

The Canaries – Whales, Dolphins & Other Wildlife of La Palma

Naturetrek Tour Report

21st – 28th September 2023



Short-finned Pilot Whales



Short-finned Pilot Whales



Smooth Hammerhead



Rough-toothed Dolphin

Tour report by Tom Brereton, images by George Nicolson and Tom Brereton



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Tour participants: Tom Brereton & George Nicholson (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Thursday 21st September

Weather: warm and sunny

Our late afternoon flight from Gatwick was a little delayed in leaving due to heavy air traffic, and we touched down in Santa Cruz de la Palma Airport a little late too. However, picking up the vehicles was smooth, and with a short distance to our Hotel in Los Cancajos, we made it in time for a late dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Day 2

Friday 22nd September

Weather: warm with sunny spells and a light trade wind

The day was heralded by a glorious sunrise out over the sea viewable from the hotel dining room. A Tenerife Gecko was spotted on one of the hotel walls. After the first of many excellent buffet breakfasts over the week, we left the hotel at 09.00 and headed east towards the Cubo de la Galga.

En route, we stopped at Puntallana to get supplies for lunch. This proved to be a worthwhile spot for the group in terms of wildlife sightings, which included Chough and Canary.

By mid-morning we had arrived and headed slowly up the steep wooded gorge, noting some of the endemic Macronesian plants present, including Canary Guelder-rose, Canary Tree Heath, La Palma Sow-thistle, Hare's-foot Fern and Canary Laurel. There were several sightings of White-tailed Laurel Pigeon and Dark-tailed Laurel Pigeon, the latter species seen well perched, along with Common Buzzard, a flock of Plain Swift and at times fleeting views of the endemic La Palma subspecies of Canary Islands Chaffinch, Canary Island Goldcrest and the endemic La Palma subspecies of African Blue Tit (considered a full species by some authorities). A dead Dark-tailed Laurel Pigeon was found, enabling close inspection of the plumage.

As we retraced our steps back to the car park, patches of sunlight started to penetrate parts of the forest and butterflies started to appear. Species seen included Canary Speckled Wood, Canary Blue, La Palma Brimstone, Canary Red Admiral and Canary Large White.

Back at the car park Tom and George made a picnic lunch of Spanish meats, cheeses, tortilla, bread, salads, fruits, and crisps, washed down with beer, wine and juices. After lunch we wandered beyond the car park into a scrubby part of the gorge, where there were several Canary Blue butterflies.

We next paid a visit to Mirador de La Concepción, which offers a commanding view over the capital city, Santa Cruz de La Palma. Several Red-veined Darter were perched up in the dry grassland, whilst Choughs sailed overhead.

We returned to the hotel just before 17.00, in time for a swim or some rest and relaxation before our customary daily evening routine - going through the checklist of what wildlife sightings had been made over the day, followed by a delicious buffet meal together at the hotel restaurant, *al fresco* at a table overlooking the sea.

Day 3

Saturday 23rd September

Weather: warm and mostly sunny with a light to moderate trade wind

This morning we headed across the island to the port of Tazacorte for the first of our three four-hour boat trips on the Fancy 2, set up exclusively for Naturetrek. At the port, the group had an opportunity to have a leisurely coffee in the harbour café, boarding the boat early to relax or to scan the harbour edges looking for fish.

The boat departed at 11.00, sailing south-west. With only two other passengers on board beside our group, there were a lot of different and spacious viewing options: above, below, ahead at eye level and under the canopy! Within 10 minutes of leaving port, we came upon a flock of around 400 Cory's Shearwaters feeding amongst tuna, perhaps looking for Chub Mackerel or another pelagic shoaling fish that the tuna themselves were chasing.

At 11.20 we located our first group of cetaceans, a pod of nine Bottlenose Dolphins, some of which were breaching clear of the water. They swam alongside and came to the bow allowing excellent views, especially from the glass viewing area below decks.

The dolphins were generally swimming quite slowly and we stayed with them for about ten minutes. Not long after, we found another group of Bottlenose Dolphins, this time numbering 20 animals including mother and calf pairs, once more giving excellent views for a lengthy period.

After spending time enjoying these animals we continued our journey south-west. At 12.40 we located a pod of Short-finned Pilot Whales containing calves: in fact there appeared to be two loosely associated groups numbering six and nine individuals. Once again we had fabulous views of these animals which gently swam beside and ahead of the boat for some time, frequently blowing at the surface with the sound clearly audible.

We decided to try a different sea area and headed in a north-westerly direction, further offshore. An Atlantic Flying-fish was seen briefly just before 13.00, and soon after we had our third group of Bottlenose Dolphins, totalling 15 animals.

Over the next hour we continued our journey but bar the odd Cory's Shearwater it was quiet. A false alarm came in the form of breaching Tuna at 14.00, by which time it was time to turn around and head back towards port. A sandwich lunch with salty snacks and fruit rustled up by Tom and George was on offer for lunch, whilst complimentary drinks were served throughout the day by the crew.

Close to port, a Loggerhead Turtle and a Grey Heron were seen briefly, whilst Grey Wagtail and Yellow-legged Gull were in the harbour, thus rounding off an excellent sea trip. Given that the seas had been quiet in recent months, we were extremely pleased to have seen both dolphins and whales on our first trip out to sea.

After the boat trip we had a wander around Tazarcorte, the highlight being the 15th-century church of St Michael the Archangel, which is the oldest religious building on the island. Several of the group had coffee or beer on an outside terrace, with a panoramic view overlooking banana plantations and the sea. On the edge of Tazarcorte, where we had parked the minibuses, we could see over a deep ravine. This proved a productive area with sightings of Spanish Sparrow, Canary Blue and Monarch.

We returned to the hotel at 17.30 and had dinner together later that evening.

Day 4

Sunday 24th September

Weather: warm and sunny with a light to moderate trade wind

We had a more relaxed start this morning, leaving at 09.20 (mainly because the supermarket did not open until 09.00). It was another lovely warm and sunny morning and we travelled the short distance to Juan Mayor Barranco on the western outskirts of Santa Cruz de la Palma. We parked at the bottom of the narrow lane which heads up into the hills. This dry valley has an interesting range of habitats with scrub, pasture, terraced cultivated fields and fragments of native laurel forest. We walked up the Barranco for about a mile, logging an interesting variety of wildlife. On the bird front, we saw the endemic African Blue Tit, Island Canary and an impressive flock of 90 Plain Swifts. An excellent variety of insect life was recorded including Monarch, African Grass Blue, Canary Large White, Canary Red Admiral (basking in a horse paddock), Canary Blue, Clouded Yellow, Meadow Brown, Hummingbird Hawkmoth and Canary Islands Blue-banded Bee. Other noteworthy observations included getting superb views of Tenerife Gecko and Western Canaries Lizard side-by-side in a rocky area, an Emperor Dragonfly and numerous Tropical Tent-web Spiders.

After spending a pleasant morning at the barranco, we drove up through farmland, then laurel forest, and finally up to enjoy the panoramic view at Mirador Llano de Las Ventas. From here we drove still higher towards the volcanic spine of the island and an attractive area of pine woodland at El Pilar, a popular picnic place for locals. It was busy, but we bagged a couple of tables and enjoyed a hearty picnic lunch made by George and Tom.

Before leaving the recreation area, we walked a short distance to a small patch of flowery grassland dominated by white-flowered Marjoram bathed in sunshine: a magnet for nectaring butterflies. There an impressive 18 Small Coppers were present along Southern Brown Argus, Canary Red Admiral and Canary Blue. The big and beautiful endemic robberfly (*Promachus palmensis*), Canary Bumblebee, Field Cricket and Canary Islands Blue-banded Bee were further insect highlights.

We left El Pilar continuing westwards crossing the volcanic spine of the island, descending through the laurel forest briefly, before returning to farmland landscape as we headed towards the sunny coast. Near Tazarcorte we took the steep road that climbed above the Aridaine Valley, to the café at the Mirador El Time, a wonderful place to admire the view and watch the world go by. From the café there is a magnificent view across the valley, Tazacorte, the Cumbres (the entrance to the caldera) and the coast past Puerto Naos towards Fuencaliente. After drinks and ice creams, Tom took some of the group down a steep road by the Mirador café. The walk yielded Lang's Short-tailed Blue, Raven, around 20 Red-veined Darters, numerous Madeiran Wall Lizards and Island Canary.

We journeyed from here to the port for a sunset cruise on the Fancy 2, departing at 18.00 in glorious weather. First we headed south along the coast to see where the red hot lava from the 2021 volcanic eruption had, after travelling six kilometres, entered the sea in the Playa Nueva area, forming a new peninsula. We then headed north-west and into deeper offshore waters.

Our first and only cetacean encounter of the evening occurred just after 19.00, when a pod of 20 Rough-toothed Dolphins was spotted. This was rather unexpected, as the crew told us there had been few sightings of this species this year. It was hugely welcome though, as it was the most sought-after species of the holiday for several in the group. This species has a highly restricted distribution in European waters, with selected places in the Canary Islands one of the few reliable places to see them in the world. This particular group came to the ship to bow ride. We had stunning above and below water views of these beautiful dolphins, which were swimming in groups in a chorus line. From the underwater viewing area, we could see up to seven on the bow at a time. One of the animals breached vertically out of the water on several occasions, whilst one was also seen spyhopping right in front of the boat face on, with all its teeth visible: incredible stuff!

The dolphins swam through a shoal of fish where Cory's Shearwaters were feeding. Another fascinating encounter occurred here, this time a predator-prey interaction. One of the Cory's was seen to drop from the sky in pursuit of an Atlantic Flying-fish. The fish flew over the sea for some distance but eventually tired. It was quickly scooped out of the sea and consumed by the Cory's: brutal, but fascinating.

After watching the Rough-toothed Dolphins for about 10 minutes we headed towards the coast to view the splendid scenery. We passed Poris de Candelaria, a picturesque, remote, whitewashed fishing village built into the edge of a cave inlet, and only accessible by boat or steep rope-assisted footpath. Further south we visited the double-entranced La Cueva Bonita. We had timed the visit perfectly, with the sunlight streaming through, illuminating the interior with multi colours: beautiful.

By the time we left the cave it was around 20.00 and the sun was setting. It was a perfect sunset with the green flash visible as the sun disappeared below the horizon, so ending a wonderful evening out at sea.

We quickly reassembled in the minibus and drove back across the island, making it back to the hotel in time for a late supper.

Day 5

Monday 25th September

Weather: warm and sunny with a light to moderate trade wind

In more glorious sunny weather we left the hotel at 09.00, to head to Tazarcorte for our second four-hour boat trip of the holiday. We arrived at the harbour with plenty of time to spare. Some of the group went for a coffee, whilst others wandered along the edge of the clear waters of the harbour looking for fish with more interesting species seen including Thick-lipped Grey Mullet, Zebra Sea Bream, White Sea Bream, Bogue, Atlantic Trumpetfish, Mediterranean Parrotfish, Ornate Wrasse and Red-lipped Blenny. Red Rock and Green Shore Crabs were also seen.

We set sail just after 11.00 taking a south-westerly course into offshore waters, little visited in recent weeks. The sea had been quiet of late for Fancy 2 and the other local whale-watching boats, with few sightings, but we were optimistic given the diversity of sightings we had already seen on this holiday, and with over a dozen keen spotters on the boat! The sea conditions were ideal as we travelled slowly south, almost reaching the southern tip of the island with views out towards El Hierro and La Gomera.

We had to wait a while for our first sightings, but it was worth it. Almost two hours into the journey, David, an expert spotter from the crew, picked up a distant group of Short-finned Pilot Whales out to the east towards land, so we steamed towards them. As we got closer we could see that there were dolphins amongst them which was really interesting and a little unusual. We arrived at the group in smooth seas and, through the glass bottom viewing area, had the opportunity to try and work what the nature of this encounter was. The 22 Short-finned Pilot Whales were in a tight group alongside the boat almost motionless, periodically blowing and with several calves present. Around them were 23 Rough-toothed Dolphins some of which were periodically steaming into the Pilot Whale group at speed individually or in small 'raiding parties', in what could be interpreted as an antagonistic manner. The pilot whales were responding by waving their tails in what looked like an equally aggressive manner. It was fascinating to see this little-studied kind of behaviour, which has occasionally been recorded elsewhere and perceived as either mischievous harassment or competition for resources. With the benefit of the glass bottom viewing area, we could confirm that they were clearly not feeding together. We watched both species at point-blank range for over half an hour, than continued our journey, taking a more northerly course back towards Tazarcorte, as we had a fair bit of travelling to do to get back there on time.

En route we picked up more cetaceans with two more groups of Short-finned Pilot Whales, comprising five and three animals, plus a pod of five Bottlenose Dolphins. Our last noteworthy sightings were a showy Loggerhead Turtle just after 14.30 and an Atlantic Flying Fish close to port, which only a few of the group managed to see. Back at port we tallied up the at-sea bird sightings, which included 120 Yellow-legged Gull and 70 Cory's Shearwaters.

On our way back to the hotel we stopped in Breña Alta, to marvel at the famous twin-trunk *Dragos Gemelos*, the oldest Dragon Tree on the island.

Back at the hotel Tom, George and a number of the group headed to the beach where four Turnstone and a Common Sandpiper were seen.

Day 6

Tuesday 26th September

Weather: warm with sunny spells, low cloud patches and a light to moderate trade wind

Before breakfast we returned to the beach where there was a showy Whimbrel, amongst the same waders present last night. A look at the rock pools was worthwhile, as we saw Red-lipped Blenny, several Ornate Wrasse and three species of crab including Porcelain.

After breakfast we headed to the southern end of island. It was another lovely sunny day and with good visibility in the morning, it seemed sensible to visit St Antony's Volcano first, as fine weather is essential to make the most of time spent here and experience the spectacular views that can be had walking the trail along the perimeter of the crater. We arrived as the facility opened and the group walked the volcano and learnt more about the islands volcanic history from the exhibition in the visitor centre. Whilst the group did this, Tom went to get a picnic lunch in Fuencaliente. After collecting the supplies, a problem with the vehicle developed. Tom managed to get it to the picnic lunch spot above Fuencaliente where he could make lunch whilst waiting for a replacement vehicle, and George ferried the group to the Llanovid Sociedad Cooperativa Limitada winery, an opportunity for the group to learn about local wine production and to do some sampling! The host Diego gave a superb presentation on the

wines of La Palma, producing an amazing hand-drawn picture of the island before our eyes as part of this. A number of samples were consumed and several purchases were made, thus completing a highly enjoyable visit. After lunch George took a number of the group on a short walk above the picnic spot, which proved highly productive with superb, close views obtained of a Barbary Falcon. We did not have to wait too long after lunch for the replacement vehicle to arrive, and we were soon on our way, taking the winding road down from Fuencaliente through spectacular volcanic scenery to our birding destination, the Faro de Fuencaliente, which forms the most southerly part of the island.

We walked around the salt pans, which are still worked in a traditional way. This yielded a small selection of passage waders, all giving stunningly close views, including Common Sandpiper, Dunlin, Turnstone, Ringed Plover and Sanderling. Along the walls lining the salt pans, excellent views were obtained of Berthelot's Pipits. After birding, there was a chance to get drinks or ice creams in the salt pans shop, or to search for Spectacled Warbler in the surrounding low scrub. It was a little too hot and windy for warbler activity, though we did see several Red-winged Grasshoppers and the robberfly (*Promachus palmensis*).

Back at the hotel, a seawatch produced numerous Cory's and three Manx Shearwaters.

Day 7

Wednesday 27th September

Weather: warm and sunny, with a light trade wind

There was beautiful sunrise at breakfast time, with the sky a deep red in places. This morning we headed to the Port of Tazarcorte, for our final boat trip of the holiday on board the Fancy 2. At the harbour and after our usual pre-departure activities, we set off a little after 11.00, and thankfully (once again) the conditions were excellent for spotting animals.

Tom spoke with the skipper David, requesting we head out west, as this was one of the sea areas we had not covered over the week and had potential for some of the oceanic dolphins and deeper water whales. It was slow at first, though we had some bird highlights including a Great Shearwater (scarce in the Canary islands) and four Manx Shearwaters amongst the more usual Cory's Shearwaters. However, the plan came together spectacularly well when at 12.25 Tom picked up a beaked whale ahead of the ship, quickly confirmed by David as a Cuvier's Beaked Whale – another top target for the trip for almost everyone. It surfaced seven times, with its long pale brown body and darker dorsal fin visible, enabling everyone to get onto it, but dived as we got nearer. We feared that was that, as this species often stays down for an hour or more, as it goes down towards the seabed to feed on squid and deep water fish, and unfortunately this proved to be the case! We continued further westward, but after reaching 13 miles offshore had to change course in order to get back in good time. We did not go back the same way as we wanted to cover as many different sea areas as possible in the time available, first heading north-east before turning south-west to head back to port.

At 13.00 we had another superb encounter with a pod of 11 Short-finned Pilot Whales, this numbering 11 animals including several calves. The underwater views of mother and calf pairs peacefully swimming alongside the boat at what seemed like almost within touching distancing, were simply incredible.

Not far from port there was time for one final surprise, when a Smooth Hammerhead (Shark) surfaced near the boat. Amazingly, it did not swim off, and we had incredible close above and below water views, marking a spectacular finale to our boat trips on the Fancy 2.

After the boat trip, we stopped off at La Martellas, where there is a series of banana plantation irrigation ponds. Though not the most scenic of places, this can be a productive area for wetland birds. The water levels of the ponds had been low again this year, with a number of the ponds being completely dry. However, two had water in. At the first, we saw Common Sandpiper, Grey Heron and Little Egret. At the second, parking was a bit tight so Tom checked it quickly by peering over the pond bank and was amazed to see a Squacco Heron fly up: a rare species on La Palma. Quick parking of the minibuses ensued and everyone managed to get onto the bird before it flew off towards one of the other ponds. Also here were several Scarlet and Red-veined Darter Dragonflies and a Monarch butterfly.

Back at the hotel, another Monarch was seen, as well as several geckoes, and seawatching from here produced a Little Egret on the rocks which a number of the group saw from their hotel balconies! At the log call Tom and George provided nibbles and Spanish bubbly (Cava) to toast what had been a fabulous holiday for wildlife sightings, both on land and at sea.

Day 8

Thursday 28th September

Weather: warm and mostly sunny

Several of the group wanted to spend the last day relaxing at the hotel, but others were keen for more nature encounters. In the morning we made a circular walk through scenic farmland around Los Llanos in the centre of the island, just west of the volcanic spine and still managed in a traditional way. It was interesting to see one of the farmers pollarding and harvesting the Tree Lucerne for stock animal forage. The mixture of cultivated fields, large stone piles, cattle and horse grazed pastures and Tree Lucerne groves proved attractive to birds with good views of Island Canary obtained, plus Kestrel, Berthelot's Pipit, Canary Island Chiffchaff, Sardinian Warbler and large numbers of Chough also seen. It was rather dry for butterflies, though one or two of the fields supported flowers attracting our only Bath White of the holiday. The wildlife highlight though was a female Marsh Harrier, which passed over heading west: a scarce species on La Palma.

After the walk, Tom and George dropped the group off at the Caldera de Taburiente National Park visitor centre above El Paso, then went to buy picnic lunch items from a nearby supermarket in El Paso. The group explored the small botanical garden where a number of endemic plant species have been planted, then looked at the display in the visitor centre, enjoying the informative display about the island's history and wildlife.

For lunch we returned back to El Pilar, but what a contrast it was weather-wise from our last visit, as this time it was shrouded in dense fog and felt quite chilly! For the group, a glass or two of sangria or wine soon helped warm things up and after having done a good walk, the final voluminous picnic lunch was comfortably demolished!

One of the group was keen to try look for the laurel forest pigeons again, so we stopped a short distance east of the long road tunnel which cut across the island's central volcanic ridge. From here there was a panoramic view over higher-altitude laurel forest. We scanned for a good while, logging sightings of Sparrowhawk and Dark-tailed Laurel Pigeon, though unfortunately did not see the hoped-for White-tailed Laurel Pigeon.

Our final stop of the day was the gravel pools beside the airport: not the most scenic of places, but a good spot for birds. We scanned the muddy margins of the pools for waders, recording Sanderling, Turnstone, Common Sandpiper, Whimbrel and Ringed Plover. Red Rock Crabs, with their brilliant colours, were numerous on the rocky foreshore and several Berthelot's Pipits were seen.

We returned to the hotel to collect our bags. After picking these up, we made the short drive to the airport so that we would be in good time for our flight home. We arrived at Gatwick Airport late evening. Here we collected our baggage and said our final goodbyes from what had been a memorable trip with some true 'bucket list' encounters.



Berthelot's Pipit and Canary Red Admiral

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Species lists

Birds

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced		September 2023						
Common name	Scientific name	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Plain Swift	<i>Apus unicolor</i>	30	50	120	10	2	10	✓
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia domestica</i>	10						
Dark-tailed Laurel Pigeon	<i>Columba bollii</i>	10						2
White-tailed Laurel Pigeon	<i>Columba junoniae</i>	2						
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>					✓		3
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		✓	✓		✓	2	2
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>							
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			✓	4	29	3	9
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>					2		1
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>					1		
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				1	2	3	1
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	10	15	15	120	30	20	10
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	2						
Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>	2	500	150	70	40	140	
Great Shearwater	<i>Ardenna gravis</i>						1	
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>		1			3	4	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		1	1	1		4	
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>						1	
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>						1	
Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>							1
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>							1
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	5		8		2	1	✓
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	10	6	15	6	10	15	✓
Barbary Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus pelegrinoides</i>					1		
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	13	10	10	15	20	10	✓
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			3	1	1		
African Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes teneriffae palmensis</i>	6		3		1		
Canary Islands Chiffchaff - E	<i>Phylloscopus canariensis</i>	20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	3		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>	1	✓	✓		1	3	✓
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus ellenthalerae</i>	15						
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	5	1	3		✓		
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	1		2				
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>		✓					
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	2	2	4	1	1	6	
Berthelot's Pipit - N	<i>Anthus berthelotii</i>					10	1	2
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs palmae</i>	10						
Atlantic Canary	<i>Serinus canaria</i>	6	✓	50	12	20	30	20

Others

Common name	Scientific name	September 2023						
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>						1	
Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>		✓					
Short-finned Pilot Whale	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>		15		28		13	
Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>		45		15			
Rough-toothed Dolphin	<i>Steno bredanensis</i>			20	22			
Cuvier's Beaked Whale	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>						1	
Barbary Sheep	<i>Ammotragus lervia</i>	✓						
Loggerhead Turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		1		1			
Smooth Hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna zygaena</i>						1	
Atlantic Flying Fish	<i>Cheilopogon melanurus</i>		1	1	2			
Atlantic bluefin tuna	<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>		✓				✓	
Thick-lipped Grey Mullet	<i>Chelon labrosus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Zebra Sea Bream	<i>Diplodus cervinus</i>				✓			
White Sea Bream	<i>Diplodus sargus</i>				✓			
Bogue	<i>Boops boops</i>				✓			
Atlantic Trumpetfish	<i>Aulostomus strigosus</i>		✓		✓		✓	
Mediterranean Parrotfish	<i>Sparisoma cretense</i>				✓		✓	
Ornate Wrasse	<i>Thalassoma pavo</i>				✓	5		
Atlantic Chub Mackerel	<i>Scomber colias</i>				✓			
Red-lipped Blenny	<i>Ophioblennius atlanticus</i>				✓	1		
Red Rock Crab	<i>Grapsus grapsus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European green crab	<i>Carcinus maenas</i>		✓		✓	✓		
Broad-clawed porcelain crab	<i>Porcellana platycheles</i>					✓		
Butterflies, Moths, Dragonflies								
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	1		10				✓
Canary Islands' Large White - E	<i>Pieris cheiranthi</i>	6		2				
Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>							1
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>			2				1
Canary Brimstone - E	<i>Gonepteryx cleobule</i>	1						
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			17				✓
Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>			2			3	
Canary Blue - E	<i>Cyclus webbianus</i>	5		10				
African Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>			1				
Southern Brown Argus	<i>Aricia cramera</i>			1				
Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>		1	1	1	1	3	
Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>	2					1	
Canary Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa vulcania</i>	1		2				
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>			8				
Canary Speckled Wood - E	<i>Pararge xiphioides</i>	10		10		1		

Common name	Scientific name	September 2023						
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Hummingbird Hawkmoth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>			1				
Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	1		15				
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombei</i>	1		12	1		✓	
Scarlet Darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>						✓	
A robberfly	<i>Promachus palmensis</i>			✓		✓		
European Field Cricket	<i>Gryllus campestris</i>			✓				
A red-winged grasshopper	<i>Acrotylus insubricus</i>					✓		
Tropical Tent-web Spider	<i>Cyrtophora citricola</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓



Bottlenose Dolphin