

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£500
PER PERSON

BALTIC TO BRITAIN

A VOYAGE FROM HELSINKI TO PORTSMOUTH
ABOARD THE MS HEBRIDEAN SKY
21ST AUGUST TO 3RD SEPTEMBER 2028



NOBLE CALEDONIA

Malbork Castle, Gdansk



Exploring the Baltic by small ship is the most perfect way to visit this endlessly fascinating region which has for centuries been a crossroads of commerce, culture and maritime endeavour, linking the kingdoms, city states and empires of Northern Europe. Our summer voyage aboard the all-suite MS Hebridean Sky offers an opportunity to explore the rich heritage of the region, from beautifully preserved Medieval towns and grand royal capitals to remote islands, picturesque fishing villages and historic waterways.

Our itinerary is certainly one of the most comprehensive, visiting as it does Finland, Estonia, Sweden, Lithuania, Poland, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands before concluding in the UK. We will spend time in some beautiful Scandinavian ports with their unique atmosphere and architecture, wander the cobbled streets of Tallinn, one of Europe's finest Medieval cities and enjoy the unique experience of transiting the historic Kiel Canal, one of the world's great engineering achievements. 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 we will moor overnight in order to experience the city in its evening splendour.

Travelling aboard our small ship will allow us to berth in the heart of many destinations and enjoy a relaxed pace of exploration. With the MS Hebridean Sky, we also have the advantage of being able to call into some smaller ports and islands which the larger ships in the region are unable to access and we will discover the maritime traditions of the Åland Islands, explore the flower-filled lanes of Gotland on the island of Visby and experience the unique atmosphere of two Danish Islands, Bornholm and Funen.

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. The complex past of the region 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.



Lubeck

The Itinerary

Day 1 London or Manchester to Helsinki, Finland. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival 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. Alternatively, 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 in all 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. After lunch on board enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore further at your own pace.

Day 3 Mariehamn, Finland. Sail this morning through some of the 6700 islands of the Åland archipelago before arriving into the attractive town of Mariehamn. After some free time in the town, our afternoon island tour will head into the beautiful countryside along scenic roads towards the Jan Karlsgården Museum where we learn about the island's farming traditions. We will continue to Badhusberget which provides panoramic views over the town and islands, before we visit the fascinating Åland Maritime Museum with its exhibits of model ships as well as highlighting the region's shipbuilding history.

Day 4 Stockholm, Sweden. We arrive at our central berth over breakfast for our day in the Swedish capital. This morning's guided city tour will include 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. Alternatively you may like to join the guided tour to historic Uppsala, one of the oldest cities in Sweden which has played a dominant role in the political, intellectual and historical development of the country. We start with its Medieval cathedral including the Renaissance tomb of Gustav Vasa and continue to the Linnaeus Garden, Sweden's oldest botanical garden originally laid out in 1655. Spend some time in this beautiful, serene garden designed by Carl von Linné. After lunch on board there will be some time at leisure to explore Stockholm further at your own pace before we sail in the early evening through the many islands of the Swedish archipelago. This is a great sailing area and the islands are peppered with attractive summer homes.

Day 5 Visby, Gotland. Today we visit Visby, a 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. After lunch on board, you

can choose to explore further at your own pace or alternatively join us for a ride on the Gotland Railway, a historic train travelling along the only remnant of Gotland's once extensive railway network. We will see peaceful landscapes, passing through Tule and ending at Roma – a perfect way to admire rural Gotland. We leave the train and continue to the west coast of Gotland, arriving at the fishing village of Gnisvärd from where we will venture into the nearby forest to view a stone ship. Boulders dating back to the Bronze Age have assumed the form of a ship over 150 feet in length and are presumed to be marking a grave or cremation burials.

Day 6 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 over lunch we will spend the afternoon exploring the old town of Klaipeda including a stop in Theatre Square before strolling along the narrow atmospheric streets where in the past craftsmen including shoemakers, blacksmiths and bakers used to live and work. Continue towards the resort town of 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 the MS Hebridean Sky and sailing this evening.

Day 7 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 MS Hebridean Sky 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. Return to the ship and moor overnight.

Day 8 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 World Heritage Sites 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 a relaxing afternoon at sea as we make our way to Bornholm Island.

Day 9 Ronne, Bornholm Island, Denmark. Arrive into Ronne this morning, our base for exploring Bornholm Island which is a mixture of wheat fields, forests and an attractive coast dotted with fishing villages. During our morning excursion we will explore the highlights of northern Bornholm and during an island drive we will see the famous 12th century Osterlars Round

Egeskov Castle



Church, visit the town of Gudjem and sample the local smoked herring. After lunch on board there will be some free time to explore Ronne before we sail in the late afternoon.

Day 10 Lubeck, Germany. Lubeck, founded in the 12th century was the former 'Queen City' of the Hanseatic League and prospered as one of Northern Europe's major ports until the 16th century. On a morning walking tour we will explore the old town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which is situated on an island completely surrounded by water and famed for its five Gothic cathedrals and a multitude of hidden alleys and courtyards amongst the old merchants' houses. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and an afternoon at leisure.

Day 11 Nyborg, Denmark. We 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. Enjoy a leisurely morning to explore independently, 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 which was built in 1554 and is one of the best preserved Renaissance moat castles in Europe, surrounded by one of Denmark's finest gardens. Spend the afternoon exploring the rooms of the castle and see the remarkable Titania's Palace dolls house, made up of over 3000 individual components or wander along the garden paths.

Day 12 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 Brunsbittel, 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. We will depart the canal mid-morning and spend the remainder of the day cruising.

Day 13 The Hague, Netherlands. This morning we will call into the port of Scheveningen and visit The Hague, the third largest city in the Netherlands. 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 our final afternoon at sea.

Day 14 Portsmouth, England. Arrive this morning. Transfers will be provided to our London departure airport and Portsmouth Harbour Railway Station at a fixed time.

Helsinki Pre-cruise Extension 19th to 21st August 2028



If you would like to spend some time in Helsinki prior to embarking the MS Hebridean Sky, we are offering a two night hotel extension.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Helsinki, Finland. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to our hotel and enjoy some free time before we meet for dinner this evening. (D)

Day 2 Helsinki. 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 Temppeliaukio, the church in the rock. Return to the hotel and the remainder of the day and evening are at leisure. (B)

Day 3 Helsinki. After breakfast in the hotel we will make our way to the harbour to board a local ferry to cruise around the Helsinki archipelago. We will pass inhabited and uninhabited islands including the Suomenlinna Sea Fortress. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the site developed over three centuries and eras, initiated by the Swedish in 1747 before Russia took over in 1808 and coming under Finnish control in 1918. After returning to Helsinki we will have lunch before transferring to the MS Hebridean Sky moored in the city. (B, L)

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£845** Single: **£995**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Helsinki, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner), excursions, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

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	£8895	£8395
Byrd	Superior	£9095	£8595
Mawson	Premium	£9395	£8895
Mawson	Corner	£9795	£9295
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£10495	£9995
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£10795	£10295
Shackleton	Hebridean	£11495	£10995
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£11295	£10795
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£11495	£10995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel from London or Manchester to Helsinki • 13 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.

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.

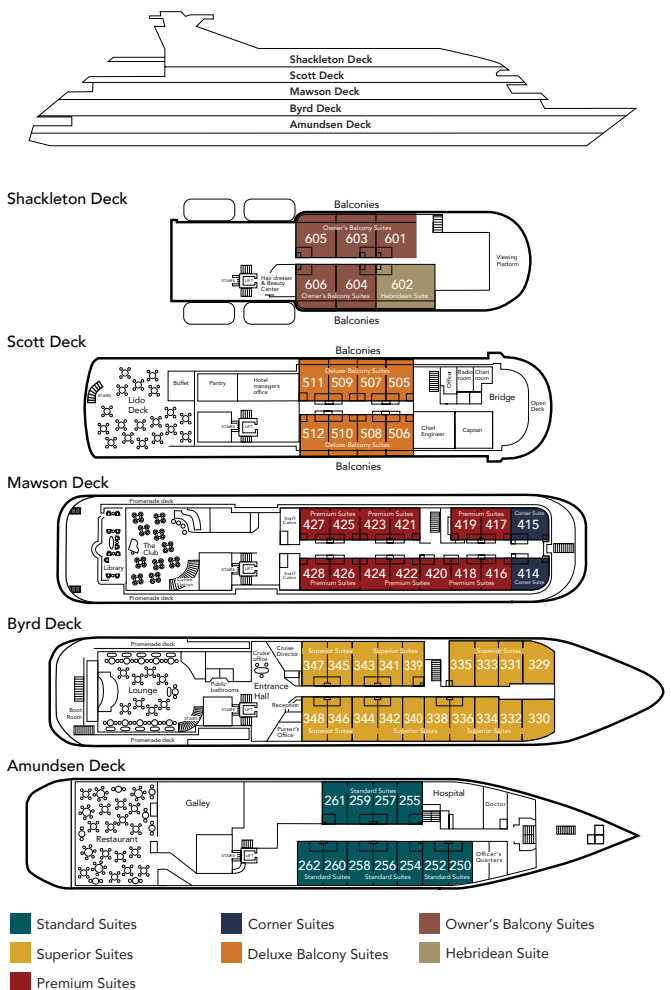
Your Comfort

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.



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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.