Canada
(Newfoundland and Nova Scotia)
Cruise from UK taking in The Faroes, Greenland and Iceland

12 September – 16 October 2022

Pete and Caroline Stevens
The cruise started on The Ambience from Tilbury Docks on the evening of 12 September. It arrived at The Faroes on the 15 September allowing a walk into surrounding countryside and a beer in the Capital Torshavn. Though we had no desire to visit The Faroes due to our feelings about the Faroees cetacean hunts, it was an opportunity not to be repeated and part of the cruise itinerary.

The next stop was on the 19 September at Narsarsuaq in Greenland. Here we had the opportunity for a long walk as the ship did not sail again until 20:00. Our second stop in Greenland had to be abandoned due to weather conditions. So, the ship headed for Eastern Canada.

At sea we tried various locations on the cruise ship for the best birding and whale watching. Often the front or top decks were best for whales. However, Deck 8 at the rear provided sheltered viewing that proved the best overall.

There followed three days at sea during which the birding varied but, was at times spectacular. This included: Great, Sooty and Manx Shearwaters, plus Leach’s and Wilson’s Petrels, Arctic, Pomarine and Great Skuas.

Our next stop was at St John’s in Newfoundland on Saturday 23 September a bright and sunny day. We spent another night and day here due to the very unusual event of a hurricane that had passed up the eastern seaboard of Canada two days previously causing great damage to the ports of Halifax, Sydney and Charlottetown.

Our next stop then became Cap Aux Meules on the Iles de la Madelaine on 28 September after a day at sea. This was followed by days at Cornerbrook, Newfoundland, Havre St Pierre, and Baie Comeau before arriving in Quebec.. By 04 October we were in Montreal before starting our cruise back to the UK.

We cruised in the St Lawrence River and Seaway, then to Reykjavik, Iceland for a day before journeying to the coast of Scotland and down through the North sea eventually disembarking at Tilbury.

**Day 1/2 - 12/13 September, At Sea**

Few birds on the first two days

Black-headed Gull

Northern Gannet

Northern Fulmar
**Day 3 – 14 September, At Sea**
Northern Gannet (numerous)
Northern Fulmar (numerous)
Sooty Shearwater 1
Black-legged Kittiwake (numerous)
Razorbill 50+
Manx Shearwater 1
Herring Gull 2 imms

**Day 4 – 15 September, Torshavn, The Faroes**
Herring Gull
Great Black-backed Gull
Northern Gannet
Black-legged Kittiwake
Mallard
Eider
Meadow pipit
Blackbird
Starling
Northern Raven
Greylag Goose
Hooded Crow
House Sparrow
Rock Pipit
Rock dove
Day 5 – 16 September, At Sea

Northern Fulmar (numerous)  Minke Whale
Black-legged Kittiwake (thousands)  Short-finned pilot Whale
 Fin Whale
 Orca

Day 6/7 – 17/18 September, At Sea

Northern Fulmar
Black-legged Kittiwake

Day 8 – 19 September, Narsarsuaq, Greenland

Peregrine
Northern raven
White-tailed eagle
Common Redpoll
Northern wheatear
Lapland Longspur
Day 9 – 20 September, At Sea

Northern Fulmar (numerous)
Black-legged Kittiwake 6
Great Shearwater 4
Sooty Shearwater (small numbers seen regularly during any watch)
Arctic Skua 2
Pomarine Skua 2
Manx Shearwater 3
Little Auk 2
White-winged Gull 1
**Day 10 – 21 September, At Sea**

Northern Fulmar 20
Black-legged Kittiwake 12
Northern Gannet 1
Great Shearwater 2

**Day 11 – 22 September, At Sea**

Northern Gannet 2
Northern Fulmar (numerous, plus a small number of ‘Blue’ Fulmar))
Black-legged Kittiwake (numerous) lesser. Black-backed Gull 2
Great Shearwater 20+
Sooty Shearwater 1
Little auk 2
Guillemot 1
Leach’s Petrel (A steady stream from 08:00 – 11:30 estimated at 7,500 at least)
Wilson’s Petrel 3 (probably more)
Great Skua 2

**Day 12/13 – 23/24 September, St John’s, Newfoundland**

**23/09**
American Herring Gull
American Black Duck
Black-capped Chickadee
Bald eagle
Red-winged Blackbird
24/09
Dark-eyed Junco
Black-capped Chickadee
American Herring Gull
Ring-billed gull
Grey Jay
Blue jay
Belted Kingfisher
American Crow

Day 14 – 25 September,
Starling
Dark-eyed junco
Grey Jay
Blue jay
American crow
Fish Crow
Great Black-backed Gull
American herring Gull
Northern Gannet 12
Manx Shearwater 1
Guillemot 1

Day 15/16 – 26/27 September, At Sea
Great Shearwater 4
Great Black-backed Gull
American Herring Gull
Leach’s petrel 1
Peregrine 1
**Day 17 – 28 September, Cap Aux Meules**

Starling 100s
Song Sparrow (common)
Dark-eyed junco 2
Red-winged Blackbird c30
American robin
American goldfinch 2
Tennessee Warbler 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Wilson’s Snipe
Merlin
Northern Harrier
Great Blue Heron
Great Cormorant
Mourning Dove 8

**Day 18 – September 29, Cornerbrook**

Dark-eyed Junco
Blue Jay
Rusty Blackbird
American Black duck
Greater Scaup 1
Boat-tailed Grackle 2
Red-winged Blackbird
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Day 19 – 30 September, Havre St Pierre

Sanderling 7
Semi-palmated Plover 1
Thick-billed Murre 5
Black guillemot
Red-throated Diver
Rusty Blackbird
Red-winged Blackbird
Day 20 – 01 October, Baie Comeau
Downy Woodpecker 2
Ruffed Grouse 1
Yellow-rumped warbler
Surf Scoter 20+
Eider 7
Red-throated Diver
White-throated Sparrow
Peregrine
Red-tailed Hawk (light phase)
Day 21 – 02 October, Quebec
Canada Goose
Snow Goose
Black Scoter
Thick-billed Murre
Ring-billed gull
Bald eagle
Hairy Woodpecker
Brown creeper
Parula warbler
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Day 22 – 03 October, Quebec

White-throated Sparrow
Winter Wren
Turkey vulture
American robin
Hairy Woodpecker

Day 23 – 04 October, Montreal

Peregrine

Day 24 – 05 October, St Lawrence River and Seaway

Thick-billed Murre 20+ Harbour Porpoise (several individuals)
Beluga Whale (several individuals)

Day 25 – 06 October, St Lawrence River and Seaway

Sharp-shinned Hawk 1 Harbour Porpoise (several individuals)
White-throated Sparrow 3+
Dark-eyed Junco 3
Blackpoll Warbler 1
Guillemot
Northern Gannet
Northern Fulmar
Black-legged kittiwake

Day 27 – 07 October, St Lawrence Seaway

Eider 3 Orca 2 (c12:30 p.m.)
Northern Fulmar 2
Northern Gannet 1
Black-legged kittiwake
Sooty Shearwater 3
Black Scoter 1
Petrel sp. 1
Song Sparrow 1

**Day 28 – 08 October, At Sea**
Northern Fulmar
Sperm Whale 1 (09:30)

**Day 29 – 09 October, At Sea**
Northern Fulmar
Black-legged Kittiwake
Little Auk 2
Great Shearwater  (216 between 08:30 and 11:30, largest group 47)
Dark-eyed Junco 1 – on board
Common Redpoll 3 – on board
Peregrine 2 - on board! Seen to kill and eat one of the Juncos

**Day 30 – 10 October, At Sea**
Sooty Shearwater 6
Wader sp. 2

**Day 31 – 11 October At Sea**
Puffin (continuous trickle passing during afternoon)
Sooty Shearwater 1
Iceland Gull
Northern Fulmar
Black-legged kittiwake
Day 32 – 12 October, Reykjavik, Iceland

Black-headed Gull
Herring Gull
Iceland gull 3
Eider 12+
Great Cormorant
Black Guillemot 4
Long-tailed Duck 6
Redwing 40+
Northern raven
Great Black-backed Gull
Whooper Swan
Wigeon
Greylag goose
Tufted Duck
Mallard
Merlin
Blackbird
Gadwall 6
Teal 1
Common Snipe 1
Purple Sandpiper 7
Glaucous Gull 6 at least
Starling
**Day 33 – 13 October, At Sea**

Northern Fulmar
Black-legged Kittiwake
Northern Gannet
Sooty Shearwater 7
Black-bellied Brent Goose 8
Guillemot 5
Razorbill 1
Puffin 4

NB Black-browed Albatross reliably identified briefly twice during the day by other birders while we were not present.

**Day 34 – 14 October At sea**

**Day 35 Docked 08:00 at Tilbury**

On Board during the cruise back from Canada were:
White-crowned Sparrow 1
White-throated Sparrow 1
Song Sparrow – up to 4
Dark-eyed Junco - up to 3
Common Redpoll - up to 3
Blackpoll warbler 1
Peregrine 2 (for two days)

Also seen by two others Palm Warbler

White-crowned Sparrow and two Juncos arrived back into Tilbury with the Ship.
## Bird List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English name</th>
<th>Specific</th>
<th>Location(s)</th>
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<td>Red-throated Diver</td>
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<td>Canada Goose</td>
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<td>Dark-bellied Brent Goose</td>
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<td>Over Sea North of Scotland</td>
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<td>Whooper Swan</td>
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<td>Surf Scoter</td>
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