

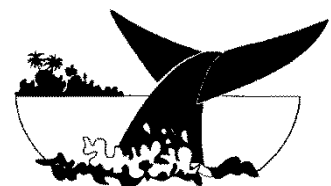
# WHALE & DOLPHIN WATCHING TRIP REPORT



*False Killer Whale*

## **MALDIVES EXPLORER NORTHERN ATOLLS CRUISE 17 to 28 April 2016**

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# TROPICAL DOLPHINS AND WHALES

## MALDIVES EXPLORER

### M.V. *Hope Cruiser*, 17 to 28 April 2016

#### SUMMARY

A marvellous trip to the northern atolls of the Maldives on MV *Hope Cruiser*, during which we enjoyed days of flat-calm seas, fabulous cetacean sightings and superb snorkelling. Cetaceans were abundant (73 encounters with over 2300 individuals of 12 different species), with hundreds of **Spinner Dolphins**, and good numbers of **Risso's Dolphins** too. But particular highlights included the **Dwarf Sperm Whales** we saw at incredibly close range outside Baa Atoll (including one which breached twice); our thrilling encounter with three **Orcas**; the extraordinary bow-riding **False Killer Whales**; and great views of both **Longman's Beaked Whale** and **Blainville's Beaked Whale**. There were some nice seabirds too, with a particular highlight being two **Sooty Shearwaters** (a first record for the Maldives), on migration across the Indian Ocean amongst all the **Flesh-footed Shearwaters**.

We also enjoyed plenty of snorkelling. The **reef fishes** were always excellent, with astonishing colours, numbers and diversity on every snorkel. The **corals** were absolutely outstanding in many locations, despite some signs of bleaching related to this year's El Niño. **Hawksbill Turtles** were encountered on several occasions, as were several different species of sharks and rays. And there were also flying-fish aplenty, several island visits, the spectacular night sky, and the care and attention of the *Hope Cruiser* crew.

#### Day 1, Sunday 17 April 2016

People flew in at different times this morning, and were soon transferred to the safari boat anchorage and *Hope Cruiser*. Following welcome drinks and a briefing, there was time to unpack in the cabins, and slap on some sun cream before coming back on deck. Soon after midday we were off, heading north, and immediately there was a sighting of **Spinner Dolphins**, most swimming gently alongside the boat while a few juveniles showed off their spinning skills.

By the time we were out in the ocean, lunch was ready. We continued northwards in good conditions, but it was some time before we saw anything more than a few **flying fishes**. A couple of fishing boats ahead turned out to be handlining for **Yellowfin Tuna**, and we watched the fishermen haul in a couple of

hefty ones. But of even greater interest were the birds nearby. A chunky **Pomarine Skua** was harassing a **Brown Noddy**; three **Great Crested Terns** were hawking for live baitfish from the boats; a pair of **Flesh-footed Shearwaters** were soaring northwards; and most unexpectedly a **Sooty Shearwater**, with startlingly silver underwings was soaring by. This Sooty Shearwater was so distinctively marked and seen in such good light that there was no doubting its identification – a first confirmed record for Maldives!



*Flesh-footed Shearwater*

A little while later we started seeing more large Shearwaters heading south-eastwards, which is the exact opposite of the normal direction for this time of year. One of them passed close enough to see that it was another **Sooty Shearwater**.

By now the afternoon was getting on, and it was time to seek out our anchorage for the night. As we turned in to the lagoon at Meerufenfushi, a small school of **Spinner Dolphins** was heading out. We were soon anchored, then into the *dhoni* and off to the adjacent reef for a snorkel. The water was warm and still, and the corals were magnificent: a very pleasant first snorkel. Back on board there was time for a shower and chat before dinner, and an early night for some.

## Day 2, Monday 18 April 2016

With a wide channel ahead of us today, we set off early. It was calm but overcast. These were ideal viewing conditions, and it was not long before our first sighting. Even before we left the atoll we could see **Pilot Whales** ahead. In no time we were among them – a wide line abreast, all travelling north outside the atoll.



*Pilot Whale*

We went with them, and soon had some riding along and under the bows. It soon became apparent that the Pilots were not alone: **Bottlenose Dolphins** were travelling with them, although they did not get much of our attention. Several times individual Pilot

Whales swam right under the boat, usually upside-down. And several times we could clearly hear their piercing whistles.

We were with the Pilots for a full hour before finally leaving them and heading in towards Kassanfaru Reef for our morning snorkel. The outer reef here was a delight. In shallow water the gentle swell tugged us in and out over a mass of fishes specialised in this surge zone, including **Reef Picasso Triggerfish**, **Surge Damselfish** and **Surge Wrasse**. Out near the dropoff, highlights included a **Giant Moray** and a small **Nurse Shark**. Everywhere the corals were magnificent, although there were clear signs of coral bleaching (related to the on-going El Niño). Many of the *Pocillopora* corals were white, although other colonies appeared completely normal. Most *Acropora* corals, including the **Table Corals**, were partially bleached and pale, while most other corals, including all the massives, appeared unaffected. And in deeper water down the reef slope there appeared to be little or no bleaching at all. However, the main attraction here along the dropoff was the dense schools of fishes including **Red-toothed Triggerfishes**, **Hunchback Red Snappers** and **Convict Surgeonfishes**. And at the end of our snorkel, as we clambered back onto the *dhoni*, a small group of **Spinner Dolphins** appeared, and gave us a brief bowriding display. All this before (late) breakfast!

The rest of the morning produced two sightings of cetaceans which promptly disappeared. But just after midday we came across the first of two groups of **Risso's Dolphins** which kept us occupied until well after lunch. The first group was made up entirely of grey individuals, apparently mothers and juveniles. They were rather quiet, although we did get one display of raised flukes. The second group, which appeared to be a mix of mature males and females, were much friskier, with much frolicking about.



After this the wind temporarily picked up, dropping as we approached Kaashidhoo Island. Here we had our second snorkel of the day, on the outer reef. Here there were few signs of bleaching – just some paling of the **Table Corals**. Highlights included schools of **Lunar Fusiliers**, a **Blacktip Reef Shark**, and a juvenile **Humphead Parrotfish** (the latter being rather rare in the Maldives and only found on ocean-facing reefs). By now it was nearly time to anchor, so we headed in, via the relatively newly dredged boar channel, into the turquoise lagoon of Kaashidhoo, on the way in passing local fishermen searching for livebait.

Evening slide show: Dolphins of the Maldives.



Reef coral

### Day 3, Tuesday 19 April

What a fabulous day! The sea was mirror calm when we woke this morning, and it stayed that way all day. We set off early from Kaashidhoo, crossing the wide Kaashidhoo Channel to Baa Atoll. On the way we first encountered an active school of **Bottlenose Dolphins**. They did bowride, but were clearly on a mission and resolutely ploughed on towards the SW, so we eventually left them and turned back on course. That brought us across a school of **Spinner Dolphins**, which were also happy to bowride. There was also a trio of **Dwarf Sperm Whales**, which were logging as we approached, before then rolling and diving one after the other.

As we approached Goidhoo Atoll, the birdlife, improved. A single **Common Tern** circled our boat, then a **Lesser Crested Tern**, then **Lesser and Brown Noddies** appeared, and there were **Black-naped Terns** over the reef too.

We pulled in to the reef opposite Fehendhoo Island for a late morning snorkel. At first sight it did not seem the best of reefs, for the corals seemed rather patchy. However, on closer inspection there was a lot to see, and we were all reluctant to get back onto the *dhoni*, even after a full hour in the water. Among the bigger attractions were a couple of large **Moray Eels**, a particularly large **Hawksbill Turtle**, and a **White-tailed Stingray**.



White-tailed Stingray

Back on board *Hope Cruiser* lunch was soon ready. But as it was called we spotted some dolphins ahead. Heading that way we were distracted by two **Sailfish** at the surface (the crew trying unsuccessfully to catch one of them). And while they were doing that we noticed **Sea Skaters** – the World's only truly marine insect.

Eventually leaving the Sailfish we pressed on towards the dolphins, which turned out to be another group of **Spinner Dolphins**. This group included many youngsters which appeared to be having a spinning lesson. Soon after leaving the Spinners we came across a couple of **Risso's Dolphins**. By now we were on the outside of Baa Atoll, and we continued on, out into the ocean. Some distant splashing drew us further offshore, to a large school of

**Spotted Dolphins** (with a single **Wedge-tailed Shearwater** in attendance). The Spotted Dolphins, including mothers with calves, readily rushed in to bowride. We spent plenty of time with these dolphins, but they were heading south and we wanted to go north, so we eventually had to leave them and turn back on course. Which brought us to our final cetaceans of the day, an exuberant school of **Striped Dolphins**. They entertained us with much leaping and bow-riding, showing off their smart stripes and pink bellies.

Once anchored inside the enormous lagoon next to Thulaadhoo Island, those that wanted jumped on to the *dhoni* for a sunset snorkel on a nearby patch reef. Again the fishlife was excellent, with enormous numbers of juveniles of many different species. Other notable sights included a **Reef Lobster**, **Spotfin Lionfish**, and three **Yellowmargin Moray Eels** in close proximity.

Evening talk: Spotted Dolphins and tuna fisheries, on the fore deck, with the afterglow of the sunset fading directly ahead.

## Day 4, Wednesday 20 April

Another wonderfully calm morning. We started early, moving *Hope Cruiser* up from our overnight anchorage to the uninhabited island of Muthafushi, for our morning snorkel. Jumping in on the reef was like plunging into an over-stocked aquarium, with fish everywhere. Schools of **Black-pyramid Butterflyfish**, **Schooling Bannerfish**, **Neon Fusiliers** and **Sergeant Majors** swarmed along the dropoff, while on the reef itself a massive gang of **Convict Surgeonfish** was rolling along, grazing greedily as it went. There were numerous **Giant Sea Anemones** with both **Clark's** and **Maldivian Anemonefishes** along the reef edge, and a small but friendly **Hawksbill Turtle**.

As we left the atoll after breakfast we almost immediately spotted a **Dwarf Sperm Whale**. It was travelling at the surface, rather unusual behaviour for this species, and we went with it. We managed to get some good views and photos, and thought we had done well. But as we turned back on course we spotted six more **Dwarf Sperm Whales** ahead. They dived as we approached, but we waited. And one surfaced not far away. Then another. Then three surfaced even closer. Then one breached, twice (something never seen before in the Maldives). It was a quite extraordinary display, culminating in two Dwarf Sperm Whales at the surface less than 20m from our boat (so close in fact that some could even make out the animals' false-gill markings). Quite the best encounter with this normally elusive species that any of us had ever enjoyed.



*Dwarf Sperm Whale*

When we finally left and started off northwards, we were all abuzz with excitement. After such a magnificent start to the day it was perhaps to be expected that we then had a bit of a quiet spell. There were two **cetacean** sightings that we could not get on to. But there were several nice seabirds, including **Lesser Frigatebird**, **Tropical Shearwater** and **'Black' Noddy** (or perhaps just non-breeding Lesser Noddy). And during the afternoon the cetaceans picked up again. Then in quick succession we had a **Dwarf Sperm Whale**, a frenetic school of **Striped Dolphins** and a large school of **Spinner Dolphins**.



*Striped Dolphin*

After spending time with all of these dolphins, we were ready to head in to the atoll. Rain started as we entered and was soon bucketing down. But by the time we had anchored it had eased off. The steep reef here was again home to a stunning diversity of fishes. And in the gathering gloom of dusk, numerous nocturnal species (**Squirrelfish**, **Soldierfish**, **Sweepers** and the odd **Lionfish**) as well as many **Featherstars** were appearing. A delightful end to a productive day.

Evening talk: Whales of the Maldives.

## **Day 5, Thursday 21 April**

The sea was mirror-calm again this morning as we set off on the *dhoni* for the 20-minute ride to Kukulhudhoofaru reef. We were planning our morning snorkel here, on the outer reef. And it was a good one. Deep grooves gouged out in the reef attested to the power of the sea during the rough SW monsoon season. But today it was calm, and a delight to be floating among fishes that thrive in this environment year-round: **Surge Hawkfish**, **Surge Damselfish**, **Surge Wrasse** and **Reef Picasso Triggerfish**. However, there were other very unusual **Triggerfishes** here which grabbed our attention. There were hundreds of juveniles, most about 10cm long. All had orange fins with black borders of varying thicknesses, and all seemed to show some characteristic of

Indian Triggerfish and some of Orange-lined Triggerfish. I had never seen this fish before, and am assuming that it is a hybrid. In slightly deeper water there were numerous **Table Corals**, unaffected by bleaching. And a bit deeper still, plenty of **Red Snappers** and four large **Napoleon Wrasse**.

Back on board *Hope Cruiser*, breakfast was soon ready, and we were off, heading north outside the atoll. The wind picked up slightly, but only to Force 3 at the most, so viewing conditions remained good. And yet we did not see a single cetacean all morning. However, we did see some nice seabirds, including several **Tropical Shearwaters** following the boat, both **Flesh-footed** and **Wedge-tailed Shearwaters** heading NW, a small flock of **Bridled Terns**, a single juvenile **Sooty Tern**, a couple of **Lesser Crested Terns** and a smattering of **Noddies**.

It was not until we were approaching Shaviyani Atoll that we saw our first cetaceans of the day, when we made up things with an avalanche of **Spinner Dolphins**. There were hundreds of them, pouring out from the atoll into the deep ocean for a night of feeding. They were in playful mood and we were treated to a long series of dolphins rushing in to bow-ride, all the while spinning and leaping nearby.

We finally anchored near the uninhabited islet of Hurasdhoo, which had 25 **Great Crested Terns** resting on the sandspit at one end. Here we enjoyed our evening snorkel on the excellent reef. There were particularly nice corals, and other highlights included a **Guitarfish**, a squadron of five **Reef Squid**, and numerous **Slate Pencil Urchins**.

Evening talk: Formation of Atolls, on the top deck, under the full moon.



## Day 6, Friday 22 April

Yet another excellent day! We left our anchorage early this morning, heading north inside Shaviyani Atoll. At 0730 we stopped next to the island of Gaakoshimbe for our morning snorkel, but not before a sighting of **Spinner Dolphins**. On the reef, under the bright morning light, the **corals** looked wonderful, the **fishlife** was diverse and colourful, and there were red **Featherstars** aplenty. There was also a **Spotted Eagle Ray** and several schools of **Kashmir Snapper** along the reef edge.



*Featherstars*

Back on board *Hope Cruiser* we enjoyed breakfast while crossing over Shaviyani Atoll towards the east. On the way we encountered a lone **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphin** and then another small group of four **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins**. Once on the east side of Shaviyani we turned towards the south. There was a longish stretch with no cetacean sightings, but then in the distance we spotted a distinctive and thrillingly tall dorsal fin: **Killer Whale!** At first we could see just the one male, with its enormous dorsal fin, heading our way. But soon enough we could make out three animals: two males and a female. They were charging north at some speed, and we were lucky to keep track of them as they sped past underwater, surfacing some distance away. But we did manage to track them, and followed them for some time, ending with a magnificent view of them at close quarters.



*Killer Whale*

We were all tingling with excitement from this encounter as we settled down for a very late lunch. And we did not expect any further cetacean sightings for some time, anticipating that all would have been scared off by the Killer Whales. But it was hardly any time before we spotted some splashing a bit further offshore. It was a big group of **Spinner Dolphins**, cavorting at the surface, with many spins and several bow-riding.

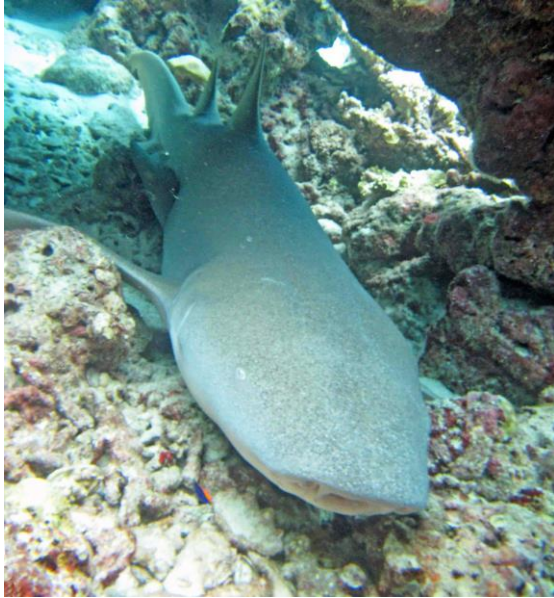
It was eventually time to turn in towards Shaviyani Atoll and our anchorage at Dolhiyadhoo Island. Once anchored within the island's sheltered lagoon we jumped into the dingy for a short ride across to the island reef. This was surprising good, with rich growths of coral and numerous fish, including a huge school of **Bigeye Jacks** and a delightful **Comet**.

Evening talk: Beaked Whales, on the fore-deck after a dramatic sunset.

## Day 7, Saturday 23 April

Our morning tea and coffee time was interrupted by the appearance of three **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins** behind our anchored boat. And we saw them again when we set off on the *dhoni* for our morning snorkel. First we circumnavigated Dolhiyadhoo, in an unsuccessful search for Mantas. But our snorkel on the eastern reef was anything but unsuccessful. The water was clear, the corals and reef fishes diverse, with

great schools of **Sergeant Majors** and **Neon Fusiliers** along the reef edge. There were also two **Nurse Sharks** settling in for the day's sleep under coral bommies.



*Nurse Shark*

After breakfast, crossing back over Shaviyani Atoll to the east, we came across another group of **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins**. There were five this time, and they did briefly approach our bows, but they just as quickly lost interest and moved away.

Outside the atoll sighting conditions were good, but we could not see any cetaceans. Yesterday's Killer Whales must have scared everything away. But by way of compensation there were plenty of nice seabirds, including many **Flesh-footed** and **Wedge-tailed Shearwaters** on passage and a splendid **White-tailed Tropicbird**. When we finally turned in to Noonu Atoll, we did find a small mixed group of **Spinner** and **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins**, which kept us busy photographing.

Then it was time to anchor, within the circular reef of Vihafaru. There was time for a quick snorkel on the outer edge of the reef as the sun set. Big schools of **Red-toothed Triggerfishes**

and **Sleek Surgeonfishes** kept us company as we drifted above the dramatic drop-off.

Evening talk: Reefs and seasons, on the top deck.

## Day 8, Sunday 24 April

This morning's snorkel on the reef of Bandaidhidhoo Island was a stunner. It started with four beautiful **Spotted Eagle Rays** in the shallows. Just a little deeper, under the bright morning light, the corals and the fishlife were superb. There was also a **Maldivian Little Heron** showing itself very clearly on the beach.

Setting off across the deep Baraveli Channel between Noonu and Lhaviyani Atolls we had high hopes for cetacean sightings. It was not to be, although we did have two good sightings of **White-tailed Tropicbird**. We entered Lhaviyani Atoll near Vavvaru Island – where we could see part of a large whale skeleton on the beach. A bit further along we stopped for our second snorkel of the day, on a large patch reef. There was a slight chop and current, but the water was clear and the reef delightful, with a good mix of corals and plenty of fish.



*Slate-pencil urchin*

Back on board *Hope Cruiser* we headed back out of the atoll, and around the outer reef. In quick succession we spotted a school of large,



jumping **Yellowfin Tuna**, a large school of **Spinner Dolphins**, and a mystery **cetacean** which briefly showed itself three times before disappearing for good.

By now it was time to start towards our night's anchorage, off the tourist resort island of Kuredu. As we anchored a pod of **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins** appeared and started feeding immediately astern of us. Just before sunset we went across to Kuredu, having a quick showing of some video taken just off the island a few days earlier of three Blue Whales. Then to the bar to admire the **Sperm Whale skeleton**, and enjoy a cold drink overlooking the lagoon, before returning to *Hope Cruiser* in time for dinner.

## Day 9, Monday 25 April

We started with a fabulous snorkel on the reef of Huravalhi Island. What a fantastic reef, with lush coral growths and dense fishlife, a real treat. Back on board *Hope Cruiser* we were off straight away, and barely had time for breakfast before we were amongst an enormous school of **Spinner Dolphins**, heading into the atoll. We went with them as they cavorted, and bowrode, and spun alongside. It really was a great display.

Finally leaving the Spinners we headed out of the atoll into the open ocean. For the remainder of the morning we saw several beautiful **White-tailed Tropicbirds**, but no cetaceans. But during lunch, things changed, and we had a rush of cetaceans. First up, two groups of **Risso's Dolphins**, which allowed some nice close views. Then a **Longman's Beaked Whale** surfaced nearby. It was facing away from us as it rolled at the surface, so we did not get the best of views, but good enough to confirm that it was clearly this species. We waited for a full hour for it to resurface, but did not see it again. Although while waiting we spotted several other **cetaceans** jumping and splashing in the distance.

By now the afternoon was drawing on, and we had to push on towards our planned anchorage near the uninhabited island of Dhidhoo. Our *dhoni* had gone on ahead, and the crew had been busy preparing for a beach barbeque. What a feast, under the Milky Way, with the Plough on one side and the Southern Cross on the other.

## Day 10, Tuesday 26 April

We set off early this morning, as we had the wide Kaashidhoo Channel to cross. The weather looked good and we were looking forward to the crossing, fully expecting several sightings, as this is normally a good area for cetaceans. Things started well enough, with two **Spinner Dolphin** encounters just as we were leaving Lhaviyani Atoll. We also had a jumping **Sailfish** and a close approach to a **White-tailed Tropicbird**. But then things became very quiet, and apart from a few **Flesh-footed Shearwaters** soaring north-westwards on their annual migration, we saw nothing else on the crossing. Approaching North Malé Atoll we changed course to circumnavigate Gaafaru Atoll, but still no luck with cetaceans, although there were some **Black-naped Terns** and **Noddies**. Once at anchor in the lagoon of Gaafaru Atoll we settled in for a peaceful evening.

Evening talk: Dragonflies, on the front deck with Orion setting before us. During and after dinner there was fishing (for **Little Tunas**) off the stern deck as well as the chance to photograph a splendid **Banded Mantis Shrimp** that loitered near the stern light.



*Banded Mantis Shrimp*





*False Killer Whale*

Initially we thought there was just one, but soon enough others appeared, and then a whole host of **Bottlenose Dolphins** too. What followed was two hours of absolutely world-class cetacean watching, as we had the False Killers and Bottlenose alternately on our bows. Some went out on the launch and were thrilled with their even-closer encounters.

Wow! One of the best-ever cetacean encounters for most of us. After a very late lunch we had hundreds more dolphins (**Bottlenose, Risso's and Spinners**) but we were all still on a high from the False Killer Whales, as we headed south towards the airport. At 1645 we were secure in our anchorage, with time to pack before dinner. Then farewells and all too soon it was time to disembark.



*Bottlenose Dolphins under the bows*



## CETACEAN SUMMARY

Over our twelve days we recorded a splendid total of over 2300 individual cetaceans of 12 different species, from 73 sightings (which made 76 records since two species were seen together on three occasions):

Species	Scientific Name	No. Sightings	Est. no. Individuals
Spinner Dolphins	<i>Stenella longirostris</i>	25	1494
Spotted Dolphins	<i>Stenella attenuata</i>	1	80
Striped Dolphins	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	2	80
Risso's Dolphins	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	11	340
Common Bottlenose Dolphins	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	4	200
Indopacific Bottlenose Dolphins	<i>Tursiops aduncus</i>	6	20
Shortfin Pilot Whales	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	1	25
False Killer Whale	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	1	6
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	1	3
Longman's Beaked Whale	<i>Indopacetus pacificus</i>	2	3
Blainville's Beaked Whale	<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	2	3
Dwarf Sperm Whale	<i>Kogia sima</i>	9	20
Unidentified dolphins		6	32
Unidentified cetaceans		5	5
		76	2311

## BIRDS

Twenty-one species of birds is a reasonable total for the Maldives in April. The White-tailed Tropicbirds, still relatively abundant around Lhaviyani Atoll, were a delight. It was also good to see such large numbers of both Brown and Lesser Noddies, as well as all the other terns. And the steady stream of (mainly) Flesh-footed Shearwaters heading NW across the Indian Ocean, from their breeding islands off SW Australia to their non-breeding grounds off Arabia, was also a pleasure to see. But bird of the trip for me was undoubtedly Sooty Shearwater – a first confirmed record for the Maldives.

1	Tropical Shearwater	<i>Puffinus bailloni</i>
2	Wedge-tailed Shearwater	<i>Puffinus pacificus</i>
3	Flesh-footed Shearwater	<i>Puffinus carneipes</i>
4	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>
5	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
6	Maldivian Little Heron	<i>Butorides striatus didii</i>
7	White-tailed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon lepturus</i>
8	Lesser Frigatebird	<i>Fregata ariel</i>
9	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
10	Black-naped Tern	<i>Sterna sumatrana</i>
11	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
12	Great Crested Tern	<i>Sterna bergii</i>

13	Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Sterna bengalensis</i>
14	Sooty Tern	<i>Sterna fuscata</i>
15	Bridled Tern	<i>Sterna anaethetus</i>
16	Brown Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus</i>
17	Lesser Noddy	<i>Anous tenuirostris</i>
18	Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>
19	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>
20	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens maledivicus</i>
21	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>

## ANCHORAGES

Day 1	17 April 2016	Meerufenfushi	(North Malé Atoll)
Day 2	18 April 2016	Kaashidhoo	(Kaafu Atoll)
Day 3	19 April 2016	Thulaadhoo	(Baa Atoll)
Day 4	20 April 2016	Kukulhudhoo	(Raa Atoll)
Day 5	21 April 2016	Hurasdhoo	(Shaviyani Atoll)
Day 6	22 April 2016	Dolhiyadhoo	(Shaviyani Atoll)
Day 7	23 April 2016	Vihafaru	(Noonu Atoll)
Day 8	24 April 2016	Kuredu	(Lhaviyani Atoll)
Day 9	25 April 2016	Dhidhoo	(Lhaviyani Atoll)
Day 10	26 April 2016	Gaafaru	(North Malé Atoll)
Day 11	27 April 2016	Dhiya Adi Faru	(North Malé Atoll)
Day 12	28 April 2016	Hulumalé	(North Malé Atoll)



*MV Hope Cruiser*



*In Lhaviyani Atoll*

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