

JAN / FEB

Weather - Wind from North West, very hot and still, occasional rain showers, good sunsets.

Ocean - Calm and clear – excellent snorkelling.

Hawksbill turtles - Still laying in large numbers / nests starting to hatch.

Migrant birds - A good variety of migrants and vagrant birds.

MAR / APR

Weather - Very hot and still, doldrums period, good sunsets.

Ocean - Very calm and clear – excellent snorkelling.

Hawksbill turtles - nests still hatching and entering the water.

Sooty Terns - Begin to gather in small number. Towards end of April begin to land in the colony.

Migrant birds - As the winds begin to change, migrants that have been on the island change to summer plumage in preparation for return to northern breeding grounds.

MAY

Weather - South East breeze begins to blow and temperatures get slightly cooler.

Ocean - Snorkelling still good.

Green Turtles - Lay throughout year but are more common June to September

Sooty Terns - From mid month they start to land in the evening. Each day they land earlier until by end of month they stay on ground all day.

Lesser Noddy Terns - Eggs start to hatch and parents feed chicks.

Migrant birds - Odd squalls out at sea bring in migrants travelling north.

JUNE

Weather - South East breeze blows steadily, comparatively cooler (28 Deg C daily max).

Ocean - Western beach water calm, snorkelling still possible.

Sooty Terns - Majority of eggs are laid by the end of the month.

Brown Noddy Terns - June to September second peak breeding season, courting rituals, nest building and incubating eggs.

JULY

Weather - South East breeze, pleasantly cool 27 – 28 Dec C.

Ocean – West coast calm, snorkelling still possible.

Sooty Terns – First eggs begin to hatch, later afternoon parents return with food for chicks.

Brown Noddy Terns – Towards end of month first chicks begin to hatch.

AUG / SEPT

Weather - South East breeze continues, less humidity, occasional rain showers.

Ocean - Can be choppy, poor visibility for snorkelling.

Sooty Terns - Towards end of August and beginning of September the early chicks start to fledge.

Brown Noddy Terns - Majority of chicks still hatching by end of September majority have fledged.

OCT / NOV / DEC

Weather – South Easterly ceases. North Westerly breeze starts in November, getting warmer, showers possible. Good sunsets.

Ocean – Calm and clear, excellent snorkelling.

Hawksbill Turtles – start emerging from ocean to lay eggs. Numbers increase daily until Nov and Dec when 4 to 5 a day nest and lay. Eggs laid in October start to hatch in December. Peak laying is November to February. Hatchlings emerge circa 58 days after eggs laid and continue to emerge into May.

Sooty Terns – Virtually all gone by end of October.

Migrant Birds – Best time of year for unusual sightings and number of species. Migrants and vagrants start to fly in.