather: sunshine and clouds, 18°C

Making up for lost time was the order of today, with most of the group opting to do two whale watches, and two members going for a treble! We all set off on the 08.30 whale watch under blue skies. It was exhilarating to be back out on the water and our first sighting was of lovely, lazy short-beaked common dolphins. They didn't hang around for long so we continued on our way arriving a little later to a logging sperm whale who fluked shortly thereafter. We all saw the tail clearly, this was looking promising!



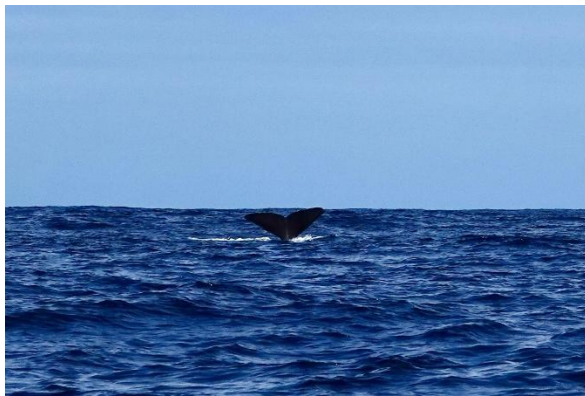
A hydrophone was inserted into the water and we could clearly hear its clicks, as it used its sonar to seek prey. Hang on, there was a second click. We stayed in the area to see if another may surface, but after a while, carried on. Another whale was spotted ahead, a sperm again, and we were treated to a second fluking tail in the space of our first hour on the water. By 10.30, we were surrounded by short-beaked common dolphins and once we'd started heading for home, we drew level along with the south coast with one of the vigias, Felipe, who waved from his lofty clifftop position. We then passed an area known as 'Ten Waterfalls' and indeed, we could see at least six cascades falling vertically down the cliff face.

Arriving back at base around 11.40, most of the group headed off to the Black Whale for an octopus or lasagne lunch, while two of us set off for whale watch number two. The morning sunshine was gradually being reduced by cloud cover but it was dry and smooth out on the open ocean. Once again, our first sighting was brief but consisted of short-beaked common dolphins before we headed west until we were almost directly south of our hotel's position in Aqua de Pao. There, another sperm whale rested on the surface, arching its back and fluking for a deep dive. We were happy. They were back and their tail stocks were nothing short of impressive.

One RIB then shot off in an easterly direction off to sea, and we followed in close pursuit. We were essentially surfing the waves and it was a fabulous ride that seemed to go on forever. We stopped around 15 kilometres off the far eastern point of Sao Miguel and after a while, guess what? Another sperm whale surfaced! This was close, much closer than any other we'd seen so far. We were thrilled to watch it breathe regularly, replenishing the oxygen supply in its blood and lungs, with no sign of discomfort at our proximity. It continued to rest until finally, it too, arched its back, fluked, and returned to the depths for more sustenance. Wow! It was proving to be a sperm whale kind of day.

Returning to base around 15.40, we met up with the rest of the group for our final whale watch of the trip. It was drizzling lightly, nothing major, and as we set off in a southerly direction, it quickly dried up. Shortly after leaving the marina, we disturbed a flying fish that leapt off our port side bow quickly disappearing almost before we'd had a chance to register what it was. Almost immediately another appeared, but this one soared, literally soared, for what must have been five or six seconds, gliding gloriously across the waves in front of our disbelieving eyes. What an utterly fabulous creature! Eliciting grins for England, it was an undoubted star of the afternoon.

Soon after, whilst watching Cory's shearwaters almost running along the ocean in order to get uplift, we enjoyed the almost obligatory short-beaked common dolphin swim by and then we spent some time heading southwest. When the throttle slowed, we started looking all around at 11 o'clock just off the bow, we saw a sperm whale. Its habit of lifting quite a lot of its mammoth head out of the water as it swam from left to right, told us that we were looking at a juvenile. A minute or two later another blow appeared on our starboard side, the adult had surfaced. They slowly started moving towards each other and then did a shallow dive. They re-appeared a little while later moving together in an easterly direction. While we watched their blows indicate their general direction, another few blows could be seen ahead of them. We were now in the company of five sperm whales! Their grey wrinkled skin could be seen and then another turned up just under the surface of the water along with numerous short-beaked common dolphins. Yay for our unexpected cetacean party!



We stayed with them in close proximity for at least ten minutes and watched them breathe. This was the best sighting so far by a country mile. Talk about saving the best for last! A few big gulps and one by one, almost in slow motion, the adults fluked and dived. It was almost a Mexican wave goodbye. Brilliant! It wasn't over though, no sooner had we left them than we came across more short-beaked common dolphins. The ocean by this point, was like glass, and the clarity was ridiculous as they gathered en masse around us. They just kept on coming from every direction, and we sat there in the glorious late afternoon light (it was half past six by now) just lapping them up.

As we headed back towards Sao Miguel, we stopped perhaps half a mile off-shore to be told that Felipe thought he'd seen Risso's dolphins in the area. We scanned and scanned but if they had been here, they'd moved on, so we did one last circumnavigation of Vila Franca Islet and arrived back at the marina at 19.10. What a way to end our time on the water. We all agreed that we'd had a fantastic last day.

We freshened up once home and met for a glass (or two!) of bubbly to celebrate a fantastic week, and for dinner, at 20.15. We then hit the hay, with festive canons being set off repeatedly close to the hotel, before dropping for the last time to the lovely chatter of Cory's shearwaters.

Sunday 18 May 2025

Day 8:

Departure

Weather: overcast, 17°C

As our time on Sao Miguel drew to a close, we had breakfast and were picked up at 08.00 for our departure transfer. One client was staying on for a few days, but for the rest of us, airport formalities were speedy and after a little shopping, we departed on time for Lisbon. Two were overnighing here, and after saying our goodbyes, the rest of us continued to London Heathrow. It had been a great week. The weather and wildlife didn't always make it plain sailing, but that is the nature of remote North Atlantic island travel. The group had taken it all on the chin and we'd enjoyed a lot of laughs during our stay.

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Checklist for Whales & Dolphins of the Azores



	Common Name	Scientific Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
	MAMMALS								
1	Bottlenose dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>		✓	✓				
2	Short-beaked common dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓
3	Sperm whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>			✓				✓
4	Rabbit	<i>Leporidae</i>					✓		
	BIRDS								
1	Wood pigeon	<i>Columba Paul bus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Eurasian collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Azores blackbird	<i>Turdus merula azorensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Cory's shearwater	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Common tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓
6	Atlantic yellow-legged gull	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Azores chaffinch	<i>Fringilla moreletti</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea patriciae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Azores buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo rothschildi</i>		✓		✓	✓		
11	European robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>			✓				✓
12	Azores starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris granti</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
13	Azores blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla gularis</i>				✓			
14	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				✓	✓	✓	
15	Common coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>						✓	

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