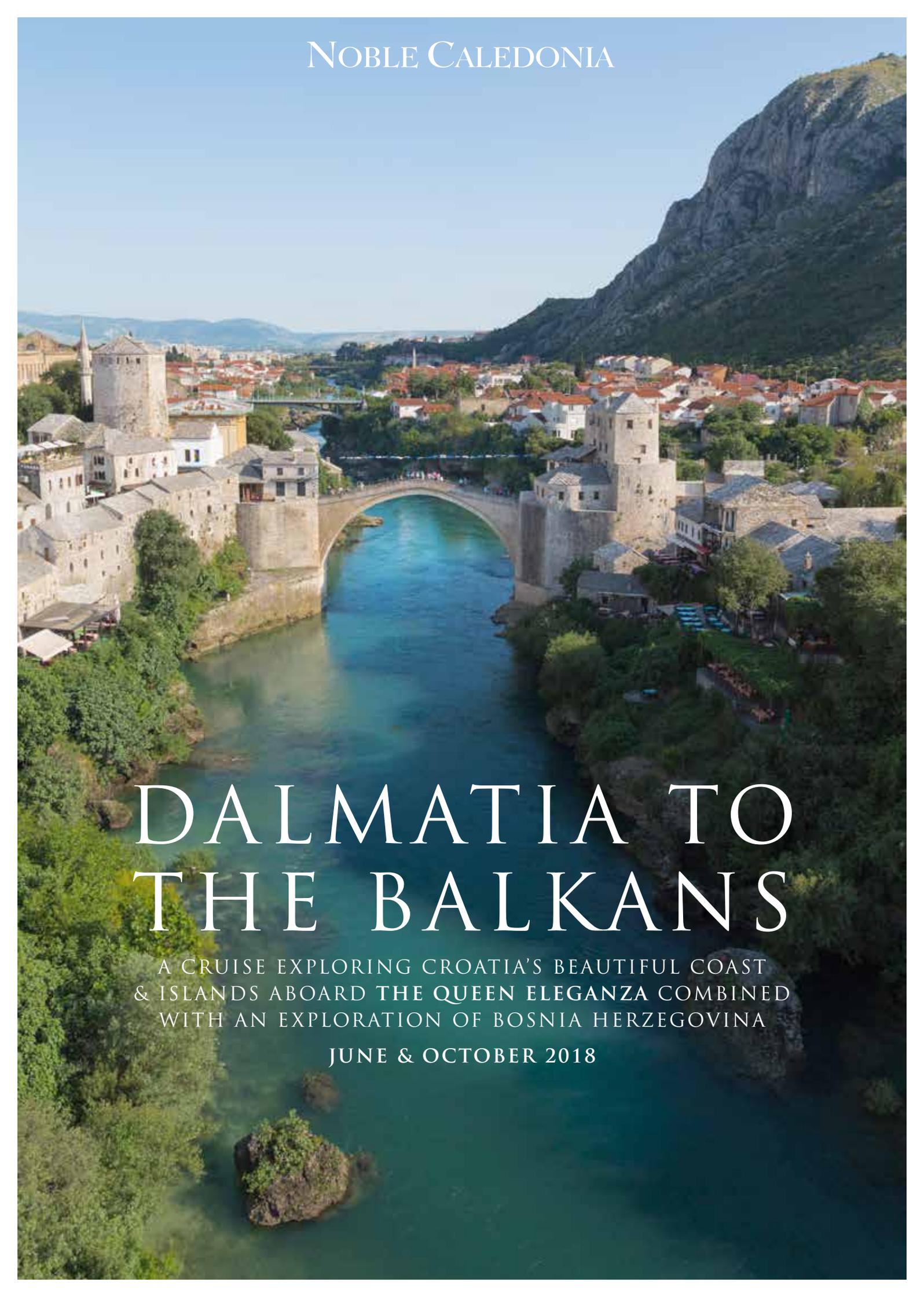


NOBLE CALEDONIA



DALMATIA TO THE BALKANS

A CRUISE EXPLORING CROATIA'S BEAUTIFUL COAST
& ISLANDS ABOARD THE QUEEN ELEGANZA COMBINED
WITH AN EXPLORATION OF BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA

JUNE & OCTOBER 2018



Come with us to explore the beautiful Dalmatian Coast and its hundreds of islands aboard the charming Queen Eleganza. The region offers breathtaking natural beauty, an intense blue sea, amazingly picturesque islands, stunning architecture and an intriguing history, and even the most jaded of travellers cannot fail to be won over by its beauty. Added to this we have the benefit of three days after our cruise to explore Croatia's lesser-visited neighbour Bosnia Herzegovina, a fascinating country at the crossroads of east and west with a history forged over centuries. Often overshadowed by its tumultuous past, it has emerged from its recent civil war reincarnated and offers the visitor a wealth of historical and cultural treasures, highlights of which will be the cities of Mostar and Sarajevo.

With our vessel that accommodates just 36 guests, we are able to visit some marvellous places which do not cater for the big ships and each night we remain moored in the picturesque harbours affording the opportunity to take an after-dinner stroll and dine ashore on certain evenings. Whether it be the heady mix of Croatia's islands and ports or the craggy beauty of Bosnia Herzegovina with its mountains that sweep down to lakes covered in vegetation and wealth of historic buildings, this unique area has so much to offer the genuine traveller and our itinerary will be appreciated by those who enjoy an informal style of cruising and an eclectic mix of places.

OUR VIEW

"If a relaxed and informal atmosphere are at the top of your priorities, the Queen Eleganza is the perfect choice of vessel to cruise the Croatian coast and islands. With a maximum of 36 passengers, the mood is intimate, and what better way to enjoy the views of magnificent islands and cities, than sitting on the sun deck watching the world pass slowly by. The dining on board is a special experience with fresh fish featuring regularly on the menu, but a real treat is the chance to dine ashore. Croatia's culinary delights are not to be missed. Eat al fresco in the warm evenings and perhaps end the night with a stroll to see the breathtaking illuminated historic buildings."

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London Gatwick to Dubrovnik, Croatia. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the Queen Eleganza and enjoy dinner on board as we moor overnight.

Day 2 Dubrovnik & Mljet. Spend the morning in Dubrovnik – the "Pearl of the Adriatic" with a guided walk through this breathtaking city. Its many historic and cultural treasures have earned it the designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. See the major attractions such as the Rector's Palace, the Romanesque-Gothic Dominican and Franciscan Monasteries, and the Sponza Palace. Return to the ship for lunch as we sail to Mljet. This is one of the few Dalmatian islands that was never ruled by Venice and this is apparent in the architecture and the absence of any sizeable historic town. What it lacks in great architecture it more than makes up for in natural beauty and there will be a tour to the National Park including its beautiful lakes. Take the opportunity to dine ashore this evening in one of the local restaurants as we moor overnight.

Day 3 Korcula & Vis. Spend the morning cruising to Korcula arriving in the late morning. If weather and sea conditions allow we hope to stop at the island of Badija for a swim on the way. Said to be the birthplace of Marco Polo, Korcula



boasts crooked Medieval streets and elegant squares which are flanked with palaces of the old nobility. Enjoy free time to explore before returning to the ship for lunch. In the early evening we arrive at the island of Vis, a beautiful island that sits far out in the Adriatic well away from the conventional cruise routes. We have the chance to dine ashore in one of the harbourfront restaurants here.

Day 4 Vis, Bisevo & Hvar. One of the furthest of the main Croatian Islands from the coast, in recent years Vis was used as a military base for the Yugoslav army and only opened up to tourism in 1989. This isolation and lack of development is the island's main draw and we will see its natural beauty as we drive across the island to the port of Komiza. Here we will board local boats to the neighbouring island of Bisevo where we visit the Blue Grotto. This coastal cave shines an amazing blue when the sun's rays pass through an underwater opening, whilst the rocks beneath the water glimmer silver. We return to the ship for lunch and sail to



Mljet



Vis



Mostar

Hvar this afternoon where we enjoy dinner aboard as we moor overnight.

Day 5 Hvar & Split. From our berth in Stari Grad we take a short coach ride across the island to the attractive Old Town of Hvar for a guided walk. We begin in the main square, which is the largest piazza in Dalmatia and see the cathedral, the Franciscan Monastery and the Benedictine Nunnery, where we hear about the aloe lace still produced today by the nuns. After some free time, return to the ship and enjoy lunch on board as we sail, arriving in Split in the early afternoon. Here a guided walk takes us to Diocletian's Palace, built by the emperor in 295-305 AD as his retirement villa. Much of this large building is well preserved and the palace contains Split's old town within its walls, making it the only Roman palace that has been continuously inhabited since Roman times. It is a wonderful spot

to wander the maze of streets. This evening enjoy dinner in one of the many restaurants in Split.

Day 6 Pucisca, Brac & Makarska. Over breakfast we sail the short distance to the island of Brac and the attractive port of Pucisca located at the end of a long bay. Brac is world renowned for the quality of its stone which was used for Diocletian's Palace in Split as well as the White House in Washington and other parliament buildings in Europe. Spend the morning in the charming small town, voted one of the prettiest in Europe, where the building's white roofs create an ambient atmosphere. Over lunch we sail to Makarska port, a stunning location on the coast backed by the Biokovo mountains. A popular summer destination due to its nearby beaches it also has a historical centre including the Franciscan monastery, Church of St Peter and city museum. This evening is free to find a restaurant in the town for dinner.

Day 7 Opuzen. We will sail this morning and find a spot for a swim along the coast before taking lunch on board. This afternoon we arrive in Opuzen, located 12 kilometres from the coast on the Neretva River. Situated in the Neretva valley the region is known as the centre of mandarin production in Croatia. Here we will board local boats and sail this afternoon through the canals and backwaters of the Neretva Wetlands ending with a tasting of the region's brandy. Return to the ship for our final dinner on board as we moor overnight.

Day 8 Pocitelj, Stolac & Mostar, Bosnia Herzegovina. After breakfast we will disembark the Queen Eleganza in Opuzen and begin our journey to Bosnia. Our first call will be at Pocitelj, situated on the Neretva River, which is a splendid Ottoman city dating back to the Middle Ages. Here, King Tvrtko I of Bosnia built a fortress in 1383, later conquered by the Turks in 1471. Today this is truly a magical open-air museum with many Ottoman monuments, such as the Hadzi Alija Mosque and the Clock Tower. Continue on to the quaint and picturesque town of Stolac and visit the historic Old Town, see the Churches of St Peter and Paul and explore the ancient old town fortress of Vidovska. After lunch we will drive to the nearby mysterious Radimlja necropolis to see the fascinating Medieval tombstones of the ancient Bogomil tribe dating back to the 14th century. Our final stop will be

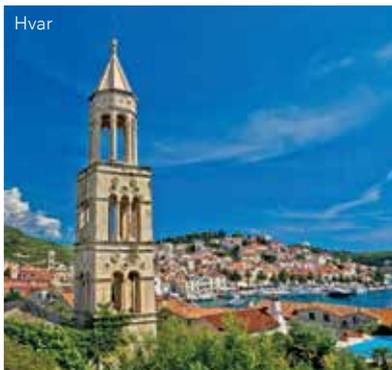
at Blagaj Tekke, also known as the Dervish Monastery, the tekija was built to host gatherings of the Sufi Brotherhood, and the stunning half-timbered tekija rests beside the fast-flowing blue-green Buna River. Arrive in Mostar in the early evening and check in to our hotel for an overnight stay. Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant.

Day 9 Mostar & Sarajevo. In the 15th century, Mostar became a thriving centre on the banks of the emerald Neretva River under the Ottoman Turks. Damaged by the military conflict in the 1990's, the town has been carefully restored by UNESCO and declared a World Heritage Site. Admire the ethereally graceful Stari Most ("The Old Bridge"), originally built in 1566, the nearby Tabacica Mosque and an old Turkish house, among other sites. You may also wish to explore the old bazaar independently, a haven for the city's artists and craftsmen. After lunch we will continue our journey to Sarajevo and check in to our hotel this afternoon. Meet later for dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 10 Sarajevo. After breakfast in the hotel we will take a walking tour of Sarajevo including Sarajevo City Hall, one of the most beautiful buildings from the Austro-Hungarian period. This building is also the National Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina and it faces the Miljacka River and the Emperor's Mosque, the city's oldest mosque. We will then continue on to see the



Dubrovnik



Latin Bridge, where Franz Ferdinand was assassinated in 1914. We will also take a walk through Bascarsija, the old part of the town built in the Ottoman period, where we can learn about the local food, crafts, and traditions. After lunch in a local restaurant there will be a choice of two tours this afternoon. You may like to visit the nearby mini spa town of Ildiza, where Franz Ferdinand and his wife stayed in June 1914. On arrival we will make our way to the public park of Vrelo Bosne, an oasis of greenery and gushing streams of water, one of the country's prime natural attractions. Alternatively, there will be a tour to the Tunnel Museum, the centrepiece of which is a 25 metre section of the 1 metre wide, 1.6 metre high hand-dug tunnel under the airport runway

that acted as the city's lifeline to the outside world during the 1992–95 siege. Walking through a short, restored section is the moving culmination to a visit that includes an archive video, a minefield garden and an engrossing museum within the shell-pounded house that hid the tunnel entrance. Return to the hotel and this evening enjoy our farewell dinner.

Day 11 Sarajevo to London Heathrow. After breakfast in the hotel transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

**Please note that the 10th & 24th June departures operate in the reverse direction to that shown. Full details can be viewed online at www.noble-caledonia.co.uk*

DEPARTURE DATES AND PRICE PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

6th to 16th June, 10th to 20th June*, 20th to 30th June, 24th June to 4th July*, 10th to 20th October 2018

Cat	Cabin Description	Price
1	Twin/Double cabin on the Lower Deck	£2995
2	Twin Cabin on the Main Deck	£3195
3	Twin Cabin on the Main Deck	£3295
4	Twin/Double cabin on the Main Deck	£3495
5	Double cabin on the Main Deck	£3695
6	Double cabin on the Lower Deck for sole use	£2995

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, seven nights aboard the Queen Eleganza, breakfast and lunch daily, six dinners, house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board, two nights accommodation in Sarajevo and overnight accommodation in Mostar on bed and breakfast basis, Noble Caledonia Cruise Director aboard the Queen Eleganza and Tour Manager in Bosnia Herzegovina, shore excursions, gratuities, transfers, port taxes, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, four dinners ashore as detailed in the itinerary.





QUEEN ELEGANZA

For our cruises along the Adriatic coast, we are delighted to have chartered the newly built Queen Eleganza whose maiden voyage is scheduled for the spring of 2018. Beautifully crafted by Croatian hands, this is one of the finest Croatian flagged vessels of her kind and, with a maximum of just 36 guests, there is the added benefit of a relaxed and informal atmosphere on board. The team of friendly Croatian crew members all speak English and their excellent service and hospitality will do much to add to your enjoyment. Meals served on board have a homecooked feel and feature wholesome, fresh and tasty Mediterranean cuisine and, when dining ashore independently, your knowledgeable Cruise Director will recommend popular local restaurants. This is the perfect ship to escape the formalities of larger vessels and enjoy the casual nature of small ship cruising along the most beautiful of coastlines.



Sailing into Split

Your Cabin

The 18 cabins are finished to the highest standard with sleek lines and neutral colours. All are equipped with an en-suite bathroom with shower, safe, air conditioning/heating, hairdryer and flat screen TV. Most cabins also feature a dressing table and chair. The cabins on the Lower Deck all have two portholes whereas on the Main Deck, the category 3 cabins have three portholes and the category 5 cabin has four portholes. The category 2 and 4 cabins on the Main Deck benefit from a large picture window offering wonderful views. The cabins range in size from 12m² for the category 2 cabin to 26m² for the category 5 cabin.

Your Space

If you prefer a peaceful life at sea and a casual, laid-back ambience then you need look no further than the Queen Eleganza. The vessel has been designed with spacious outside public areas including a large Sun Deck with an excellent shaded area. Whether you choose to spend your time indoors in the lounge or bar area, or in a comfortable lounge on the Sun Deck, the ship has many perfect spots from which to relax and watch the passing scenery.

Your Dining

Meals on board are a casual affair. Breakfast is buffet style with eggs cooked to order. Lunch and dinner are served and feature locally sourced fresh food. In good weather, there will be the opportunity to dine al-fresco. House wine/beer and soft drinks are included with lunch and dinner and there is a 24 hour tea/coffee station.

Life On Board

The atmosphere is casual and relaxed, with the dress code reflecting this. With just 36 like-minded passengers, the mood is intimate, and what better way to enjoy the views of magnificent islands and cities than sitting on the Sun Deck watching the world pass slowly by. Part of the joy of a cruise aboard this vessel is its capability to dock in small ports or drop anchor in any suitable spot. The experienced Captain and his crew are trained in the highest safety standards. Being such a small operation, the close-knit team work excellently together and will enrich your overall enjoyment of small ship cruising.



Sun Deck

Category 3 cabin



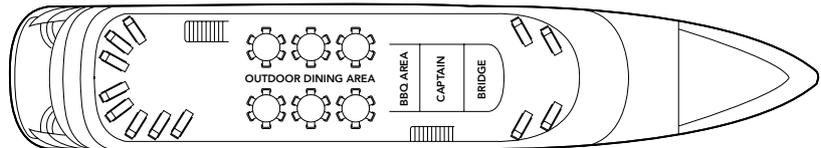
Restaurant



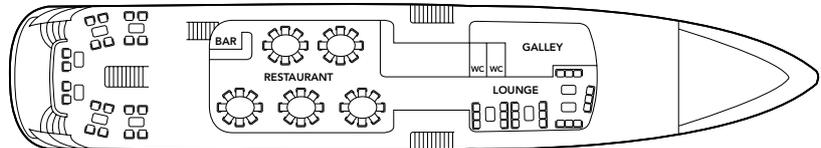
Sun Deck

DECK PLAN

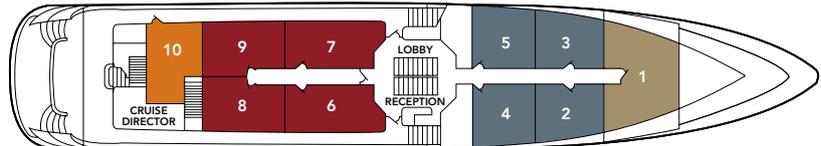
SUN DECK



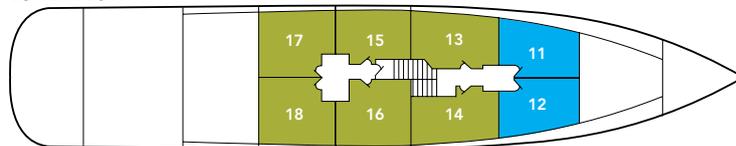
UPPER DECK



MAIN DECK



LOWER DECK



- CATEGORY 1 (17 m²)
- CATEGORY 2 (12 m²)
- CATEGORY 3 (14.5 m²)
- CATEGORY 4 (15 m²)
- CATEGORY 5 (26 m²)
- CATEGORY 6 (15 m²)

Please note that some of the images shown are of the Princess Eleganza, a sister vessel to the Queen Eleganza. Whilst the decor may differ slightly the overall look and design of the vessel once launched will be similar to the images shown.

NOBLE CALEDONIA

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