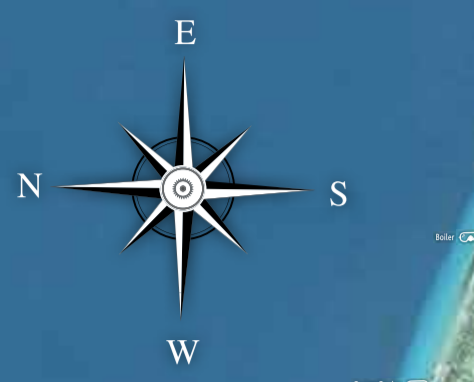


ALPHONSE MAP LEGEND	
	Ship Wrecks
	Coral Reefs
	Cliving Sites
	Snorkelling Sites
	Popular CT Fishing Spots
	Popular Permit Fishing Spots
	Popular Bonefish Fishing Spots
	Great Fishing Spots
	High Tide Swimming Spots



Yours to Explore and Discover... THE ALPHONSE GROUP



**The Alphonse Group**

The Alphonse Group is situated 400km southwest of Victoria, and is composed of three islands including: Alphonse, situated on Alphonse Atoll in the north, and the small islands of Bijoutier and Saint Francois, situated on St Francois Atoll to the south. Despite the presence of man for around 200 years the atolls retain a rich and varied ecosystem that will amaze and inspire anyone that chooses to explore them. The stunning coral reefs that surround Alphonse and the amazing reef flats, mangroves and lagoons of St Francois will provide endless enjoyment for any nature lover.

This guide is intended to help visitors find and identify some of the flora and fauna that abounds in the Alphonse group whilst helping to minimise the potential impact on this special place.



ALDABRA GIANT TORTOISE  
Torti Zean [*Aldabrachelys gigantea*]

### Marine Mammals

There is the possibility to see various species of whale and dolphin around the Alphonse group. A resident pod of Spinner dolphin numbering in the hundreds can be seen year round. Humpback whale are also a regular sighting passing by the island from July to October.

SPINNER DOLPHIN  
[*Stenella longirostris*]

HUMPBACK WHALE  
[*Megaptera novaeangliae*]

### Sharks

There are a number of species of shark that can be seen on both the reef flats and reef walls. Despite their reputation for being voracious predators sharks are generally quite shy and sightings of these magnificent creatures around the Alphonse group can be very special moments.

SICKLEFIN LEMON SHARK  
[*Negaprion acutidens*]

TAWNY NURSE SHARK  
[*Nebrius ferrugineus*]

WHITETIP REEF SHARK  
[*Carcharhinus albimarginatus*]

GREY REEF SHARK  
[*Carcharhinus amblyrhynchus*]

SCALLOPED HAMMERHEAD  
[*Sphyrna lewini*]

GREAT HAMMERHEAD  
[*Sphyrna mokarran*]

### SEA BIRDS

RED-FOOTED BOOBY  
Fou Bet  
[*Sula sula*]

MASKED BOOBY  
Fou Zenero  
[*Sula dactylatra*]

GREAT FRIGATEBIRD  
Gran Fregat  
[*Fregata minor*]

LESSER FRIGATEBIRD  
Pti Fregat  
[*Fregata ariel*]

SOOTY TERN  
Colet  
[*Sterna fuscata*]

BRIDLED TERN  
Fansen  
[*Sterna anaethetus*]

### Birds of Alphonse

There are wonderful opportunities for bird watchers to get great sightings of a wide variety of species throughout the Alphonse group. A fantastic time is August to May when the migrant species have flown back from their breeding grounds in the high arctic to over-winter in the tropics.

WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD  
Payanke Lake Blan  
[*Phaethon lepturus*]

WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER  
Fouke Dezil  
[*Puffinus pacificus*]

BROWN NODDY  
Makwa  
[*Anous stolidus*]

LESSER NODDY  
Kelek  
[*Anous tenuirostris*]

FAIRY TERN  
Golani Blan  
[*Cygnis alba*]

GREATER CRESTED TERN  
Golani Sardin  
[*Thalassus bergii*]

LESSER CRESTED TERN  
Pti Golani Sardin  
[*Thalassus bengalensis*]

### SHORE BIRDS

BLACK-NAPED TERN  
Pti Dyanman Likou Nwanr  
[*Sterna sumatrana*]

GREY HERON  
Floranten Sann  
[*Ardea cinerea*]

CRAB PLOVER  
Kavalye Loulou  
[*Dromas ardeola*]

COMMON RINGED PLOVER  
Ptiyve Kalye Nwanr  
[*Charadrius hiaticula*]

COMMON SANDPIPER  
Kavalye Bat Lake  
[*Actitis hypoleucos*]

RUDDY TURNSTONE  
Bezoz  
[*Arenaria interpres*]

SANDERLING  
Bekaso Blan  
[*Calidris alba*]

EUROPEAN ROLLER  
Ralye Eropeen  
[*Coracias garrulus*]

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER  
Ptiyve Done  
[*Pluvialis fulva*]

EURASIAN CURLEW  
Gran Korbizoo  
[*Numenius arquata*]

### LAND BIRDS

GREY PLOVER  
Ptiyve Sann  
[*Pluvialis aquatarola*]

HOUSE SPARROW  
Mwano  
[*Passer domesticus*]

EUROPEAN ROLLER  
Ralye Eropeen  
[*Coracias garrulus*]

LITTLE EGRET  
Pti Zegret  
[*Egretta garzetta*]

AMUR FALCON  
Katti Lapat Rouz Les  
[*Falco amurensis*]

EURASIAN HOBBY  
Katti Kansson Rouz  
[*Falco subbuteo*]

### VAGRANT BIRDS

GREY PLOVER  
Ptiyve Sann  
[*Pluvialis aquatarola*]

HOUSE SPARROW  
Mwano  
[*Passer domesticus*]

EUROPEAN ROLLER  
Ralye Eropeen  
[*Coracias garrulus*]

LITTLE EGRET  
Pti Zegret  
[*Egretta garzetta*]

AMUR FALCON  
Katti Lapat Rouz Les  
[*Falco amurensis*]

EURASIAN HOBBY  
Katti Kansson Rouz  
[*Falco subbuteo*]

### INTRODUCED

COMMON WAXBILL  
Bengali  
[*Estrilda astrild*]

BROAD-BILLED ROLLER  
Ralye Malgas  
[*Eurystomus glaucurus*]

GARGANEY  
Sarsal Ordiner  
[*Anas querquedula*]

### Common Alphonse Sightings

INDO-PACIFIC BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN  
[*Tursiops aduncus*]

SHORT FINNED PILOT WHALE  
[*Globicephala macrorhynchus*]

MELON HEADED WHALE  
[*Peponocephala electra*]

HUMPBACK WHALE  
[*Megaptera novaeangliae*]

GREY REEF SHARK  
[*Carcharhinus amblyrhynchus*]

SCALLOPED HAMMERHEAD  
[*Sphyrna lewini*]

GREAT HAMMERHEAD  
[*Sphyrna mokarran*]

LESSER FRIGATEBIRD  
Pti Fregat  
[*Fregata ariel*]

SOOTY TERN  
Colet  
[*Sterna fuscata*]

BRIDLED TERN  
Fansen  
[*Sterna anaethetus*]

GREATER CRESTED TERN  
Golani Sardin  
[*Thalassus bergii*]

LESSER CRESTED TERN  
Pti Golani Sardin  
[*Thalassus bengalensis*]

WHIMBREL  
Korbizo Ordiner  
[*Numenius phaeopus*]

COMMON SANDPIPER  
Kavalye Bat Lake  
[*Actitis hypoleucos*]

RUDDY TURNSTONE  
Bezoz  
[*Arenaria interpres*]

SANDERLING  
Bekaso Blan  
[*Calidris alba*]

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Ralye Eropeen  
[*Coracias garrulus*]

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER  
Ptiyve Done  
[*Pluvialis fulva*]

EURASIAN CURLEW  
Gran Korbizoo  
[*Numenius arquata*]

LESSER KESTREL  
Katti Latet Sann  
[*Falco naumanni*]

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER  
Pti Ptiyve Kalye Nwanr  
[*Charadrius dubius*]

COMMON WAXBILL  
Bengali  
[*Estrilda astrild*]

BROAD-BILLED ROLLER  
Ralye Malgas  
[*Eurystomus glaucurus*]

GARGANEY  
Sarsal Ordiner  
[*Anas querquedula*]

SEYCHELLES  
**Alphonse Island**

Map & Guide  
THE ALPHONSE GROUP

More than just White Beaches and Palm Trees...

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[www.alphonse-island.com](http://www.alphonse-island.com)

For details of local conservation projects that you can support, please visit:  
[www.islandconservationsociety.com](http://www.islandconservationsociety.com)



### ALPHONSE MAP LEGEND

	2.7km Running Route		Ship Wrecks
	3.7km Running Route		Coral Reefs
	4.7km Run & Cycle Route		Diving Sites
	Island Paths		Snorkelling Sites
	Forest Exploration Trail		Popular GT Fishing Spots
	Tree Sites (Cycle Route)		Popular Permit Fishing Spots
	Picnic & Sundowner Sites		Popular Bonefish Fishing Spots
	Clinic		High Tide Swimming Spots
	Nesting Bird Colonies		

### Trees of Alphonse

The Alphonse group was stripped of its native vegetation to make way for the planting of coconuts in the 1860's. Small stands of native trees remain giving a glimpse of what the forest would have looked like before the arrival of man. ENJOY A LEISURELY CYCLE AROUND THE ISLAND ON THE FOREST EXPLORATION TRAIL STOPPING TO VIEW THESE TREES.

<b>CORDIA</b> Porse <i>[Cordia subcordata]</i>	<b>PISONIA / BIRD-CATCHER TREE</b> Bwa Mapou <i>[Pisonia grandis]</i>	<b>CASUARINA</b> Sed <i>[Casuarina equisetifolia]</i>
<b>FRUIT BAT TREE</b> Bwa Sousouri <i>[Ochrosia oppositifolia]</i>	<b>NATIVE MULBERRY</b> Bwa sandre / Bwa sandil <i>[Pipturus argenteus]</i>	<b>RED SANDALWOOD</b> Lagati <i>[Adenanthera pavonina]</i>
<b>SEA / BEACH HIBISCUS</b> Var <i>[Hibiscus tiliaceus]</i>	<b>INDIAN / SEA ALMOND</b> Bodannmyen <i>[Terminalia catappa]</i>	<b>INDIAN MULBERRY</b> Bwa Torti <i>[Morinda citrifolia]</i>
<b>GIANT-LEAVED FIG</b> Lafous gran fey <i>[Ficus lutea]</i>	<b>ALEXANDRIAN LAUREL</b> Takamaka <i>[Calophyllum inophyllum]</i>	<b>WHITEWOOD</b> Bwa blan <i>[Hernandia nymphaeifolia]</i>
<b>FISH POISON TREE</b> Bonnen Kare bordmer <i>[Barringtonia asiatica]</i>	<b>WHITE CEDAR</b> Kalisidipap <i>[Tabebuia pallida]</i>	<b>TOURNEFORTIA</b> Bwa taba <i>[Tournefortia argentea]</i>

### Land Crabs

Crabs are key components of tropical island ecosystems - land crabs consume forest detritus, recycle nutrients, oxygenate the soil with their burrows and, by feeding on seeds and seedlings, manage forest growth, often preventing the spread of invasive plants.

<b>BLUE-BACKED SHORE CRAB</b> Loulou <i>[Geograpsus grayi]</i>	<b>ORANGE LAND CRAB</b> Karkasay <i>[Geograpsus crinipes]</i>	<b>SALLY LIGHT-FOOT CRAB</b> Karkasay <i>[Geograpsus tenuicrustatus]</i>
<b>ROUGH RED-EYED / PEBBLE CRAB</b> Loulou <i>[Eriphia sebana]</i>	<b>GIANT MANGROVE CRAB</b> Tyangoman <i>[Cardisoma carnifex]</i>	<b>ROBBER / COCONUT CRAB</b> Sipay / Krab Koko <i>[Birgus latro]</i>
<b>PURPLE HERMIT CRAB</b> Solda <i>[Coenobita brevimanus]</i>	<b>RED HERMIT CRAB</b> Solda <i>[Coenobita perlatus]</i>	<b>TAWNY HERMIT CRAB</b> Solda <i>[Coenobita rugosus]</i>

### Reef Organisms

Coral reefs are composed of the limestone skeletons of reef-building corals, algae and other marine organisms, deposited layer upon layer to form complex structures. They provide vital habitat for a wide range of animals and are home to more than 50% of all the known marine species on the planet. REFER TO THE CORAL REEF FISHES GUIDE FOR COMMON FISH SPECIES

<b>REEF MANTA RAY</b> <i>Manta alfredi</i>	<b>NUDIBRANCH</b> <i>[Phyllidopsis striata]</i>	<b>FEATHERDUSTER WORM</b> <i>[Sabellastarte sancti-josephi]</i>	<b>HALIMEDA</b> <i>[Halimeda opuntia]</i>
<b>CORDIA</b> Porse <i>[Cordia subcordata]</i>	<b>MOON CORAL</b> <i>[Favia]</i>	<b>CACTUS CORAL</b> <i>[Pavona]</i>	<b>BOTTLEBRUSH CORAL</b> <i>[Acropora]</i>
<b>FRUIT BAT TREE</b> Bwa Sousouri <i>[Ochrosia oppositifolia]</i>	<b>BIRD'S NEST CORAL</b> <i>[Seriatopora]</i>	<b>HONEYCOMB CORAL</b> <i>[Goniastrea]</i>	<b>MUSHROOM CORAL</b> <i>[Fungia]</i>
<b>SEA / BEACH HIBISCUS</b> Var <i>[Hibiscus tiliaceus]</i>	<b>BOULDER CORAL</b> <i>[Porites]</i>	<b>PEARL CORAL</b> <i>[Phyloglypta]</i>	<b>PAINTED SPINY LOBSTER</b> <i>[Paralithodes versicolor]</i>
<b>GIANT-LEAVED FIG</b> Lafous gran fey <i>[Ficus lutea]</i>	<b>GIANT CLAM</b> <i>[Tridacna sp.]</i>	<b>HAWKSBILL TURTLE</b> <i>[Eretmochelys imbricata]</i>	<b>GREEN TURTLE</b> <i>[Chelonia mydas]</i>

### Reef Flats Organisms

Reef flats are shallow areas shoreward of the reef, they often separate a lagoon from the ocean. Reef flats are characterised by coarse coral rubble, algae and sand.

<b>WHITE SPOTTED GUITARFISH</b> <i>[Rhynchobatus djiddensis]</i>	<b>WHITETAIL STINGRAY</b> <i>Himantura granulata</i>	<b>PINK WHIPRAY</b> <i>Himantura fai</i>
<b>SPOTTED EAGLE RAY</b> <i>[Aetobatus narinari]</i>	<b>PORCUPINE RAY</b> <i>[Urogymnus asperimus]</i>	<b>SPECKLED / SIDEREAL MORAY EEL</b> Kong <i>[Siderea picta]</i>
<b>WHITE-SPOTTED PUFFERFISH</b> Pitou <i>[Arothron hispidus]</i>	<b>TIGER COWRY</b> Pislaz <i>[Cypraea tigris]</i>	<b>GOLD RINGER</b> Kokiy <i>[Cypraea ornulua]</i>
<b>PURPLE HERMIT CRAB</b> Loulou <i>[Coenobita brevimanus]</i>	<b>HUMPBACKED CONCH</b> Toloy <i>[Strombus gibberulus]</i>	<b>LOLLYFISH CREOLE</b> <i>[Holothuria atra]</i>
<b>RED HERMIT CRAB</b> Solda <i>[Coenobita perlatus]</i>	<b>TURTLE GRASS</b> <i>[Gomara]</i>	

