



A river in the ocean – Described by Benjamin Franklin as a “river in the ocean”, the Gulf Stream is a powerful ocean current that has a huge impact on the world’s climate, bringing warm water to northern Europe, which in turn warms the air. Starting in the Gulf of Mexico, this swift-moving current flows along the eastern coastlines of the United States before crossing the Atlantic Ocean and splitting in two, having travelled some 10,000km.



A floating forest – If you ask a sailor or a Caribbean beach-goer about Sargassum seaweed, they’ll likely tell you how much of a nuisance it can be by entangling and slowing ships. However, a marine biologist might instead tell you how these golden seaweed mats float around in tropical parts of the North Atlantic Ocean and provide food and shelter for hatchling sea turtles and over 100 species of fish.



Built-in body armour – Six out of the seven sea turtle species can be easily identified by their iconic hard shell, with its distinctive hexagonal pattern. More than just a fashionable accessory, the turtle’s shell acts as a natural suit of armour. And despite being unable to retract their flippers and heads into their shells, a defence mechanism used by land turtles, the flatter, more streamlined carapace of the sea turtle allows it to cut through the water quickly to evade predators.

In sea and sky

As you sail across the Atlantic, our planet’s second-largest ocean, remember to look out over the waves for the chance to spot some of its incredible biodiversity first-hand.

Above the Atlantic

While enjoying yourself on one of our transoceanic cruises, don’t forget to look up! The skies above the Atlantic Ocean contain a variety of seabird species. Many of them, like Audubon’s Shearwater and the Brown Noddy, rely on the sea for food and only come to land to breed.

While the ship is under the influence of the warm Gulf Stream, keep an

eye out for tropical seabirds. Bridled Terns share the sky with Brown Noddies, and you might see a booby following our ship while searching for its next meal.

Beneath the surface

The ocean itself is home to creatures large and small, from whales and dolphins, to the spritely flying fish. This birdlike sea creature can escape underwater predators by using its tail

to propel it over the water for dozens of metres, but doing so makes it an easy target for hungry seabirds.

While travelling in open, tropical waters, you might even spot sea turtles swimming among the mats of golden Sargassum seaweed, or surfacing from astounding depths to take a breath.