

SPECIAL OFFER
- SAVE UP TO
£1000
PER PERSON

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR IN THE CARIBBEAN

A VOYAGE FROM BARBADOS TO CARTAGENA
ABOARD THE MS SERENISSIMA
18TH DECEMBER 2018 TO 6TH JANUARY 2019

NOBLE CALEDONIA



When it comes to pure escapism there are few places in the world more fitting than the Caribbean, particularly during the UK's winter months. Escape the cold at home, join the MS Serenissima in Barbados and set sail on our voyage through sub-tropical waters of beautiful scenery and island diversity. Every island has its own culture and this colourful mix of island personalities, varied terrain and lifestyles makes for a marvellous winter break.

During our in-depth itinerary, which will take us all the way to the fascinating Colombian city of Cartagena, we will discover some of the most beautiful tropical isles, many still untouched by the hands of mass tourism. We will explore historical sites and forts of the Spanish, Dutch and British colonial periods combined with the pretty ports, pastel painted towns, wonderful beaches and the flora and fauna of the region. In addition to our included excursions, we have allowed time for individual exploration of the islands and opportunities to relax on some beautiful beaches and swim in the warm waters of the Caribbean Sea.

Of course, having the MS Serenissima as the base for our cruise makes all the difference. With just 100 passengers on board, not only is the atmosphere peaceful and perfect for this type of voyage, it makes all the difference in accessing the ports of call with ease. This is in direct contrast to the cruise juggernauts in the region which spend an age disembarking their passengers and can only visit a limited number of ports which can accommodate their size. There really is a world of difference between the two and on occasions when our paths cross with one of these gigantic vessels, we appreciate the benefits of being aboard a smaller vessel.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London Gatwick to Barbados. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Serenissima moored in Bridgetown. We will enjoy Welcome Drinks and Dinner on board this evening as we set sail.

Day 2 Martinique. Martinique is a truly cosmopolitan island and a Department of France. The strong French influence is seen everywhere and without doubt Martinique is one of the most sophisticated islands in the West Indies enjoying a remarkably high standard of living. We will base ourselves at the small port of Anse D'Arlets and enjoy a morning scenic drive including the Musee de la Pagerie, the birthplace and childhood home of Empress Josephine, see the impressive

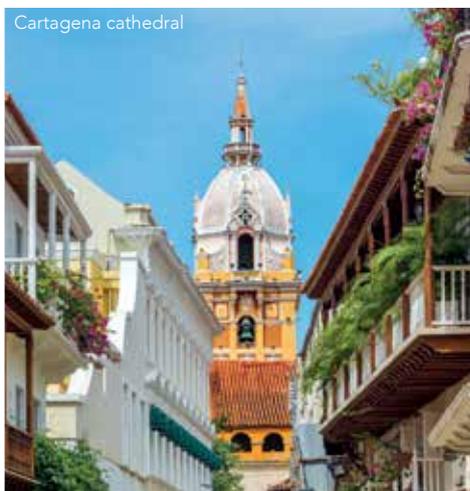
plantations and have a chance to sample some of the local rum. This afternoon there will be time to relax in the small town or on a local beach.

Day 3 Dominica. Stepping back in time, the island of Dominica is still the primitive garden that Columbus first sighted in 1493. An area of tropical rainforests, flowers of incredible beauty and animals that exist nowhere else in the world. We arrive this morning in the small port of Cabrits, just below the national park and the former British garrison of Fort Shirley. There will be a choice of activities today and the active

can climb to the fort to explore the ruins, visit the small museum and maybe wander the surrounding trails on the lookout for birds, hermit crabs and lizards. For the keen birders we will offer a tour driving through the plantations to the Morne Diablotin National Park where from the viewpoint we hope to see the two endemic parrots of Dominica. Alternatively join a local boat for a journey along the Indian River, a mangrove lined creek with

interesting bankside vegetation including gnarled tree roots which is home to herons, egrets, hummingbirds and iguanas.





Day 4 Guadeloupe. Known as the "papillon" due to the butterfly shape of the two main islands, Guadeloupe offers a taste of France within the Caribbean. This morning we anchor off the north-west coast at the town of Deshaies which is also the fictional setting of Honore from the television series "Death in Paradise". After breakfast we will drive to the nearby Botanical Gardens, an exceptional 12 acre park featuring tropical flora, palm trees, waterscapes and parrot aviary. Return to the ship for lunch and a free afternoon to explore the town or maybe relax on one of the nearby beaches.

Day 5 Nevis & St Kitts. We will make a landing this morning on the delightful island of Nevis. On an island drive we will stop at the Museum of Nevis History which includes a large collection of Nelson memorabilia and also the Botanical Gardens. Over lunch we sail the short distance to St Kitts. This lovely island has it all, restful green fields of sugar cane plantations, rainforests and long stretches of uncrowded beaches. The atmosphere here is wonderfully relaxed and full of old-world charm. Either wander the streets of Basseterre including the colonial buildings or see the impressive UNESCO fortress at Brimstone Hill. This 18th century British garrison played a key role in the battles with the French and is situated on a hill offering fine views over to Nevis.

Day 6 St Eustatius. In the 18th century the port of Oranjestad

was a major player in the trade between Europe and the new world. Today the island maintains a low key existence and has avoided the modernisation and development of its neighbours. We will explore the small town including the 17th century fort and the museum with information on slavery, colonial relics and historical artefacts. Meanwhile, the more active may wish to take the strenuous hike to "The Quill", the 600 metre hill that dominates the landscape. This afternoon is free to explore at leisure and shuttle buses will be available to take you to the town or to one of the nearby beaches.

Day 7 Antigua. A onetime British colony, Antigua is justly famous for its beaches, said to total more than 300. We have a day here and on a morning tour will enjoy the views from Shirley Heights before heading to Nelson's Dockyard, beautifully located in English Harbour. See the impressive collection of restored historic buildings which were occupied by the British Navy from 1707 till 1899. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon in St John's or on one of the local beaches. We hope to be able to arrange a visit to a local church for a Christmas Eve service before we sail tonight.

Day 8 At Sea. Spend Christmas Day at sea as we return south through the Caribbean Islands. Our lecture programme will continue before our chefs prepare Christmas dinner on board.

Day 9 St Lucia. A splendidly rugged island of towering mountains, lush green valleys and acres of banana plantations. We will moor in sight of the island's best known feature, the twin peaks of the Pitons, which rise dramatically from the sea to more than 2400 feet. In the nearby town of Soufriere we can visit the bubbling sulphur springs, part of a low lying volcano which erupted thousands of years ago. Our island tour will also include the splendid botanical gardens, a delight for photographers with walkways surrounded by bright tropical flowers and towering trees, and one of the local plantations where we learn about cacao production.

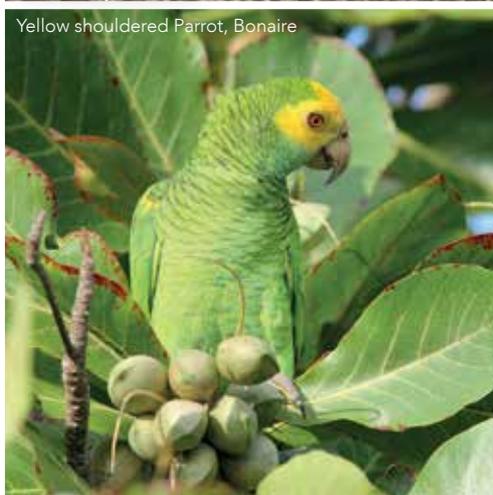
Day 10 St Vincent & Grenadines. This morning we arrive in bustling Kingstown, capital of St Vincent where on a morning drive we head to the outskirts of the city and the 19th century Fort Charlotte as well as the oldest botanical gardens in the western hemisphere. Dating from 1765, this 20 acre site was developed to provide medicinal plants. Over lunch we sail to Bequia, a delightful Grenadine island which is totally unspoilt, a place of pure escapism in a charming old world atmosphere. Only seven miles by two it is a long way from the well beaten tourist track, a serene and peaceful island with some of the best beaches in the Caribbean. Choose to spend time in the main town of Port Elizabeth, find a spot on one of the beaches and relax or join a drive to Spring Bay where we can visit the Hawksbill Turtle sanctuary.

Day 11 Tobago. Today is dedicated to exploring the natural wonders of Tobago. We will anchor in the small fishing village of Charlotteville which is situated in Man of War Bay and a choice of activities will be on offer. There will be an island drive which will include the Argyle Waterfall for a refreshing swim and a chance to explore the lush surrounding forest. The keen birders will enjoy a visit to Little Tobago, a hilly arid island situated 1.5 miles offshore and an important seabird sanctuary for frigate birds, brown boobies and red billed tropic birds. Meanwhile the waters around Goat Island offer some of the region's best coral reefs and are abundant with marine life and perfect for taking a glass bottomed boat trip.

Day 12 Trinidad. Due to its location close to the South American mainland, Trinidad has a unique diversity of plant and animal species which we will discover today. From our berth at Port of Spain we will drive inland to the Asa Wright Nature Centre. Founded on a former cocoa and coffee plantation in 1967 it comprises 1500 acres of forest providing habitat for a range of wildlife. On a series of guided walks we will explore searching for the 166 species of birds. Return to the MS Serenissima for lunch and this afternoon either take time to explore Port of Spain or maybe visit the Botanical Gardens or National Museum before we sail this evening.



Fort Shirley, Dominica



Yellow shouldered Parrot, Bonaire



Bonaire



Dominica Waterfall



Willemstad, Curacao

Day 13 Isla Margarita, Venezuela.

Over breakfast we arrive at Isla Margarita located off the Venezuelan coast. Visited by Columbus in 1498, it was also the centre of the Spanish colonial Margarita Province in the 16th century. This morning we will visit La Restinga National Park which was created in 1974 and boasts three main ecosystems that support a variety of creatures. We will visit the area on local boats before making our way to the Museo Marino which reveals the amazing biodiversity of Venezuela's marine life and gives an overview of the importance of the sea in the island's development. Return to the ship for lunch and a relaxing afternoon at sea.

Day 14 Bonaire, Dutch Antilles.

After a morning cruising we arrive in Bonaire, famous for the variety of its corals, fish and clear waters. Our morning will be spent at the Washington Slagbaai National Park, which was created to protect some of the Caribbean's last remaining desert habitat. The island's birdlife is remarkable including native parrots and, in one of the lagoons, a resident flock of flamingos. Alternatively join a scenic tour of Bonaire to see the salt water lagoon at Lake Goto followed by Mangazina di Rei cultural park which showcases indigenous culture. Tonight we will welcome in the New Year on board.

Day 15 Curacao. We will start the New Year by sailing into the UNESCO World Heritage Site of

Willemstad. The city has a rich history dating back to the 16th century and the island's colonial Dutch heritage sets a genteel tone amid markets, museums and cafes. After a free morning for independent exploration or relaxation we will enjoy an afternoon excursion to explore the historic downtown district including Fort Amsterdam.

Day 16 At Sea. Spend a day on board as we sail towards Colombia.

Day 17 Santa Marta, Colombia.

The Santa Marta area is renowned for the eco-diversity and dramatic beauty of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the highest coastal mountain range in the world, that sweep down to the sea. From our berth we will travel slightly inland to the Tayrona National Park this morning. Covered in large part by virgin tropical forest, the park is home to over 100 species of mammals, 200 species of birds and 50 species of reptiles. On a walk through this semi-tropical jungle we will be joined by a local guide who will offer insights into the park's vegetation, animals and eco-system.

Day 18 Cartagena. From our berth in Cartagena we will take a boat ride through the Bay of Cartagena to the nearby Rosario Islands archipelago. This group of 30 islands, declared a Natural Park, is host to coral reef and a wide number of endemic fish and plant species. This morning we will land on one of the islands and have

time to relax on the beach, swim in the clear waters or maybe take a stroll to the mangroves followed by lunch in one of the local restaurants. We will moor overnight for anyone wishing to explore Cartagena on an after dinner stroll this evening.

Day 19 Cartagena to London

Heathrow. Cartagena is one of the most fascinating cities in South America and this morning we enjoy a walking tour of the colonial walled-city which is virtually surrounded by water and steeped in history, with a wealth of 16th and 17th century buildings and churches. Our guides will bring the history of the city to life as we walk its streets and ramparts. We will

visit the 16th century Fort of San Felipe, Monastery of San Pedro Claver, the Plaza de la Aduana and Iglesia de Santo Domingo. Return to the ship for lunch before we transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London Heathrow.

Day 20 London Heathrow.

Arrive this afternoon.

SHIP TO SHORE

Although this voyage is not categorised as an expedition cruise, we will be at anchor on at least seven days when we will use the vessel's Zodiacs to tender ashore.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE UP TO £1000 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£8995	£7995
3	Classic Stateroom	£9295	£8295
4	Superior Stateroom	£9495	£8495
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£9995	£9495
6	Junior Suite	£10495	£9995
7	Owner's Suite	£11295	£11045
8	Serenissima Suite	£11495	£11245
10	Standard Single	£9795	£9545

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 18 nights aboard the MS Serenissima on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner on board • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance.

MS SERENISSIMA



Harald Jarl Lounge



On Deck



The Restaurant

The charming MS Serenissima began her career as the Harald Jarl, cruising the Norwegian coastline and fjords. Since 2003, when she was extensively renovated, she has been operating as a classic cruise ship. Previously known as the MS Andrea, she was upgraded again in 2013 and started her new life as the MS Serenissima. With her small size she can navigate into small, remote ports inaccessible to the big cruise ships and appears an impressive sight when moored. With her fleet of Zodiacs, she is capable of both destination and expedition cruising. In December 2018, the vessel will once again undergo a significant refurbishment and, after a re-configuration of the deck plan will accommodate a maximum of just 95 guests.

Your Cabin/Suite

Accommodating no more than 95 passengers, the cabins are attractively designed for comfort and convenience. All cabins are fully air conditioned with an en-suite bathroom with shower, (please note cabins 601-605 and 507 have a bath with shower attachment) and a selection of toiletries in addition to a hairdryer, robes and slippers. All cabins come equipped with telephone, flat screen television, safety deposit box and other thoughtful appointments. Bottles of still and sparkling water are provided and replenished daily. From December 2018, there will be eight different grades of cabin arranged over five decks, and all feature either windows or portholes. Because of the very nature of the ship, the cabins do vary in shape and size, adding to the vessel's overall charm.



Your Dining

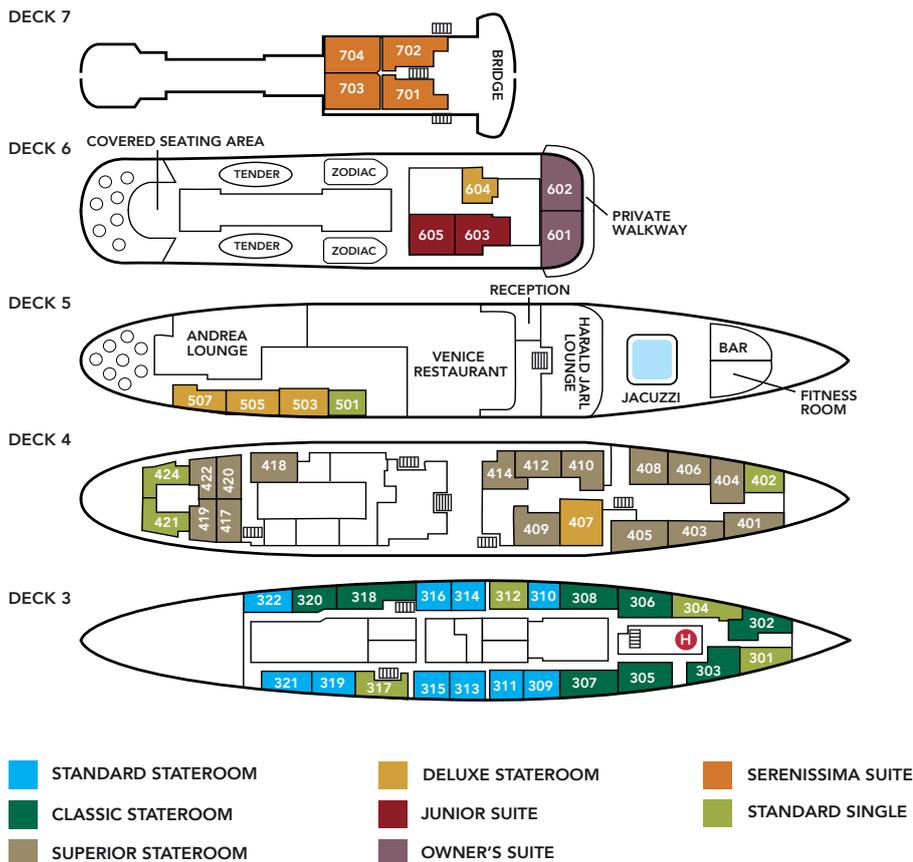
The free seating Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in one sitting and, with its Deck 5 location, all of the tables benefit from great views. The picture windows also make the restaurant wonderfully light and airy. Breakfast is served buffet-style with cooked dishes available and eggs to order by the ship's accomplished chef. Lunch is also served buffet-style with hot

and cold dishes available. Dinner is served a la carte and is four courses, except at the Captain's Dinner, which is a six course affair. Where possible, local produce is sourced for an authentic dining experience. A choice of red or white wine, beer, soft drinks, and water is included at lunch and dinner. In good weather there are al fresco dining facilities available and tea and coffee are available around the clock in the Andrea Lounge.

Your Space

The facilities on board include two lounges – the larger Andrea Lounge is comfortable and spacious and the smaller Harald Jarl Lounge is more intimate. There is also a small library and Wi-Fi is available at an extra cost throughout the vessel. The outside areas really are something special. A spacious observation deck allows 360 degree views of the passing scenery. From here, step down to the lido area with Jacuzzi and outside bar. The covered seating area at the back of Deck 6 is ideal for relaxing with a drink in hand. Perhaps, one of the best known and loved features of this vessel is its unique style. During the major refit in Sweden the then owners commissioned Swedish interior designers to create a Gustavian style interior. This bright Swedish 18th century influenced, country house style works particularly well on a vessel of this vintage, providing intimacy and a classic nautical sensibility often lacking in larger vessels.

MS SERENISSIMA DECK PLAN & CABINS



NB. Please note cabin sizes vary in each category and measurements shown are approximate.



SERENISSIMA SUITE
(25 square metres)



OWNER'S SUITE
(22 square metres)



JUNIOR SUITE
(21 square metres)



DELUXE STATEROOM
(15 to 25 square metres)



SUPERIOR STATEROOM
(11.5 to 18 square metres)



CLASSIC STATEROOM
(14 to 19 square metres)



STANDARD STATEROOM
(10 to 11.5 square metres)



STANDARD SINGLE
(7 to 12.5 square metres)



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: St Lucia