

Tour Report

UK – Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza

11 - 18 June 2023

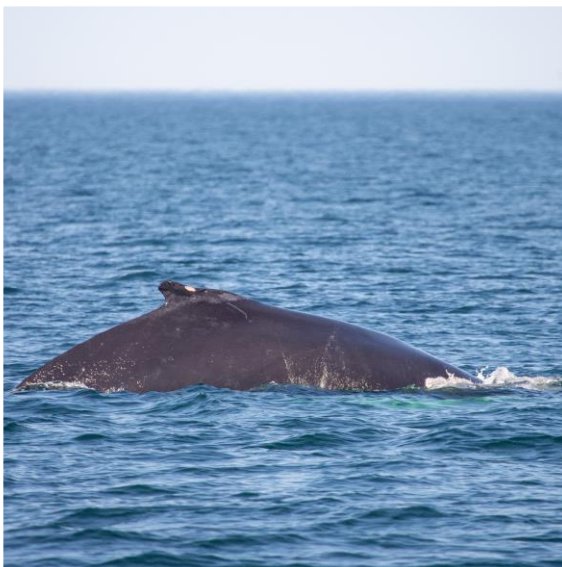
White-tailed eagle



Puffin



Humpback whale



Isle of Mull



Compiled by Mike Dilger
Images by Graham Denney, Tony Renshaw, Alex Kershaw & Marie King

Day 1: The ferry from Oban to Craignure and drive to Knock House

Sunday 11 June 2023

I met nine of the guests at the Oban Ferry Terminal for the start of what we all hoped would be an exciting week on the Isle of Mull. On boarding the ferry, everyone headed straight for the top deck - to be met by partly cloudy weather and very little wind - perfect conditions for spotting wildlife on the short trip across the Firth of Lorn.

Herring gulls flying past represented the first inauspicious bird species for our lists, and then I spotted two black guillemots resting on the water. I explained how this uncommon seabird breeds on Tobermory's sea walls, and that we would see far more of it later in the week. As we crossed the straits, we picked up a number of guillemots and a single puffin, along with a number of passing gannets, which could have emanated from large gannetries on either Ailsa Craig or St. Kilda.

Our first mammal came in the form of a harbour (common) seal asleep or 'bottling' in the water, and on approaching Craignure Harbour, common gulls suddenly became evident, in addition to a single great black-backed gull on some outlying rocks.

After meeting Alexa Kershaw at the ferry terminal, we drove the short distance to Knock House, taking a moment to enjoy the resident house martins ferrying food to and from the nests under the eaves of our accommodation for the week. House Manager, Kim, was waiting to welcome us and we were given an opportunity to settle into our rooms. Suitably refreshed, we reconvened downstairs before a welcome chat from Alexa and myself, which included a tour of the house and a discussion of the week's itinerary.

Chat concluded, we moved through to the dining room to enjoy our first delicious meal, courtesy of Poppy the chef, before retiring to the lounge for coffee and mints ahead of our first night on Mull.

Day 2: Ulva Ferry, Staff & Lunga - Treshnish Isles

Monday 12 June 2023

At breakfast, we were all delighted to see what looked like a continuation of the fine weather, with our first full day on Mull being one of the most eagerly anticipated of all: the trip to Lunga and the Treshnish Isles. As the group assembled in front of the house to board the minibuses we added, blackbird, song thrush, robin and chaffinch to our week's log in quick succession.

During the short drive around Loch Na Keal and over to the Ulva Ferry, we picked up a buzzard on a telephone pole, in addition to a couple of mistle thrushes and a single pied wagtail. After parking at the ferry terminal carpark, we strolled down to the quay, where I pointed out marsh thistle, tormentil and flowering foxglove. While waiting to board the Turus Mara, we saw a sedge warbler well, and heard whitethroat and willow warbler singing. As we looked out across the small harbour, we enjoyed watching common terns as they flew past the ferry terminal - it was particularly pleasing to see that many had sand eels in their beaks.

As we boarded, we observed a couple of grey herons along with a single cormorant, and the captain informed us that the tide times dictated that we would visit Staffa before landing at Lunga. The crossing was unbelievably calm, despite the hazy conditions, and as we approached Staffa the keen birders in the group picked up all four species of auk, plus numerous shags fishing alongside them. The number of harbour seals steadily increased as we neared the islands.

Disembarking on Staffa, we all enjoyed fine views of the island's famous organ pipes and volcanic tufa, and I pointed to a skylark holding territory on the grassland situated on top of the island. Placing the bow into Fingal's Cave, the captain then played Mendelssohn's Hebrides Overture over the boat's loudspeakers while

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

we revelled in an auk's eye view of Scotland's most famous cavern. Having duly enjoyed our visit to Staffa, we headed next towards Lunga.

The largest island in the archipelago, Lunga is the jewel in the crown of the Treshnish Isles and the island that people are keenest to visit - due to the relative ease of access to its seabird colonies. It's also home to a population of grey seals, which gave us the opportunity to test our marine mammal ID skills as the morning's second species of seal suddenly began popping up all around the boat.

Landing on Lunga can sometimes be a bit tricky, as you have to cross rocks and seaweed to reach terra firma, but on this occasion it was straightforward. As we took a moment to enjoy our surroundings on the beach, a trio of oystercatcher, starling and rock pipit made an appearance, before we headed up to one of the island's most iconic locations - the puffin platform.

As we made our way up, I pointed out wild angelica and roseroot, before we were greeted by the splendid sight of a plethora of puffins sitting along the cliff edge. We, in turn, were able to sit just a few metres from them, and it was terrific to see so many birds bringing in sand eels - a sure-fire sign that the pufflings had begun hatching underground. Alexa told us that just the previous week, with another group, she hadn't seen any adults bringing back food, so the chicks couldn't have been more than three or four days old.

While marvelling at the puffins, we spotted a bonxie (aka great skua) as it cruised past the clifftops on the hunt for any careless puffins that could be turned into lunch. We also saw meadow pipits and a small flock of lesser redpolls here. As two of the party were keen to spend more time with the puffins, Alex and I took the others on a 20-minute walk along to Harp Rock, with great views of fulmars at 'Fulmar Gulley' en route. We also saw a few nests of shags and razorbills from very close quarters underneath boulders beside the path.

Along the way I spotted one dark morph Arctic skua chasing puffins with sand eels, then a second - these two birds are thought to be the sole breeding pair currently residing on Lunga. When we finally reached Harp Rock, we marvelled at the sight and sound of the breeding colony in full swing - a real assault on the senses! Taking this as the moment to enjoy our packed lunches, we passed a delightful hour watching the comings and goings of a whole host of seabirds. It was particularly gratifying to see a number of kittiwake chicks on their domed nests, as this species is believed to be struggling more than perhaps any other seabird to raise their young. We could hear their calls clearly above the growing bray of the guillemots and razorbills.

During the slow walk back, we briefly saw a pair of twites, which we initially picked up by their distinctive twanging call. After rejoining the other two members of the group, who had also had fine views of a male wheatear, which we quickly relocated close by, we spotted another couple of twites briefly as we made our way back down to the beach.

As we sailed past the island of Ulva on the voyage back, one of the group spotted a female (ring-tail) hen harrier over the moorland, which made a perfect ending to our first full day on Mull. Back at Knock House, we compiled the day's checklist before another fine three-course dinner.

Day 3: Knock House to Fionnphort & the Isle of Iona, drive back along the north shore of Loch Scridain

Tuesday 13 June 2023

The high pressure and fine weather looked set to continue as we boarded the minibuses after breakfast, with the Isle of Iona as the destination for our second full day. As we headed to Fionnphort ferry terminal, on Mull's southwestern tip, we were driving across a stretch of moorland adjacent to Loch Shelve just south of Craignure when one of the party spotted a raptor with a white rump.

Stopping the minibus immediately, I was able to confirm that the bird was a male hen harrier - by its pearl grey plumage, white rump and black wing tips. Alexa's group enjoyed the same bird a bit further along the

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

road as it circled higher and higher - what a great start to the day! Chuffed with good views of such a high-quality bird, we then spotted our second raptor: a buzzard perched by the roadside.

Parking at the ferry terminal, we only just made it in time for the short hop across to Iona! On disembarking at the island's picturesque port, we headed straight to the community hall, close to the fire station, where a corncrake could be calling from the grassland. Although neither of the two crakes we heard calling showed, everyone was thrilled to hear the call of a bird that has become extremely rare elsewhere on mainland Britain. I then picked up the call of another skulking species when a grasshopper warbler was heard reeling from the edge of the field - but this individual had also read the 'corncrake manual' as it too refused to reveal its position!

Trying to get a different angle on both species, we had to settle with fine views of a singing sedge warbler before we headed to the northernmost point of the island. By now the sun was beating down, but we managed to spot skylarks and meadow pipits in between applying suntan lotion and taking on water! Along the way, we saw pied wagtail, jackdaws and house sparrow all feeding their young, while a male wheatear that showed beautifully on the roadside fence came as an added bonus.

Just before reaching the sand dunes, we located another couple of wheatear, and picked up a male reed bunting in a reedy ditch, plus - just behind - a redshank perched nervously on a rock. The warm weather was also bringing out a number of butterflies, and we found a green-veined white and a red admiral enjoying the nectar of some roadside plants. At the beach, many of the group opted for a quick cooling paddle, while a few brave souls went one step further by swimming in the icy water. A quick scan along the beach as we took our lunch revealed not only a single-ringed plover but also two summer-plumaged sanderlings - which is never a common sight along British shores in summertime. Completing the trio of beach waders was a single common sandpiper.

As we sauntered slowly back to the harbour, we heard a third corncrake, before a pair of wheatear chicks feeding proved far more obliging - leaving everyone delighted by what appeared to have been a good breeding season on the island. While waiting for the ferry back to mainland Mull, many opted for an ice cream. Others took advantage of the selection of tourist shops near the terminal.

On the drive back via Loch Scridain, we spotted a few curlew chicks we pulled up at the white-tailed eagle nest on the edge of the forestry plantation. Here an adult, probably the female, could be seen on top of the huge nest panting in the heat, as I set up my scope for excellent views. A chick suddenly popped into view, which looked quite young due to being covered in down. After enjoying our first eagle sighting of the trip we headed back to Knock House, with ample time to freshen up before compiling the day's checklist followed by another fabulous three-course meal from Poppy.

Day 4: Loch Na Keal north shore, Eas Fors Waterfall, Ulva Ferry terminal into Loch Na Keal & Salen to Salen Bay

Wednesday 14 June 2023

As we hadn't managed any otter sightings until now, Alexa and I decided to head out for an early drive before breakfast to see if we could spot any activity before the heat kicked in.

Even at such an early hour, the light breeze was welcome as we drove along the north shore of Loch Na Kiel. The first birds to come under our collective gaze were geese: plenty of greylag families. The only other obvious species was oystercatcher, with a steady procession of birds flying noisily past as we scanned the shoreline. While looking - in vain - for otters, we picked up a few curlew as they fed among the seaweed-covered rocks, accompanied by the constant trill of common sandpipers.

Further out into the loch, the only mammal we managed to see was a single harbour seal, before we opted to drive back for a much-needed refuelling session ourselves - in the form of breakfast. When we started out

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

again, we retraced our steps along the north shore of Loch Na Kiel and headed straight for Eos Fors Waterfall to enjoy lunch in the shade of the oak trees beside the water. A pair of dippers were known to have bred here this year but appeared to have already fledged and dispersed, and our sole reward came in the form of a small flock of lesser redpoll, a family of pied wagtails, some speckled wood butterflies and hawking sand martins.

After lunch, I took a stroll with a few of the group down the river to the spot where it tumbles over a cliff. On the way, we spotted some interesting plants: ragged robin, northern marsh orchid, common spotted orchid and the fragrant wild thyme. We then drove back down to Ulva Ferry, where we had a reservation with Mull Charters to look for eagles. Due to a limit of only twelve passengers on the boat, Alexa stayed behind, while I accompanied the group.

Alex, who was skipper for the day alongside Steve, suggested we head out towards the mouth of Loch Na Kiel, where he knew the locations of two pairs of breeding white-tailed eagles. We quickly got excellent views of black guillemots, with the water once again looking like mercury, before Alex spotted the first eagle, above the crags and to the south. He identified this as the dominant female from the breeding pair on the southern shore of Loch Na Kiel, and we were amazed when she approached and spiralled out of the sky to snare the fish that Alex had just thrown into the water with her outstretched talons.

A male from a different pair further along the loch then appeared and also plucked a fish from the surface of the water, after failing on his first pass. Further still into the loch, we were spoilt with visits from two more eagles: the male from the south shore, and the big dominant female from the north shore. Each time the eagles grabbed the fish at a distance no greater than 20 metres from the boat, creating a marvellous photo opportunity for the photographers in the group.

While scanning the surrounding hills, I spotted three eagles flying along the ridgeline to the north, which we quickly identified as two adult goldies and a single white-tail. This provided the perfect moment for the group to learn the key ID features that distinguish Britain's two eagle species, with both alongside each other. Even after the close encounters with the white-tails earlier in the day, everyone agreed that 'you can never see too many eagles'! On the way back to Ulva Ferry terminal, a couple of shelducks flew past to cap off a remarkable trip.

Linking back up with Alexa at the ferry terminal, both minibuses drove to Salen for a celebratory ice cream. The birding didn't stop, however, as one guest spied a birdfeeder in a garden, where we saw greenfinch, siskin and collared dove. Suitably refreshed, we drove on to Salen Bay to take pictures of what are surely the most photographed shipwrecked boats on Mull, while the birders enjoyed a pair of mute swans, a hooded crow and a few oystercatchers in the bay. Tired yet thrilled with another good day, we headed back to Knock House to relax, compile the checklist and enjoy dinner.

Day 5: Tobermory & Sea of Hebrides with Sealife Mull. South shore of Loch na Kiel

Thursday 15 June 2023

A slightly earlier breakfast at 07:30 meant we could leave in time to catch the Sealife Mull boat out of Tobermory for our big day cetacean-spotting in the Sea of Hebrides. Joining other members of the public we set off on flat, calm water, which meant that anything breaking the surface would be quickly picked up i.e. conditions as good as we were ever likely to get for spotting cetaceans.

It didn't take long before Alexa spotted the first one, a harbour porpoise, its small triangular fin just breaking the surface around 50 metres away to starboard. I picked up a close-in Manx shearwater, probably from the breeding colony on Rhum, before we saw a second harbour porpoise. On passing Ardnamurchan Point, we were finally in 'open water' and began to spot more birds, such as gannets, kittiwakes, fulmar and all four species of auk.

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

Jimmy, the boat's Marine Mammal Observer, spotted what he thought might be a minke whale surfacing, so the skipper took a bearing towards where it had been spotted last. Much to our delight, it was indeed a minke whale, which subsequently surfaced on at least three or four occasions at varying distances from us. It then approached the boat before proceeding to lunge feed right in front of the bow! A few minutes later it poked its narrow, pointed rostrum right out of the water - hence its scientific name *acutirostra*. This was a rare sighting of what is generally considered to be one of the more introverted species. As its *pièce de résistance*, the minke made one final pass past our bow at a depth of no more than one metre, allowing everyone on board to see its characteristic two-toned pectoral fin. It was the best minke sighting I've ever had!

Little did we know it at the time, but we were about to have an even more exciting find as one of the group shouted that he'd just seen a large bushy blow just a few hundred metres away in the direction of Muck and Eigg. On rushing over, we quickly found out that - unbelievably - the blow came from a humpback whale, a very rare sighting in these waters (our skipper had recorded this species only three times in twelve years!).

As the humpback came incredibly close to the boat, all were able to admire its long back, small and knobbly dorsal fin, long pectoral fins and huge flattened fluke, from a distance of no more than 40 metres. Every now and then, the whale took a deeper dive, arching its back, which in turn led to the fluke emerging clear of the surface. When it dived, we could see a whale footprint forming on the surface, created by the vortex when the whale disappeared below.

As if that wasn't enough, the humpback was joined by 12 to 15 common dolphins, which proceeded to bow ride the boat, meaning that we genuinely didn't know which way to look! Over the next hour, the humpback stayed close by before suddenly exploding from the water in one simply magnificent breach. On deciding that we should turn back to Tobermory, the boat was joined by around 200 common dolphins, including tiny babies, so we divided our time between watching dolphins leaping clear of the water and the humpback whale logging at the surface.

This was one of the best seawatches I had ever experienced. But the trip was to have one last surprise when, upon passing the Cairns of Coll, we saw a flock of around 2,000 Manx shearwater heading towards Rhum, with their incredibly distinctive black-and-white flickering wing pattern.

After enjoying some downtime in Tobermory, we drove back to Knock House to meet Dave Sexton, the RSPB Officer on Mull. Dave had come to give a talk about the reintroduction of eagles to Mull, which was very well received. After Dave fielded all manner of interesting questions he took his leave, and we headed out for a brief drive along the south shore of Loch Na Kiel to look for otters once more. The most abundant wildlife, however, proved to be midges. This meant that after we'd seen a few harbour seals out on the water and a great spotted woodpecker in the loch-side trees, we decided in favour of a glass of wine. Nevertheless, with two land-based days still to go, hopes were still high for an otter sighting before the end of the trip.

Day 6: Loch Don (near Gorton), Glenmore, south shore of Loch Scridain, Pennyghael, south shore of Loch Scridain

Friday 16 June 2023

At breakfast, we were greeted by what looked like another day of wall-to-wall sunshine, albeit with a little more wind than earlier in the week. The plan was to undertake the southern loop around Loch Scridain while taking in a few sites we hadn't previously visited along the way.

Driving east to the coast, then south through Craignure, the first stop was the estuary at Loch Don. With the tide at a fairly low ebb, there were plenty of curlew and oystercatcher on the mud, alongside around 50 Canada geese on the adjacent saltmarsh. I heard the unmissable 'chew, chew, chew' call of greenshank, and we spotted a single bird on the mud, quickly followed by another three a short distance away. Alexa then spotted a female red-breasted merganser fishing out in the bay, with a couple of shelduck close by.

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

In the scrub closer to us, a pair of stonechat provided much pleasure as they flitted along the fence line. We could also see and hear a singing whitethroat holding territory in a nearby gorse bush. Jumping back into the minibuses, we were at the point of rejoining the main road when one of the group spotted a large raptor out of the window - which subsequently proved to be a sub-adult white-tailed eagle, as evidenced by the black tail. The eagle was being chased by two herring gulls, which looked positively diminutive by comparison!

Passing through Glen More Valley, the normally reliable pair of golden eagles on the crags to the north were, on this occasion, absent. Alexa explained that having failed this year, they had little reason to remain around the eyrie. I stopped in the lay-by near Loch Sguabain, thinking that I'd heard a whinchat. It took a while to find the bird, but the whole group ultimately managed to get terrific views of this uncommon summer visitor to Britain. Often seen perching atop foxglove flower spikes, this bird was a lifer for a number of the group.

Dropping down to Loch Scridain, we passed the wetlands at Pennyghael and continued driving slowly along the southern shore of the loch. Stopping by the electricity sub-station I eventually found a pair of otters, probably mother and cub, curled up in the seaweed on a rocky promontory. With much relief, we took it in turns to watch the otters through the scope, until they woke up, then proceeded to fish in the bay just in front of us.

Watching these two animals for over an hour was an utter joy. Constantly diving, the animals caught flatfish, crabs and other unidentified species – and this spectacle proved every bit as thrilling as watching the humpback, as we all enjoyed getting stellar views from around 70 or 80 metres away. Disappearing below the surface to hunt, they would then pop back into view as they proceeded to eat what they'd caught. Eventually, they made their way back to dry land, to sunbathe and dry off, before eventually disappearing from sight. Everyone was thrilled to have seen the one species, which - up until that point - had eluded us.

Tearing ourselves away, we found a shady spot by the loch a little further along to the west to enjoy our packed lunches. Here, the entertainment was provided by a constant stream of common sandpipers and oystercatchers at the water's edge.

On boarding the minibuses once again, we drove around to the north shore of Loch Scridain. Stopping near Ardvergnish, one of the group spotted a couple of large raptors over the lower hills east of Ben Mor, which were quickly confirmed as a pair of adult goldies. A buzzard was also present, enabling us to make quick size comparisons, as the birds spiralled higher and higher on thermals. The light was so good that, even from a couple of kilometres away, we could clearly see their golden napes - providing yet another special moment.

As we drove off, a snipe shot up in front of my minibus, and Alexa's group also caught a brief sight of it. When we reached Knock House, geologist James Westland was waiting to meet us, with a fascinating talk on the Mull's geology. James then took the group on a short guided walk to Loch Ba to view the ring dyke before dinner, which marked the end of another scintillating day on Mull.

Day 7: North shore of Loch na Keal, Treshnish Headland, Calgary Bay, Dervaig's saltmarsh & reedbed and Burg

Saturday 17 June 2023

At breakfast on the tour's last full day, we were met with cooler conditions, with the forecast even suggesting the novelty of some rain later in the day. Our plan was to explore Mull's northern loop, which takes in a fascinating array of habitats including moorland, dunes, beaches and reedbed.

On setting off we soon spotted greylag and Canada geese in fields at the eastern end of Loch Na Kiel. We stopped in the carpark on the northern shore to scan for otters, but a single black guillemot was the only bird of note. I picked up a sub-adult white-tailed eagle as it flew along the tree line to the north while being pursued by a couple of hooded crows. Due to the lack of wind, it was having to work quite hard to remain airborne. Eventually, it disappeared behind some trees.

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

And the good birds didn't stop there... Firstly three ravens flew past before we picked up another golden eagle much further north. We watched this bird displaying, which entailed flying high, before swooping down on closed wings. We then saw a white-tailed eagle over the hills to the south of the loch. This adult bird proceeded to fly right over the loch before pitching into a tree no more than 100 metres from the group. It stayed there for at least 30 minutes, enabling all to enjoy scope-filling views of this terrific bird. Mull was delivering with its eagles once more!

Driving steadily west along the shore of Loch na Kiel, we then headed north, past the turnings to Ulva Ferry and Eos Fors, before climbing up and onto the moorland. Having seen a kestrel perched briefly on telephone wires, before a cuckoo whizzed past, we stopped at the head of the pass to have a scan. Here, lots of meadow pipits were displaying, and I showed the group three species of flowering orchids: common spotted, heath spotted and heath fragrant.

Suddenly, a short-eared owl appeared from nowhere as it dive-bombed a buzzard that had hitherto been hidden in the heather and was thus unnoticed by the group. Having driven away the buzzard, the owl proceeded to fly in large circles, in a territorial manner, while calling constantly. The call was like a single dog bark and certainly behaviour that no one in the group (including Alexa and I!) had ever seen before. The buzzard, which in the interim had relocated to a telephone pole, was then attacked by a female hen harrier that was patently nesting in the heather close by, giving us our third raptor in as many minutes! It was so exciting that we barely knew whether to watch the owl or the harrier!

Eventually, the short-eared owl dropped out of sight, giving everyone the opportunity to take a moment to appreciate what they'd just witnessed. We then drove down to Calgary Beach for a much-deserved lunch. As we tucked into our sandwiches, we experienced the first sprinkle of rain we'd had all week, but no one could complain given the weather we'd been treated to. Out on the sea, we noted a family party of eider and ducklings, while Alexa also spotted two black-headed gulls on the beach. We also briefly heard a raven, before spotting it as it flew over the adjacent crags. On taking a brief look at the machair flora in the enclosure, I was very pleased to find lesser meadow rue in amongst the lady's bedstraw and kidney vetch.

We then moved a little further along the road to Dervaig for a quick look across the salt marsh. The waders there included curlew, redshank and common sandpiper, while the highlight was a group of eleven red-breasted mergansers out to sea. We took the short walk to the reedbed just across the road, where we saw sedge warbler and reed bunting. We then heard a water rail at very close quarters, and a few of us even managed to catch a glimpse of this notorious skulker as it moved through the bullrushes. Hirundines were also present in good numbers over the reedbed, with swallows and house martins busily collecting food for their broods that were undoubtedly close by.

Alexa then received a very exciting call saying that the two remaining individuals from Britain's only resident orca pack (John Coe and Aquarius) had been picked up off Mull's west coast. After a quick chat with the group, we decided to go for it and drove back around to Mull's west coast to see if we could pick them up from a headland. Although we scanned with my scope towards the Treshnish Isles, we couldn't see the orcas, and Alexa subsequently heard that they had since headed further north, and so couldn't be seen from our position. Deciding that it had already been a week to remember, we elected to return to Knock House to enjoy the fine company and our final dinner.

Day 8: Craignure to Tobermory and home

Sunday 18 June 2023

After breakfast, fond farewells were the order of the day, as everyone swapped email addresses after what had been an unforgettable week for both weather and wildlife sightings. Some of the group had planned to stay on the island a few days longer, so I took the others back to Craignure for the ferry to Tobermory and onward connections to a variety of destinations.

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

Sign up to our e-news

Sign up to our e-news to find out more about our tours, events, late availability, offers and tour reports at <https://www.wildlifeworldwide.com/subscribe>

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

Checklist for Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza



	Common Name	Scientific Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
	BIRDS									
1	Canada goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
2	Greylag goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3	Mute swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>				✓	✓	✓		
4	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>				✓		✓		
5	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>		✓					✓	
7	Red-breast merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>						✓	✓	
8	Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>				H			✓	
9	Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>		✓			✓			
10	Manx shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>					✓			
11	Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
12	Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓	
13	Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
14	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓						
15	Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>				✓		✓	✓	
16	White-tailed eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	
17	Hen harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>		✓	✓				✓	
18	Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
19	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>			H					
20	Water rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>							H	

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

21	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
22	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			✓			✓	✓		
23	Ringed plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			✓						
24	Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
25	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>			✓						
26	Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
27	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>						✓	✓		
28	Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>			✓			✓	✓		
29	Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>						✓	H		
30	Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>		✓				✓			
31	Black-headed gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>								✓	
32	Great black-backed gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
33	Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
34	Common gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
35	Common tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓					
36	Great skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>		✓							
37	Arctic skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>		✓			✓				
38	Common guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓				
39	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>		✓							
40	Black guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
41	Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	✓	✓			✓				
42	Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		
43	Collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓	
44	Rock dove, feral pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓	
45	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>			H	✓	H	H		✓	

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

46	Short-eared owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>								✓	
47	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓								
48	Great spotted woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>					H	✓			
49	Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓				✓		✓		
50	Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>			✓						
51	Hooded crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
52	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	
53	Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓							
54	Blue tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>				✓				✓	
55	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
56	Sand martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	
57	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
58	House martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
59	Long-tailed tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>						✓	✓	✓	
60	Willow warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		H	H	✓	✓	H	H		
61	Sedge warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>		✓	✓	H			✓		
62	Grasshopper warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>			H						
63	Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		H	H	H		✓	✓		
64	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>							✓		
65	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		✓	✓	H		H			
66	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓		
67	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
68	Mistle thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>		✓	✓				✓		
69	Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
70	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓		

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

71	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>						✓	✓	
72	Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓				✓	✓	
73	Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
74	House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	
75	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			✓				H	
76	Pied wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
77	Meadow pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
78	Rock pipit	<i>Anthus petrosus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	
79	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	
80	Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓	✓				✓	
81	Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>		✓						
82	Lesser redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
83	Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>				✓				
84	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	
85	Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>	✓			✓			✓	
86	Reed bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>			✓				✓	
	MAMMALS									
1	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	✓				✓		✓	
2	Red deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	
3	Fallow deer	<i>Dama dama</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	
4	Roe deer	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>								
5	Bat spp.								✓	
6	Harbour seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	Grey seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>		✓			✓			
8	Humpback whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>					✓			

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

18	Minke whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutirostra</i>					✓			
20	Common dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>					✓			
22	Harbour porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>					✓			
23	Feral goat	<i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i>					✓			
24	Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>				✓		✓		
	BUTTERFLIES & DRAGONFLIES									
1	Large white	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓					✓	
2	Green-veined white	<i>Pieris napi</i>			✓			✓		
3	Common blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓						
4	Red admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5	Speckled wood	<i>Parage aegeria</i>				✓				
6	Large heath	<i>Coenonympha tullia</i>						✓		
7	Small pearl-bordered fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>						✓		
8	Golden-ringed dragonfly	<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>			✓	✓				
9	Beautiful demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx virgo</i>				✓			✓	

Find out more about our [Isle of Mull Wildlife Extravaganza](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com