



SEA SHEPHERD UK

Charity Commission registered number: 1110501

CONSERVATION IN ACTION!

12th August 2019

Dear (CEO/President)

Sea Shepherd has been leading the opposition against the slaughter of pilot whales and dolphins in the Danish Faroe Islands since the 1980's.

Each year around 850 long finned Pilot Whales and Atlantic white sided Dolphins are slaughtered by the Faroese (with up to 1600 killed in some particularly tragic years).

The 'grind' as the hunts are commonly called, can happen at any time at any one of the 26 designated killing bays around the Faroe Islands, with the majority of the hunts statistically occurring between July and September. The grindadráp hunts have no season, no quota, a lack of effective regulation and are continued despite pilot whale meat being heavily contaminated and the drive hunts being at odds with Faroese animal welfare regulations which have existed for over 3 decades.

The Faroese kill both pilot whales and several species of dolphins without mercy. Every member of every pod is killed including pregnant mothers, juveniles and weaning babies. None are ever spared. These drive hunts would be totally illegal under European Union legislation, because in the EU (including the Kingdom of Denmark, of which the Faroe Islands is a part) it is not only illegal to kill pilot whales but it is even illegal to harass, stress, chase or touch any whales or small cetaceans – as it is in many other countries around the world including those in which your company has offices.

We are therefore writing to ask that your company publicly requests an end to this barbaric 'sport' and commits to postponing future voyages to the Faroes Islands in protest of these dolphin hunts (which would be illegal in the EU and in most countries around the world, including those in which you have offices) - until such time as the Faroese end the grindadráp hunts.

There is a precedent for our request as in 2015 Sea Shepherd successfully persuaded two major German cruise-liner companies (AIDA and Hapag-Lloyd) to cancel their tours to the Faroe Islands because of the continued Faroese dolphin hunts.

Our volunteer crew we will be exposing this issue more than ever before to a global audience – and you can read more about this and view images of the grindadráp hunts which Sea Shepherd UK have photographed in 2017 and 2018 at:

<https://www.seashepherd.org.uk/campaigns/operation-bloody-fjords/>

SEA SHEPHERD UK – Marine Conservation Charity

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Companies House registration: 05474362

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Our crew will also be engaging with tourists directly (including those arriving on the islands by cruise ship) as our campaign evolves, educating them about this barbaric activity and encouraging them to limit their spending on the islands in protest of the hunts. Sea Shepherd crew will again be filming and live streaming the shocking hunts to the web and working with several major TV crew, journalists and documentary makers to expose the dolphin hunts of the Faroe Islands.

We therefore implore you to stand up for what is right and call for a stop to the dolphin hunts. Sea Shepherd want everyone to enjoy beautiful islands, as you do, but not at the expense of the hundreds of pilot whales and dolphins killed each year by the Faroese.

Thank you for your attention. Each of the sixteen cruise companies visiting the Faroe Islands this year are receiving this letter and will be encouraged to show their support, If [cruise company name] was willing to lead on this, we would be eternally grateful and will make your support known to our ever-increasing supporters, many who may well be your customers too. For more details please visit our website:

<https://www.seashepherd.org.uk/campaigns/operation-bloody-fjords/cruise-ship-companies-stand-up-for-dolphins-and-pilot-whales.html>

If you would like to discuss this, you can email me on: media@seashepherduk.org or call me on: +44 (0) XXX XXX XXXX - or speak to my colleague, Helen Taylor on +44 (0) XXXX XXXXXX.

For the Oceans...

Robert Read

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