

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£400
PER PERSON

ALONG THE CAMINO

A VOYAGE FROM PORTSMOUTH TO VIGO ABOARD THE MS ISLAND SKY
COMBINED WITH A THREE NIGHT STAY IN SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
WITH GUEST SPEAKER THE RIGHT REVEREND TIM STEVENS

2ND TO 9TH SEPTEMBER 2024



NOBLE CALEDONIA



Here is a unique opportunity to combine a leisurely passage from the UK to Spain aboard the all-suite MS Island Sky with time spent walking along various sections of the Camino de Santiago, the renowned pilgrimage route and UNESCO World Heritage Site. Follow in the footsteps of seafaring pilgrims from centuries past who would sail from the UK to Galicia to begin their pilgrimage to the tomb of St James. Our journey promises to be an enriching experience accompanied by fellow like-minded travellers and our Guest Speaker, the Right Reverend Tim Stevens who will provide a series of fascinating talks. After four nights on board the MS Island Sky sailing from Portsmouth to Vigo by way of La Coruna, we will disembark for a three night stay in the beautiful Galician city of Santiago de Compostela.

Established after the discovery of the relics of St James, the Camino de Santiago or the 'Way of James' is an extensive network of ancient pilgrim routes stretching across Europe and culminating at the magnificent cathedral in Santiago de Compostela. We have designed our itinerary to allow for the opportunity to walk along three sections of the Way of St James; the English Way, the French Way and the Portuguese Way and the walks will be planned so that participants can walk as much or as little as they choose of the three sections on each of the days and, for those electing not to partake in the walks, there will be the option to instead join a guided excursion to the region's picturesque towns.

Guest Speaker – The Right Reverend Tim Stevens



Tim Stevens read Classics and English at Cambridge. In 1968 he joined BOAC as a graduate trainee and entered the Foreign Office in 1972 working in the South Asian Dept until starting training for ordination in Oxford. He was a parish priest in East London and Essex before being appointed Archdeacon of West Ham, Bishop of Dunwich and eventually Bishop of Leicester where, from 1999 to 2015, he was heavily engaged in interfaith relations and a visiting professor in Church and Society at De Montfort University. Tim was chair of the Children's Society between 2004 and 2010 and Convener of the Bishops in the House of Lords, between 2009 and 2015, where he spoke regularly on public policy issues especially on Welfare Reform and inter-faith relations. In 2015 he was responsible for planning and leading the events surrounding the re-interment of Richard III in Leicester Cathedral. Tim is now on the global governance board of St John International and a trustee of the Woolf Institute in Cambridge which researches and supports understanding between Jews, Christians and Muslims.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Portsmouth, England. Embark the MS Island Sky this afternoon. Transfers will be provided from Portsmouth Harbour Railway Station at a fixed time. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

Days 2 & 3 At Sea. Spend the next two days at sea sailing to the northern coast of Spain following in the footsteps of centuries of seafaring pilgrims from Britain and Northern Europe. During your time on board relax and perhaps take in a lecture or two by our speaker the Right Reverend Tim Stevens.

Day 4 La Coruna & the English Way, Spain. This morning we arrive into La Coruna. From here we will walk part of the English Way which has two starting points, La Coruna and Ferrol, La Coruna being the preferred route for British Pilgrims. Pilgrims started walking the English Way or the 'Seafaring Way' in the 12th century and it was popular with Medieval pilgrims from Scandinavia, Flanders, England, Scotland and Wales. It

played host to Crusaders on their way to the Holy Land, Icelandic monks, and during the Hundred Years War pilgrims from Britain sailed as we did to the coast rather than passing through France. Vessels chartered for the purpose of pilgrimage had to receive permission from the Crown before they could set sail. The pilgrimages are well documented by ceramic pieces and coins found during excavations of the Santiago de Compostela Cathedral. The walking today will be split into sections so that you can choose to walk as much or as little as you wish. Lunch will be at a local restaurant. For those who prefer a more leisurely day there will be a morning tour of La Coruna followed by an afternoon at leisure.

Day 5 Vigo, the French Way & Santiago de Compostela. We will disembark this morning after breakfast and head to Melide to walk a section of the French Way, perhaps the most famous of the nine major Camino routes. Its 800 kilometres of trails have inspired many artists, writers and filmmakers. Melide is the only town where two Camino routes meet,



La Coruña



Peregrina Chapel



Pazo de Oca



Melide

the French Way and the Camino Primitivo (Original Way). From the 10th century, Melide grew in popularity and as the number of pilgrims passing through increased so did the traders and innkeepers allowing the town to grow in prosperity. The town has a number of impressive chapels and beautiful Medieval architecture. The route today will take us through forests and over streams passing quaint villages and farms. At the end of the walk we transfer to our hotel in Santiago de Compostela for a three night stay. For those not wishing to walk today, there will be the option of a tour to the elegant and historic town of Pontevedra where we will see the Peregrina Chapel, the city's most emblematic building. This Baroque church has an unusual, rounded facade and was built in the late 18th century in honour of the Virgin guiding pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostela. There will also be a visit to Pazo de Rubianes, an elegant country estate dating back to the late 17th century and surrounded by extensive vineyards en route to Santiago de Compostela. Dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 6 The Portuguese Way & Santiago de Compostela. This morning set out to walk some of the Portuguese Way. The Camino Portuguese which starts in Lisbon has been in use since the 10th century, but it was in the 12th century after the independence of Portugal that it became more prominent. The pilgrimage of Queen Isabel of Portugal in the 14th century solidified the routes for pilgrims. Our walk today will be part of the last section of the Portuguese Way passing through charming villages and farms. We will stop for lunch at Pazo de Faramello and meet up with fellow passengers who may have chosen to not walk this morning. The Pazo de Faramello is an early 18th century building with strong Italian influences that convey the Genoese origin of its founder, the Marquis of Piombino. This pazo was the location of the first paper factory in Galicia and the old mills and corresponding tools can still be seen. Admire the perfectly kept French 19th century gardens spread across more than two hectares leaning out in terraces over a tiny canyon whilst we enjoy lunch. Afterwards there will be the opportunity to walk into Santiago de Compostela on the Finisterre Way. This is a unique route as it takes pilgrims from Santiago de Compostela to Cape Fisterra, once believed to be the 'Edge of the World'. The Camino Finisterre predates Christianity, as pagans would head to the mythical Cape as they believed this was where the sun died. Walk the last section of the Way into the city of Santiago de Compostela finishing at the beautiful cathedral. For those not walking you will return to Santiago de Compostela after lunch with the afternoon at leisure. (B, L)

Day 7 Santiago de Compostela. After breakfast today enjoy a guided tour of the city of Santiago de Compostela including a visit inside its rather impressive cathedral. Visit the Conventual de San Francisco, the Faculty of Medicine and the world-famous Plaza del Obradoiro. Inside the cathedral, we will visit the Romanic crypt and see the facade of Platerias, the Quintana Plaza, House of Parra, the facade of Azabacheria and the facade of San Martin Pinario. Enjoy a leisurely afternoon to explore further before our farewell dinner this evening. (B, D)

Day 8 Santiago de Compostela to London. This morning we will visit the Pazo de Oca, usually referred to as 'Galician Versailles', it is the final milestone of St James Way. Originally a fortress dating from the 12th century, it was during the 18th century when Fernando Gayoso, Marquis of Camarasa, transformed it into its current appearance of golden granite stone wall that evokes a forgotten paradise full of romanticism. Above all, the gardens at Oca are what astonish the most. Recently restored to its 18th century glory, the beauty here is the fusion of a formal garden with a working farm. After lunch we will transfer to the airport for the scheduled flight back to London. (B, L)

WALKING & EXPLORING

This tour involves a considerable amount of walking along sections of the Camino de Santiago. We will endeavour to accommodate varying levels of fitness by separating the group into different abilities and excursions will include walking for between two to six hours a day at a steady pace. Walking will be over a mix of terrain and gradients so walking boots or shoes will be required. The walking routes and order are subject to weather and conditions. For those not wishing to walk, or those simply wishing to opt for a more leisurely day, alternative excursions are included exploring the culture and history of the area.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £400 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard	£3995	£3595
Columbus	Superior	£4195	£3795
Marco Polo	Premium	£4395	£3995
Marco Polo	Corner	£4595	£4195
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£4795	£4395
Explorer	Owner's Balcony Suites	£4795	£4395
Explorer	Island Suite	£4995	£4595
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£4295	£3895
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£4395	£3995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel from Santiago de Compostela to London • Four nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • Three nights hotel accommodation in Santiago de Compostela • Meals as indicated for hotel stays (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner) • House wine, beer and soft drinks with included lunches & dinners • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance.



Lido Deck



Deluxe Balcony Suite

MS ISLAND SKY

The much loved MS Island Sky is one of our two flag ships and sister vessel to the MS Hebridean Sky. With a maximum passenger capacity of only 118, 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.

Your Suite

On board there are 59 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites. All feature a seating area and some have private balconies, whilst those on the Marco Polo Deck feature tinted, sliding glass doors allowing greatly enhanced viewing opportunities and quick access to the deck. Each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, a large wardrobe, dressing table and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, television and telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown toiletries, air-conditioning and heating.

Your Dining

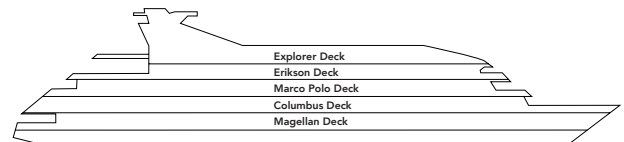
In keeping with the informal atmosphere on board, when dining you are able to choose your seating arrangements and choice of restaurants at your leisure; whether that be joining a table of four to six other passengers in the elegant à la carte Restaurant or outside buffet-style on the Lido Deck in the 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 out on the Lido Deck when the weather is favourable.

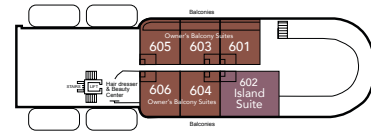
Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Columbus 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 Marco Polo Deck which features the main bar. Towards the aft of the ship on the Columbus Deck is the Library. A collection of games as well as devices to access the internet via the ship's satellite can 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).

MS ISLAND SKY DECK PLAN



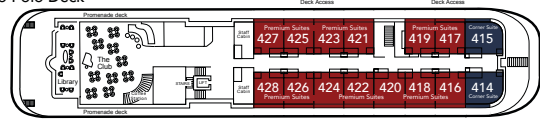
Explorer Deck



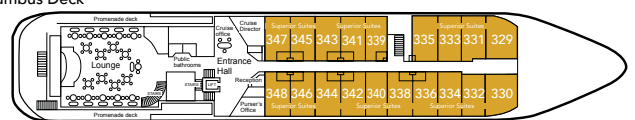
Erikson Deck



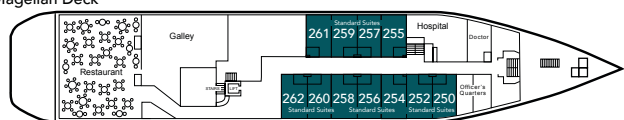
Marco Polo Deck



Columbus Deck



Magellan Deck



- Standard Suites
- Corner Suites with Deck Access
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Superior Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Island Suite
- Premium Suites with Deck Access



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