

# 2019-10-13 - Plymouth-Roscoff



## 13 October 2019 - English Channel

The ORCA survey team met at the Brittany Ferries Terminal. Our departure was scheduled for 22:00 hrs so we left Plymouth in the darkness of the night. Our evening crossing was calm and we awoke the next morning ready to explore Roscoff.

## 14 October 2019 - Roscoff

After disembarkation we walked into town, the light to heavy rain looked as though it was set for the day. After a leisurely breakfast, we strolled around the beautiful town, we visited Church of Notre Dame de Croaz-Batz. This 16th century church has a decorative renaissance style bell tower which dominates the skyline and unique carvings of ships and a large sundial embellish the outside. We walked along the coast and Île de Batz (a bridge which extends into the sea enabling the Batz ferry to take passengers to the Island regardless of the tide). We made our way back to the ferry terminal rather soggy and our early embarkation gave the team an opportunity to change out of our wet clothes before starting our survey.

## 14 October 2019: English Channel Sea State 2 - 3 with variable visibility

As we set sail, we hoped the overcast weather and rain would not impact on our visibility too much. We commenced with good visibility and within an hour we had our first sightings of **common dolphins**. Our sea state throughout our crossing mainly remained at 2 with the occasional increase to 3. At times our visibility was

clear to starboard with mist to port. Despite the varying visibility we had sighting after sighting of **common dolphins** – what a lovely finish to the 2019 survey season for this route.

Although our visibility was variable, the ORCA team had 8 sightings (45 animals) of common dolphins. As always, a massive thanks to Brittany Ferries, the captain and crew of the Armorique.