

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR IN NEW ZEALAND

AN EXPLORATION OF NEW ZEALAND'S
NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS
ABOARD THE MS CALEDONIAN SKY
17TH DECEMBER 2018 TO 9TH JANUARY 2019

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£1000
PER PERSON

NOBLE CALEDONIA



Mount Taranaki



Dusky dolphin

New Zealand is a land of contrasts and deserves more than a fleeting visit. We believe our itinerary offers the best of all worlds and has been devised on the basis that most travellers from the UK will only tour New Zealand once. Therefore the trip should be as comprehensive and as diverse as possible. Certainly, this itinerary qualifies on all these important demands. With our perfectly suited small ship, our coastal-hugging voyage around the North and South Island will allow us to drop anchor in the remote bays, navigate channels, fjords and rivers and call into harbours both large and small. With the added advantage of our Zodiac landing craft we will be able to land in otherwise inaccessible places making the most of New Zealand's extraordinary natural attractions.

During our voyage, we will explore the dramatic southern coast fjords, hop across to Stewart Island in the south, walk in the stunning Abel Tasman National Park as well as historic Ship Cove and admire the unique Art Deco architecture of Napier in the North Island. All of this is best achieved by travelling on a small ship such as the MS Caledonian Sky in preference to some of the larger resort style vessels which can only visit the larger places.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Singapore.
Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Singapore. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 3 Singapore to Auckland, New Zealand. After breakfast in the hotel spend a relaxing morning enjoying the hotel facilities or exploring independently. An afternoon tour will include the National Orchid Garden which displays the largest collection of orchids in the world with 2000 hybrids and Chinatown. Our tour ends at the airport where we join our scheduled overnight flight to Auckland.

Day 4 Auckland. Arrive this morning in Auckland and transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky for embarkation. The remainder of the day is at leisure to acclimatise.

Day 5 Auckland. Enjoy a day at leisure or join an optional full day tour to Waiheke Island, known as the "Island of Wine". Just a 40 minute ferry ride from Auckland, Waiheke, blessed with a unique microclimate, is a haven of beautiful vineyards, olive groves and beaches. Our tour will include a number of wine tastings, an olive oil tasting and lunch featuring fresh and locally sourced ingredients. There will also be the opportunity to explore the island at leisure; choose to join one of the walking

trails that leads through the nature reserves or take a swim in the sheltered waters off one of the excellent sandy beaches.

Day 6 Auckland. After breakfast we spend the morning seeing some of the city's highlights including the Domain and the excellent Auckland Museum, overlooking Waitemata Harbour and housing the world's largest collection of Polynesian artefacts. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon at leisure to explore independently or relax on board. Enjoy Welcome Dinner and Drinks as we sail this evening.

Day 7 Bay of Islands. Famous for spectacular beaches, breathtaking bays and an abundance of water activities, the Bay of Islands, which was discovered by Captain Cook in 1769 is the cradle of European civilisation in New Zealand and boasts sandy beaches, beautiful bays, crystal clear waters and 144 islands. On a morning tour we will visit the Waitangi Treaty house where in 1840 the treaty was signed between the Maori and the British crown. We then continue to Kerikeri where the Maori first welcomed missionaries in 1819 and see the oldest buildings of New Zealand dating from the 1820s. After lunch on board spend the afternoon at leisure to explore the charming historic town of Russell.

Day 8 Tauranga for Rotorua. From our berth in Tauranga we drive inland to the famous thermal springs at Rotorua. Discover Wai-O-Tapu, meaning Sacred Waters, an active geothermal area with colourful hot springs, steaming ground and boiling mud pools. Marvel at the incredible palette of vibrant hues displayed in the pools, lakes and craters, and enjoy the melodic sounds of birds singing in the native forest. From here we visit



a local Maori Marae where we will enjoy a traditional Maori welcome and lunch before returning to the ship. Tonight we hope to enjoy Christmas Eve events in the town before sailing late this evening.

Day 9 At Sea. We will spend Christmas Day at sea as we sail around the New Zealand coast. Our lecture programme will continue whilst our Chef and galley team prepare a delicious Christmas meal.

Day 10 Napier. Arrive this morning in Napier and join a tour of this beautiful town including its charming Art Deco buildings. Totally rebuilt after the 1931 Hawkes Bay earthquake, Napier's Art Deco is unique, with Maori motifs and the buildings of Louis Hay, admirer of the great Frank Lloyd Wright. We also visit a local vineyard to sample the local wines. This afternoon is free for independent exploration of the town or alternatively join the excursion to the gannetry at Cape Kidnappers where you are able to get amazingly close to the birds. The 13 hectare reserve includes the Saddle and Black Reef gannet colonies.



Day 11 Wellington. After a morning at sea we arrive in the nation's capital at lunchtime. From our central berth we will explore Wellington on an afternoon guided walk seeing St Paul's Cathedral, the parliament buildings, the Botanical Gardens and we will spend time in the excellent Te Papa National Museum of New Zealand with its impressive interactive displays and marvellous Maori collection. We will remain in port until late should you wish to have dinner or a walk ashore this evening.

Day 12 Resolution Bay, Ship Cove & Picton. Sail through the Marlborough Sounds which divide the North and South Islands of New Zealand and arrive in the early morning at Resolution Bay on the South Island. Keen walkers can enjoy a hike over to Ship Cove along the Queen Charlotte Track affording fantastic views over the archipelago of islands. Alternatively alight a little later at Ship Cove where Captain James Cook spent much of his time in New Zealand. View the monument dedicated to Cook or maybe walk the forest trail to the nearby waterfall. Sail over lunch to Picton. Nestled at the head of Queen Charlotte Sound in the beautiful Marlborough Sounds, Picton is possibly New Zealand's most pretty seaside town. Choose to spend an afternoon at leisure in the town or join a tour to the nearby Marlborough wine producing region. See some of the 3000 hectares of vineyards and taste some of the Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling, Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvignon for which the area is justly famous.

Day 13 Nelson. The town of Nelson has for many years attracted resident artists, inspired by the region's exceptionally beautiful geography with coastal, forest and valley landscapes. Join an excursion of the area's highlights which

includes the World of Wearable Art Museum with its acclaimed visual exhibits and also the Classic Car collection. There will also be time at leisure to explore at your own pace, visit the Botanical Gardens or the keen walkers may want to tackle the "Centre of New Zealand" track which climbs up from the gardens and offers lovely views over Nelson. This evening we will be joined on board by one of the local vineyards for a tasting of the excellent regional wines as we moor overnight.

Day 14 Abel Tasman National Park & Nelson. From our base in Nelson there will be a chance this morning to join a full day tour to Abel Tasman, New Zealand's smallest national park. This marine reserve offers some marvellously scenic coastal walks and cruises with excellent wildlife opportunities including seal colonies and numerous aquatic birds including penguins. The tour will end in Tarakohe in Golden Bay where you will re-embark the ship which will have sailed during the day. Alternatively, you may prefer to have some time in Nelson in the morning before sailing with the ship.

Day 15 New Plymouth. We return to the North Island for a day in the western port of New Plymouth. We have the whole day in this pretty city sandwiched between the sea and Mount Taranaki. A tour will visit the highlights of the town including the spectacular Te Rewa Rewa Bridge and Pukekura Park, one of the premier botanical gardens in New Zealand. We will have a chance to explore the diverse landscape of formal gardens, bushwalks and lakes. Alternatively, drive to Mount Egmont and join one of the walking trails ranging in difficulty for all levels of fitness. You will be joined by our naturalists who will keep you informed on the flora

seen en-route. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure in the town or remain at Mount Egmont and enjoy a longer hike. Tonight we enjoy New Year celebrations on board the ship.

Day 16 At Sea. Spend the day at sea. As we cruise along the west coast of the South Island we will hopefully be treated to views of Mount Cook on land and this region is also a popular spot for dolphin sightings.

Days 17 & 18 Fiordland. We have two days to explore the incredible wilderness of fjords in the south west corner of the South Island. This is an area rich in history, Captain Cook landed here on HMS Resolution in 1773, majestic scenery and abundant wildlife. Many areas are only accessible by sea making it the most remote region of New Zealand. Our schedule may include Milford Sound, Astronomers Point, Doubtful Sound and Dusky Sound but the final itinerary decisions will be made on board by the Captain and expedition team based on weather conditions. Zodiacs will be used daily either to shuttle from the ship to a landing site or as our transport to explore the fjords.

Day 19 Stewart Island. New Zealand's third island is well off the usual beaten tourist track. It is a wonderfully tranquil place, the scenery of untouched bushland is stunning. We will enjoy a morning on the small Ulva Island where we will use Zodiacs to go ashore for a choice of walks with our local guides. We will explore the dense vegetation and keep an eye out for the amazing birdlife. This afternoon we land at Oban on Stewart Island and have the chance to wander amongst the shops and see the museum or join a drive along some of the 15 miles of sealed road to some of the beauty spots including Observation Rock with views over

Iona and Ulva Island and the beaches lining the east coast.

Day 20 Dunedin. Arrive this morning in Dunedin and enjoy a guided tour including the gracious 19th century buildings and the beautiful botanical gardens, the oldest in New Zealand containing over 6800 plant species. Alternatively, choose to drive to the Otago Peninsula to visit Penguin Place where we learn about the breeding and conservation programme of the rare yellow eyed penguins as well as the Royal Albatross Centre at Taiaroa Head. This afternoon is free for independent exploration or maybe choose to join the optional excursion on the Taieri Gorge Railway through the rugged and spectacular scenery of inland Otago.

Day 21 Akaroa. Akaroa meaning, 'Long Harbour', in Maori, was founded by French whaling Captain Jean Langlois on his ship Cachelot in 1838. He returned in 1840 with 60 settlers on the Comte de Paris to create a French colony. We spend a full day in Akaroa and there will be a choice of excursions including a dolphin watching trip using local boats to explore the scenic coastline and search for the rare Hector's dolphin or a guided historic walk in Akaroa and through the native bush of the Garden of Tane. We also hope to offer a chance to visit a working farm in the countryside outside the town. We will hear about the history of the farm, have demonstrations of sheep shearing and see the working dogs in action as well as enjoying tea in the farm grounds. Or, if you prefer, simply wander in the town and enjoy the local atmosphere.

Day 22 Christchurch. At breakfast we arrive in the port city of Lyttelton, our base for our day in



Abel Tasman National Park



Milford Sound

Christchurch. Choose to spend time in this most English of cities where we enjoy a morning overview of the city showing how it is recovering from the devastating earthquake of February 2011. We will view the Southern Alps from the Port Hills, ride a restored tram and tour the Canterbury Museum with its acclaimed Antarctic collection. Perhaps enjoy morning tea at a private home and garden. The afternoon is free for independent exploration. Alternatively, join an optional full day tour on the Tranz Alpine Express Train to Arthur's Pass in the heart of the Southern Alps, one of the world's most famous train journeys. Wonderful views are revealed from the train's huge windows as we pass snow-capped mountains and mountain beech forests. On the return journey by coach, we enjoy lunch at a farm before returning to the ship in the late afternoon. We remain moored in Lyttleton overnight.

Day 23 Christchurch to London.

After breakfast we will disembark and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 24 London. Arrive this morning.

SHIP TO SHORE

This voyage is a combination of both expedition style cruising and small ship destination cruising. Whilst we will be alongside in some ports, on many days we will be at anchor and the vessel's Zodiacs will be utilised to transport passengers ashore and for Zodiac cruising to explore the more remote regions we will be visiting. The use of the Zodiacs will be key to the operation of the itinerary as shown. If you have any queries pertaining to the use of Zodiacs or the level of fitness required for this voyage please do not hesitate to ask one of our experienced travel consultants.



Dunedin



Stewart Island



Akorua

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – BOOK BY 29 MARCH 2018 & SAVE £1000 PER PERSON

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Castle	Standard	£9695	£8695
Caledonian	Superior	£9895	£8895
Promenade	Premium	£10295	£9295
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£11295	£10295
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£11495	£10495
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£13295	£12295
Castle	Standard for sole use	£10495	£9495
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£10695	£9695

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Overnight hotel accommodation in Singapore on bed and breakfast basis • 19 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia expedition team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Group transfers • Permits • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas, optional excursions to Waiheke Island and on the Taieri Gorge Railway and Tranz Alpine Express Train.

MS CALEDONIAN SKY



Deluxe Balcony Suite



On Deck



The Restaurant

The MS Caledonian Sky is one of our three flag ships and sister vessel to the MS Island Sky and MS Hebridean Sky. All three vessels were built in the same ship yard in Italy at similar times and share the same excellent attributes that make them three of the finest small ships in the world. With a maximum passenger capacity of only 114, a vessel of her size is capable of carrying many more but instead the MS Caledonian Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks.



Your Suite

On board there are 57 exceptionally spacious and well designed suites. The passenger accommodation is arranged over four decks and all suites have outside views. All feature a sitting area and some have private balconies. Each affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring a country style wash basin, heated towel rail, vanity unit and walk-in shower and/or bath tub. Facilities in the suites also include walk-in or spacious wardrobes, dressing table

with large mirror and stool or desk, mini-fridge, flat screen television, telephone, programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown toiletries, air-conditioning and heating. Bottled water, dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort.

Your Dining

With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the cuisine on board the MS Caledonian 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.



Standard Suite



Panorama Lounge



The Lounge

Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge where daily briefings and talks will be provided throughout the voyage and an elegant bar where a pianist plays periodically throughout the day. The bar also features a 24-hour tea and coffee station. In addition there is the Lounge on the Panorama Deck which has a bar, library with two computers offering complimentary internet access and further seating ideal for watching the world go by. Outside there is a rear Lido Deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade. On the top deck there is a further observation and Sun Deck with bar service and comfortable deck furniture for sun bathing or relaxing with a book. There is also a small beauty salon with appointments made on request. Throughout the vessel carefully chosen artwork and photos reflect the destinations we sail to.

Your Comfort

The MS Caledonian 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.

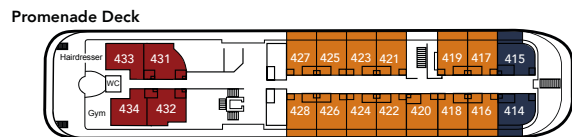
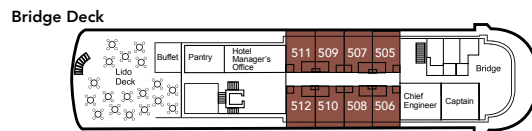
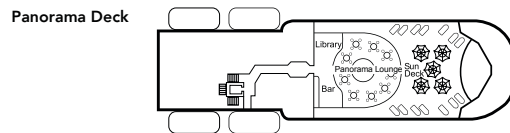
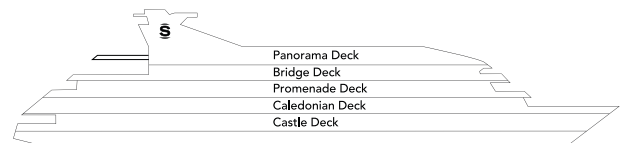
Your Life On Board

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. Dress on board is casual and relaxed and there will be no "black tie" evenings. On board there is a high ratio of crew to passengers. Our friendly crew of 75 are mainly Filipino and Eastern European and our Scandinavian 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 after dinner, Guest Speakers and informative port briefings from our Expedition Leader or Cruise Director and of course good food, all contribute to make any voyage aboard this wonderful vessel a memorable and joyful experience.

MS CALEDONIAN SKY DECK PLAN



- Standard Suites
- Premium Suites
- Premium Balcony Suites
- Superior Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Owner's Corner Suites with Balcony

Please note that all suites on Castle Deck feature a minimum of two portholes.

NOBLE CALEDONIA

2 Chester Close, Belgravia, London, SW1X 7BE
 +44 (0)20 7752 0000 | info@noble-caledonia.co.uk | noble-caledonia.co.uk



All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
 Cover image: Marlborough Sounds.