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OFFER - SAVE
£500
PER PERSON

AFRICA'S ATLANTIC COAST

A VOYAGE BETWEEN CAPE TOWN & ACCRA
ABOARD THE MS HEBRIDEAN SKY

10TH TO 31ST JANUARY 2028



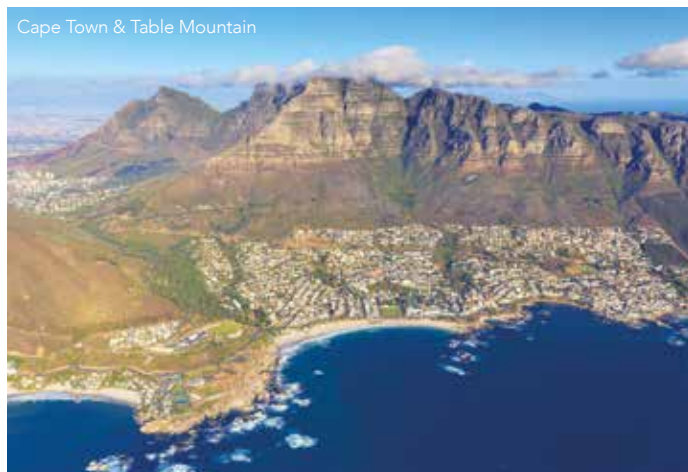
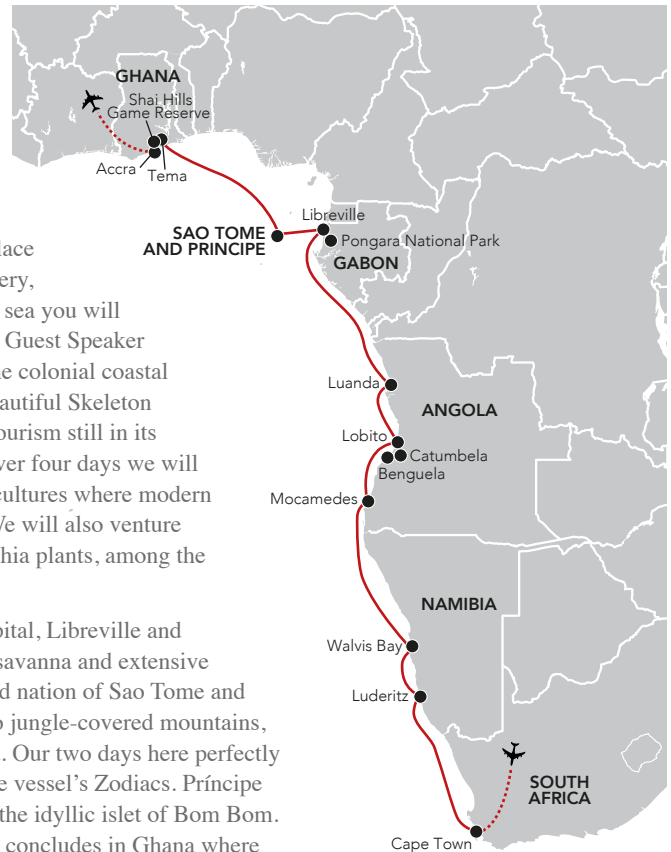
NOBLE CALEDONIA

This extraordinary voyage along the southwest coast of Africa offers a rare opportunity to explore one of the least-visited regions, travelling from the magnificent city of Cape Town in South Africa to the vibrant shores of Ghana. Without doubt the only comfortable means of experiencing the region's many wonders is by small ship and we are fortunate in having such a special vessel as the 118-passenger, all-suite MS Hebridean Sky for our exploration.

Our journey begins in the spectacular surroundings of Cape Town, a fitting place to commence our expedition with its cosmopolitan culture and dramatic scenery, which we will explore before setting sail for Namibia. During our first day at sea you will have the opportunity to become better acquainted with our onboard team and Guest Speaker as our programme of lectures begins. Upon reaching Namibia we will visit the colonial coastal towns of Swakopmund and Luderitz and cruise along Namibia's bleak yet beautiful Skeleton Coast. We continue to the former Portuguese colony of Angola which, with tourism still in its infancy, remains largely unexplored by all but the most intrepid travellers. Over four days we will discover this vibrant country including the capital, Luanda, a melting pot of cultures where modern skyscrapers stand alongside historic buildings dating from the colonial era. We will also venture inland towards the Namib Desert where we may see the remarkable welwitschia plants, among the oldest living plants on Earth.

After two relaxing days at sea we reach Gabon where we will explore the capital, Libreville and travel to Pongara National Park, an area of diverse habitats including forest, savanna and extensive sandy beaches that support a variety of wildlife. We then call at the two-island nation of Sao Tome and Principe where natural wonders abound, from beautiful untouched beaches to jungle-covered mountains, while the surrounding emerald waters form an important biodiversity hotspot. Our two days here perfectly demonstrate the advantages of small ship cruising as we land ashore using the vessel's Zodiacs. Principe still retains the atmosphere of an undiscovered island and we will anchor off the idyllic islet of Bom Bom. Following two final days cruising the Gulf of Guinea, our fascinating voyage concludes in Ghana where we will explore the Shai Hills Game Reserve, home to antelope, baboons, green monkeys and over 170 bird species, before discovering the vibrant capital city of Accra.

The roads may be poor and the tourist infrastructure very much in its infancy in some of the countries we will be visiting, but that is precisely why we believe this region presents such an array of exciting experiences for the adventurous traveller who wishes to witness this extraordinary area, its diverse cultures and marvellous wildlife but who is weary of the more well-trodden paths around the world. After a day's exploration, we will return each evening to the comfort of the all-suite MS Hebridean Sky with the added benefit of some days at sea interspersed throughout the itinerary when you can relax on board and attend the informative lectures by our Guest Speaker and onboard team.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Cape Town, South Africa. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Cape Town. Arrive today and transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

Day 3 Cape Town. We spend the morning in Cape Town with a choice of excursion options. You may wish to visit Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden which is spread over 560 hectares on the eastern slopes of Table Mountain and contains over 8,500 species of indigenous plants and where we take a leisurely stroll through these beautiful surroundings. Alternatively, if weather permits, we will take the cableway to the top of the iconic Table Mountain, one of the city's most celebrated landmarks. From the summit we can enjoy the views down to the city below or take a walk on one of the trails amongst the endemic flora and fauna. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at sea as we begin our journey north along the African coastline.

Day 4 At Sea. Spend the day at sea as we sail towards Namibia. Take the opportunity to relax on deck or maybe join a lecture in the lounge.

Day 5 Luderitz, Namibia. Sandwiched between the Namib desert and the South Atlantic, Luderitz is an isolated settlement and one of the few towns and sheltered harbours on the Namibian coast. First landed by Portuguese mariners in the 15th century, it was not until 1883 when the land was bought by a wealthy merchant, Adolf Luderitz, that the town developed as part of German colonisation of the region. A morning walking tour includes the Luderitz Museum and the colonial buildings, among them the Goerke Haus and Felsenkirche. Nearby, visit the ghost town of Kolmanskop where the first diamonds were found in Namibia in 1908. Sparking a "diamond rush", the town grew in the ensuing years, peaking in the 1920s, until the discovery of richer deposits further south. By the 1960s the population had left and the town is now at the mercy of the weather and encroaching sand dunes.



Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum, Accra, Ghana

Forest buffalo with cattle egret, Pongara National Park

Populo Church, Benguela

Days 6 & 7 Walvis Bay. Arriving at lunchtime we spend a day and a half in Namibia's main coastal town of Walvis Bay. During our time here we will have the option to visit Swakopmund, Namibia's seaside resort on the west coast, and a place of singular charm. It resembles a small Bavarian village nestled between the desert and the sea and enjoys a restful and relaxing atmosphere. The source of Swakopmund's continental vibe is the graceful Art Nouveau buildings many of which, including the Lutheran Church and old railway station, are national monuments. We will also have the opportunity to drive past the imposing sand dunes to the Welwitschia Plains in the Namib-Naukluft Park and we hope to see the prehistoric welwitschia mirabilis plants, unique to this region, as we drive through the lunar landscape. Those feeling active may wish to take 4x4 vehicles to Sandwich Harbour, a tidal lagoon located in the Namib-Naukluft Park surrounded by huge sand dunes which run into the ocean. Here we can experience the isolation and scenery which the Skeleton Coast is famous for.

Day 8 At Sea. Spend the day at sea as we continue our journey north.

Day 9 Mocamedes, Angola. Our first call in Angola is the town of Mocamedes which was founded in the mid-19th century by the Portuguese, but was cut off from the rest of the country until the construction of the Namibe Railway in 1905 and today it is one of Angola's busiest ports. Arriving at lunchtime, this afternoon we venture inland to the Arco Lagoon, a wonderful freshwater oasis located in the Namib desert bordered by distinctive rock formations. We will also see the nearby rare welwitschia plants, considered to be some of the oldest plants on earth at up to 1,000 years old. Return to the ship via the old city for a short sightseeing tour passing the Church of Santo Adriaio and the military fortress.

Day 10 Lobito, Benguela & Catumbela. After a morning at sea we arrive at the port city of Lobito. The town was created in 1903 as the sea terminal to the Benguela railway, developed to link with the mineral-rich regions in Angola and over the border in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We drive to the city of Benguela which was founded in 1617 around the Sao Filipe Fortress and was one of the bases for Portuguese expansion in Africa. Explore the town viewing the Portuguese colonial buildings including the Igreja de Populo and the pretty gardens surrounding the town hall. Continue to nearby Catumbela to visit the 17th century Fort of Sao Pedro

offering panoramic views to the river below, before we have the chance for a tasting of the local rum at the Caxaramba distillery.

Days 11 & 12 Luanda. In the 19th century, the Angolan capital city of Luanda, was one of the most successful cities in the Portuguese Empire with the port being a major trading centre for ivory, cotton, coffee and cocoa as well as being a key port in the slave trade. With access to vast natural resources including oil and diamonds, the city has recovered from the damage of the civil war which ran from 1975 to 2002, and will be our base for a day and a half. During our time here we will take a city tour including the 16th century San Miguel Fort, the National Museum of Anthropology, Remedios Church, parliament buildings and the unique obelisk of the Agostino Neto Mausoleum dedicated to Angola's first president who fought for independence. In South Luanda we can visit the Benfica Market selling many wooden artefacts and local art before continuing to the Slave Museum in the village of Morro da Cruz, located on a cliff overlooking the ocean and offering a poignant reminder of this tragic period in Angola's history. We will end at the stunning viewpoint, Miradouro da Lua. We also hope to gain a glimpse of the vibrant culture and spirit of the Musseque da Mulemba as we visit their community and hear about the challenges of retaining their traditions in an expanding urban environment.

Days 13 & 14 At Sea. Spend two days on board as we cruise to Gabon.

Day 15 Libreville & Pongara National Park, Gabon. From our berth in Port D'Owendo we have a choice of excursions today. Maybe spend some time in the city of Libreville where we will see the Presidential Palace, St Michel Cathedral and the city museum. After our tour you can return to the ship for lunch and a free afternoon or continue to the Pongara National Park which is sandwiched between the Komo estuary and the Atlantic Ocean, the pristine beaches here are a nesting ground for leatherback turtles whilst the animal population includes elephants, red river hogs, buffalo, mangabeys and a variety of birds. After lunch we will join a 4x4 safari on the lookout for wildlife before returning to the ship this afternoon.

Days 16 & 17 Sao Tome and Principe. We will experience the benefits of our small ship as we spend a full day on each of the islands of Sao Tome and Principe which are well off the usual tourist route. Fortunately the islands have yet to succumb to mass tourism and we can enjoy their beautiful beaches, tropical rainforests and colonial architecture in relative peace. Colonised by



the Portuguese in the 15th century, they were originally a holding centre for slaves en-route to the Americas. However, in the 1800s coffee and cacao plantations expanded and by 1908 they became known as the Chocolate Islands becoming the world's leading producer of cacao. Today, production has slowed but the islands still produce high quality coffee and cacao. We will anchor off Sao Tome and land using the ship's Zodiacs. On a full day tour we will visit one of the plantation houses, or "rocas". In the interior we will discover waterfalls and hope to see some of the many orchid species in the botanical gardens and endemic bird life. Meanwhile, in Sao Tome city we will see the National Museum, cathedral and visit the bustling markets. Principe is the smaller of the two islands at 136 square kilometres and with a population of just 6,000 residents. In 2012 the waters around the island were designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and from our anchorage off Bom Bom Island we will use the ship's Zodiacs to land and have the option to relax on the beach and swim in the clear waters.

Days 18 & 19 At Sea. Spend two days at sea as we cross the Gulf of Guinea. Our lecture programme will continue in the lounge, or alternatively you may find a spot on deck to relax.

Day 20 Tema for Shai Hills Game Reserve, Ghana. Arrive in Ghana over breakfast, after which we drive to the Shai Hills Game Reserve and embark on a trek through the reserve's savannah plains to view antelopes, bushbucks, kobs, baboons, monkeys and many bird species including the Senegal parrot, swallow-tailed bee-eater, Vieillot's barbet, piapiac and red-shouldered cuckooshrike. Lunch will follow offering views over the evergreen valley and plains of the surrounding Akuapem Mountain Range before we continue to the Aburi Botanical Gardens. They were established in 1890 as a convalescent retreat for the British colonial officers governing the then Gold Coast (now Ghana). Over the years, the gardens have cultivated a variety of tropical plants which attract many birds and butterflies. After a walk through the gardens we will return to the ship.

Day 21 Accra to London. Disembark this morning and drive to the capital city of Accra where a tour includes the National Museum of Ghana, and the Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum and Memorial Park. After lunch we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Day 22 London. Arrive today.

EXPLORING ASHORE

This voyage will appeal to those who enjoy exploring off the beaten track. The route we are taking will take us to destinations not possible to visit on larger cruise ships and our journey promises to be a true adventure. Tourist infrastructure throughout many of the African countries visited during this cruise is very much in its infancy and flexibility will be key. Our onboard team will endeavour to arrange a selection of walks to include longer and shorter options to cater for different abilities but it is recommended that you have a good level of fitness and mobility to partake in this voyage. The excursions will be a mix of half and full day tours which will include periods of walking over uneven ground and steps combined with periods of standing. It will be warm during the day with high humidity levels. The road conditions will be mixed meaning the roads can be bumpy which will elongate some journey times. We will source the best transport options available but these will not always be up to European standards.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Amundsen	Standard	£13995	£13495
Byrd	Superior	£14795	£14295
Mawson	Premium	£15495	£14995
Mawson	Corner	£15995	£15495
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£17495	£16995
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£17995	£17495
Shackleton	Hebridean	£18495	£17995
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£16995	£16495
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£17495	£16995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 19 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas for Ghana, Namibia & Gabon.

MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



Alfresco Dining



Owner's Balcony Suite



The Restaurant

The much loved MS Hebridean Sky is one of our two flagships and sister vessel to the MS Island Sky. Both vessels were built in the same shipyard in Italy at similar times and share the same excellent attributes that make them two of the finest small ships in the world. With a maximum passenger capacity of only 118, a vessel of her size is capable of carrying many more but instead the MS Hebridean Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks.

Your Suite

On board there are 59 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites. All feature a sitting 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 with those on the Scott and Shackleton Decks featuring private balconies. Each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring 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, television and a telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted Noble Isle toiletries and individually controlled air-conditioning and heating. Soft hues and blended tones enhance the traditional maritime style making the passenger accommodation an inviting and relaxing place to be.

Your Dining

With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the cuisine on board the MS Hebridean Sky is of a consistent superior quality that befits such a vessel. In keeping with the informal atmosphere on board, when dining you are able to choose your seating arrangements and choice of restaurants at your leisure; whether that be joining a table of four to six other passengers in the elegant à la carte Restaurant or, outside buffet-style on the Lido Deck in the evening sunshine. In the main Restaurant, breakfast is served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order on request. Lunch and dinner menus offer plenty of choice, often reflecting the daily catch and local delicacies. The Welcome and Farewell dinners are a sumptuous five course affair. To enhance your dining experience further a selection of wines is included with both meals. Afternoon tea and pre-dinner canapés take place in either the comfort of the Lounge or the Club. Tea and coffee are also available 24 hours a day. Special diets can be catered for with sufficient notice.



The Library



Superior Suite



The Club

Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Byrd Deck featuring a selection of seating options from individual armchairs and sofas to side cushioned benches. Daily briefings given by the Cruise Director and talks from Guest Speakers and expedition staff take place in the Lounge. In addition to the main Lounge, there is also The Club, located on the Mawson Deck which features the main bar. The Club also features a 24-hour tea and coffee station. Towards the aft of the ship on the Mawson Deck is the Library. Well stocked with reference books pertaining to the destinations the vessel is visiting and a selection of essential reads, you will not find yourself short of excellent literature on board. A collection of games and devices to access the internet via the ship's satellite can also be found in the library. Access to the ship's satellite Wi-Fi via your own device is complimentary on board (*signal strength varies depending on location and demand*). The main Restaurant, which can seat all guests at one sitting, is located on the Amundsen Deck, and outside there is a rear Lido Deck located on the Scott Deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade. Further to this on the top Shackleton Deck there is an observation area, complete with sun loungers for sunbathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. The Promenade Deck wraps around the whole ship providing outstanding views. There is also a small beauty salon on board with appointments made on request.

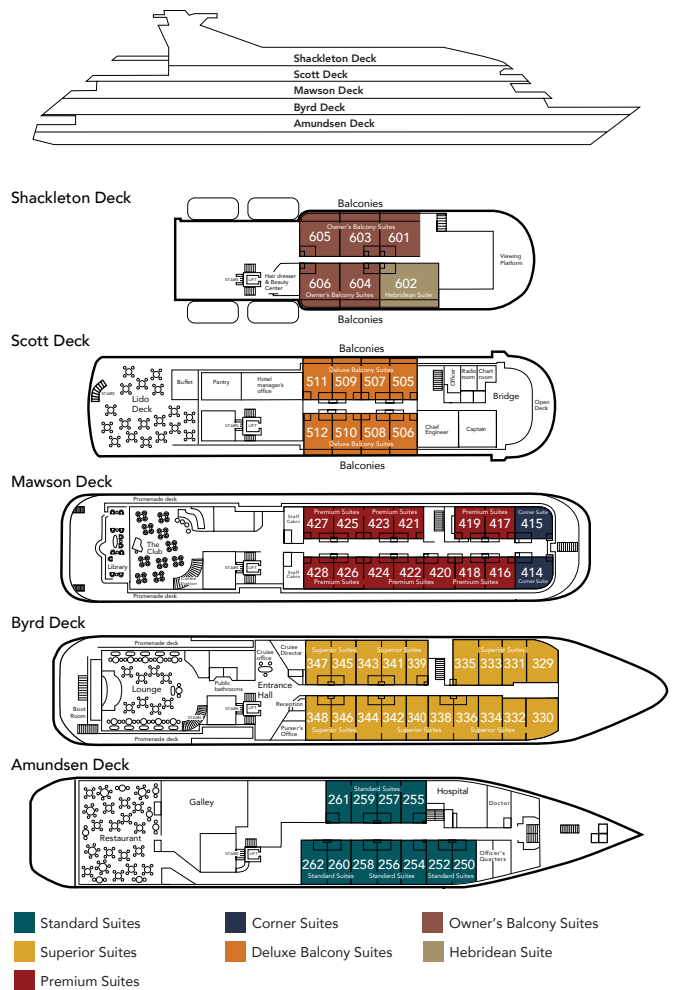
Your Comfort

The MS Hebridean Sky is equipped with the latest safety, navigation and communications equipment along with roll stabilisers to minimise the ship's motion. During your voyage we hope to offer you the opportunity to visit the Captain and Officers on the Bridge to check the vessel's progress by charts and learn more about your journey. On board you will also find a clinic and Doctor and a lift that serves all decks. When at anchor our nimble Zodiacs will ferry you ashore or, on select cruises, enjoy Zodiac cruises getting you closer to the natural world.

Your Life On Board

The atmosphere on board is warm and convivial and more akin to a private yacht or country hotel in which you can learn more about the wonderful destinations you are visiting in the company of like-minded people. There is a high ratio of crew to passengers and our friendly crew of 75 are mainly Filipino and Eastern European and our Captains are experienced mariners. After a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well-run and exceedingly comfortable ship where peace, high quality of service and attention to detail are the order of the day. A little music in the Lounge or bar after dinner, Guest Speakers and informative port briefings and of course good food, all contribute to make any voyage aboard this wonderful vessel a memorable and joyful experience.

MS HEBRIDEAN SKY DECK PLAN



Please note that beds in each suite can be configured as double or twin with the exception of suites 601 and 602 which feature a fixed double bed.



NOBLE CALEDONIA

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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
 Cover image: Flamingos in lagoon, Walvis Bay.