

Lyme Bay 2022 Highlights

We enjoyed a fantastic summer of marine safaris on our Lyme Bay day trips this year. The beautiful summer weather allowed us to operate 6 full-day cruises, and afforded us many exciting wildlife sightings aboard the 'Spot-On!' with skipper, Ross Parham, and Naturetrek guide, Tom Brereton.

The first day trip of the season began with prolonged views of two playful Bottlenose Dolphins, just outside of the harbour, and followed with sightings of 22 Balearic Shearwater, Sooty Shearwater, 90 Manx Shearwater and 20 Mediterranean Gull as the day progressed.



Highlights of other day trips included 55 Balearic Shearwater, 2 Arctic Skua, 12 Storm-petrels, 30 Common Tern, 50 Manx Shearwater, 3 Teal/Garganey, 600 Kittiwake, 200 Gannet, 3 Mediterranean Gull, 10 Bluefin Tuna, 200 Common Dolphin, and 5 Harbour Porpoise.



Whilst the sea was a little choppy at times on one of our August day trips, it didn't stop our group from witnessing a wide variety of wildlife including: 300 Balearic Shearwater, Sooty Shearwater, 50 Manx Shearwater, 3 Arctic Skua, 6 Storm-petrel, 600 Gannet, 17 Greylag Geese, 2 Sand Martin, Swallow, 4 Sanderling, Marmalade Hoverfly, 70 Common Dolphin and 5 Harbour Porpoise.



Our Lyme Bay cruises have not only been a great experience for those who joined the trips but have also generated valuable survey data for the charity Marinelife. This dedicated band of marine biologists have been working with statutory conservation agencies to evaluate the importance of the Bay for priority species such as the Balearic Shearwater, Bottlenose Dolphin and White-beaked Dolphin. For the latter species, Marinelife has proposed the creation of a marine nature reserve (Marine Conservation Zone) to operate in partnership with the Wildlife Trusts. The data obtained from Naturetrek trips has formed a key body of supporting evidence for this proposal.

Our 2023 sailing dates are now available to book so, to ensure you do not miss any of the action, please check our website (Tour Code GBR09) or contact Andy Tucker on 01962 733051 or email andy@naturetrek.co.uk