

2023 DEPARTURE DATES RELEASED DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£200
PER PERSON

BALTIC ODYSSEY

SUMMER IN THE ISLANDS & CITIES OF
THE BALTIC ABOARD THE
MS HEBRIDEAN SKY

17TH TO 29TH JULY &
29TH JULY TO 10TH AUGUST* 2023

NOBLE CALEDONIA



Peterhof Palace, St Petersburg

Join us on a voyage of discovery aboard the all-suite MS Hebridean Sky as we explore eight 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 grandeur of St Petersburg and its surrounding country estates and 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.



Exploring the Baltic by small ship is the most perfect way to visit this endlessly fascinating corner of Northern Europe and our in-depth journey between Stockholm and Copenhagen offers the perfect balance of time to explore cities, towns and islands during the guided excursions combined with some time to relax or explore at leisure. A highlight for many will be the fact that we have included three days in the magnificent city of St Petersburg to discover its many wonders. We also visit some smaller ports which larger cruise vessels in the region are unable to access such as the island of Bornholm in Denmark and the Estonian island of Saaremaa, a gem with its Medieval Episcopal castle and timeless countryside. Whether your interest lies in the region's Viking and Medieval history or the more recent events of the breakaway Baltic States, it is an endlessly fascinating region and our expert local guides and Guest Speaker will add much to your knowledge and understanding of this intriguing region.



Bornholm Island

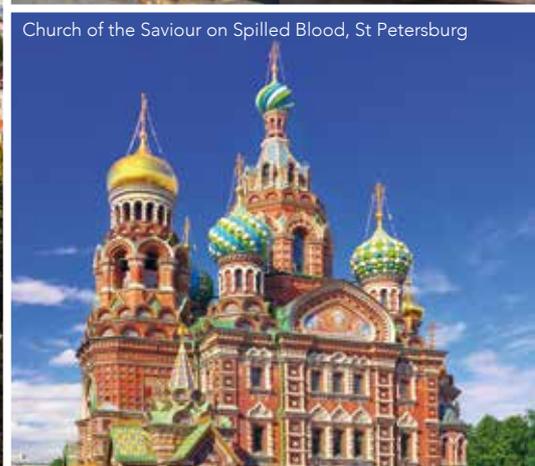
The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Stockholm, Sweden. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky for embarkation and enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

Day 2 Stockholm. Our city tour this morning 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. Be on deck this afternoon as we sail 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 Helsinki, Finland. Arriving in Helsinki over breakfast a 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 Temppeliukio, the church in the rock, before returning to the vessel for lunch. 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.

Days 4 to 6 St Petersburg, Russia. We have the luxury of three days to explore this most endlessly captivating of Russian cities. Founded in 1703 by Peter the Great, St Petersburg is a fascinating mix of classic and Baroque architecture on a network of canals. We will be offering a number of tours during our time here including visits to the Peter and Paul Fortress, the wonderful Peterhof Palace and gardens, the fascinating Hermitage Museum, Catherine's Palace at Pushkin and a canal cruise through the city. In your free time you may wish to join the optional excursion of Yusupov's Palace, the famed scene of Rasputin's murder, or attend a folklore show. For anyone wishing to visit the ballet one evening we will be able to assist with bookings once the schedules for the theatres are released, we hope to send details of this 12 weeks prior to departure.

Day 7 Tallinn, Estonia. Spend the day 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 8 Saaremaa. 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 land dotted with attractive villages in a rolling forested landscape. During a morning 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. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at sea.

Day 9 Riga, Latvia. Spend the day in Latvia's capital city. Founded in the 13th century, Riga, 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 10 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 have a choice of touring options this afternoon. You may wish to head into the countryside where we will experience village life and visit the Memorial Museum dedicated to Lithuanians sent to Siberia or who fought against the Soviets during the Cold War years. Alternatively, take the scenic drive to the Zemaitija National Park, home to Lake Plateliali and surrounded by dense forest. It was in these forests that, during the Cold War, the Soviets hid their first nuclear missile base directed at all the major European cities. Our tour will visit the Cold War Museum located in the former Soviet Missile Base. We will visit the bunkers, see the control centre and learn more about the weapons held at the site and their evolution.

Day 11 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. 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 UNSECO and now serves as a museum with grand exhibition halls displaying collections of armoury, ceramics, sculptures and spectacular Baltic amber.

Day 12 Bornholm, Denmark. Over breakfast we arrive at the peaceful and scenic island of Bornholm - a mixture of wheat fields, forests and an attractive coast dotted with fishing villages. On a morning excursion we will drive to the north of the island including the famous 12th century Osterlars Round Church and the imposing ruins of Hammershus Castle before we visit the town of Gudhjem where we can sample the local speciality of smoked herring. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon at leisure to explore the town of Ronne at your own pace.

Day 13 Copenhagen to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.



Stockholm Extension

Pre-cruise for 17th July cruise – 15th to 17th July 2023

Post-cruise for 29th July cruise – 10th to 12th August 2023



If you wish to explore Stockholm in more depth before embarking the MS Hebridean Sky, we are offering a two night hotel extension. Our stay will include a visit to Drottningholm Palace, Sweden's best preserved royal palace constructed in the seventeenth century and the permanent residence of the royal family. It features magnificent salons from the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, a beautiful park, a unique palace theatre and a Chinese Pavilion. The remainder of your stay in Stockholm will be at leisure for you to explore independently.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£795** Single: **£1245**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation with breakfast, half day tour including lunch, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.



Copenhagen Extension

Post-cruise for 17th July cruise – 29th to 31st July 2023

Pre-cruise for 29th July cruise – 27th to 29th July 2023



If you would like to spend some time in Copenhagen we are offering a two night hotel extension. This will be an independent stay allowing the opportunity to explore at leisure after disembarking MS Hebridean Sky.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£595** Single: **£895**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation with breakfast, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

***Please note** that the 29th July departure operates in the reverse direction to that shown from Copenhagen to Stockholm. Full itinerary can be viewed online www.noble-caledonia.co.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	£6295	£6095
Byrd	Superior	£6695	£6495
Mawson	Premium	£7195	£6995
Mawson	Corner	£7595	£7395
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£8095	£7895
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£8495	£8295
Shackleton	Hebridean	£9495	£9295
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£8195	£7995
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£8395	£8195

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 12 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 • Gratuities • Group Visa for Russia • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, optional excursions in St Petersburg.

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, 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 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.

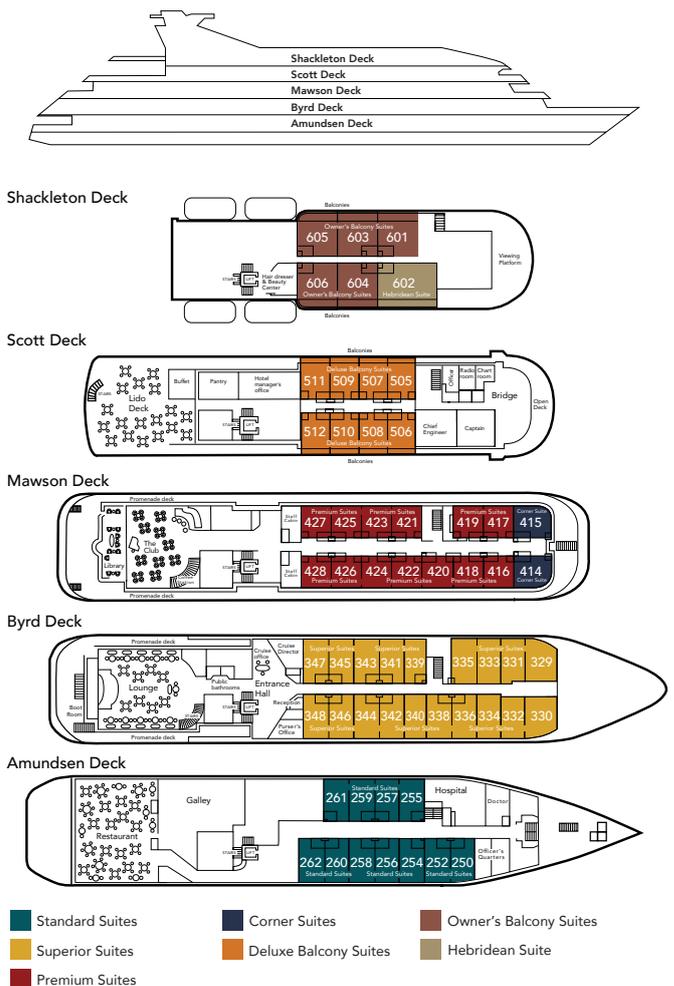
Your Comfort

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.



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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: Catherine's Palace, St Petersburg.