# Iceland in Spring

# Naturetrek Tour Report

27th May - 4th June 2023



White-tailed Eagle by Neil McMahon



Whimbrel by David Jackson



Red-throated Diver by Dave Jackson



Brünnich's Guillemots by Dave Jackson

Tour report by Dave Jackson



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## Summary

Overnight snow preceded this "Iceland in Spring" tour and average daily temperatures stuck around 11°C rising to 15°C on one day with everyone sufficiently prepared for the vagaries of the Icelandic spring weather.

We had close encounters with some of Iceland's special birds including Great Northern and Red-throated Divers, Slavonian Grebes, Harlequin Ducks and Barrow's Goldeneye. A Golden Plover incubated her eggs right next to the main path at Godafoss and a Whimbrel delighted photographers at Arnarstapi. Those who had Red-necked Phalaropes as a target species were surprised just how small they were and how close they approached us!

We found two rarities at one site – Lesser Scaup and Lesser Canada Goose and were fortunate to find three Brünnich's Guillemots in an auk colony with relative ease.

We were grateful for calm conditions during our whale-watching trip where Humpback and Minke were spotted along with a pod of Harbour Porpoise while Orca was seen from land distantly off Snæfellsnes. One lucky group stopped to take photos of a Common Snipe as an Arctic Fox made a hasty retreat before we were treated to some phenomenal seascapes.

We visited several powerful waterfalls, dramatic structures at Dimmuborgir Lava Field where evidence of trolls was witnessed and Namafjall Geothermal Area where boiling mud erupted, and the smell of sulphur filled the air.

With only about three hours of darkness a night there were plenty of opportunities for late and early walks for those keen to make the most of this incredible country and its amazing wildlife and stunning scenery.

Day 1 Monday 27th May

Keflavik - Reykjavik - Akureyri – Mývatn

Snow am, overcast with late showers 10-12°C

Our guests from North America who'd arrived the previous day were waiting patiently at Keflavik airport as the leaders said goodbyes to the 'Undiscovered Iceland' group at departures. The incoming flight from Heathrow was delayed due to I.T. problems affecting a number of UK airports and despite assurances from Icelandair staff that our domestic flight from Reykjavik to Akureyri would wait for us, we watched in disbelief as it took-off when we arrived at check in.

To avoid any tour disruption, we decided the best option would be to drive to Akureyri where the mini-buses from the previous tour were parked, stopping a couple of times on the way. We passed through breath-taking scenery, enhanced by the fading light, herds of Whooper Swans and Pink-footed Geese graced the floodplains and a pair of Short-eared Owls at a riverside picnic spot in the early hours appeared to breeding nearby.

We swapped vehicles at Akureyri and continued our journey to our first hotel passing a huge number of Kittiwakes, Black-headed Gulls and Arctic Terns feeding close to the causeway separating a sea loch. A Rock Ptarmigan still in its white winter plumage flew across the road as we neared our destination.

Day 2 Sunday 28th May

Mývatn – Laxá – Goðafoss – Húsavík

Overcast with late showers 10-12°C

The early risers keen to identify their first Icelandic birds wandered across the road from the hotel situated opposite the rootless cones at Skútustaðir. These cones, or pseudocraters, were formed by steam explosions from hot lava heating groundwater in underlying rocks although their appearance would mistakenly suggest volcanic eruptions.

Very close Slavonian Grebe and Red-necked Phalarope were unconcerned by the presence of their admirers as the birds went about the business of pairing up and fighting off rivals. Long-tailed Ducks flew over and the eerie call of a Great Northern Diver broke the morning's silence.

Two ducks all birders have a desire to see in Iceland and both on the eastern edge of their range are Barrow's Goldeneye and Harlequin and our first stop after breakfast next to the Laxá (river) seemed quiet initially before pairs of Barrow's Goldeneye and Long-tailed Ducks flew over and a drake Harlequin battled against the rapids. More of these delightful drakes were displaying close to the road as we made our way to Godafoss where a lightmorph Arctic Skua patrolled over the falls.

A Black-tailed Godwit roosting in the corner of the car park was unconcerned with the lenses pointing at it while a Rock Ptarmigan preened close to the path to the waterfall. A Golden Plover couldn't have found a busier place to nest with hundreds of people walking past each day most being unaware of this glorious bird just a yard or two away.

The origin of the waterfall's name is not completely clear as it's widely thought that it was named after the local chieftain in 1,000AD who supposedly threw his statues of the Norse gods into the waterfall when Christianity was adopted in Iceland. A linguist and place-name expert believes this to be a myth originating from Denmark and suggests that the name derives from two crags at the falls which resemble pagan idols.

The falls were spectacular, but it was time to leave for lunch and a whale-watching trip in Hùsavìk where good comparisons were made with Glaucous and Iceland Gulls in various plumages. Sanderling, Red Knot and Common Ringed Plovers fed around the inlet before we assembled by the harbour ready to board the boat and climb into our insulated suits.

The forecast was for wind and rain, and we were advised to take medication, but the sea was calm as we exited the harbour into the bay. The first blow was noticed about an hour into the trip and a Humpback Whale showed its fluke several times at five-minute intervals before we continued across the bay. Atlantic Puffins, Common Guillemots and Razorbills loitered on the sea while Northern Fulmar and Black-legged Kittiwakes flew by in good numbers.

As we approached the calm waters near the snow-covered mountains several Harbour Porpoises broke the surface before our second whale of the trip, a Minke, gave brief views.

After three hours at sea, it was time to return to the harbour and back to the hotel via the Laxà where good numbers of Harlequin were again observed on the fast-flowing river, a fitting end to our first full day of the tour.

Day 3 Monday 29th May

Dimmuborgir - Dettifoss - Námafjall Hverir - Mývatn Nature Baths - Höfði Woodland

Windy, sun and cloud 12°C

A Golden Plover sheltered among the gravestones as we looked out over wetlands from the churchyard on our pre-breakfast walk. Many Long-tailed Ducks, Greater Scaup and Barrow's Goldeneye intermingled with each other on a small pond while pairs of Red-breasted Mergansers and Greater Scaup fed close to the road giving some of the group their best ever views of the ducks' plumage subtleties.

A male Merlin flew across the car park and out of sight as we prepared for a walk through the Dimmuborgir lava field. The 'Black Fortress' is a dramatic expanse of lava that formed in an eruption 2,300 years ago when the whole area was under water. In Icelandic culture, lava caves are allegedly the homes of the nation's brutal trolls and we saw evidence though fortunately we didn't come face-to-face with them. A distant Rock Ptarmigan was obvious in its white plumage as it sat up high on the petrified lava.

The drive to Dettifoss took us across a barren landscape and one of the largest stone deserts in Western Europe with cairns either side of the road for several kilometres. Lenticular clouds formed high up in the atmosphere while a sandstorm kept its distance as we turned off the road where a 4x4 driven by Lithuanian tourists had shed a front wheel.

Neil's wheel brace that accompanies him on all his tours proved very useful as Dave returned with it to help the grateful driver and his passengers replace the wheel while the group walked the 1km to the waterfall, the second most powerful in Europe after the Rhine Falls.

After lunch, those who wanted to relax in the milky-blue water at Mývatn Nature Baths stayed while others took in the bird museum visitor centre where Icelandic Redpolls kept low down in the stunted bushes with their newly fledged young.

Common Scoter were seen well from Höfði Woodland where more redpolls moved around in the birches and Redwings perched above our heads.

The geothermal mud-pools and fumaroles of Námafjall Hverir attacked the nostrils with the smell of sulphur as the mud-pools gurgled and bubbled, releasing steam and fumes into the atmosphere. Some of the group planned to walk the rim of Hverfjall Crater but it was blowing a hurricane, so any thoughts were quickly dismissed.

An option to return to the hotel was gratefully accepted by those wishing to escape the cold while a return to the Laxa was rewarded with incredibly close phalaropes and Harlequins as the late afternoon sun broke through showing off the purple sheen on a drake Barrow's Goldeneye's head feathers.

Day 4

**Tuesday 30th May** 

Mývatn – Laxá – Laugarbakki

Mostly cloudy 12°C max.

A dark cloud hung over the lake as we made our way around in an anti-clockwise direction where redpolls looking suspiciously like Arctic with their frosty-white plumage hung onto thin branches of dwarf willow.

We had breakfast and all bags were loaded into the minibuses ready for our departure, calling in at Laxá on the way for Barrow's Goldeneye and Harlequin Ducks which were less obliging than on our first visit.

We continued past Goðafoss taking the scenic route to Akureyri where we purchased lunch for our stop at Jónasarlundur picnic spot by the river where we'd seen the Short-eared Owls on our first day. No owls but a peaceful lunch in the company of Redpolls and Redwings in a beautiful setting.

We continued our journey westward through Oxanadalur and Noroura Valleys where pairs of Pink-footed Geese assembled prior to breeding on the higher slopes and scattered pairs of Whooper Swans and Greylag Geese were noted over a wide area.

The next stop was in the colourful town of Blonduós where the Blanda glacial river meets the sea. Many species are attracted to the sandbanks here including Glaucous and Iceland Gulls, Red-throated Divers and good numbers of waders including Black-tailed Godwits and Red Knots in their summer finery.

We then made the 40-minute journey to our next hotel where we checked into our rooms before heading back out to explore the Svartness peninsula where Common Snipe took up their positions on fenceposts and one request for a photo resulted in an Arctic Fox receiving all the attention as it ran off as soon as the side door of the bus was opened. It stopped to briefly assess the danger before disappearing out of sight before the second vehicle could make a U-turn.

An optional after dinner jaunt failed to find the fox although a Humpback showed briefly out in the bay before the sun dropped low in the sky creating the most amazing seascape.

#### Day 5

## Wednesday 31st May

Laugarbakki - Snæfellsnes peninsula

Shower am, sun & cloud later 10-12°C

An early morning drive, back for breakfast and then packed and ready to leave at 9.15 with the only significant rainfall on our way to Borgarnes where we stopped for provisions. An hour later we arrived at Ytri Tunga, famous for its seal colony, where we had lunch.

Purple Sandpipers and Sanderling fed among the boulders while many Common Eiders with ducklings fed close to the shore. Harbour Seals cavorted in the shallows while others tended their young and a group of tourists eager for a closer look were almost cut off by the incoming tide.

A Whimbrel at Arnarstapi was so close it was possible to see through its nostrils as it called from a raised bank and made short flights oblivious to its admirers. A walk down to the cliffs had the geologists in their element as Gatklettur Arch, a naturally formed stone arch, came into view; the nesting Black-legged Kittiwakes and Northern Fulmars became incidental against this phenomenal backdrop.

Continuing around the peninsula where the glacier, Snæfellsjökull, had its own micro-climate we turned off the main road onto a gravel track that led to Skálasnagaviti lighthouse. The cliffs here hold a variety of breeding auks with Brünnich's Guillemot being our main target.

It wasn't long before a trio were located, conveniently on the same ledge as the pair found during the 2022 tour. The cold was setting in so we headed east along the coast road stopping in a number of birding spots. A White-tailed Eagle flew towards us as we approached Stykkishólmur where we checked into our hotel and planned for the next day over dinner.

#### Day 6

**Thursday 1st June** 

Stykkishólmur – Ólavsvik – Hellissandur – Flatey

Cloud, light rain 15-8°C

An early morning drive down to the harbour answered all the questions about the vessel we'd be taking to Flatey as 'Baldur' the Seatours car ferry was anchored up and being prepared for our afternoon departure. A pleasant walk up the hill gave spectacular views of the surrounding area with White Wagtail and Meadow Pipit providing an avian fix.

Several stops were made as we admired the scenery at Kolgrafarfjörður with the mist shrouding the snow-caped peaks and the most photographed mountain on Snæfellsnes, Kirkjufell (Church Mountain) and the nearby waterfall.

Pairs of Red-throated Diver and Red-necked Phalarope chose to nest on a pool near small industrial buildings on the outskirts of Ólafsvik where ubiquitous Common Snipe drummed overhead.

A perched White-tailed Eagle was an excellent find by Anna at Hellissandur, the street art capital of Iceland, before lunch in Ólafsvik or more birding for those without an appetite, before returning to Stykkishólmur to catch the Flatey ferry.

Many auks and a brief sighting of Harbour Porpoises were seen on the calm sea from the Flatey ferry before a rain shower had most of the passengers seeking refuge inside.

The rain had stopped by the time we'd reached Flatey though the wind had increased and a noticeable drop in temperature made it feel more like autumn than spring with some of the group making their way to the cosy hostelry on the island for a warming drink. Black Guillemots were numerous on the rocks and Snow Buntings sang from rooftops as we walked the single road on the island.

Common Redshanks scolded us from fenceposts while Red-necked Phalaropes were too busy feeding and breeding to notice the new visitors, and whilst every effort was made, no Red (Grey) Phalaropes were found amongst them.

The ferry arrived on time to take us back to the mainland and the lone figure of Neil made a vigil on the deck looking out for cetaceans. A Pomarine Skua was, unfortunately, a single observer sighting!

Day 7 Friday 2nd June

Stykkishólmur – Ólavsvik – Hellissandur – Gullfoss

Mostly cloudy, 12-15°C

This was our last day at Snæfellsnes which is often described as Iceland in miniature due to the wealth of natural features found here. Wasting no time after checking out we headed along the peninsula hoping to pick up a few new sightings. An adult White-tailed Eagle was photographed at close range and Robbo's excitement couldn't be contained when he noticed dorsal fins out in the bay. Although distant the pale saddle and size identified this small pod of female or young cetaceans as Orcas, much to the delight of the group.

An impromptu stop by a lake produced two more surprises. First, Duncan noticed the head and neck of a Canada Goose, most likely Lesser Canada Goose (*Branta (canadensis) parvipes*) and a lone scaup was identified as Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*), both North American birds and rare in Iceland.

It was time to head for our next destination by way of Borgarnes, taking the 6km Hvalfjörður (whale fjord) Tunnel instead of the partial gravel road to Hotel Gullfoss, our perfectly situated accommodation for the next two nights. The weather had improved, and blue sky appeared as we made an after-dinner excursion to Gullfoss, the powerful waterfall where the river Hvítá plunges over two drops and enters a canyon below. A Harlequin was an unexpected find in the most ferocious torrent proving how hardy these ducks are.

Day 8

## Saturday 3rd June

Gullfoss - Strokkur Geysir - Þingvellir National Park

Rain at falls, brightening up later 12-10°C.

The morning started with a pre-breakfast walk from the hotel to the falls, returning after breakfast where some of the group engaged in retail therapy for gifts and souvenirs from the visitor centre.

An element of patience was needed at Strokkur Geysir to get that perfect photo or video of the eruption, some timing it to perfection after waits of up to ten minutes between activity. An earthquake in 1869 halted the eruptions and it was woken artificially in 1963 by drilling a 40 metre borehole to get it going again. The original Geysir is now virtually dormant after around 10,000 years of activity.

Our next stop after a picnic lunch, and one most anticipated, was Þingvellir National Park, a site of historical, cultural and geological significance and the site of Iceland's first parliament, the AlÞing. It's located directly on the mid-Atlantic ridge, where a series of stunning fissures cut through the valley floor and served as the meeting place for the island's early occupants. Early in the summer, large groups of Vikings would travel for days to come together and decide the rules that would control life on the entire island. We walked along the impressive rift between the North American and Eurasian plates and over the boardwalk leading to the river where pairs of Red-throated Divers, Black-tailed Godwits and Harlequin Ducks showed exceptionally well.

After a couple of hours, we headed south along the lake to the Sog river where Great Northern Divers had made their nest and more Red-necked Phalaropes were picking newly-hatched flies off the surface. Ruth spotted a drake Harlequin in the rapids which took off and flew straight towards us, too fast for the photographers this time.

Day 9 Sunday 4th June

Gullfoss – Reykjavik – Seltjarnarnes – Keflavik.

12°C

The desire to rise for our pre-breakfast walk still hadn't diminished by the last day with Merlin, Ptarmigan, Raven and a singing Eurasian Wren noted on the way to the falls.

Icelandic horses approached to be pampered as we made a stop at a viewpoint before one more coffee at Hveragerði café.

Two guests extending their stay and taking a domestic flight from Reykjavik gave us the opportunity to visit the Sun Voyager, a stainless-steel sculpture that resembles a Viking long-ship symbolizing light and hope, on the way to the Seltjarnarness Peninsula a short distance away. Whooper Swans, Glaucous Gulls and a number of common ducks gathered in a lake here while a Pink-footed Goose in amongst the Greylags was less expected.

Drop-offs at the airport and Keflavik town were made before arriving at Keflavik airport where most of the group would be flying back to the UK.

We'd seen all the expected species with the exception of Gyr which has become very unpredictable in recent years possibly due to falconry or the decline of their main prey, Ptarmigan, which are shot for sport.

We'd seen Red-necked Phalaropes and Arctic Terns almost everywhere, Harlequin Ducks popped up in the most unexpected places and Common Snipe seemed to perform their flight display around the clock in all weathers. We'd witnessed spectacular scenery, a few cetaceans, Arctic Fox, White-tailed Eagles and a couple of Icelandic rarities – Lesser Scaup and Lesser Canada Goose.

All in all, a very successful tour with good food and great company!

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# **Species lists**

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	May/June 2023										
		27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4		
Brent Goose	Branta bernicla						<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
Lesser Canada Goose	Branta parvipes							1				
Greylag Goose	Anser anser	✓	<b>√</b>									
Pink-footed Goose	Anser brachyrhynchus	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Whooper Swan	Cygnus cygnus	✓	<b>√</b>									
Gadwall	Mareca strepera		1	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		1		1		
Eurasian Wigeon	Mareca penelope	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				

	May/June 2023									
Common name	Scientific name	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>
Northern Pintail	Anas acuta				2					
Eurasian Teal	Anas crecca	2		2	1	1	<b>√</b>		1	
Tufted Duck	Aythya fuligula	<b>√</b>								
Lesser Scaup	Aythya affinis							1		
Greater Scaup	Aythya marila		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
Common Eider	Somateria mollissima	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>
Harlequin Duck	Histrionicus histrionicus		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Common Scoter	Melanitta nigra		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
Long-tailed Duck	Clangula hyemalis	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
Barrow's Goldeneye	Bucephala islandica		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			1		
Goosander	Mergus merganser								1	
Red-breasted Merganser	Mergus serrator		1	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Rock Ptarmigan	Lagopus muta		1	1	1	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	
Rock Dove - I	Columba livia					<b>√</b>				
Slavonian Grebe	Podiceps auritus		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
Eurasian Oystercatcher	Haematopus ostralegus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>
European Golden Plover	Pluvialis apricaria	<b>√</b>								
Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula	<b>√</b>								
Eurasian Whimbrel	Numenius phaeopus	<b>√</b>								
Black-tailed Godwit	Limosa limosa	<b>√</b>								
Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres				<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			
Red Knot	Calidris canutus		2		<b>√</b>		50			
Sanderling	Calidris alba		6		<b>√</b>	2	<b>√</b>			
Dunlin	Calidris alpina	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	1	
Purple Sandpiper	Calidris maritima				1	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Common Snipe	Gallinago gallinago	<b>√</b>								
Red-necked Phalarope	Phalaropus lobatus	<b>√</b>								
Common Redshank	Tringa totanus	<b>√</b>								
Black-legged Kittiwake	Rissa tridactyla	<b>√</b>								
Black-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus ridibundus	<b>√</b>								
Common Gull	Larus canus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>			1	
Great Black-backed Gull	Larus marinus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>
Glaucous Gull	Larus hyperboreus		<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Iceland Gull	Larus glaucoides		<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			
European Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Larus fuscus	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>
Arctic Tern	Sterna paradisaea	<b>√</b>								
Great Skua	Stercorarius skua		1							
Arctic Skua	Stercorarius parasiticus	<b>√</b>								
Brünnich's Guillemot	Uria lomvia					3				
Common Guillemot	Uria aalge		<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Razorbill	Alca torda		<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		

Common name	Scientific name	May/June 2023										
		27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4		
Black Guillemot	Cepphus grylle		<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
Atlantic Puffin	Fratercula arctica		<b>√</b>				<b>√</b>					
Red-throated Diver	Gavia stellata	✓	<b>√</b>									
Great Northern Diver	Gavia immer	1	1	2	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	Н	2	3			
Northern Fulmar	Fulmarus glacialis	✓	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
Northern Gannet	Morus bassanus						<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo				1	2	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
European Shag	Gulosus aristotelis				<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>				
White-tailed Eagle	Haliaeetus albicilla					1	1	1				
Short-eared Owl	Asio flammeus		2		1							
Merlin	Falco columbarius			1					1			
Northern Raven	Corvus corax	✓	<b>√</b>	✓								
Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes			1					Н			
Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	✓	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
Redwing	Turdus iliacus	✓	<b>√</b>									
Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	✓		1	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>					
Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe				<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>						
White Wagtail	Motacilla alba	✓	<b>√</b>									
Meadow Pipit	Anthus pratensis		<b>√</b>									
Common Redpoll	Acanthis flammea		1	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>			
Snow Bunting	Plectrophenax nivalis			1			<b>√</b>					

# Mammals

Common Name	Scientific name	May/June 2023									
		27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	
Arctic Fox	Alopex lagopus				1						
Atlantic Grey Seal	Halichoerus grypus					1					
Common Seal	Phoca vitulina		2		✓	✓					
Minke Whale	Balaenoptera acutorostrata		1								
Humpback Whale	Megaptera novaeangliae		1		1	1					
Orca (Killer Whale)	Orcinus orca							5			
Harbour Porpoise	Phocoena phocoena		<b>✓</b>				<b>√</b>				