

# UNDERWATER TREASURES

## PLATTE ISLAND'S SEALIFE



Nestled in the pristine waters surrounding **Platte Island is a secluded paradise** that serves as a haven for a diverse array of marine life, offering a mesmerizing spectacle of nature's beauty. Here, you'll encounter majestic sea turtles and rays gracefully gliding through the depths, while whales pass by during their migratory journeys. **Explore these crystal-clear waters**, and you'll discover a rich tapestry of marine creatures that call this island their home or a temporary refuge.



### BOTTLE NOSE DOLPHIN

Very social and playful mammals, inhabit warm and temperate seas worldwide



Generally gray in color and get their name from their short, thick snout



All year round



### SPINNER DOLPHIN

Known for their acrobatics and aerial behaviours, found in off-shore tropical waters around the world



Distinctive three-banded colouring: dark grey on the back, a lighter grey on the flanks and a pale belly.



All year round



### HUMPBACK WHALE

The humpback whale can live for 80 to 90 years and undertake some of the longest migrations of any mammal



Bodies are primarily black, but individuals have different amounts of white on their pectoral fins, bellies, and the undersides of their flukes



Mothers and their calves can be seen around July and November



### HAWKSBILL TURTLE

They are long lived with an estimated life span of 50 to 60 years. Omnivores but their preferred food is sea sponges



Named after their pointed beaks, which resemble those of birds. They can also lay 100 to 250 eggs



Nest in Platte Island between September and March



### GREEN TURTLE

The largest hard-shelled marine turtle in the world and can live up to 80 years old



Their shells have five scutes running down the middle and four scutes on each side. They are herbivores feeding on sea grass and algae and can lay to 50 to 150 eggs



Between January and September



### EAGLE RAYS

Grow to a maximum length of 5m and are able to breach the water up to several metres above the surface



Diamond-shaped pectoral disc that can reach over 2.7m wide, and is a dramatic dark color scattered with light spots or rings



All year round

# AVIAN WONDERS

## PLATTE ISLAND'S BIRDLIFE

From resident species to migratory birds that grace our shores, **Platte Island hosts a diverse avian tapestry.** The island's unique ecosystem offers a haven for these winged wonders, providing them with an abundance of food and shelter. Whether you're an avid birdwatcher or simply a nature enthusiast, the island's vibrant birdlife **promises to captivate and inspire** all who tread upon its pristine shores.



### WHITE TERN

*Gygis alba*

The world's only pure white tern. These terns are known to feed on aquatic and some ground insects



Black spot behind its eyes with white plumage and a long black bill. Known to fly in pairs



All year round



### RED-TAIL TROPIC

*Phaeton Rubricauda*

It is one the rarest birds found on the island but not considered threatened



Pure bright white feathered bird with a large slightly downcurved red bill and thin red tail



October to July during the breeding season



### BROWN NODDY

*Anous stolidus*

Known to be the largest of all the Noddies. The female only lays a single egg during the breeding season



Brown Noddy is all dark with a whitish cap and has a wedge-shaped tail.



March and October



### LESSER NODDY

*Anous tenuirostris*

The first formal description of the Lesser Noddy was by the Dutch zoologist Coenraad Jacob Temminck in 1823



Dark brown on its upper parts and charcoal grey on its underparts. The Lesser Noddy has a very thin bill.



March and June



### LESSER FRIGATE

*Fregate Ariel*

Lesser Frigatebird are built for flying they rarely swim and cannot walk but can manage to climb around the trees and bushes



Brownish-black plumage, long narrow wings and a deeply forked tail



April and October

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PLATTE ISLAND