

SAVE  
UP TO  
£300  
PER PERSON

# THE BALTIC

SMALL SHIP CRUISING ABOARD THE MS HEBRIDEAN SKY

SUMMER 2024 & 2025

NOBLE CALEDONIA



# MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



Friendly Service



Owner's Balcony Suite



The Restaurant

The MS Hebridean Sky is one of our two flag ships 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, flat screen 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 Molton Brown 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 out on the Lido Deck when the weather is favourable. 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

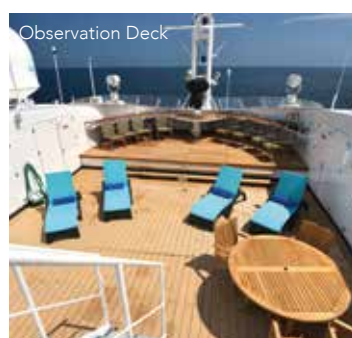
The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Byrd Deck featuring a selection of seating options from individual armchairs and sofas to side cushioned benches. Daily briefings given by the Cruise Director and talks from Guest Speakers and expedition staff take place in 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 as well as 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



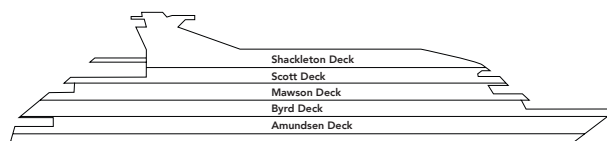
Observation Deck

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.

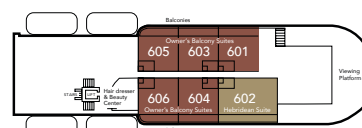


Alfresco Dining

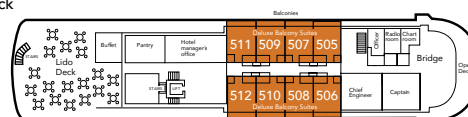
## MS HEBRIDEAN SKY DECK PLAN



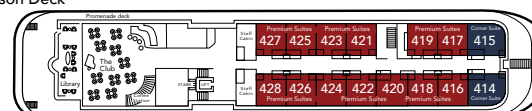
### Shackleton Deck



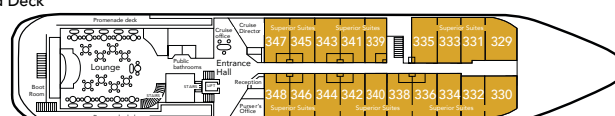
### Scott Deck



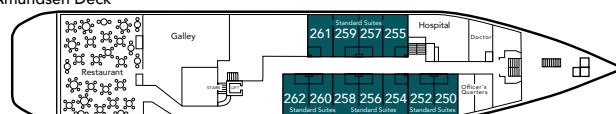
### Mawson Deck



### Byrd Deck



### Amundsen Deck



- Standard Suites
- Superior Suites
- Premium Suites
- Corner Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Hebridean Suite

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.



# HIDDEN BALTIC & SCANDINAVIA

A voyage from Aberdeen to Helsinki aboard the MS Hebridean Sky

28<sup>th</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> August 2024



Kronborg Castle

If ever there was a sea perfect for exploring by ship, it is the Baltic. Join us on this summer voyage of discovery as we explore the many delights of this fascinating region. One of the many extraordinary experiences of the Baltic is the summer light that gives the sea and landscape a very special quality. After a long winter, the region responds to the sun unlike anywhere else and there is a calm and order which makes exploration so enjoyable, especially when travelling aboard the MS Hebridean Sky with just 118 like-minded, fellow guests.

With over thirty years of experience operating cruises in this region, we believe we have the most perfectly balanced cruise. Whilst not forsaking our old-time favourites such as Stockholm and Tallinn we also visit some smaller ports such as Kalmar and Turku which are well off the path of the big cruise vessels that ply the region. Other well-hidden treasures include Denmark's Bornholm Island, Visby on the Swedish island of Gotland and the Estonian island of Saaremaa, a gem with its Medieval Episcopal castle and timeless countryside. A highlight for many will be our call to Denmark's northernmost town of Skagen whose amazing seascapes and incredible light casts a lifelong spell on all who visit.

Each day will see us in a new port of call with a range of included, guided excursions and the complex past of the region will be brought to life by our excellent local guides and onboard Guest Speaker, helping us to gain a greater understanding of both old and new Baltic nations.



Skagen, Denmark

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 Aberdeen, Scotland.** Embark the MS Hebridean Sky this afternoon. Transfers will be provided from Aberdeen Airport and Aberdeen Railway Station at a fixed time. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner on board as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 At Sea.** Relax on board as we sail across the North Sea to Denmark. Maybe join a lecture in the lounge or find a spot on deck.

**Day 3 Skagen, Denmark.** Skagen is a 600 year old market town situated in the far north of Denmark where the breathtaking scenery and light have inspired poets, artists and musicians over the years whilst the area around Skagen has been designated as a rare, authentic natural beauty spot by the World Wide Fund for Nature. We will visit Grenen, the northernmost part of Denmark where the North Sea meets the Baltic and where the daily movement of sand has created a spit that is constantly moving. See the 14th century Sanded Church named after Saint Laurence, the seafarer's and Skagen's patron saint, which sunk beneath the sand in the 18th century and where today only the tower of the ancient church is visible. This afternoon is free to discover the winding alleys in the atmospheric old quarters or the vibrant atmosphere at the marina. Alternatively, take the chance to visit the local museum to see the artwork of Ancher and Kroyer who were inspired by the region.

**Day 4 Helsingor.** The Danish King, Eric of Pomerania built a fortress in the early 15th century to enforce the collection of dues for all ships wishing to enter the Baltic. In the following century Frederick II rebuilt the castle into a magnificent Renaissance castle, Kronborg was considered at the time to be the strongest fortress in Europe. The castle is known to many as 'Elsinore' the setting for Shakespeare's tragedy, Hamlet, Prince of Denmark. We will enjoy a morning exploring the castle and the old town before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon you can choose to explore further at your own pace or relax on board.

**Day 5 Ronne, Bornholm Island.** Arrive this morning into Ronne and on our excursion we explore the highlights of northern Bornholm. Bornholm Island is a mixture of wheat fields, forests and an attractive coast dotted with fishing villages. On an island drive we will see the famous 12th century Osterlars Round Church and visit the town of Gudjem where we can sample the smoked herring. Also see Hammerhus Castle offering fantastic views of the island's rugged coastline. The afternoon is free to explore Ronne at your own pace before we sail this evening.

**Day 6 Kalmar, Sweden.** We arrive in Sweden at one of the country's oldest cities and ports, Kalmar, where we will berth close to the historical centre. A morning tour will include Kalmar Castle, one of the best-preserved Renaissance castles in Scandinavia and a stronghold of royal



Visby



Stockholm



Tallinn



Saaremaa Island

power. Originating from the 12th century, the current building represents the rule of the Vasa Kings who rebuilt it in the style of a Renaissance palace. Alternatively, join a visit to the UNESCO island of Oland. Visit Stora Alvaret, a giant limestone plateau containing ancient remains, unique flora and fauna as well as the royal palace of Solliden. Built by Queen Victoria of Sweden in 1903, it is still used as a summer retreat by the Swedish Royal Family and we will have time to explore the extensive gardens and pavilion. The afternoon is free to wander the cobbled streets of the old town.

**Day 7 Visby, Gotland Island.** Today we visit this once important Hanseatic port on the island of Gotland. Best explored on foot, the beautifully preserved Medieval town snuggles inside 13th century walls, housing 44 watchtowers. In Viking times and several centuries after, the Swedish island of Gotland and especially the city of Visby became a centre of trade in the Baltic Sea and is a World Heritage Site. Walk its streets from the Middle Ages and see its gardens ablaze with flowers, earning the city its nickname 'the city of ruins and roses'. Later, visit the impressive St Maria Cathedral and wander the paths of the botanical gardens. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore further and maybe see the Viking exhibits at the Gotland Museum.

**Day 8 Stockholm.** This morning we will enjoy a guided city tour which includes the Vasa Museum, built around the 17th century warship which sank in Stockholm's inner harbour on her maiden voyage in 1628; its discovery in 1956 and subsequent salvage in 1961 is one of the most important events in marine archaeology. In addition to the well-preserved, elaborately decorated hull, thousands of items from the ship, including hundreds of sculptures, have been recovered. On our return to the MS Hebridean Sky we will drive through old Stockholm and past the Parliament Building and Royal Palace which overlooks the inner harbour. After some free time we sail in the late afternoon through the many islands of the Swedish archipelago. This is a great sailing area and the islands are peppered with attractive summer homes.

**Day 9 Mariehamn, Finland.** Sail this morning into the attractive town of Mariehamn. On an island tour we will head into the beautiful countryside

along scenic roads towards the Jan Karlsgarden Museum where we learn about the island's farming traditions. We continue to Badhausberget which provides panoramic views over the town and islands before visiting the fascinating Åland Maritime Museum with its exhibits of model ships as well as highlighting the region's shipbuilding history. Return to the ship for lunch and spend a relaxing afternoon to explore at leisure before cruising this evening through some of the 6700 islands of the Åland archipelago.

**Day 10 Turku.** After sailing through the 20,000 islands of the Turku archipelago we arrive at the oldest city in Finland. Originally part of Sweden, Turku became Finland's first capital in 1229 and remained so until 1812. On a morning tour we will discover Turku Castle, the largest in Finland and a national treasure. The castle has stood guard over the River Aura since the 13th century and serves as a fascinating museum containing hundreds of artefacts. We will also see the 14th century cathedral and have time to explore the town. Alternatively, join an excursion to Kulturanter, the official summer residence of the President of Finland. Here we explore the 16 hectare landscaped park adorned with several flower gardens, pergolas, gazebos and fountains. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky via the historic holiday resort and spa town of Naantali where there will be some free time to explore the winding streets of old wooden houses. The afternoon is free to explore the city further from our central berth.

**Day 11 Saaremaa, Estonia.** This morning we arrive at Estonia's largest island which offers a glimpse of a bygone age. Untouched by industry, it is a green and very pleasant island dotted with attractive villages in a rolling forested landscape. An island drive will take you back in time through a countryside of stone walls, thatched roofs, traditional villages and windmills before we end at the lovely capital Kuressaare with its magnificent Medieval castle. We will stroll through the streets of the enchanting old town before taking a local lunch. Enjoy some free time in the town before returning to the ship this afternoon.

**Day 12 Tallinn.** Over breakfast we arrive in the historic maritime city of Tallinn with her awe inspiring city walls and fortifications, narrow Medieval streets and gateways which remain remarkably well preserved. In the Upper Town we will enjoy the views from Dome Hill with the extraordinary





vista of domes, spires and gables and see Toompea Castle, once a fortress, and now the seat of the Estonian parliament. Walking to the lower Old Town we will visit the main Square where we will find the oldest pharmacy in Europe, the Gothic Cathedral and the 15th century Town Hall. There will be free time to explore further at your own pace this afternoon before we sail tonight.

**Day 13 Kotka, Finland.** Built on the site where the River Kymijoki meets the Baltic Sea, picturesque Kotka has a long seafaring tradition. This morning we will explore the history of the region and visit the Langinkoski Imperial Fishing Lodge which was built in 1889 for Alexander III, the future Emperor of Russia who used it as a summer home. It is now a living museum situated in a stunning nature reserve on the river. Continue to the Maritime Centre Vellamo where local guides will enlighten us about the maritime and cultural heritage of the region. The afternoon is free to explore the old city from our central berth.

**Day 14 Helsinki.** Arriving in Helsinki over breakfast, our morning city tour will take us to the colourful Market Square, the President's Palace and the impressive architecture of Senate Square including the Lutheran Cathedral of Finland and Uspenski Cathedral. We continue to the Sibelius Monument and the impressive Temppeliaukio, the church in the rock before returning to the ship. This afternoon we journey to Ainola, the home of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius situated on the edge of the city on the shores of Lake Tuusula where, after exploring the museum, we will enjoy a private concert of his music.

**Day 15 Helsinki to London.** Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Amundsen	Standard	£7495	£7295
Byrd	Superior	£7695	£7495
Mawson	Premium	£7995	£7795
Mawson	Corner	£8295	£8095
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£8695	£8495
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£8895	£8695
Shackleton	Hebridean	£10095	£9895
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£9695	£9495
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£9895	£9695

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel from Helsinki to London • 14 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

## Post-cruise Finnish Lakes Extension

11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> August 2024

For those who would like to extend their time in Finland after disembarking the MS Hebridean Sky we are offering a three night tour exploring the beauty of the Finnish Lakes.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 Helsinki & Hameenlinna, Finland.** After breakfast we will disembark and drive out of the city to Hameenlinna and Hame Castle where we enjoy lunch. Hame Castle is one of Finland's Medieval royal castles and is believed to have been built at the end of the 13th century, following the crusade by Swedish Earl Birger to Hame region. After our tour we will transfer to the hotel situated on a lake in the Aulanko Nature Park. Relax and enjoy the views before meeting for dinner this evening. (B, L, D)

**Day 2 Aulanko & Tampere.** Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before our full day cruise through the beautiful forest-covered landscape of the lake district. Take in the scenery of Lake Pyhajarvi and Lake Vanajavesi before lunch on board. In the early afternoon we will make a stop at Visavuori, the house and studio of sculptor Emil Wikstrom. Wikstrom's home is typical of Nordic artists' homes of the time and in the studio almost 100 of his works are displayed. Re-boarding our ship we will continue through the lake country to Tampere where we stay overnight by Lake Pynnikki. (B, L, D)

**Day 3 Tampere & Helsinki.** After breakfast in the hotel we enjoy a scenic drive around Tampere finishing at the Nasineula restaurant, renowned for its wonderful panoramic views over Tampere and the view beyond. After lunch continue on to the littala Glass Centre, where the Aalto Vase is produced along with other signature glass pieces. Later, drive to our hotel in Helsinki for an overnight stay. (B, L, D)

**Day 4 Helsinki to London.** Check out this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. (B)

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1995** Single: **£2245**

**Price Includes:** Overnight four-star hotel accommodation in Helsinki, Hameenlinna and Tampere, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner), excursions, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.







# ISLANDS & CITIES OF THE BALTIC

A voyage from Helsinki to Stockholm aboard the MS Hebridean Sky

11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Whilst there is no shortage of cruise vessels plying the waters of the Baltic during the summer months, this voyage aboard the all-suite, 118-passenger MS Hebridean Sky will appeal to those who are looking for a less traditional Baltic cruise. We have developed the itinerary to be well balanced between spending time in some of our favourite cities in the Baltic such as the historic maritime city of Tallinn and Latvia's capital Riga, and visiting some of the islands in the region where you can experience the enchantment of island life. To further enhance our itinerary we have included some additional events in order for you to experience the local flavour of the region including a private concert at a palace in Tallinn, an evening of live music with drinks in a local venue in Klaipeda and a recital by members of the Polish Baltic Philharmonic orchestra whilst in Gdansk.



This is certainly not an itinerary that one of the large cruise vessels could undertake but is perfect for one the size of the MS Hebridean Sky. Our voyage will be a leisurely one with the benefit of some daytime sailing allowing you to relax on board and experience the serenity of sailing through the region in summer. Our Guest Speaker will provide informative talks and our excellent local guides will bring the history and unique character of the cities and islands vividly to life as we explore in small groups during our guided walks. We have also ensured there is ample time for you to discover the timeless atmosphere of the islands at leisure.

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Helsinki, Finland.** Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner on board as we sail tonight.

**Day 2 Tallinn, Estonia.** Over breakfast we arrive in the historic maritime city of Tallinn with her awe inspiring city walls and fortifications, narrow Medieval streets and the gateways which remain remarkably well preserved. In the Upper Town we will enjoy the views from Dome Hill with the extraordinary vista of domes, spires and gables and see Toompea Castle, once a fortress, and now the seat of the Estonian parliament. Walking to the Lower Old Town we will visit the main square where we will find the oldest pharmacy in Europe, the Gothic Cathedral and the 15th century Town Hall. There will be some time at leisure this afternoon to explore further at your own pace before we meet this evening for a private concert at a local palace.

**Day 3 Saaremaa.** After a relaxing morning at sea we arrive at Estonia's largest island which offers a glimpse of a bygone age. Untouched by industry, Saaremaa is a green and very pleasant land dotted with attractive villages in a rolling forested landscape. During an afternoon drive we will visit the lovely capital Kuressaare with its magnificent Medieval castle and stroll through the streets of the enchanting old town. Continue inland on a journey that will take you back in time through a countryside of stone walls, thatched roofs, traditional villages and windmills.

**Day 4 Riga, Latvia.** This morning we will explore Latvia's capital by foot. Founded in the 13th century it became one of the most successful trading cities of the Baltic. Explore the Old Town with its Medieval streets lined with Hanseatic warehouses and punctuated with Gothic and Baroque churches including Medieval St Peter's Church, the tallest church in Riga. Return to the ship for lunch and spend an afternoon exploring independently, maybe see the Art Nouveau district, visit one of the many local museums or the impressive central market housed in an old zeppelin hangar.

**Day 5 Klaipeda, Lithuania.** Founded in 1252 by the Teutonic Knights of East Prussia, Klaipeda was annexed by Hitler in 1939 and almost destroyed towards the end of World War II. Arriving at lunchtime we will explore the old town of Klaipeda including a stop in Theatre Square

before strolling along the atmospheric narrow streets where in the past craftsmen including shoemakers, blacksmiths and bakers used to live and work. Continue towards the resort town Palanga where, after a walk through the botanical garden, we arrive at a 19th century Neo-Renaissance style mansion which houses the largest Amber Museum in the Baltics. Here we will learn all about 'Baltic gold' before returning to Klaipeda where we will enjoy a drink and live music in a nearby restaurant before setting sail this evening.

**Day 6 Gdansk, Poland.** Gdansk's 1000 years of history have left a collection of buildings and monuments designed in Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque styles. On a morning city tour we will walk along the cobbled streets of the Royal Way in the old quarter and view the elaborate architecture, including the 15th century merchant's palace of Artus Court. Also see the pride of Gdansk, Gothic St. Mary's, which is the world's largest brick church, accommodating some 25,000 worshippers. Alternatively choose a tour to the 13th century Malbork Castle which belonged to the Teutonic Order and at the time was the largest castle in the world. Over the years it has been used as a royal residence as well as a fortress and was renovated after being damaged during World War II. In 1997 it was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO and now serves as a museum with grand exhibition halls displaying collections of armory, ceramics, sculptures and spectacular Baltic amber. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon to explore further at your own pace before we meet this evening to enjoy a recital by members of the Polish Baltic Philharmonic at a local venue.

**Day 7 Kalmar, Sweden.** We arrive in the early afternoon in Sweden at one of the country's oldest cities and ports, Kalmar, where we will berth close to the well preserved historical centre. An afternoon tour will include Kalmar Castle, one of the best-preserved Renaissance castles in Scandinavia and a stronghold of royal power. Originating from the 12th century, the current building represents the rule of the Vasa Kings who rebuilt it in the style of a Renaissance palace. Alternatively, join a visit to the UNESCO island of Oland. Here we will visit Stora Alvaret, a giant limestone plateau containing ancient remains, unique flora and fauna as well as the royal palace of Solliden. Built by Queen Victoria of Sweden in 1903, it is still used as a summer retreat by the Swedish Royal Family and we will have time to explore the extensive gardens and pavilion.





**Day 8 Visby.** Today we visit this once important Hanseatic port on the island of Gotland. Best explored on foot, the beautifully preserved Medieval town of Visby snuggles inside 13th century walls, housing 44 watchtowers. In Viking times and several centuries after, the Swedish island of Gotland and especially the city of Visby, became a centre of trade in the Baltic Sea and is a World Heritage Site. Walk its streets from the Middle Ages and see its gardens ablaze with flowers, earning the city its nickname 'the city of ruins and roses'. Later, visit the impressive St Maria Cathedral and wander the paths of the botanical gardens. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore further and maybe view the Viking exhibits at the Gotland Museum.

**Day 9 Stockholm to London.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Amundsen	Standard	£5295	£4995
Byrd	Superior	£5495	£5195
Mawson	Premium	£5695	£5395
Mawson	Corner	£5995	£5695
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£6495	£6195
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£6795	£6495
Shackleton	Hebridean	£7795	£7495
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£6595	£6295
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£6995	£6695

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

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

## Pre-cruise Finnish Lakes Extension

8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Before our voyage aboard the MS Hebridean Sky, we are offering a three night stay in Finland to explore the beautiful lakes and scenery.

### The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Helsinki, Finland.** Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. (D)

**Day 2 Helsinki & Hameenlinna.** After breakfast we will drive out of the city to Hameenlinna and Hame Castle where we enjoy lunch. Hame Castle is one of Finland's Medieval royal castles and is believed to have been built at the end of the 13th century. After our tour we will transfer to the hotel situated on a lake in the Aulanko Nature Park. (B, L, D)

**Day 3 Aulanko & Tampere.** Today enjoy a full day cruise through the beautiful landscape of the lake district. In the early afternoon we will make a stop at Visavuori, the house and studio of sculptor Emil Wikstrom. We then continue through the lake country to Tampere where we stay overnight by Lake Pynnikki. (B, L, D)

**Day 4 Tampere & Helsinki.** This morning enjoy a scenic drive around Tampere finishing at the Nasineula Restaurant, renowned for its wonderful panoramic views. After lunch continue on to the Iittala Glass Centre, where the Aalto Vase is produced along with other signature glass pieces. Later, drive to the MS Hebridean Sky moored in Helsinki and embark. (B, L)



## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: £1995 Single: £2245

**Price Includes:** Overnight hotel accommodation in Helsinki, Hameenlinna and Tampere, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner), excursions, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers. **Not Included:** Travel insurance.

## Post-cruise Stockholm Extension

19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024

If you would like to spend some time in Stockholm after your cruise, we are offering a two night post-cruise extension.

### The Itinerary

**Day 1 Stockholm, Sweden.** Disembark and drive to Drottningholm Palace, Sweden's best preserved royal palace constructed in the 17th century and the permanent residence of the royal family. After lunch we transfer to our hotel and the remainder of the day is at leisure. (B, L)

**Day 2 Stockholm.** Today is free to explore the many sights of Stockholm independently. (B)

**Day 3 Stockholm to London.** After breakfast in the hotel we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. (B)



## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: £795 Single: £995

**Price Includes:** Two nights hotel accommodation in Stockholm, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner), half day excursion, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers. **Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# BALTIC ODYSSEY

A voyage from Aberdeen to Stockholm aboard the MS Hebridean Sky

25<sup>th</sup> July to 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Join us on a voyage of discovery aboard the 118-passenger MS Hebridean Sky as we explore six nations of the Baltic. Nations who speak different languages, have a diverse culture and cuisine, worship in different churches, yet are united by a single sea. The cities of the Baltic offer a cornucopia of delights from the now independent Baltic states and their capitals with marvellously untouched Medieval quarters to the sheer delight of Scandinavian ports with their colourful architecture and a freshness that is unique to the area. Our voyage will be a leisurely one with the benefit of some daytime sailing allowing you to relax on board and experience the serenity of sailing through the region in summer.

We have developed the itinerary to be well balanced combining time in some of our favourite cities in the Baltic such as Stockholm and Gdansk with some smaller ports which are well off the path of the big cruise vessels that ply the region. Well-hidden treasures include Denmark's Bornholm Island, Visby on the Swedish island of Gotland and the Finnish archipelago of the Åland islands with its pretty capital of Mariehamn. A highlight for many will be our call to Denmark's northernmost town of Skagen whose amazing seascapes and incredible light casts a lifelong spell on all who visit and our time in Tallinn where we will moor overnight allowing us to fully experience the charm of this alluring city.

This is certainly not an itinerary that one of the large cruise vessels could undertake but is perfect for one the size of the MS Hebridean Sky. Our Guest Speaker will provide informative talks and our excellent local guides will bring the history and unique character of the cities and islands vividly to life as we explore in small groups during our guided walks.

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 Aberdeen, Scotland.** Embark the MS Hebridean Sky this afternoon. Transfers will be provided from Aberdeen Airport and Aberdeen Railway Station at a fixed time. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner on board as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 At Sea.** Relax on board as we sail across the North Sea to Denmark. Maybe join a lecture in the lounge or find a spot on deck.

**Day 3 Skagen, Denmark.** Skagen is a 600 year old market town situated in the far north of Denmark where the breathtaking scenery and light have inspired poets, artists and musicians over the years whilst the area around Skagen has been designated as a rare, authentic natural beauty spot by the World Wide Fund for Nature. We will visit Grenen, the northernmost part of Denmark where the North Sea meets the Baltic and where the daily movement of sand has created a spit that is constantly moving. See the 14th century Sanded Church named after Saint Laurence, the seafarer's and Skagen's patron saint, which sunk beneath the sand in the 18th century and where today only the tower of the ancient church is visible. This afternoon is free to discover the winding alleys in the atmospheric old quarter or the vibrant atmosphere at the marina. Alternatively, perhaps visit the local museum to see the artwork of Ancher and Kroyer who were inspired by the region.

**Day 4 Helsingør.** The Danish King, Eric of Pomerania built a fortress in the early 15th century to enforce the collection of dues for all ships wishing to enter the Baltic. In the following century Frederick II rebuilt the castle into a magnificent Renaissance castle, Kronborg was considered at the time to be the strongest fortress in Europe. The castle is known to many as 'Elsinore' the setting for Shakespeare's tragedy, Hamlet, Prince of Denmark. We will enjoy a morning exploring the castle and the old town before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon you can choose to explore further at your own pace or relax on board.

**Day 5 Ronne, Bornholm Island.** Arrive this morning into Ronne. During our excursion we explore the highlights of northern Bornholm. Bornholm



Island is a mixture of wheat fields, forests and an attractive coast dotted with fishing villages. On an island drive we will see the famous 12th century Osterlars Round Church and visit the town of Gudjem where we can sample the smoked herring. Also see Hammerhaus Castle offering fantastic views of the island's rugged coastline. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon relaxing on board as we make our way to Gdansk.

**Day 6 Gdansk, Poland.** Gdansk's 1000 years of history have left a collection of buildings and monuments designed in Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque styles. On a morning city tour we will walk along the cobbled streets of the Royal Way in the old quarter and view the elaborate architecture, including the 15th century merchant's palace of Artus Court. Also see the pride of Gdansk, Gothic St Mary's, which is the world's largest brick church, accommodating some 25,000 worshippers. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon to explore further at your own pace.

**Day 7 Klaipeda, Lithuania.** Founded in 1252 by the Teutonic Knights of East Prussia, Klaipeda was annexed by Hitler in 1939 and almost destroyed towards the end of World War II. Arriving this morning we will explore the old town of Klaipeda including a stop in Theatre Square before strolling along the atmospheric narrow streets where in the past craftsmen including shoemakers, blacksmiths and bakers used to live and work. Continue towards the resort town Palanga where, after a walk through the Botanical park, we arrive at a 19th century Neo-Renaissance style mansion which houses the largest Amber Museum in the Baltics. Here we will learn all about "Baltic gold" before returning to Klaipeda where we will enjoy a drink and live music in a nearby restaurant.

**Day 8 Visby, Gotland Island, Sweden.** Today we visit this once important Hanseatic port on the island of Gotland. Best explored on foot, the beautifully preserved Medieval town snuggles inside 13th century walls, housing 44 watchtowers. In Viking times and several





centuries after, the Swedish island of Gotland and especially the city of Visby became a centre of trade in the Baltic Sea and is a World Heritage Site. Walk its streets from the Middle Ages and see its gardens ablaze with flowers, earning the city its nickname 'the city of ruins and roses'. Later, visit the impressive St Maria Cathedral and wander the paths of the botanical gardens. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore further and maybe see the Viking exhibits at the Gotland Museum.

**Day 9 Tallinn, Estonia.** After lunch we arrive in the historic maritime city of Tallinn with her awe inspiring city walls and fortifications, narrow Medieval streets and gateways which remain remarkably well preserved. In the Upper Town we will enjoy the views from Dome Hill with the extraordinary vista of domes, spires and gables and see Toompea Castle, once a fortress, and now the seat of the Estonian parliament. Walking to the lower Old Town we will visit the main square where we will find the oldest pharmacy in Europe, the Gothic Cathedral and the 15th century Town Hall. This evening perhaps enjoy a stroll ashore as we will moor overnight.

**Day 10 Tallinn.** This morning we will drive to the outskirts of Tallinn to Kadriorg Palace and Park, which were commissioned in 1718 by Russian Tsar Peter I, soon after his conquest of Estonia, in honour of his wife Catherine I. The palace was designed by Italian architect Nicola Michetti and its magnificent main hall is considered to be one of the most beautiful examples of Baroque architecture not only in Estonia but also in Northern Europe. We will visit the art collection housed within the palace and spend time exploring the magnificent park with its fountains, hedges, and flowerbeds, modelled on Versailles. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon will be at leisure to explore independently or relax on board.

**Day 11 Kotka, Finland.** Built on the site where the River Kymijoki meets the Baltic Sea, picturesque Kotka has a long seafaring tradition. This morning we will explore the history of the region and visit the Langinkoski Imperial Fishing Lodge which was built in 1889 for Alexander III, the future Emperor of Russia who used it as a summer home. It is now a living museum situated in a stunning nature reserve on the river. Continue to the Maritime Centre Vellamo where local guides will enlighten us about the maritime and cultural heritage of the region. The afternoon is free to explore the old city from our central berth.

**Day 12 Helsinki.** Arriving in Helsinki over breakfast, our morning city tour will take us to the colourful Market Square, the President's Palace and the impressive architecture of Senate Square including the Lutheran Cathedral of Finland and Uspenski Cathedral. We continue to the Sibelius Monument and the impressive Temppeliaukio, the church in the rock, before returning to the ship. This afternoon we journey to Ainola, the home of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius situated on the edge of the city on the shores of Lake Tuusula where, after exploring the museum, we will enjoy a private concert of his music.

**Day 13 Mariehamn.** Sail this afternoon into the attractive town of Mariehamn. On an island tour we will head into the beautiful countryside along scenic roads towards the Jan Karlsgrden Museum where we learn about the island's farming traditions. We continue to Badhausberget which provides panoramic views over the town and islands before visiting the fascinating Aland Maritime Museum with its exhibits of model ships as well as highlighting the region's shipbuilding history.

**Day 14 Stockholm, Sweden.** Be on deck this morning as we cruise through the many islands of the Swedish archipelago. This is a great sailing area and the islands are peppered with attractive summer homes. This afternoon we will enjoy a guided city tour which includes the Vasa Museum, built around the 17th century warship which sank in Stockholm's inner harbour on her maiden voyage in 1628; its discovery in 1956 and subsequent salvage in 1961 is one of the most important events in marine archaeology. In addition to the well-preserved, elaborately decorated hull, thousands of items from the ship, including hundreds of sculptures, have been recovered. On our return to the MS Hebridean Sky we will drive through old Stockholm and past the Parliament Building and Royal Palace which overlooks the inner harbour.

**Day 15 Stockholm to London, Manchester or Edinburgh.** Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to the UK.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Amundsen	Standard	£7895	£7695
Byrd	Superior	£8095	£7895
Mawson	Premium	£8295	£8095
Mawson	Corner	£8595	£8395
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£9295	£9095
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£9495	£9295
Shackleton	Hebridean	£10195	£9995
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£9895	£9695
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£10095	£9895

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel from Stockholm to London, Manchester or Edinburgh • 14 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# BALTIC RENAISSANCE

A voyage from Stockholm to Portsmouth aboard the MS Hebridean Sky

8<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025

Exploring the Baltic by small ship is the most perfect way to visit this endlessly fascinating corner of Northern Europe. The history of the region is intriguing, with countries vying for commercial and political influence for over a thousand years. This complex past will be brought to life by our onboard Guest Speaker and informative local guides, helping us to gain a greater understanding of both old and new Baltic nations.

Our trip is certainly one of the most comprehensive, visiting as it does Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands before ending in the UK. We will spend time in the beautiful Scandinavian ports with their unique atmosphere and architecture and discover the Baltic capitals including Tallinn and Riga with their charming Medieval old towns. A highlight for many will be our visit to Gdansk where we will enjoy a recital by members of the Polish Baltic Philharmonic orchestra, and will moor overnight in order to experience the city in its evening splendour.

With the 118-passenger MS Hebridean Sky as our base, we have the advantage of also being able to call into some smaller ports of call which the larger ships in the region are unable to access including the island of Bornholm in Denmark and picturesque Mariehamn in Finland with its strong seafaring traditions. Our voyage will be a leisurely one with the benefit of some daytime sailing allowing you to relax on board and experience the serenity of sailing through the region in summer.



Gdansk at sunset





Sibelius Monument, Helsinki



Riga



Aland archipelago



Vasa Museum

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London, Manchester or Edinburgh to Stockholm, Sweden.** Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive in Stockholm and transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner on board and moor overnight.

**Day 2 Stockholm.** This morning we will enjoy a guided city tour which includes the Vasa Museum, built around the 17th century warship which sank in Stockholm's inner harbour on her maiden voyage in 1628; its discovery in 1956 and subsequent salvage in 1961 is one of the most important events in marine archaeology. In addition to the well-preserved, elaborately decorated hull, thousands of items from the ship, including hundreds of sculptures, have been recovered. On our return to the MS Hebridean Sky we will drive through old Stockholm and past the Parliament Building and Royal Palace which overlooks the inner harbour. After some free time we sail in the late afternoon through the many islands of the Swedish archipelago. This is a great sailing area and the islands are peppered with attractive summer homes.

**Day 3 Mariehamn, Finland.** Sail this morning into the attractive town of Mariehamn. On an island tour we will head into the beautiful countryside along scenic roads towards the Jan Karlsgarden Museum where we learn about the island's farming traditions. We continue to Badhausberget which provides panoramic views over the town and islands before visiting the fascinating Åland Maritime Museum with its exhibits of model ships as well as highlighting the region's shipbuilding history. Return to the ship for lunch and spend a relaxing afternoon cruising through some of the 6700 islands of the Åland archipelago.

**Day 4 Helsinki.** Arriving in Helsinki over breakfast, our morning city tour will take us to the colourful Market Square, the President's Palace and the impressive architecture of Senate Square including the Lutheran Cathedral of Finland and Uspenski Cathedral. We continue to the Sibelius Monument and the impressive Temppeliaukio, the church in the rock before returning to the ship. This afternoon we journey to Ainola, the

home of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius situated on the edge of the city on the shores of Lake Tuusula where, after exploring the museum, we will enjoy a private concert of his music.

**Day 5 Tallinn, Estonia.** Over breakfast we arrive in the historic maritime city of Tallinn with her awe inspiring city walls and fortifications, narrow Medieval streets and the gateways which remain remarkably well preserved. In the Upper Town we will enjoy the views from Dome Hill with the extraordinary vista of domes, spires and gables and see Toompea Castle, once a fortress, and now the seat of the Estonian parliament. Walking to the Lower Old Town we will visit the main Square where we will find the oldest pharmacy in Europe, the Gothic Cathedral and the 15th century Town Hall.

**Day 6 At Sea.** Enjoy a relaxing day at sea as we head for Riga. Perhaps find a spot on deck, listen to an informative talk in the lounge or enjoy a book in the library.

**Day 7 Riga, Latvia.** This morning we will explore Latvia's capital by foot. Founded in the 13th century it became one of the most successful trading cities of the Baltic. Explore the Old Town with its Medieval streets lined with Hanseatic warehouses and punctuated with Gothic and Baroque churches including St Peter Cathedral, the largest Medieval church in the Baltic. Return to the ship for lunch and spend an afternoon exploring independently, maybe see the Art Nouveau district, visit one of the many local museums or the impressive central market housed in an old zeppelin hangar.

**Day 8 Klaipeda, Lithuania.** Founded in 1252 by the Teutonic Knights of East Prussia, Klaipeda was annexed by Hitler in 1939 and almost destroyed towards the end of World War II. Arriving at lunchtime we will explore the old town of Klaipeda including a stop in Theatre Square before strolling along the atmospheric narrow streets where in the past



craftsmen including shoemakers, blacksmiths and bakers used to live and work. Continue towards the resort town Palanga where, after a walk through the Botanical park, we arrive at a 19th century Neo-Renaissance style mansion which houses the largest Amber Museum in the Baltics. Here we will learn all about "Baltic gold" before returning to Klaipeda where we will enjoy a drink and live music in a nearby restaurant before setting sail this evening.

**Day 9 Gdansk, Poland.** Gdansk's 1000 years of history have left a collection of buildings and monuments designed in Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque styles. On a morning city tour we will walk along the cobbled streets of the Royal Way in the old quarter and view the elaborate architecture, including the 15th century merchant's palace of Artus Court. Also see the pride of Gdansk, Gothic St Mary's, which is the world's largest brick church, accommodating some 25,000 worshippers. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon to explore further at your own pace before we meet this evening to enjoy a recital by members of the Polish Baltic Philharmonic at a local venue.

**Day 10 Gdansk.** This morning we will visit 13th century Malbork Castle which belonged to the Teutonic Order and at the time was the largest castle in the world. Over the years it has been used as a royal residence as well as a fortress and was renovated after being damaged during World War II. In 1997 it was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNSECO and now serves as a museum with grand exhibition halls displaying collections of armoury, ceramics, sculptures and spectacular Baltic amber. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a relaxing afternoon at sea as we make our way to Bornholm Island.

**Day 11 Ronne, Bornholm Island, Denmark.** Spend a morning cruising before we arrive into Ronne. During our afternoon excursion we explore the highlights of northern Bornholm. Bornholm Island is a mixture of wheat fields, forests and an attractive coast dotted with fishing villages. On an island drive we will see the famous 12th century Osterlars Round Church and visit the town of Gudjem where we can sample the smoked herring. Also see Hammerhaus Castle offering fantastic views of the island's rugged coastline. On our return to Ronne we have some free time before we set sail for Nyborg.

**Day 12 Nyborg.** Arrive today on the island of Funen and the small town of Nyborg. Being in the centre of the country it was chosen as Denmark's first capital city from 1183 to 1413 and it was in Nyborg Castle that the first Danish Constitution was signed. Our morning is free to explore, maybe see the impressive castle, walk through the pretty town with its well preserved historic buildings or learn about the local gin industry at the distillery. After lunch we visit the fairytale Egeskov Castle. Built in 1554 it is one of the best preserved Renaissance moat castles in Europe and is surrounded by one of Denmark's finest gardens. Spend the afternoon exploring the rooms

of the castle and see the remarkable Titania's Palace doll house, made up of over 3000 individual components, or wander along the garden paths.

**Day 13 Kiel Canal, Germany.** In the very early hours we begin our transit of the historic 61 mile long Kiel Canal and sail from the Baltic into the North Sea. Kaiser Wilhelm I set the first foundation stone in place on June 3, 1887 in Brunsbuttel, and the final stone was laid by Kaiser Wilhelm II on June 21, 1895, in Holtenau. Today, the Kiel Canal is one of the busiest man-made waterways in the world. Depart the canal mid-morning and spend the remainder of the day cruising.

**Day 14 The Hague, Netherlands.** This morning we will call into the port of Scheveningen and visit The Hague, the Netherlands' third largest city. A stately, regal place it is filled with mansions, green boulevards and parks and some of the most stunning palaces and museums. On our tour this morning we pass the Peace Palace and explore the historical Binnenhof on foot. Also visit the delightful Mauritshuis Museum, the unique 17th century palace that houses "The Girl with the Pearl Earring" and "The Goldfinch" as well as many other world famous paintings by the Dutch Masters. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and spend a relaxing afternoon at sea.

**Day 15 Portsmouth, UK.** Arrive this morning. Transfers will be provided to our London departure airport and Portsmouth Harbour Railway Station at a fixed time.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
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**Not Included:** Travel insurance.









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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: Tallinn.