

BOOK BEFORE 30 DECEMBER 2011
AND SAVE £300 PER PERSON

Africa & the Cape Verde Islands

Two voyages exploring the west coast of Africa and
the Cape Verde Archipelago aboard the MS Island Sky

November 2012



NOBLE CALEDONIA

MS Island Sky

Small Ship Cruising with a Difference

The MS Island Sky is one of the finest small ships in the world. With a maximum passenger capacity of only 114, a vessel of her size is capable of carrying many more but instead the MS Island Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks.

On board there is a high ratio of crew to passengers. Our friendly crew of 75 are mainly Filipino and Eastern European and our Scandinavian captains are experienced mariners, having been in service aboard large 2000 plus passenger vessels and who now prefer a less frantic life aboard a small ship. If, like them and us, you prefer a more peaceful life at sea, you will find the MS Island Sky the perfect ship. When choosing the vessel for your next

voyage of discovery, you can select a ship with endless entertainment and impersonal service or come with us where peace, high quality service and attention to detail are the order of the day. We promise there will be no organised entertainment, fancy dress, deck games or any of the usual big ship experiences. The atmosphere on board is more akin to a private yacht or country hotel. A little music in the lounge or bar after dinner, guest speakers, informative port

briefings from our cruise director and of course good food which may be enjoyed leisurely in the attractive dining room. After a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well run and exceedingly comfortable ship.

Although the cruises on the following pages are not classified as expeditionary, on some days Zodiacs will be used to transport passengers ashore.



Marco Polo Deck Corner Suite

The Club



Dining on Deck



The Restaurant



The Library

Your Dining

Another benefit of a small ship is the quality of the cuisine. With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the galley is able to provide delicious meals. Where possible and when it meets his high standards, the chef will obtain local produce in markets or buy the catch of the day from a passing fishing boat. In the main elegant dining room, breakfast is

served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order and lunch and dinner is à la carte. When weather permits, breakfast and a buffet-style lunch are also served on deck. To enhance your dining experience even further a selection of wines are included with lunch and dinner. Afternoon tea is served in the lounge and tea and coffee are available 24 hours.

Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large lounge where daily briefings and talks will be provided throughout the voyage and an elegant bar where a pianist plays periodically throughout the day. The onboard library is the perfect place to relax with a book. Daily newspapers and magazines are placed in the library depending on local availability.

There is also WI-FI access throughout the vessel. Outside there is a rear sun deck, a bar and comfortable deck furniture for sun bathing or relaxing with a book. On the top deck there is a Jacuzzi and further observation and sun deck.

Your Suite

Onboard there are 57 exceptionally spacious and well designed suites. All feature a sitting room area and some have private balconies. The feeling of luxury is enhanced by the wood panelling and brass, which predominates throughout the vessel conveying the atmosphere of a private yacht. The passenger accommodation is arranged over five decks and all suites have outside views. Each affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped

vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, large wardrobes, dressing table with large mirror and stool and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, flat screen television with inbuilt DVD player which can also play CDs and a telephone in each suite. Bottled water, towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted toiletries and individually controlled air-conditioning and heating.

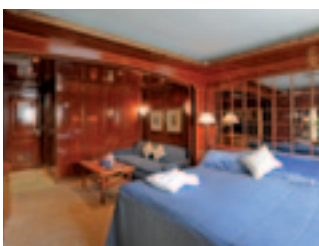
For more images and information pertaining to the MS Island Sky, please refer to our website - www.noble-caledonia.co.uk



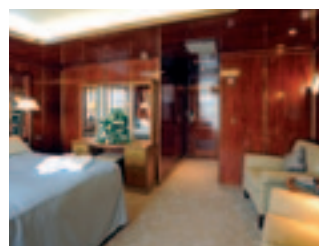
Explorer Deck



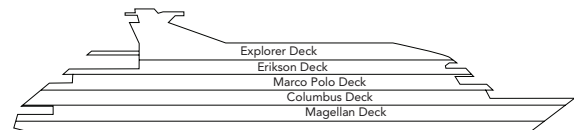
Magellan Deck



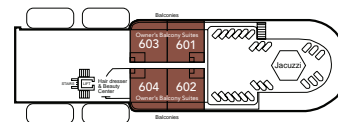
Columbus Deck



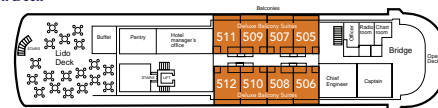
Erikson Deck



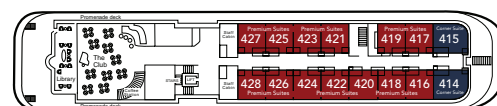
Explorer Deck



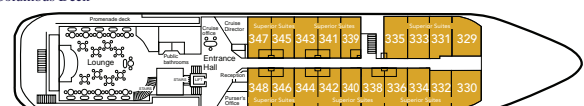
Erikson Deck



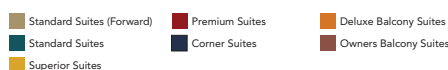
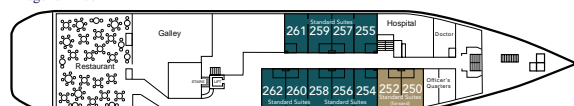
Marco Polo Deck



Columbus Deck



Magellan Deck



Passage to Cape Verde

A voyage to Morocco, Western Sahara and the Cape Verde Islands
4th to 16th November 2012

After the success of our maiden voyage to the Cape Verde Islands, we are delighted to be returning to these beautiful and isolated islands. Our journey begins in Gibraltar and prior to reaching the islands we will venture to Casablanca, Morocco's largest city where we find a diverse mix of beautiful Islamic and Arabic architecture, a bustling harbour trade and modern city life.



We continue to Marrakech with its world famous square and bustling souk, before our visit to the walled Berber town of Taroudant. Travelling along the coast of Western Sahara, we make two calls into small ports for magnificent views of sand dunes and the atmospheric cities of Laayoune and Dakla. Reaching the Cape Verde Islands, we have four full days to explore this remote archipelago. Every island is different with unique landscapes, which makes exploring by small ship the perfect way for us to make the most of the region.

The Itinerary

Day 1 - London to Gibraltar. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Island Sky, embark and sail.

Day 2 – Casablanca, Morocco.

Our tour this morning will start with a drive around Casablanca's most important sights, including the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Place des Nations. The highlight of our tour, however, is a visit to the Hassan II Mosque, the largest religious monument in the world after Mecca. It took 3,300 traditional Moroccan artisans to create the beautiful mosaics, marble floors and the splendid wood ceilings. The mosque also has the world's tallest minaret, soaring 200 metres above the city. Time permitting we will make a final stop at the Central Market to browse the colourful stalls.

Day 3 - Safi for Marrakech, Morocco. Drive to the foot of the



Mindelo

Atlas Mountains to the walled oasis city of Marrakech. On a guided tour stroll through the old quarter where there is an almost biblical feeling as you encounter ancient customs and come across sudden beauty. It is no wonder that it has appealed to artists through the ages. After lunch and some free time return to the vessel at Safi.

Day 4 - Agadir for Taroudant, Morocco. This morning we arrive in southern Morocco in the vast bay of Agadir. Our drive through

the fertile Souss valley takes us to the imperial city of Taroudant, a past capital of the Saadian dynasty. Explore the medina with its souks and climb the red ramparts and end with a visit to the Assarag and Tamaklotte Squares.

Day 5 - At sea.

Day 6 - El Marsa for Laayoune, Western Sahara. From the port of El Marsa drive across the sand dunes to the city of Laayoune. There are not many travellers

who can boast of a visit to the territory of Western Sahara. Mostly consisting of flat desert it is one of the least populated regions in the world. Surprisingly, it makes for a really interesting day as we take in the unique Spanish-Saharan architecture in the old town, visit the Museum of Traditional Arts and the craft workshops.

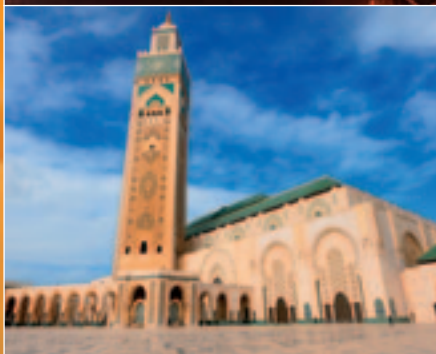
Day 7 - Dakla, Western Sahara. Before we leave the continent of Africa we make one more call to Dakla in the far south of Western



Laayoune Desert, Western Sahara



Djemma El Fna Square, Marrakech



Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca



Market at Cape Verde

Sahara. The town occupies a long peninsula which juts out into the Atlantic. On our morning ashore we explore this friendly town with its white-washed houses. Afternoon at sea.

Day 8 - At sea.

Day 9 - Sal, Cape Verde Islands.

After a morning at sea we arrive at the port of Palmeira on the Island of Sal. Although, not regarded as the loveliest of the islands it does possess one of the most amazing beaches to be found anywhere else in the world. After our crossing to Cape Verde the beach is a welcome sight to stretch our legs and maybe enjoy a swim in the clear waters. This is also the best place to buy fish and our chef will be ashore to inspect the days catch.

Day 10 - Santo Antao & Sao Vincent.

We awake this morning to the lush and mountainous sight of Santo Antao. Our exploration of this beautiful island with its piercing volcanic peaks and canyons will include a drive from Porto Novo to Ribeira Grande where we can observe the stunning scenery. In the early evening we sail across to the nearby island of Sao Vincent and the town of Mindelo. This is one of the most attractive of all Cape Verde towns with its colonial buildings, cobbled streets, cafes and lively restaurants. Mindelo is known as the cultural capital of the islands and for those who wish to experience the nightlife and music a tour will be arranged after dinner on board.

Day 11 - Mindelo, Sao Vincent.

This morning go ashore for a tour

of Mindelo, including the national museum of handy craft and a guitar builder. In the afternoon there will be time to explore at leisure.

Day 12 - Sao Nicolau.

We arrive at Sao Nicolau after breakfast. This is a charming, peaceful and attractive island of plantations, small holdings and busy farming villages. It is a walker's paradise and arrangements will be made for those who would like to explore on foot with a local guide. For the less energetic there will be a visit to the main town of Ribeira Brava, a quaint capital centred around a main square and garden, followed by a scenic drive around the island.

Day 13 - Sao Tiago to London.

Disembark this morning and return to London by special charter flight.

“ The Cape Verde archipelago is a little world of its own, each island having a distinct culture and atmosphere. ”

Prices per person

Based on double occupancy. Tour Code: **SCISK04112**

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Occupancy	Deck/Suite Category						
	Magellan Std Forward	Magellan Standard	Columbus Superior	Marco Polo Premium	Marco Polo Corner	Erikson Deluxe Balcony	Explorer Owner's Balcony
Double	£4495	£4995	£5295	£5695	£5995	£6295	£6695
Sole	£5495	£5995	£6695	-	-	-	-

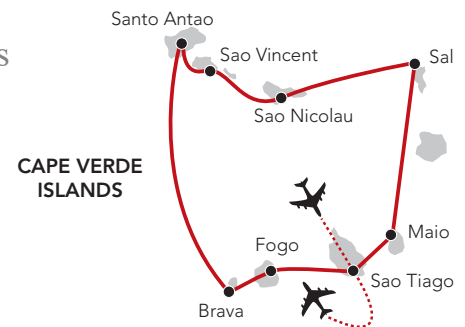
Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 12 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on full board with house wine, beer or soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, guest speaker, Zodiac drivers, shore excursions, gratuities to crew and whilst on shore excursions, transfers, port taxes, airport taxes. **Not Included:** Travel insurance, visas. **NB:** Ports subject to change. All special offers are subject to availability.



Exploring the Cape Verde Islands

Island Hopping in the remote Cape Verde Archipelago
16th to 25th November 2012

Like the Azores but even more remote, the Cape Verde Islands are an intriguing archipelago located off the coast of Senegal. They are an amazingly varied group of islands that have been used as a staging post by mariners through the ages. This is an ideal archipelago for expedition cruising and with the MS Island Sky as our base we can island hop with great ease.



Sao Felipe Church, Praia Island

Here we find arid flat islands with extraordinary beaches and sand dunes contrasting with lush mountainous islands. It is a little world of its own and each island has its own distinct culture. On some islands the infrastructure is minimal but with our nimble Zodiacs we are able to land on the remotest of islands and explore on foot.

With a flexible itinerary, we can take an intimate look at these contrasting islands, something that would not be possible by any other means. Our cruise promises to be a most memorable experience and for those who enjoy visiting out of the way islands where tourists are a rarity, it is a unique opportunity.

The Itinerary

Day 1 - London Gatwick to Praia, Sao Tiago. Fly by specially chartered flight. Embark MS Island Sky in the afternoon and moor overnight.

Day 2 – Praia. The island of Sao Tiago and in particular the capital of Praia is a busy town with a very African feel. We drive to nearby Cidade Velha the old Portuguese capital with a rich history. See the fort and cathedral which dominate the narrow cobbled lanes and stone houses which were once the centre of the slave trade. Later, visit the National Maritime Museum of marine archaeology where treasure retrieved from the deep are on display. After lunch we will explore the interior of the island passing along windy roads, steep mountains, green valleys and small villages.



Cape Verde



Mindelo



Maio

Days 3 & 4 – Fogo & Brava. Over the next couple of days we will visit both Fogo & Brava. Fogo is an extraordinary place. Known as the 'Mother Island' it has its own unique character and people. It's a volcano that rises steeply out of the Atlantic and has become an island, the summit reaching some 3000 metres. An island drive will take us through dramatically contrasting areas of fertile valleys that are dominated by the massive grey volcanic cone of Pico de Fogo. Later, call into the main town of Sao Filipe, a gracious town of faded grandeur with its pretty squares and wide boulevards of colonial houses. Brava is often referred to as the 'Secret Island' it is sometimes mist shrouded and the humid conditions produce wonderful conditions for the flora. It is also one of the most mountainous of the islands with soaring peaks and deep valleys. There will be opportunities here for walkers and a tour which will include arguably the most beautiful bay in the islands at Faja d'Agua with its pretty nearby village. The capital of Nova Sintra, named after its namesake in Portugal is a charming town full of colour from the blooming hibiscus and bougainvillea.

Day 5 - Santo Antao & Sao Vincent. We awake this morning to the lush and mountainous sight

of Santo Antao. Our exploration of this beautiful island with its piercing volcanic peaks and canyons will include a drive from Porto Novo to Ribeira Grande where we can observe the stunning scenery. In the early evening we sail across to the nearby island of Sao Vincent and the town of Mindelo. This is one of the most attractive of all Cape Verde towns with its colonial buildings, cobbled streets, cafes and lively restaurants. Mindelo is known as the cultural capital of the islands and for those who wish to experience the nightlife and music a tour will be arranged after dinner on board.

Day 6 – Mindelo, Sao Vincent. This morning go ashore for a tour of Mindelo, including the national museum of handy craft and a guitar

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Day 7 - Sao Nicolau. We arrive at Sao Nicolau after breakfast. This is a charming, peaceful and attractive island of plantations, small holdings and busy farming villages. It's a walkers paradise and arrangements will be made for those who would like to explore on foot with a local guide. For the less energetic there will be a visit to the main town of Ribeira Brava, a quaint capital centred around a main square and garden, followed by a scenic drive around the island.

Day 8 – Sal. Although, not regarded as the loveliest of the islands it does possess one of the most amazing beaches to be found anywhere else in the world. This

morning we will drive out to Pedra de Lume and visit the salt mines, in the afternoon explore the pretty town of Santa Maria and spend time on the beach.

Day 9 – Maio. Spend the morning on the tiny island of Maio, a peaceful island with vast deserted beaches. Due to winds and erosion this relatively flat island shows little evidence of its volcanic past. Today will be a relaxing day allowing time at leisure to walk in the sand dunes and along the long beach next to the capital of Vila do Maio with its huge white Baroque church and pretty pastel painted houses.

Day 10 - Sao Tiago to London Gatwick. Disembark this morning and return to London by special charter flight.

Prices per person

Based on double occupancy. Tour Code: **SCISK16112**

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Sole	£4595	£5095	£5795	-	-	-	-

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MS Island Sky

November 2012 to April 2013

Cape Verde Islands - West Africa - Atlantic Islands - Argentina - Chile
Peru - Ecuador - Panama - Costa Rica - Colombia - Venezuela - Caribbean



2013 MS ISLAND SKY BROCHURE AVAILABLE NOW

Our new brochure for the all-suite MS Island Sky for 2013 is now available featuring cruises along the western coast of Africa and South and Central America from the tip of Patagonia to Costa Rica.

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