



# In Search of Eldorado

Link to the Eldorado Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VczD1olutQ8>



## Hello to Family & Friends

Another good night at Liberty Station.

Today's schedule is whale watching and a full circuit of the trolley. My right big toe needs a break from all the walking lately.

Once again it's Hornblower Cruises that will be taking us out.

Who can tell me what movie the quote, upper right, comes from and who said it? No prize, just your way of lording it over everyone else.



Day 36  
Friday,  
February 7th

*San Diego*  
*'Captain, there be*  
*Whales here'*

Weather  
*50's to 60's and Sunny*

## In Search of Eldorado

By Edgar Allan Poe

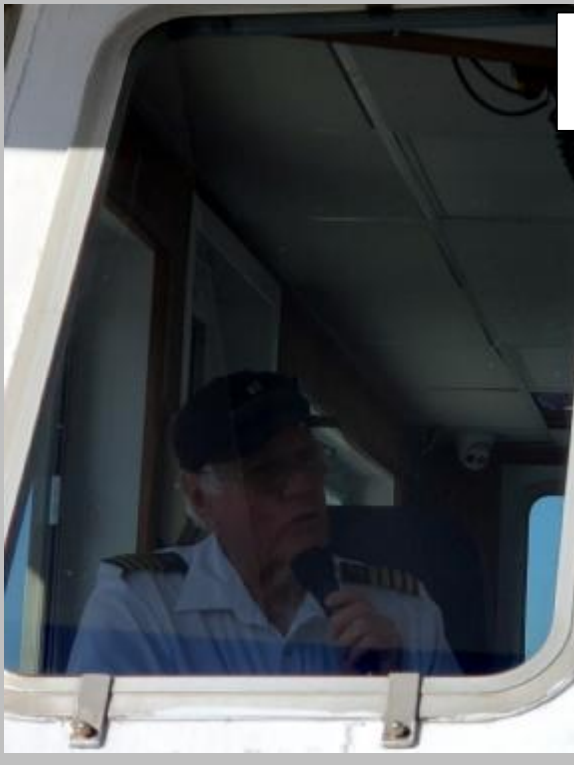
Gaily bedight,  
A gallant knight,  
In sunshine and in shadow,  
Had journeyed long,  
Singing a song,  
In search of Eldorado.

But he grew old—  
This knight so bold—  
And o'er his heart a shadow—  
Fell as he found  
No spot of ground  
That looked like Eldorado.

And, as his strength  
Failed him at length,  
He met a pilgrim shadow—  
'Shadow,' said he,  
'Where can it be—  
This land of Eldorado?'

'Over the Mountains  
Of the Moon,  
Down the Valley of the Shadow,  
Ride, boldly ride,'  
The shade replied,—  
'If you seek for Eldorado!'

Above is today's ship, The Adventure Hornblower. Left is our captain as we back out of port.



parked in the lot next to the Midway again. I told them I only needed one spot if I back in at the end. They said ok and only charged me \$10.



I guess I don't have to worry about anyone trying to steal the bike today. What do you think? That's the Midway in the background above.

On the way out to sea we passed these boats working with a dolphin. They're part of the war effort.





I think it's a she, is giving hand signal directions to the dolphin to hop up onto the boat. How do I know this? I studied dolphinese on Roestta Stone in my spare time.



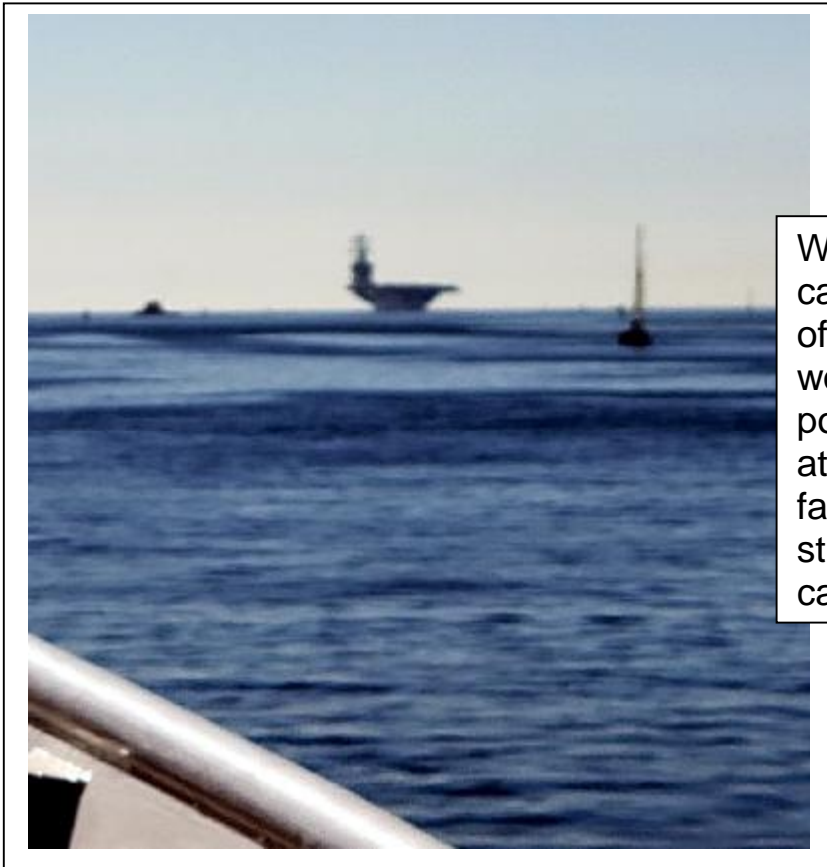
Then again, maybe it's because the next thing the dolphin did was jump into the boat.



The USS Princeton, a Guided Missile Cruiser (nuclear weapons) sailed past us into port



Above is the main refueling platform. Nowadays it's all diesel fuel, but in the days of coal they used to store it in the half-circle dug-outs you can see on the shore.



We were given a rare treat when the captain told us the USS Nimitz, the first of the Nimitz Class of aircraft carriers, would be passing us on their way into port. For some reason, the more I look at this picture, the more I like it. It's so far away it's out of focus, yet you can still tell without a doubt it's an aircraft carrier.



We gave them a standing ovation as they sailed past.

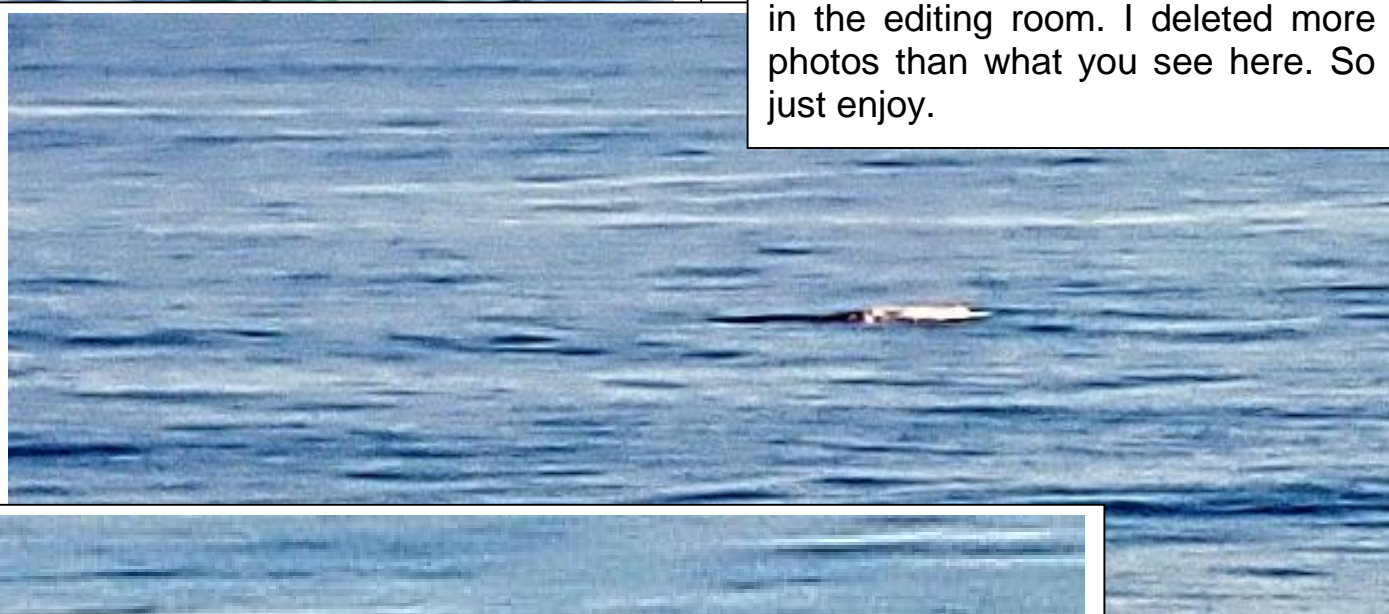


This is a Los Angeles Class Submarine in the sub base. Two-thirds of the sub is still under water.

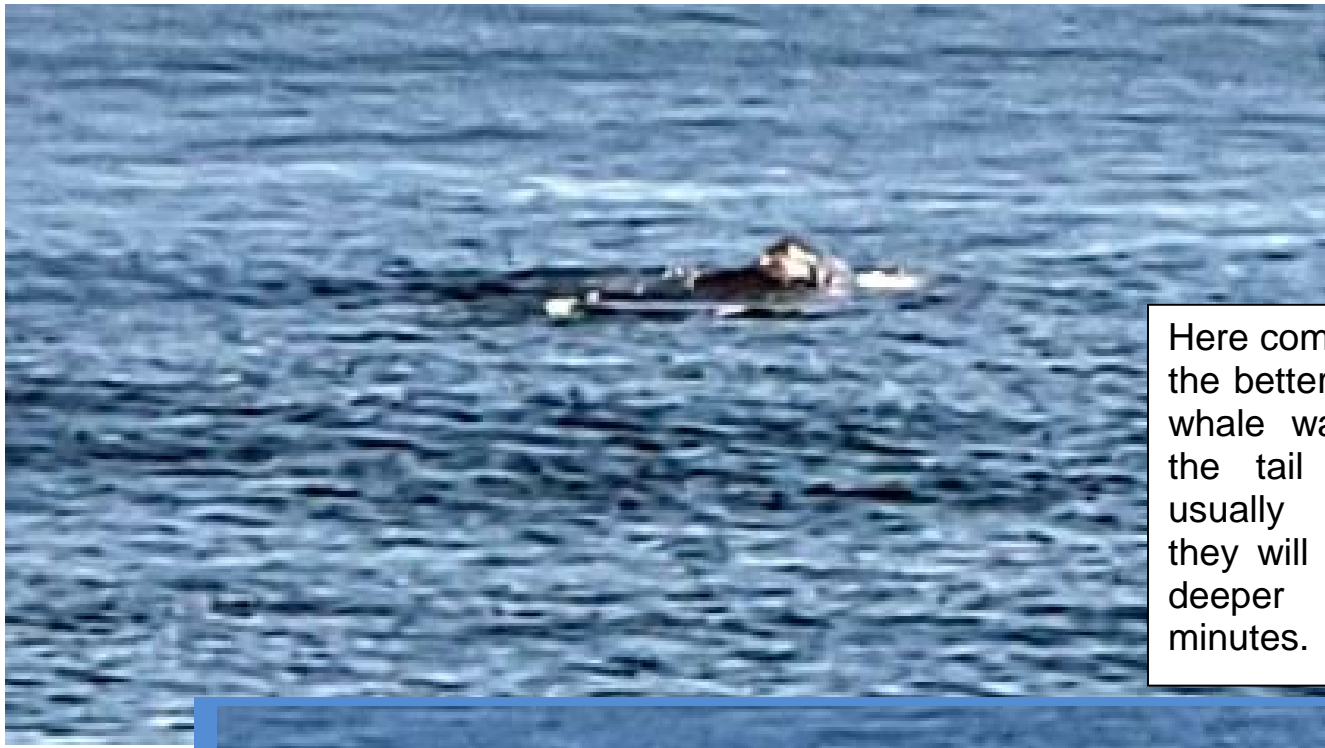
A sea lion getting some sun



We sailed west, then north, then had a report of whales to the south and turned around. I did see whales, probably about five or six. None of them were breaching, so no fantastic shots. Most are like the one below which is most likely the back of the gray whale. There are a couple spouts, which are cool, and there are several tail flukes from one we followed for about half an hour. It's too far away to aim the camera, so it's a point and hold the shutter button down and see what you get in the editing room. I deleted more photos than what you see here. So just enjoy.







Here comes one of the better sights of whale watching – the tail fluke. It usually means they will be diving deeper for 4-6 minutes.









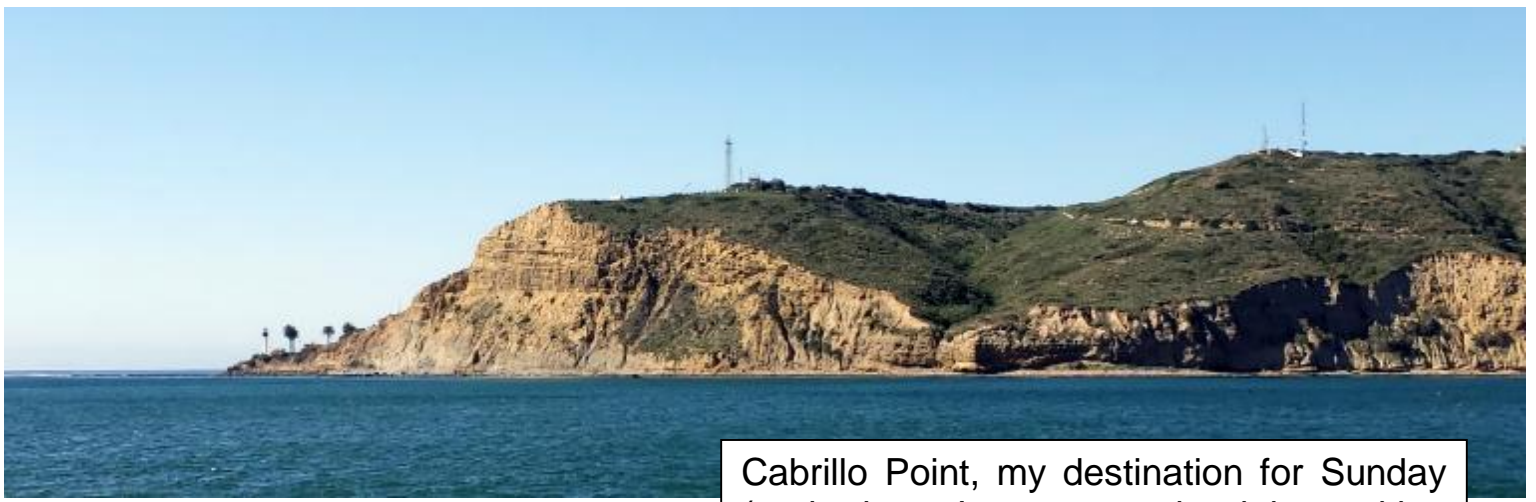












Cabrillo Point, my destination for Sunday (and where I am currently sitting writing this while I wait out the rain).



The Hotel del Coronado on Coronado Island, my destination for tomorrow. A long ways away for that cell phone camera to focus.



The San Diego Bay and city skyline





The photo above is while I'm waiting for the trolley to arrive. Note the curvy lampposts.

It was a good day on the ship looking for whales, hot when out of the sun and wind, cold when not. I didn't take any photos from the trolley since you have already seen those sights or will tomorrow, it was just another way to rest my toe and take advantage of the pass I paid for.

I hopped off at the next stop, Seaport Village, and had lunch, then hopped back onto the Hop On Hop Off San Diego Trolley.

Once the circle was complete I sat in the RV and wrote the newsletter for the 6<sup>th</sup>. I'm losing track of days when today is the 9<sup>th</sup> and I'm writing about the 7<sup>th</sup>. Ate a little dinner, then walked over to Little Italy again. I thought it would be more busy on a Friday night than it was Tuesday, and I was right, but not worth more than a walk up and back India St.

Back to Liberty Station for the night.

Until next time....