

Great Whales of the Azores (Pico)

Naturetrek Tour Report

2nd – 10th May 2025



Risso's Dolphin by George Nicholson



Humpback Whale by Michael Collins



Sperm Whales by George Nicholson



Loggerhead Turtle by Michael Collins

Tour report by George Nicholson



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: George Nicholson (leader) with 13 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Friday 2nd May

George and 13 group members departed a warm and sunny London to Lisbon. Upon arrival, we convened and headed to our overnight hotel at the airport for dinner and rest for our early flight the following morning.

Day 2

Saturday 3rd May

After an early 5.00am start, we headed back to Lisbon Airport for our morning flight to Horta on the island of Faial. After a slight delay, we took off and our Azorean adventure fully began!

Upon arrival into Horta we collected our bags, however the delayed flight meant we missed our ferry to Madelena in Pico. With a few hours to kill at the ferry terminal, George and the group headed into Horta's old town for a bite to eat and some window shopping. House Sparrows could be heard chirping from the trees, and in the harbour itself, the charismatic 'squeak' of Common Terns. A few guests opted for a stroll along the waterfront, where we enjoyed our first of many Sally Lightfoot Crabs (Red Rock Crab), plus two Little Egrets. A scan out on the horizon treated us to a vast number of Cory's Shearwaters all swooping amongst the swell of the waves. We boarded our ferry to Pico at 2.00pm, warming up our eyes for any potential cetacean action ready for the week! Whilst the 20-minute ferry did not bring any rewards, the anticipation for the week's activities was surely building.

We arrived at the hotel at 3pm, where we checked-in and relaxed before our first introductory talk by Enrico, the founder of our whale watching partners for the week. Enrico gave a spectacular briefing, enthusiastically describing what made the Azores so special for cetaceans and what we potentially had in store over the course of the week. Enrico's passion for cetaceans and the wildlife of the Azores was infectious, as the group left inspired and ready for their first adventure at sea the following day! We then headed to dinner, enjoying locally prepared 'Pico Cheese', wine, fish and steak. A hearty meal complete, we strolled back to our hotel for a deserved rest, ready to start the day fresh. Bring on the whales!

Day 3

Sunday 4th May

Today marked our first 'sea day'. The group convened in the hotel lobby after breakfast, ready for the day's adventures to begin! After setting up various layers and waterproofs, we headed over to our meeting point for a quick introduction by Marty, our skipper, and awaited the call from the 'Vigia' – local whale-watchers who scan from the tops of nearby cliffs, armed with powerful binoculars and telescopes looking for signs of cetaceans. Vigias were originally used to direct whaling ships, however since the whaling industry ceased, the vigias are conservation oriented, working with multiple whale-watching partners across Pico and other Azores Islands. Whilst awaiting the signal, several Azores Yellow-legged Gulls flew overhead, and George spotted a Ruddy Turnstone feeding amongst the rocks.

The Vigias shortly spotted some cetacean action in the water, and we headed onto our RIB to begin our first boat trip. We made ourselves comfy and set out at a rapid pace to enter the 'Whale Zone', where the Vigias had spotted several Sperm Whales actively feeding off the island's north coast. Masses of Cory's Shearwaters could be seen

across the open seas, as we kept our eyes peeled for the blow of a Sperm Whale – characterised by a small, angled blow that points to the left.

After around 20 minutes, we slowed as our skipper heard reports of dolphins nearby. Sure enough, a pod of Risso's Dolphins appeared, consisting of two adult females and three juveniles. The juveniles were noticeably darker, as their skin lacked many of the scratches and pale markings that make Risso's dolphins so uniquely identifiable. We continued watching for a short while before heading further offshore to find our larger cetaceans. Sperm Whales are notoriously deep divers, regularly spending over 60 minutes feeding at depths below 1,000m. Patience was to be a virtue, and after around 15 minutes, Marty and George spotted a blow around 300m in front of our vessel. We approached the whale slowly from behind, careful not to startle it, and realised we had two 'teenaged' females. They were smaller than fully grown adults, measuring around 8m, and we watched the two individuals rest at the surface for around 10 minutes before they prepped for their deep dive (marked by a sudden arching of the lower back, a second blow, and a high arched fluke). Soon after, a further two whales were seen, including one full grown female at 13m! her deep dive was outstanding, treating us all to a fabulous 'fluke shot'. As we waited for further whales to appear, a Portuguese Man O'War floated by our boat. A further three Sperm Whales were also seen together, with noticeable scarring on the dorsal fins and around the blowhole. After a fantastic morning of sightings, we headed back to shore, marked with sea spray and windswept hair, and some fantastic whale encounters in our mind!

On shore, George coordinated a spot for lunch before reconvening in the afternoon for our second boat trip of the day. The wind had since picked up, and there was noticeable chop on the surface of the water, as well as an increase in swell. The Vigias had not spotted any cetaceans, however we opted to head out regardless, and donned out waterproofs once more. To shelter from the wind, we headed southward, remaining somewhat close to the coastline. We continued south, however with conditions becoming increasingly choppy, decided to call time and return to Madelena. As we slowed, Marty spotted something floating on the surface, revealing to be a Loggerhead Turtle! The individual was resting at the surface, and did not seem to mind the proximity of the boat, occasionally lifting its head to watch us. Whilst Loggerhead Turtles are frequently seen around the Azores, this was a larger individual measuring almost 1m across its body, which are far more common in warmer waters. After about 10 minutes, the individual decided to dive deep, and we began our return to port. We hugged the coast, which provided fantastic views of the island's geology. Pico is one of the youngest islands in the Azores archipelago, formed by the volcanic eruption of Mount Pico approximately 300,000 years ago. Basalt cliffs formed spectacular cave structures all across the island and a number of nesting Rock Doves, Common Terns and Barn Swallows could be seen from the water's edge. A number of Red Rock Crabs were also spotted.

We had a small amount of time in the evening before our dinner reservation – some opted to explore Madalena harbour, whilst others decided to use the hotel pool. We reconvened at 7pm to run through the day's checklist, before walking to our evening's restaurant, enjoying a fine sample of local cuisine before retiring to bed.

Day 4

Monday 5th May

Three guests joined George for a pre-breakfast walk around the harbour this morning, which revealed a number of Red Rock Crabs perched on the rocky harbour walls. Several Common Tern could be seen flying overhead, plus Yellow-legged Gulls, and out at sea, the day's first Cory's Shearwaters. Clear skies treated us, and for the first time this week, we enjoyed a fantastic view of Mount Pico, with striking lenticular cloud formations over the peak.

A Little Egret flew across the harbour, and several Ruddy Turnstones could be seen feeding on algae. In the shrubbery, two Greenfinches hopped among the trees, and house sparrows and blackbirds could be heard singing. After around 40 minutes, we returned to the hotel to enjoy the day's breakfast, fuelling for an exciting day on the water ahead!

We collected our gear from our whale-watching partners shortly before 9am and after confirmation from the Vigia of sightings on the north shore, we headed out to sea. Our route took us right across to the northern coasts of Faial, where Sperm Whales had been sighted, and en-route to the 'whale zone', spotted a pod of Bottlenose Dolphins. The individuals were not too interested in our boat, so we continued onward. Soon, the marked blows of Sperm Whales could be seen, and we counted a total of eight individuals across our morning's activity. Highlights included one youngster, and a full adult female who demonstrated some fantastic high fluking dives. Feeling elated with our sightings, we returned to shore, ready for a bite to eat and our afternoon at sea.

We reconvened ready for our 2.45 departure. Calls had been made of larger baleen whales on the southern shores, so once more we donned our waterproofs and boarded our RIB. Sure enough, the tall blows of baleen whales became visible; we'd found two travelling Humpback Whales! The two individuals were adult males, travelling northward. We followed the individuals for over an hour, enjoying the regular blows, and occasional head-lifts out the water. One male gave us a fantastic 'fluke shot' of a deeper dive, much to everyone's delight. Marty then spotted some action on the water, with splashes and flashes amongst a feeding frenzy of Cory's Shearwaters. We left the Humpbacks on their journey and approached the mass of birds, likely feeding on a school of mackerel. The action slowed as we approached, marking the end of the feeding session, and we concluded that the splashes were likely caused by feeding Bluefin Tuna. George and Marty then spotted a few dorsal fins pointing out the water, and numbers rapidly increasing – a pod of Short-beaked Common Dolphins! Around 25 individuals surrounded our boat, treating us to acrobatic jumps, bow riding, and small porpoising leaps out the water. What a treat! We continued to circle around, approaching the two Humpback Whales once more for a final glance before we needed to head back to shore. As we approached, the water went quiet, hinting that the individuals may have swum into deeper water. We stuck around in case of any further activity, before George yelled 'BREACH' – one of the males shot straight out the water, just meters from the boat, shooting completely clear of the water on its back before ending with an almighty crash! We were left stunned and cheering, as the breach had been completely unexpected. Knowing little could top the day's activities, we decided to end on a high and position back to shore. En route, our skipper, Ricardo, had received a radio alert of another species of whale, so we decided to follow it up on our way back to Madalena, revealing to be a large pod of 50 Short-finned Pilot Whales! Whilst Pilot Whales are seen in the summer months around the Azores, they are a rare visitor at this time of year, especially in large numbers. The pod was likely a travelling maternity pod, consisting of larger females and their offspring, accompanied by several 'bull' males. We slowed and watched the whales surround our boat for several minutes, before we really had to return – we'd outstayed our slot by over an hour!

Elated by our sightings, we returned within an hour to prepare for dinner, run through the checklist, and walk to our evening's restaurant, which was conveniently next door to the hotel. This was a small, family run hotel, offering us a variety of traditional Azorean dishes: grilled tuna, fish croquettes, and a pork and clam stew served with potatoes and rice. The food was hearty and homemade, and the restaurant owner's daughter provided some jovial quips with our group, cementing the day as excellent all round.

Day 5

Tuesday 6th May

Today we woke to a 'mixed bag' of weather, with a heavy band of rain covering much of the horizon. Nevertheless, the sea was calm, and after a pre-breakfast stroll around the harbour revealed Ruddy Turnstone, Greenfinch and Little Egret, we headed to breakfast and donned our waterproofs for our next day at sea. The crew had been notified of Sperm Whales to the south of the island, and therefore quickly boarded our RIB to investigate. Cory's Shearwaters were plentiful as ever, and as we headed south, we ran into a playful pod of Bottlenose Dolphins. This was a very inquisitive pod, riding both bow and stern waves, and we enjoyed several very acrobatic leaps! We stayed and enjoyed the dolphins for a short while before continuing onwards to where the Vigia had spotted the Sperm Whales. Sure enough, within minutes we had spotted the characteristic angled blow (we were all becoming experts at recognising by this point!) enjoying the views of another feeding female. After a short while, we could see several more blows in the same area, inferring that we were floating above a feeding aggregation! Several females were surfacing for 5-10 minutes, reacclimatising after undergoing deep feeding dives, before raising their flukes high into the air, marking a deep dive. Our skipper and local cetacean expert demonstrated to our group methods of predicting when an individual will undergo a deeper dive, typically marked by a slight arch of their central/rear body. We counted a total of seven Sperm Whales before we returned to shore for a quick lunch stop.

This afternoon, the weather cleared to blue skies and sun, and we headed back out on our RIB for a private cruise. Sperm Whales were still being sighted on the southern shore, so we headed back out, this time hugging the Faial coastline. Within a short time, we'd located a further feeding aggregation. All females again, however this time, several young calves were also present! These were newborns, unlikely to be older than a few months, and could be easily marked by their small size. Cows will regularly leave their offspring at the surface whilst they undergo deeper feeding dives, as until a certain age is reached, newborns are unable to hold their breath for the required time to feed. As we scanned our surroundings, the clear visibility and calm seas revealed we were above a much larger feeding aggregation, with blows surrounding us at all sides! Around 30 Sperm Whales surrounded us - fantastic! As we looked out to the various blows, we noticed an unusual fin appearing on the surface. Upon closer inspection, it was revealed as an Ocean Sunfish! These unusual fish are regularly seen in Azorean waters, however are far from common - indeed, this was the first seen by our skipper this year! As we made a slow return to our harbour, we enjoyed a further playful dolphin encounter - this time, Short-beaked Common Dolphins! We enjoyed this encounter for a short while, before heading back to shore, elated by the day's sightings.

We had a small amount of time to debrief and do the evenings checklist, before heading back out for our evening meal, a local restaurant around a 10-minute walk from our hotel. We enjoyed a mix of fresh tuna, pork and salads, plus local wine and deserts served 'family style'.

Day 6

Wednesday 7th May

Today the wind had visibly picked up, however all guests were very keen to try our luck once more for a larger baleen whale - not yet seen on our trip! We therefore headed to our RIB and awaited the call from the Vigia. The report was that no large cetaceans had been sighted, however we decided to try our luck anyway and head out. We headed southeast to shelter from the winds and awaited the sighting of any close by cetaceans. Our skipper and guide deployed a hydrophone into the water - a device that allows listeners to hear the communications of different cetaceans. Sadly, no whales could be heard, however we stayed optimistic. We continued to cruise around the southeastern corner of Pico, where we stumbled onto a pod of Common Dolphins. Once again, the pod was very

playful and continued to ride the bow waves produced by our RIB. Several Man O'Wars could also be seen, identifiable by their bright blue and purple 'sail' - these are used to drift along in the wind throughout the ocean with the aid of ocean currents, and many of these end up drifting towards the Azores. Finally, towards the end of the session, we saw the now familiar blow of a Sperm Whale, and as we approached, realised we were in the company of not one, but three individuals! We could tell one individual was a calf by its smaller size and was accompanied by two female companions. We waited and watched as the group restfully swam, before diving synchronously, with tall, arched flukes. As the wind was starting to build, and we had travelled a fair distance around the island, our skipper decided to call time to return, battling some strong swell as we hugged the coast!

Upon returning to land, several group members opted to head to the hotel and change into drier waterproof gear, whilst others explored the local cafes for some lunch and warm drinks. We reconvened around 2.30pm for our afternoon out at sea. Again, sadly no large cetaceans had been sighted, yet with luck on our side, we all decided to head out regardless. Hugging the coast on the north side of Pico to avoid the wind, we enjoyed the plentiful Cory's Shearwaters skilfully navigating the wind and swell, keeping an eye out for any large feeding aggregations in the hope for some cetacean action. Our skipper Marty could see some distant splashing. Looking carefully, we could see these individuals were paler than our previously seen Common Dolphins, so we approached closer, hoping to be accompanied by a different species. Luck was indeed on our side once again as we had stumbled across a pod of Risso's Dolphins! These individuals were travelling in our direction, so we turned our vessel around so we could sail alongside the pod. In contrast to the individuals seen earlier on in the week, this group were extremely energetic, with individuals fully breaching the water. Risso's Dolphins lose skin pigment and suffer from permanent scarring from a young age, allowing for easy identification. This was very evident to us as these individuals leapt clearly out of the water, exposing to us their unique beak - very different to the streamlined faces of the Common Dolphins otherwise seen by our group.

After about an hour of sailing, we could see some intense feeding action on the surface, with visible splashing between the diving birds - usually indicating dolphins. Sure enough, as we approached, we could see another large pod of Common Dolphins feeding alongside the gulls and shearwaters. This was a mixed-age pod, containing both newborns and full-sized adults. We enjoyed this pod as it surrounded our vessel, engaged in its foraging behaviour below.

With the wind again picking up, we headed back into Madalena harbour (crossing some rather bumpy swell as we did so!) An unexpected highlight during the journey back was a flying fish leaping into the air, and catching the wind so successfully it glided for almost 50 meters! Feeling windswept and salty, we headed back to our hotel for a quick refresh, before beginning our checklist and heading for dinner.

Day 7

Thursday 8th May

This morning the weather had closed in, so with limited visibility out at sea we decided to have the first of our land days. We boarded our minibuses and accompanied by our local driver/guides, we headed north from Madalena.

Our first stop was approximately 15 minutes out of the town to a spot called Cachorro. Here, ancient lava flows from previous volcanic eruptions had been eroded by the sea, forming a unique and complex cave system between the land and the sea. We could hear the heavy swell hitting the rock faces, and several of the cave systems would seemingly erupt as water was forced into the cracks and caverns. Several hardy plants had managed to colonise the

rock faces, with visible aerial roots protruding from the base due to the lack of soil - an impressive display of adaptation in action. Several Feral Rock Doves had also built nests into the cave systems - perhaps slightly less impressive, but still equally creative! A footpath took us deeper into the rock formation, allowing us to see the unique structures of the lava columns and caves more visibly. Our guide pointed out to us the smuggling ramps that had been carved into the stone - these were used to smuggle wine and other goods off the island.

We continued round the island to a small village. Many of the houses passed appeared empty, and when queried to our guide he explained that this was due to the seismic activity that ravaged Pico in the 1970's. Between 1973 and 1974, several large earthquakes hit the Azores, with the epicentre sitting between the islands of Sao Jorge and Pico. These earthquakes left over 5,000 people homeless, resulting in a large migration of islanders to the United States and Canada. This significantly reduced the island's population, however many Portuguese mainlanders and relatives of the original migrants have recently begun repurchasing property to use as holiday homes. We explored the village briefly before heading into a local museum of the volcanic history of the islands. Stradling the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the Azores Archipelago have a rich geological history, and during our time at the museum we learned about the island's formations, ages, and even experienced a 'virtual reality earthquake simulator'! Once we finished inside the museum, we headed across the road to a local wine storage unit, where we received a short talk on the island's wine production. Sadly, there was no wine to be tasted today, but we left feeling enriched on the island's history and culture.

Our next stop was a breeding colony of Common Terns set into the volcanic cliffs of the island. We parked close by to the site and enjoyed close views of many of the birds landing at the nests with fresh food, calling noisily out to their partners in the nests. Close to the colony was a drained swimming pool, filled with seawater during the summer months. Several Ruddy Turnstones could be seen feeding on the algae here, and several Atlantic Canaries were also spotted nesting. We stayed here until close to midday, before returning back to Madalena as we had received news that the weather had improved to allow us onboard the boat that afternoon.

Over lunch we received notice that the Vigias had seen a Blue Whale, so we headed over to CW Azores to hear the afternoon's plans. Sadly, it seemed the whale was travelling away from the islands, and due to localised fog, the individual had sadly been lost. Nevertheless, we were approaching our final few trips out, so all decided to head out on the RIB. We headed south once more due to stronger winds on the northern fringes of the island. The water was seemingly quiet, with surface chop on the water adding challenging conditions for spotting cetaceans. Birdlife was also quiet; unusually for our week, we could see very few Cory's Shearwaters. Individuals were likely feeding further offshore, utilising the stormier weather. We persevered, and Giada, our skipper for the afternoon, chose to use the Hydrophone to listen out for any whales. Distantly we could hear the notorious clicks of a sperm whale, so opted to wait for the eventual surfacing. Around 20 minutes later, we spotted the notorious blow of a Sperm Whale. We sped over, and realised we'd stumbled across our first male of the trip! Male Sperm Whales are typically only found in the Azores during the late summer months, migrating from colder waters. Male sperm whales are only found during the breeding season in the Azores, and this was one of the first males seen this season by our guides. It was noticeably larger than our other sighted individuals, with a large bulbous head emerging through the water. We enjoyed the male for several breaths, before it took a slightly less than graceful lopsided dive into the water. Brilliant! As the journey out had taken such a long time, and with the stormy weather closing in, we started to head back into Madalena. We enjoyed another impromptu pod of Common Dolphins as we made our journey back. As we crossed into the central channel between Pico and Faial, the swell suddenly picked up,

meaning our passage back into harbour felt far more like a rollercoaster ride! We arrived back in to Madalena feeling extremely wet and windswept, yet thoroughly elated with the day's sightings!

Day 8

Friday 9th May

This morning, the group opted to splinter for the morning's activities. Several guests went off to take part in CW's wild dolphin snorkel - an optional addition for the tour - whilst George and the remaining participants spent the morning travelling to the island's southern town of Lajes. We started our morning exploring the vineyards just outside of Madalena, where finally after seven full days of searching, we finally spotted the elusive Azores's Chaffinch! We continued that morning to several viewpoints before making our way to Lajes, and enjoyed a pod of dolphins making a splash as we drove south. Lajes was made famous as one the world's whaling capitals until the practice became uneconomical and outlawed in the 1980s. The historical whaling station has now become a museum to the history of whale hunting, and as the history of the practice is intertwined with the whale-watching tourism on the island, it was well worth our group's visit.

We reunited as a group at lunch and got ourselves ready for our final afternoon on the water. Once again, weather conditions were windy with choppy sea conditions, so we donned our waterproofs for a final time and prepared ourselves to head out. We skilfully sailed our boat out to the northern coasts of Faial, heading offshore. The swell was larger today, as was the wind, however our skipper expertly traversed the waves, and we saw our first pod of Common Dolphins. They surrounded us from all angles as they leapt through the swell acrobatically, and realised we were in the centre of a mixed pod - both Common and Striped Dolphins could be seen! Striped Dolphins are far more common in the summer months in the Azores, so this was an unexpected and rare treat for our group. As the waves picked up, and viewing became more challenging, we moved closer to the shore, hugging the sandstone cliffs of Faial. Here, we were treated to our third dolphin species of the afternoon - Bottlenose Dolphins. We enjoyed two separate groups close to the shore here, including one very small calf, unlikely to be more than a few months old!

We hugged the coastline on our journey back to Madalena, closely exploring the 'lion rock' - a cliff that remarkably imitated the big cat before heading into port. Our final boat trip may not have revealed the large baleen whales we had hoped for at the start of the week, however we enjoyed some absolutely fantastic sightings and encounters that more than made up for what was missed. A huge thank you was passed to our guides, skippers and all the staff that made our week so special.

After a refresh and shower, we met downstairs for our final checklist, and walked to our final restaurant for dinner on the harbourfront.

Day 9

Saturday 10th May

Today was an early start, as we sadly said goodbye to an excellent week on Pico to board our ferry to Faial before our return flight to Lisbon, and for much of the group, the connecting flight back to Heathrow.

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Species lists

Mammals

Common name	Scientific name	May 2025							
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Risso's Dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>		5			5			
Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>		10	1	20		15		
Short-beaked Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>			25	100	60	15	✓	
Striped Dolphin	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>							✓	
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>			2					
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>		7	8	40	3	1		
Short-finned Pilot Whale	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>			50					

Birds

Common name	Scientific name	May 2025							
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introduced									
Muscovy Duck (I)	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	✓							
Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>		✓				✓		
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>					✓		✓	
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Azores' Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Feral Pigeon / Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus azorica</i>						✓	✓	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea patriciae</i>						✓	✓	
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula rubecula</i>	✓		✓				✓	
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula azorensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris granti</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Introduced		May 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs moreletti</i>							✓	
European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>			✓					
Atlantic Canary	<i>Serinus canaria</i>	✓					✓	✓	

Others

		May 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Butterflies									
	<i>Pieridae</i>								
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>							✓	
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea faillae</i>							✓	
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>				✓				
Other invertebrates									
Red Rock Crab	<i>Grapsus Grapsus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Amphibians									
Loggerhead Turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		✓						
Madeiran Wall Lizard	<i>Lacerta (Teira) dugesii</i>		✓	✓	17			✓	

Fish recorded

Common name	Scientific name
Atlantic Flyingfish	<i>Cheilopogon melanurus</i>
Ocean Sunfish	<i>Mola Mola</i>
Ornate Wrasse	<i>Thalassoma pavo</i>
Atlantic Bluefin Tuna	<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>
Portuguese Man O' War	<i>Physalia physalis</i>