

WHALE & DOLPHIN TRIP REPORT



MV Keana

MALDIVES EXPLORER CENTRAL ATOLLS WILDLIFE CRUISE 27 Nov to 7 Dec 2022

Chas and Susan Anderson
The Whale and Dolphin Company
Maldives (+960) 743-7402
UK (+44)(0)1638-508-464
UK Mobile (+44)(0)78-140-29832
www.whale-and-dolphin.com
info@whale-and-dolphin.com



TROPICAL DOLPHINS AND WHALES

MALDIVES EXPLORER

M.V. *Keana*, 27 Nov to 7 Dec 2022

November often provides some of the very best cetacean-watching weather in the Maldives, and this year was no exception. Our cruise took us south from Malé to the little-visited Thaa Atoll, then back by a different route. On the way we encountered 12 different species of cetaceans, ranging in size from a mighty Bryde's Whale to diminutive Dwarf Sperm Whales and Spinner Dolphins. Other species encountered included Cuvier's Beaked Whale, Shortfin Pilot Whale, Risso's Dolphin, Spotted Dolphin, Striped Dolphin, Common Bottlenose Dolphin, Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphin and Fraser's Dolphin. We also enjoyed some wonderful snorkelling on the coral reefs, with particularly memorable encounters with Manta Ray, White-spotted Eagle-ray, Whiptail Stingray, Porcupine Stingray and Whitetail Stingray; Whitetip Reef Shark, Blacktip Reef Shark and Nurse Shark; Hawksbill Turtle, Green Turtle and Olive Ridley Turtle; plus a multitude of colourful reef fishes. Among the birds recorded were the gorgeous White-tailed Tropicbird, endemic Maldivian Little Herons, and Amur Falcons on their epic migration across the Arabian Sea. All from the comfort of our liveaboard vessel MV *Keana*.

Day 1, Sunday 27 Nov 2022

We all met at the international airport this morning. However, not quite as expected since one couple's flight was delayed and another one of our party was relieved to receive attention at the airport medical centre. But in the end we all did meet up together, just slightly later than expected.

And then we were swiftly transferred to MV *Keana*, and into our cabins after an initial safety briefing. Then lunch, and we were off heading south past the airport island and out under the new bridge (joining Malé and the airport) and out into the Indian Ocean. With no wind the sea was enticingly flat, and not surprisingly it was not long before our first cetacean encounter: a small school of small **Spinner Dolphins**, which readily approached our bows showing their distinctly long, thin snouts. These were soon followed by another, much larger school of **Spinner Dolphins**, which not only rushed in to bowride, but also span several times nearby.

And then there were **Risso's Dolphins**, much

larger animals with blunt heads and tall dorsal fins. They seemed a bit shy, but we manoeuvred the boat to the west, with the sun behind us, providing great views.

By now time was getting on, and we pushed on south to our anchorage, passing several more distant schools of **Spinner Dolphins** on the way, as well as dozens of **Black-naped Terns** and a couple of **Brown Noddies**. *Keana* anchored near Dhigufinolhu Island inside South Malé Atoll, just in time for the glorious sunset.

Day 2, Monday 28 November 2022

Another calm day, and it stayed calm all day. Our morning snorkel on a nearby reef was interrupted by a passing school of **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins**, which we could all see at the surface, and most could clearly hear whistling underwater. On the reef itself, there were plenty of fishes, including a small **Nurse Shark**, mesmerizing schools of Kashmir Snappers and Fusiliers, and numbers of Slate-pencil Urchins.

Back on board *Keana* for breakfast, then it was out into the open ocean, where we immediately spotted two **Beaked Whales** rolling at the surface. We got close to where they had dived, and 20 minutes later they reappeared: a mother and calf, the bigger one with distinctive scarring. Although they were close, they were unfortunately angled away from us, so could not get a clear view of the head, and these Beaked Whales remained unidentified. By way of compensation, while we were waiting, Fred spotted a distant but clearly identifiable **Dwarf Sperm Whale** logging at the surface.

As soon as we moved on, we could see tuna fishing boats ahead. As suspected, the fishermen were after **Yellowfin Tuna**, which they had found by their association with a large mixed school of **Spotted Dolphins** and **Spinner Dolphins**. We spent a magical 45 minutes with these dolphins, having both species bowriding and jumping alongside.

Once we were finally headed back on course, heading south, a single **White-tailed Tropicbird** was spotted sitting on the sea surface ahead, tail jauntily cocked. Other birds seen included **Great Crested Tern**, **Brown Noddy**, **Lesser Noddy**, and later a single **Common Tern**.

We also came across two more pairs of **Beaked Whales**. Despite waiting in both cases, and getting repeat views in the second case, we could not get close enough to confirm identification. Frustrating, but also a challenge to try again when the opportunity arises.

By now it was time to head into the atoll. As we entered, **Spinner Dolphins** were leaving the atoll. But some hung around, enthusiastically bowriding on the *dhoni* when we headed out for our afternoon snorkel near Fotheyo sandbank. Among the many fishes: **White-spotted Eagle Ray**, Giant Moray, plus huge schools of Hunchback Red Snappers, Fusilers and Cardinalfishes.

Evening talk: Dolphins of the Maldives. With **Blacktip Sharks** (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) around the stern after dinner.

Day 3, Tues 29 Nov 2022

Another calm, sunny day. Our morning snorkel in Fotheyo Channel was a delight, with bright morning sunlight shining onto the slope of alternating coral and white sand patches. Among the highlights, **White-spotted Eagle-ray**, many nesting Yellowmargin Triggerfishes, numerous Maldivian Anemonefishes and a big school of large Batfish.

A school of **Spinner Dolphins** had swum in past us while we were snorkelling, and some of us heard them pass although we could not see them underwater. But back on the *dhoni* we caught up with them and soon had large numbers of **Spinner Dolphins** bowriding. This exhilarating display left us all buzzing as we returned to *Keana* for breakfast.

Heading out to sea past the gorgeous turquoise reefs a small pod of **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins** attracted our attention. Then out at sea, off Fotheyo Muli, the easternmost point of the Maldives, we spotted some beaked whales. We approached the spot where they dived, and waited. Three beaked whales surfaced after 32 minutes, not too far away but not close enough to be sure of identification. So we got closer again and waited. After another 28 minutes they surfaced just behind the boat, barely 50m astern. **Cuvier's Beaked Whales!**



Cuvier's Beaked Whale

At such close range we had superb views of their sloping head, tall dorsal fins and brown colouration fading to paler near head. And later examination of photos clearly showed narrow tramline scratches. We did wait again, for another 31 minutes, but they surfaced further away this time. While waiting we had spotted a **Dwarf Sperm Whale** logging in the distance, and also an **Olive Ridley Turtle**. But now it was time to move on, heading south again. Soon enough we spotted another couple of **Beaked Whales**. But they dived and we could not wait too long before pushing on. We did however, tarry briefly with the **Spinner Dolphins** in their usual spot on the southeast corner of Fotheyo reef.

After crossing the Watteru Channel towards Meemu Atoll, there were several **Little Terns**. And as we were nearing our anchorage we intercepted a large and very active school of **Spinner Dolphins** heading out of the atoll. They were soon bowriding in numbers. Wonderful! As was the glorious sunset soon after we anchored near Veyvah Island.

Evening slide show: Beaked Whales of the Maldives. Preceded by a **Nurse Shark** visiting our stern.



Olive Ridley Turtle

Day 4, Wed 30 Nov 2022

The day started bright and sunny, again, and stayed so all day. We started with an excellent

snorkel on a nearby reef. Among the more memorable sightings were a school of Powder-blue Surgeonfish, four Reef Squid, both **Blacktip Reef Sharks** and **Whitetip Reef Sharks**, Giant Clams and Maldives Anemonefish.



Powder-Blue Surgeonfish

Outside the atoll, we soon spotted a large school of **Spinner Dolphins**. They were hugging the outer reef, perhaps getting ready to sleep, but several still bowrode. We sent out the dingy with the hydrophone to record their vocalizations (successfully).

When we moved on, we passed three separate **Dwarf Sperm Whales**, before spotting some Beaked Whales ahead. We moved to the spot where they had dived, and 26 minutes later up they popped, five **Cuvier's Beaked Whales** including a very pale-fronted male. They dived again, we waited again, and sure enough 29 minutes later they surfaced again. They were slightly further away this time, but still providing excellent views.

We were now crossing from Meemu to Thaa Atoll. The sea was particularly calm, so we were not surprised that our next sighting was of three **Dwarf Sperm Whales**, logging at the surface. We also passed several jumping **Sailfish**, two quite close to the boat, and a school of Barracuda, spotted by their tail fins breaking the surface.

As we approached Thaa Atoll, we could see **Spinner Dolphins** on the inside, leaping and spinning. They exited just as we were about to enter, so we turned and travelled back offshore with them. We had many bowriding at a time, several spinning ahead, and tiny babies with their mums following behind.

Eventually we turned back in to the atoll, finding a small pod of **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins** as we approached our anchorage. This was at Kalhufahalfushi, the longest island in the Maldives. Those who wanted went ashore for a short walk on the beach, spotting a **Whimbrel**. Others swam off the stern of *Keana*. While those who sat out on the upper decks were treated to a sighting of a green flash as the sun set.

Evening talk: Atolls of the Maldives, on the top deck under the stars, with Jupiter overhead and Mars rising. Much later we were called by the crew when a **Whale Shark** visited. However, it departed almost immediately, and only the first person out on deck saw it.

Day 5, Thurs 1 Dec 2022

The day again started with a glorious sunrise and a mirror calm sea. Our morning snorkel inside the atoll was a wonderfully gentle drift along a reef slope, alive with young branching corals. We also spotted **Hawksbill Turtle**, **Fantail Stingray**, **Blacktip Reef Shark**, Reef Squid, Reef Octopus, and both Maldives and Clarks Anemonefishes.

Then out into the deepwater Veimandhoo Channel between Thaa and Laamu Atolls, where we almost immediately found a large school of **Spinner Dolphins**. They were heading along the outer reef edge, towards the channel into the atoll, where they would rest inside during the day. We turned to have them bowriding and swimming alongside, against a backdrop of reef and islands.

As soon as we turned back on course and moved offshore we had a sighting of **Dwarf Sperm Whales**, followed by a pair of **Beaked Whales**. We waited for them to surface, but this time no show.

Further down the Veimandhoo Channel, distant splashing led us to an exuberant school of **Striped Dolphins**. They rushed in towards us with enormous leaps, and bowrode before rushing off again. Soon after, we passed a Fish Aggregating Device (or FAD). It had done its work, with tunas jumping, and twenty **Common Terns** and six **Tropical Shearwaters** in attendance.



Striped Dolphin



Common Tern

Turning towards the atoll we found a small group of what were **probably Pygmy Killer Whales**. But they slunk off, and we could not identify with confidence. There were other dolphins jumping in the distance, but now it

was time to turn in. Sailing along the outer atoll edge, we could make out **Grey Herons** and **Maldivian Little Herons** on the reef, as well as **Maldivian House Crows** and **Maldivian Fruit Bats** flying between the islands.

Once anchored, we were soon into the *dhoni* for our evening snorkel on the reef of Kanimeedhoo Island. This faced the open sea, and many of the fishes seen were surf zone specialists, including **White-tailed Stingray**, Reef Picasso Triggerfish, Lined Surgefish, Surge Damselfish, Surge Hawkfish and Five-lined Wrasse.

Evening talk: Maldivian Blackfish.

Day 6, Friday 2 Dec 2022

Today started grey, overcast, and slightly windy, so not everyone was keen to join the morning snorkel. But it was a good one, on the eastern (sheltered) side of Kanimeedhoo. Here the beautiful palm-fringed white sandy beach, from which an **Asian Koel** was calling, gave way to a beautiful coral reef. We jumped in on two **White-spotted Eagle-rays**, later spotting four **Hawksbill Turtles** and three **Blacktip Reef Sharks** as well as plenty of reef fishes.

Back on board for breakfast, then out into the deepwater of the Veimandhoo Kandu. Our first sighting was of three **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins**. We were able to get quite close to these animals, at which point some Beaked Whales appeared much further out. After moving the boat just upwind of where they had dived, we waited, and sure enough 22 minutes later two Beaked Whales surfaced. They were head-on towards us, and not easy to identify. So we waited, and after another 18 minutes another three animals surfaced, this time clearly identifiable as **Cuvier's Beaked Whales**. They rolled several times at the surface giving everyone the chance of extended views. Once they dived we

waited for one more surfacing but this time they were further away, although still close enough to see clearly with binoculars.

Moving on we had two sightings of unidentified cetaceans, one **Sailfish** close to the boat with two more jumping in the distance, and a flock of **Saunders Terns** accompanied by a single subadult **Sooty Tern**.

That was all until we were approaching our anchorage when we found a dozen **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins** in the channel. After anchoring near the delightful islet of Kandufushi, those who wanted piled into the dingy to go ashore. The rest who preferred to snorkel headed off in the *dhoni*. And a very nice snorkel it was too, on an unusual reef, with giant coral structures interspersed with white sandy patches. Here we found **Blacktip Reef Sharks** and **Whitetip Reef Sharks**, Scorpionfish and Porcupinefish, as well as schools of Kashmir Snappers and Neon Fusiliers, and lots of sea cucumbers.

Evening talk: Whales of the Maldives.



Kandufushi Island

Day 7, Sat 3 Dec 2022

Today started with rain, which continued as we set off for our morning snorkel. But then the sun came out, and things looked up. Some went to the island on the dingy, spotting a female or juvenile **Amur Falcon**. It briefly settled, but was mobbed by House Crows and flew off to the southwest, in the direction of Africa. The Amur Falcon has the most

extraordinary migration of any bird-of-prey (from the Russian Far East to Southern Africa), and seeing one on passage through the Maldives is always a delight. Also present were **White-breasted Waterhens**, **Grey Heron** and **Maldivian Little Heron**. Later, out at sea, we saw a **Great Egret** also flying, rather optimistically, in the direction of Africa. Others snorkelled on the adjacent reef from the *dhoni*, encountering **Whiptail Stingrays**, **Whitetip Reef Shark**, **Hawksbill Turtle** and plenty of reef fishes including Lionfish, Kashmir Snappers and Fusiliers.



Yellow-margin Moray Eel

Back on *Keana*, the anchors were soon up, and we were off, passing the islet of Kandufushi, gloriously illuminated by the morning sun. Out at sea we had high hopes for cetacean encounters, but wind had strengthened and turned to the northwest, and we failed to spot any at all, all day. We did, however, spot some jumping **Sailfish**, schools of tuna, and seabirds including **Lesser Noddy**, **Lesser Crested Tern** and **Saunders Tern**.

We finally turned in to anchor near Minimasgali Island in Faafu Atoll, where we snorkelled on the adjacent reef flat. This was packed with fascinating corals and inverts. Among the highlights: **Hawksbill Turtle**, **Porcupine Stingray**, **Whitetip Reef Shark**, **Blacktip Reef Shark**, a large **Nurse Shark**,

Spider Shells, **Cleaner Shrimps**, partner gobies and shrimps, and **Black-barred Gobies**.

Evening presentation: Seasons in the Maldives, including the migrations of Amur Falcons and Dragonflies. Then, under the stern light after dinner, **Sea Skaters** (the World's only marine insects).

Day 8, Sunday 4 Dec 2022

There were **Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins** near our anchored boat first thing, well before we set off in the *dhoni* for the nearby island of Minimasgali. Some went ashore here, enjoying the vegetation, butterflies, **Globe Skimmer** dragonflies, and a small selection of birds (**Brown Noddy**, **Grey Heron**, **Common Sandpiper**, **Maldivian Little Heron**, **House Crow** and a single female **Amur Falcon**). Meanwhile, the snorkelers enjoyed a long drift along the island's house reef, with a huge diversity of reef fishes, including Napoleon Wrasse, **Blacktip Reef Shark**, **Whitetip Reef Shark**, **Hawksbill Turtle** and **Green Turtle**.

Setting off we almost immediately spotted **Spinner Dolphins** in the channel. As we left them and headed out, a large whale surfaced well ahead on the outside. We edged closer to where it was last seen and after 11 minutes, there is was – a **Bryde's Whale**. We could clearly make out the uniform dark colouration and the prominent dorsal fin, although it was not until later that we saw the characteristic three rostral ridges. We followed this whale over several surfacing cycles, eventually getting very close indeed. We then sent out the dingy to record any vocalisations, before, catching up with the same whale again before finally moving on.

While all this was going on, we also encountered a school of **Spinner Dolphins**. It was midday, so they were rather dozy although a few did come in to bowride in a rather desultory fashion.

By the time we had finished lunch we were skirting the southern reef of Ari Atoll. All was quiet at first, but then **Pilot Whales** appeared ahead, heading south. It was a large group spread out in a wide line abreast, accompanied by two massive **Common Bottlenose Dolphins** which bowrode for ages. Other Bottlenoses came to join them later, and even the Pilot Whales came in to ride alongside from time to time. At several stages we seemed to be completely surrounded by cetaceans. And then even more dolphins appeared, dolphins with smaller dorsal fins, **Fraser's Dolphins**. This was only a small group, but it was lovely to see them, and we spent well over an hour with them and their accompanying **Tropical Shearwaters** and single adult **Sooty Tern**. But eventually we had to turn in, towards South Ari Atoll and our anchorage by Mirihi Island.

Evening presentation: drone footage of today's Bryde's Whale encounter, and play of our acoustic recordings.



Pilot Whale

Day 9, Mon 5 Dec 2022

What a fabulous day! We started by crossing Ari Atoll from our anchorage at Mirihi towards Mahibadhoo Island on the eastern side. Here one went ashore, while the rest of us snorkelled on the nearby Manta Reef. As we approached, we could see a **Manta Ray** feeding at the surface in the moderate out current. Jumping in upstream and drifting

down along the edge of the reef we passed plenty of planktivorous fishes, including Fusliers, Red-toothed Triggerfishes, Vlaming's Surgeon-fishes and Schooling Bannerfish. Then the **Manta** itself swam around and past us all. We got back into the *dhoni* for a second pass, and all again had at least a glimpse. Back into the *dhoni* for a third time, and this time most had a very much better view, with three **Manta Rays**, which swam close by, turning right in front and then past again. Superb!



Manta Ray



Common Bottlenose Dolphins, bow-riding

After this success it was now time to return to *Keana*, enjoy breakfast, and start our crossing to Vaavu Atoll. In these glorious, mirror-calm conditions we enjoyed sightings of no less than 11 schools of dolphins. First we had group after group of **Common Bottlenose Dolphins**, all heading south, with many individuals bowriding for extended periods, and giving superb views.

Then, closer to Vaavu Atoll, there were multiple schools of **Spinner Dolphins**, all heading out to the east for the night's feeding. Again, many bowrode, and in the calm conditions provided us with superb views.

Birds on the crossing today were a bit thin, but we did have many **Lesser Noddies**, and increasing numbers of **Black-naped Terns** as we approached Vaavu Atoll. We also had a migratory Keyhole Glider dragonfly (*Tramea basilaris*) flying alongside.

Once anchored near Alimatha we were into the *dhoni* for our penultimate snorkel, on the island's house reef. We jumped in upstream of the jetty, drifting along through swarms of Silver Sprats (harried by Little Tuna, Dogtooth Tuna and Bluefin Jacks). As we neared the jetty we spotted our first **Nurse Shark**, an impressively large beast. Then a couple more, then more still, then so many **Nurse Sharks** that we lost count. Add in **Blacktip Reef Sharks**, **Whiptail Stingrays** and a juvenile **White-spotted Eagle-ray**, and ... wow!

Evening presentation: Corals and reef invertebrates of the Maldives. And then after dinner, four **Nurse Sharks** appeared at our stern.



Nurse Shark

Day 10, Tues 6 Dec 2022

Our morning snorkel on the outer reef south of Alimatha was another delight. The reef sloped down to a steep drop-off, with bigger creatures along the edge, including **Hawksbill Turtle**, **White-spotted Eagle Ray**, **Blacktip Reef Shark**, **Whitetip Reef Shark**, Dogtooth Tuna and Napoleon Wrasse. The edge also attracted schools of Fusiliers and Anthias, while in the shallower surf zone were plenty of surge fishes including Surge Damsel, Surge Wrasse and Surge Hawkfish.

Back on board, breakfast was ready. As we started northwards, **Spinner Dolphins** were entering the atoll through the channel north of Alimatha. In the same channel one large **Manta Ray** was feeding, its dark back nicely contrasting against the turquoise reef.

Outside the atoll it was not too long before we came across another large group of **Spinner Dolphins**. These ones were hyperactive, with much bowriding and spinning. The Spinners were followed by a large mixed group of **Risso's Dolphins** and **Common Bottlenose Dolphins**. Both species bowrode, with the larger Risso's elbowing the Bottlenose out of the way. The Risso's were also frequently breaching, giving us all unusually good views. This was an exceptional encounter, which finished just in time for lunch.



Risso's Dolphin

Later we encountered an active school of **Spotted Dolphins** (heading south at speed with many bowriding), followed by an even more active school of **Striped Dolphins**. These were leaping wildly all over the place, many bowriding, and all with gleaming pink bellies. And finally, as we approached Malé, our last encounter, bowriding and spinning **Spinner Dolphins**. A dramatic end to a wonderful wildlife cruise.

Evening presentation: Trip recap and highlights. Circle around moon.

Day 11, Wed 7 Dec 2022

After breakfast there were sad farewells and two transfers to the airport by *dhoni* at different times.

CETACEAN SUMMARY

During our cruise we recorded an excellent total of 12 different species, from 68 sightings (which made 72 records since two or more species were seen together on several occasions):

Species	Scientific Name	No. Sightings	Est. no. Individuals
Bryde's Whale	<i>Balaenoptera brydei</i>	1	1
Spinner Dolphins	<i>Stenella longirostris</i>	24	1796
Spotted Dolphins	<i>Stenella attenuata</i>	2	225
Striped Dolphins	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	2	55
Common Bottlenose Dolphins	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	6	238
Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphins	<i>Tursiops aduncus</i>	10	76
Unidentified Bottlenose	<i>Tursiops</i> sp.	1	3
Fraser's Dolphin	<i>Lagenodelphis hosei</i>	1	8
Risso's Dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	4	187
Shortfin Pilot Whales	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	1	30
Probable Pygmy Killer Whale	<i>Feresa attenuata</i>	1	5
Dwarf Sperm Whale	<i>Kogia sima</i>	5	9
Cuvier's Beaked Whale	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	3	13
Unidentified beaked whales		5	10
Unidentified dolphins		5	20
Unidentified cetaceans		1	1
		72	2677



Bryde's Whale

BIRDS

Maldives does not have a great diversity of birds, so our total of 22 species seen in November is not unreasonable:

1	White-tailed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon lepturus</i>
2	Asian Koel (H)	<i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>
3	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
4	Tropical Shearwater	<i>Puffinus bailloni</i>
5	Bulwer's/Jouanin's Petrel	<i>Bulweria</i> sp
6	Maldivian Little Heron	<i>Butorides striata didii</i>
7	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
8	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
9	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
10	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
11	Brown Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus</i>
12	Lesser Noddy	<i>Anous tenuirostris</i>
13	Sooty Tern	<i>Onychoprion fuscatus</i>
14	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>
15	Saunders Tern	<i>Sternula saundersi</i>
16	Roseate Tern	<i>Sterna dougalli</i>
17	Black-naped Tern	<i>Sterna sumatrana</i>
18	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
19	Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Sterna bengalensis</i>
20	Great Crested Tern	<i>Sterna bergii</i>
21	Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>
22	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens maledivicus</i>

Order follows: https://www.indianbirds.in/pdfs/IB_Mono3_Anderson_Shimal_Maldives.pdf

ANCHORAGES

Day 1	27 Nov 2022	Dhigufinolhu	North Malé Atoll
Day 2	28 Nov 2022	Fotheyo	Vaavu Atoll
Day 3	29 Nov 2022	Veyvah	Meemu Atoll
Day 4	30 Nov 2022	Kalufahalafushi	Thaa Atoll
Day 5	1 Dec 2022	Veimandhoo	Thaa Atoll
Day 6	2 Dec 2022	Kandufushi	Thaa Atoll
Day 7	3 Dec 2022	Minimasgali	Faafu Atoll
Day 8	4 Dec 2022	Mirihi	South Ari Atoll
Day 9	5 Dec 2022	Alimatha	Vaavu Atoll
Day 10	6 Dec 2022	Hulumalé	North Malé Atoll
Day 11	7 Dec 2022	Disembark	

CONTACT DETAILS

Chas and Sue ANDERSON
The Whale and Dolphin Company
www.whale-and-dolphin.com
info@whale-and-dolphin.com
Maldives: (+960) 743-7402
UK: 078-140-29832
01638-508-464



Blacktip Reef Shark



Photographing dolphins under the bows



Morning yoga on the sundeck



Spinner Dolphin



Risso's Dolphins



Slate-pencil Urchin



Lionfish