

The West Indies Under Sail

*A celebration of the Golden Age of the Royal Navy
with Peter Warwick
Aboard the Sea Cloud II
5th to 20th February 2010*



NOBLE CALEDONIA

The story of the Royal Navy is a vital part of the story of Britain. Our greatest heroes are sailors; our most memorable victories were won at sea. It is a long and distinguished story, going back to the Tudors and continuing right up to the present day. But one period stands out as a true 'golden age' - the years between 1750 and 1815.

During those years, the great sailing battleships reached their peak of perfection in famous vessels such as *HMS Victory*. A uniquely gifted generation of seamen – of whom Horatio Nelson was but one shining example - sailed those great ships to an almost unbroken series of decisive victories. It is a record of success unparalleled in any other period, which no other navy in the world can match.

One of the great theatres of war in this period was the West Indies. Some of the most important battles were fought there. Some of the key personalities served there, and learned their trade sailing among the beautiful islands.

The voyage offers a unique opportunity to learn about this pivotal period in British history, while exploring the places where that history was actually made - and under sail aboard the superb *Sea Cloud II*.

Peter Warwick will be joining us on board as guest speaker. Peter has written articles on Nelson and naval history, and his first book, *Voices from the Battle of Trafalgar*, was published in August 2005. He has given lectures at the National Maritime Museum, The Greenwich Foundation, Royal Naval Museum, Royal Institution and at many schools, colleges and universities.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Barbados. Fly by scheduled flight. Upon arrival transfer to *Sea Cloud II* and embark. Sail this evening.

Day 2 At sea. Relax onboard and enjoy a day at sea under sail while Peter Warwick tells you about the great ships and men of the sailing era.

Day 3 Port of Spain, Trinidad. We will spend a day in this former Spanish port which was captured by the British under General Sir Ralph Abercrombie in 1797. Visit the lively town of San Juan, drive through the green and tranquil Santa Cruz Valley with its sprawling farms, verdant bamboo groves and fascinating cocoa plantations. Experience lush, forested mountains, dreamlike ocean views and fringes of golden sand.

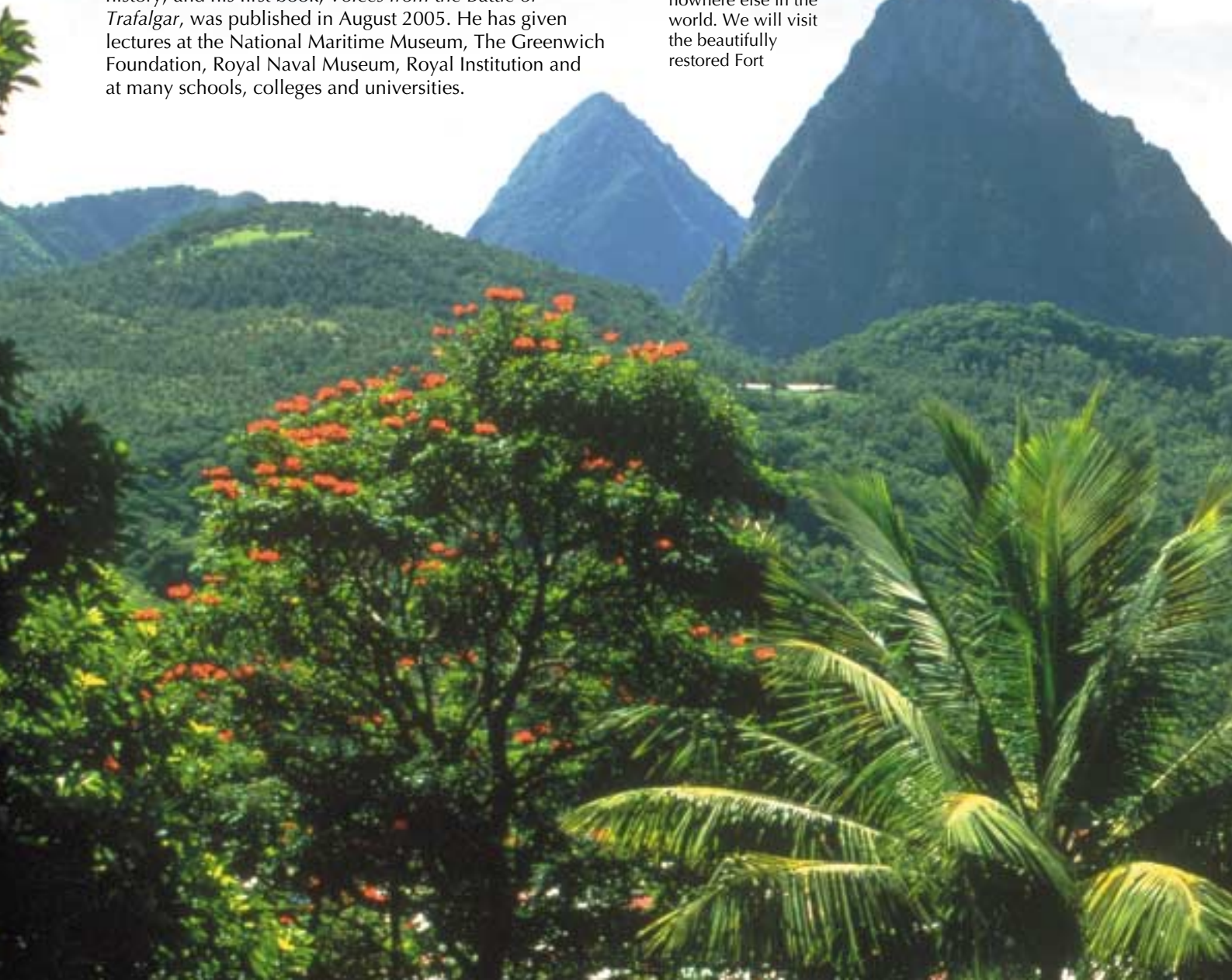
Day 4 Grenada. Morning at sea. St Georges, the island's capital, has one of the most romantic waterfronts in all the West Indies, watched over by splendid forts. In 1779 it was the scene of a major naval battle in which the British fleet was commanded by Admiral Byron – grandfather of the famous poet.

Day 5 Bequia, Grenadines. This delightful Grenadine island is totally unspoilt, a place of pure escapism in a charming old world atmosphere. Visit a turtle farm and soak up the sun on one of the stunning beaches. Afternoon at sea.

Day 6 Dominica. Morning at sea. Stepping back in time, the island of Dominica is still the primitive garden that Columbus first sighted in 1493. An area of tropical rainforests, flowers of incredible beauty and animals that exist nowhere else in the world. We will visit the beautifully restored Fort



The Pitons, St Lucia





Admiralty Bay, Bequia

Shirley, which successfully repelled a French attack during the Trafalgar campaign in 1805.

Day 7 St Kitts. Morning at sea. Untouched by large tourist developments, the island of St Kitts boasts some of the loveliest scenery in the West Indies, an old world charm, and offers the friendliest of welcomes.

Day 8 Virgin Gorda. The British Virgin Islands are recognized throughout the seafaring world as one of the finest sailing areas. Just after lunch, we will drop anchor at Virgin Gorda, one of the principal islands of this charming and unspoiled British Crown colony. Moor overnight.

Day 9 Jost Van Dyke. Spend the morning cruising through the beautiful island-dotted waters of the British Virgin Islands. Drop anchor at the little visited hideaway island of Jost Van Dyke at lunchtime.

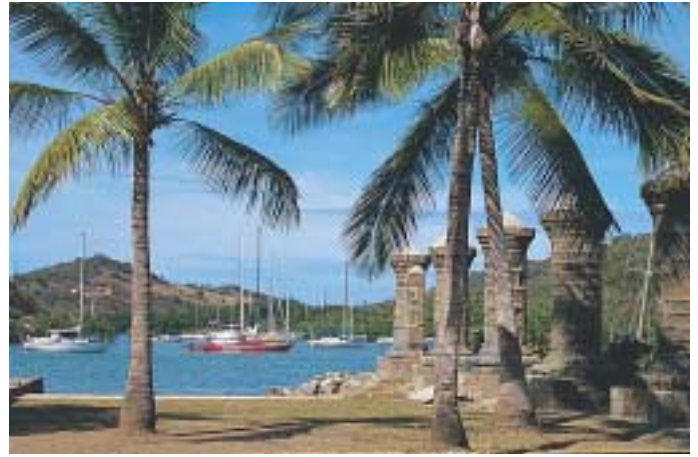
Day 10 Antigua. Morning at sea. Antigua was one of the main British naval bases in the Windward Islands. We will visit the beautifully restored 18th century dockyard in English Harbour.

Day 11 Montserrat. Spend the morning on this volcanic island. Learn how the islanders coped with the devastation caused by volcanic eruptions a few years ago and see some of the untouched areas.

Day 12 Iles des Saintes. The eight-island Iles des Saintes archipelago dots the waters off the southwest coast of Guadeloupe. In 1782, this was the site of one of the greatest naval battles of the sailing era, in which the tactics used by the British admiral Sir George Rodney foreshadowed those used 20 years later by Nelson at Trafalgar.

Day 13 Martinique. Staying within the French West Indies, this afternoon we will call into the lovely island of Martinique, birthplace of Napoleon's beloved Josephine. We will see Diamond Rock, captured by the British in 1804 and held against repeated French attacks.

Day 14 Soufriere, St Lucia. Morning visit to St Lucia, a



Nelson's Dockyard, Antigua

splendidly rugged island of towering mountains, lush green valleys and acres of banana plantations. Because of its strategic position, it was fought over repeatedly by the French and British and changed hands fourteen times! We will moor in sight of the island's best known feature, the twin peaks of the Pitons, which rise dramatically from the sea to more than 2,400 feet.

Day 15 Barbados to London. Disembark after breakfast. Day use hotel rooms will be provided prior to your transfer to the airport for the return scheduled flight to London.

Day 16 London. Morning arrival.

Prices per person

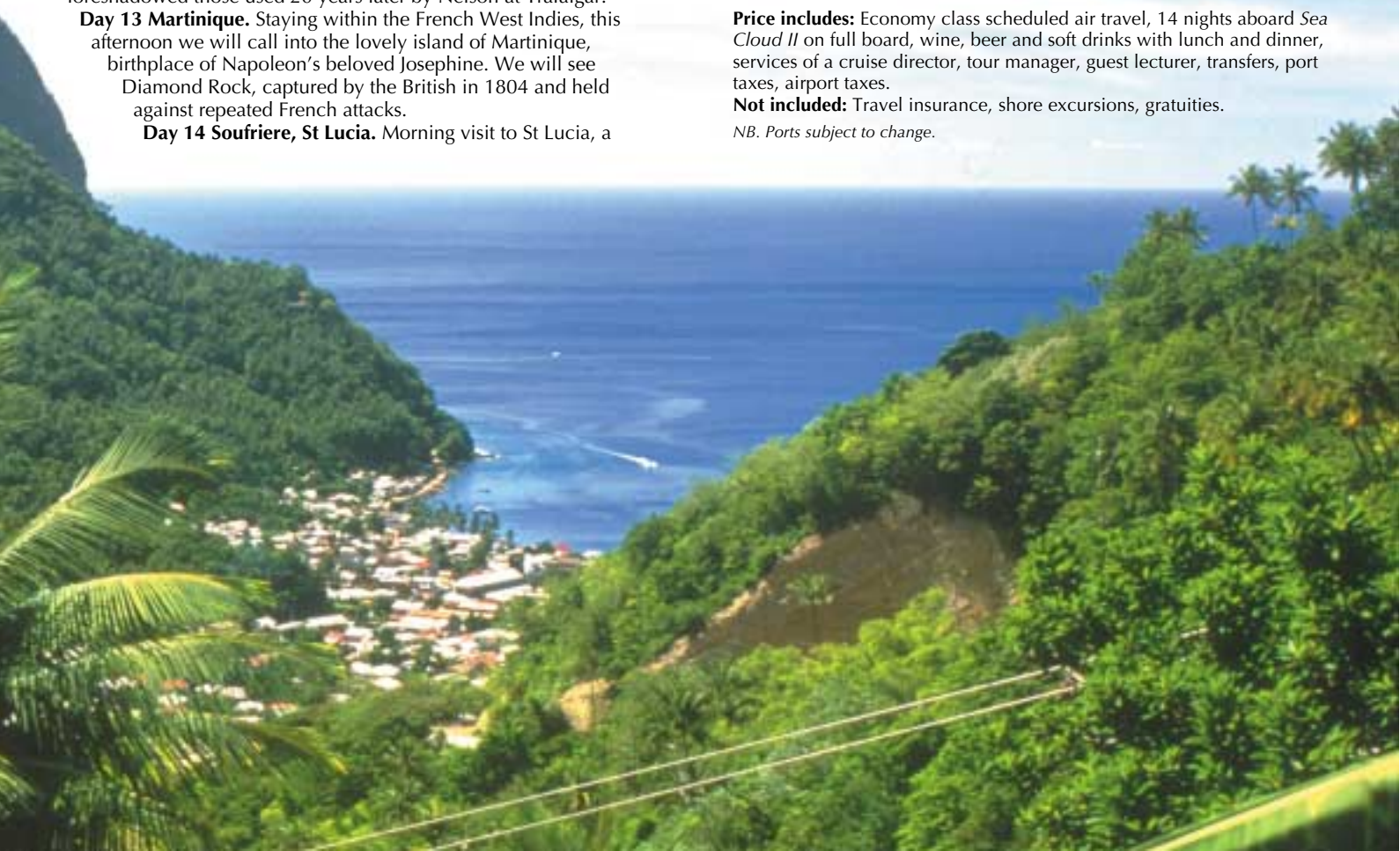
Based on double occupancy Tour Code: SCSC050210

CAT	CABIN DESCRIPTION	
F	Stateroom	£4495
E	Stateroom	£5295
D	Deluxe cabin	£6095
C	Deluxe cabin	£6895
B	Deluxe cabin	£7395
A	Owners suite	£7895
F	Sole occupancy	£6295
E	Sole occupancy	£6995
D	Sole occupancy	£8495

Price includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 14 nights aboard *Sea Cloud II* on full board, wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, services of a cruise director, tour manager, guest lecturer, transfers, port taxes, airport taxes.

Not included: Travel insurance, shore excursions, gratuities.

NB. Ports subject to change.



Sea Cloud II

Launched in 2001, *Sea Cloud II* is a stunning vessel, built along traditional lines, but offering deluxe accommodation. Built to accommodate 96 passengers in five star luxury, she offers a range of beautifully appointed suites and cabins which are furnished with great style. All accommodations have outside views and the bathrooms, in light marble, are unusually spacious and extremely comfortable. The finest, carefully chosen fabrics, combined with leather, rattan and other materials, brass and gold, precious woods and marble together create an impressive ensemble.

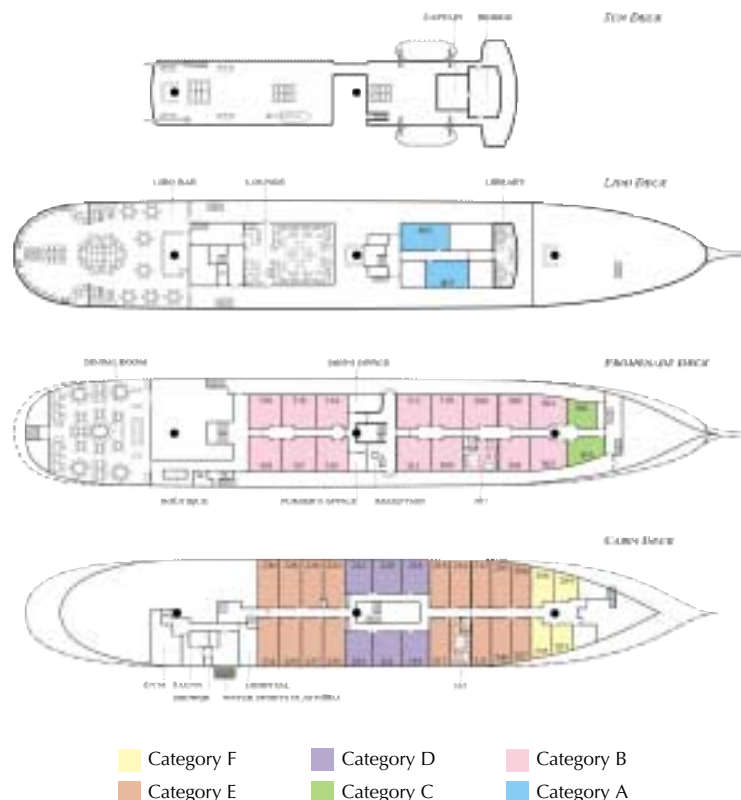


Dining Room

No expense has been spared to create a sympathetic ambience in both the accommodations and public areas and this is reflected throughout the vessel. Public areas include an elegant lounge, library, fitness centre, boutique, lido bar and hospital. The single sitting dining room is airy and modern and the quality of the cuisine and service will be to the highest of standards, as one would expect on a *Sea Cloud* cruise. Relax on the Lido deck and experience the natural grandeur of travelling under sail, as 30,000 square feet of sail rekindles memories of a bygone age.



Cocktails on the Lido Deck





Lounge



Category A Cabin



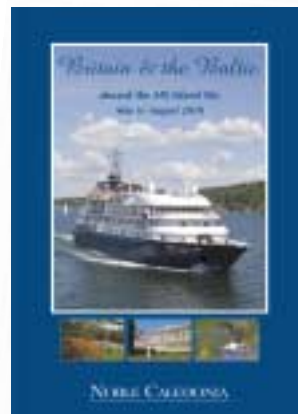
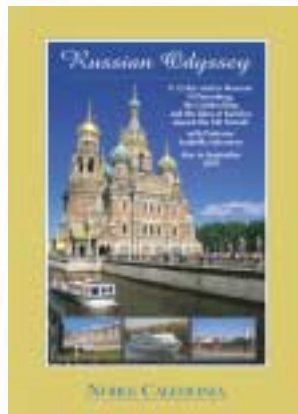
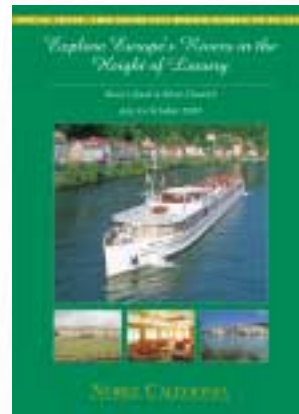
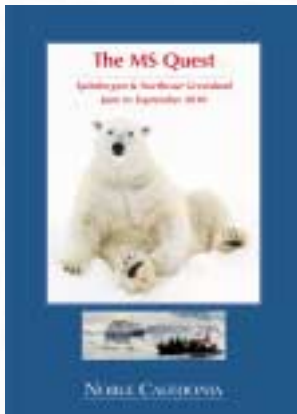
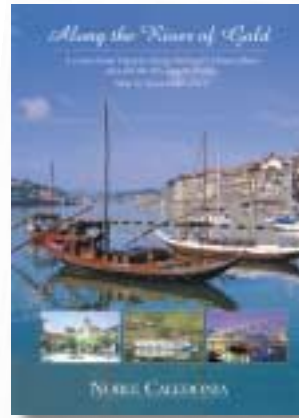
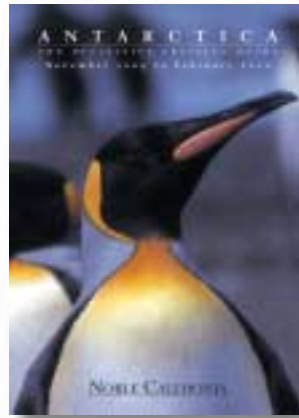
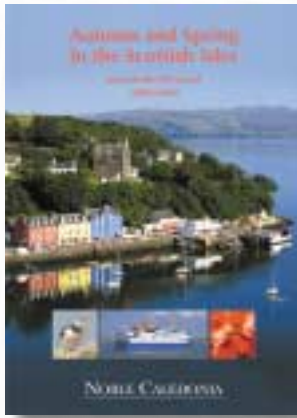
Category C Cabin



Category B Cabin



Category E Cabin



For Reservations: Office hours are Monday to Saturday from 9am to 5pm
 For Brochures: 24 hours a day/7 days a week

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