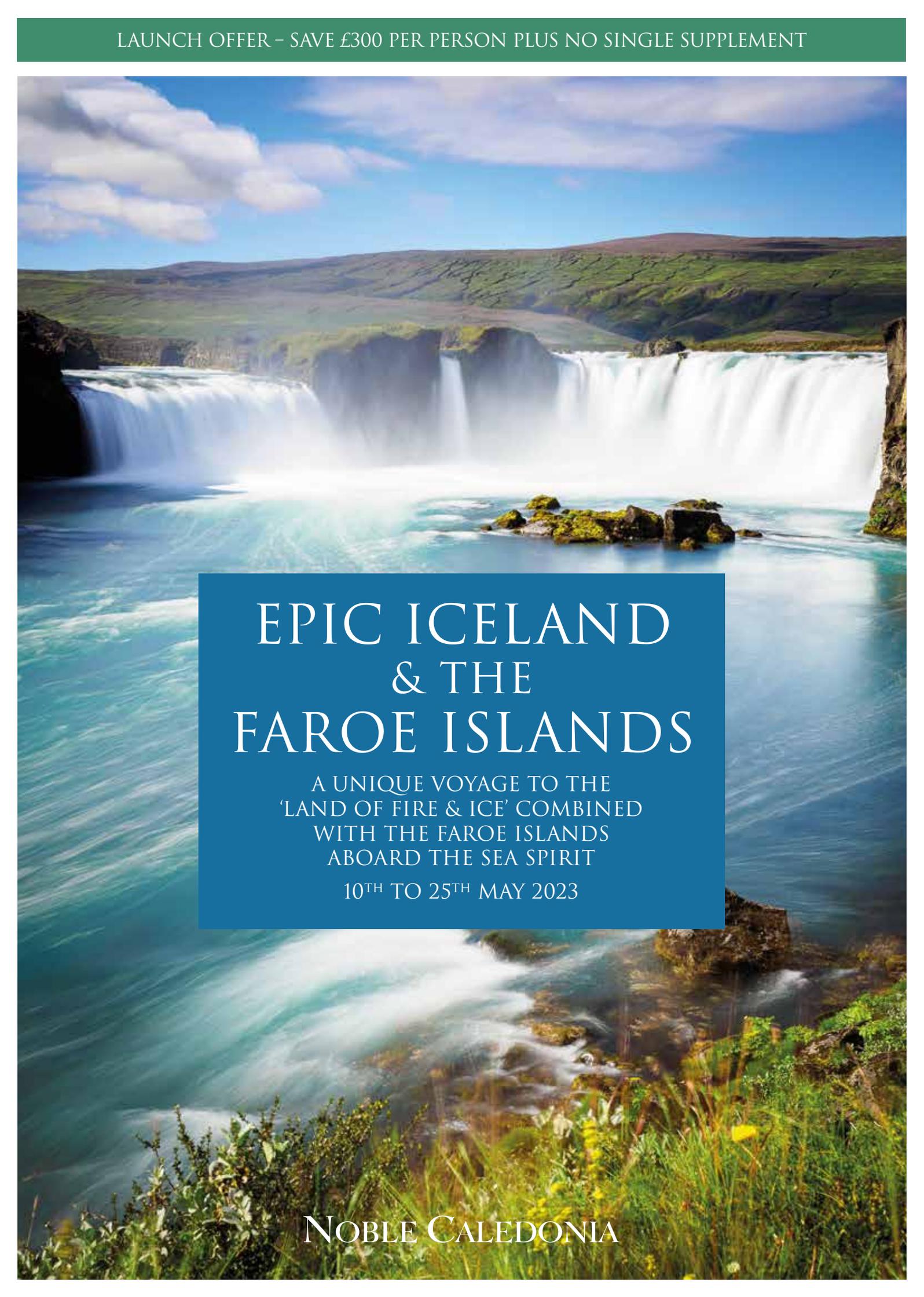


LAUNCH OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON PLUS NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT



# EPIC ICELAND & THE FAROE ISLANDS

A UNIQUE VOYAGE TO THE  
'LAND OF FIRE & ICE' COMBINED  
WITH THE FAROE ISLANDS  
ABOARD THE SEA SPIRIT

10<sup>TH</sup> TO 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023

NOBLE CALEDONIA



Here is a unique opportunity to combine a circumnavigation of Iceland, one of the most extraordinary and dramatic lands on the planet with time spent discovering the remote and little visited Faroe Islands. A voyage by small ship is the ideal way to get up close to nature and explore areas inaccessible to larger vessels and, aboard the all-suite Sea Spirit with her expert team and fleet of Zodiacs, we will be able to land on remote islands and cruise close to shorelines and cliffs crowded with birdlife. Travelling in May we will be able to take advantage of the long days by spending time on deck looking for the variety of wildlife which inhabits the region.

We will set sail from Reykjavik and during our in-depth exploration of Iceland will witness nature in the raw including huge icecaps and glaciers, active volcanoes, gurgling mud pools, steaming hot springs and lava fields of the 'Land of Fire and Ice'. If this were not enough, the immense scale of the landscape is dominated by towering snow-capped mountains and thundering waterfalls. Europe's least populated country offers the visitor an unparalleled experience of elemental forces at work and we will visit some of its most dramatic areas and, whilst we sail its waters, will look out for humpback whales, orcas, dolphins and observe the colonies of seabirds. There will also be ample time to learn about the centuries old legacies of a Viking and Norse heritage.

During our 15-night voyage we will leave Iceland and sail south for four days of exploration in the Faroe Islands; once a stopping point for Viking explorers this mysterious collection of 18 islands set in the North Atlantic is a paradise for walkers and bird watchers. Here, a highlight will be seeing the many puffins and other sea birds nesting and we will spend our time exploring the villages and rolling hills of these distant isles before returning to Iceland by way of the Westman Islands to complete our circumnavigation of the island.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Reykjavik, Iceland.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the Sea Spirit and embark.

**Day 2 Snæfellsnes Peninsula.** Sail this morning into Stykkisholmur, located in Breidafjordur Bay and surrounded by an archipelago of islands. The town is famed for its beautiful and well preserved old houses and is also the gateway to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula which is dominated by the Snæfellsjokull volcano, regarded as one of the symbols of Iceland and known as the setting for Jules Verne's "Journey to the Centre of the Earth". Our tour will include a drive through the lava landscape to the glacier visiting pretty fishing ports and beaches along the way. Afterwards, there will be the opportunity to spend some time at leisure in the town.

**Day 3 Western Fjords.** This morning we enter the Western Fjords, an isolated but spectacular

area of Iceland. We will explore Isafjardardjup and depending on local weather conditions, we hope to land on Vigur, a serene little island with only five residents but home to many more puffins, eider ducks, black guillemots and Arctic terns. We will also visit Iceland's only extant windmill dating from the 19th century. Sail over lunch and maybe join a lecture as we spend a leisurely afternoon at sea.

**Day 4 Akureyri & Hrisey Island.** Akureyri is a delightful town on the north coast of Iceland. On a morning tour we will visit the spectacular Godafoss Waterfall where water from the Skjalfandafjot River falls from a height of 12 metres over a width of 30 metres. From Godafoss we return to the charming town of Akureyri and visit the botanical garden which was founded in 1912 and grows examples of every species indigenous to Iceland as well as an extensive collection



Snæfellsnes Peninsula.

Lake Myvatn

of high-latitude and high-altitude plants from around the world. Our tour ends at the Art Alley where artisans keep their workshops and galleries. Return to the ship for lunch and sail to Hrisey Island this afternoon where you can join nature walks. The island is known for its rich and diverse birdlife and approximately 40 species of birds nest on the island.

**Day 5 Siglufjordur & Grimsey Island.** Spend the morning in Siglufjordur, a picturesque town that enjoys an idyllic setting in a small fjord backed by mountains. Here in the early 1900s, a booming economy due to the herring industry resulted in a prosperous town with some marvellous Icelandic architecture. Stroll through the town and visit the Herring Era Museum. Sail over lunch to Grimsey Island. The Arctic Circle bisects this island which is known for its tiny community, basalt cliffs and large variety of birdlife. On arrival join our expedition team members for a nature walk on the island.

**Day 6 Husavik.** From our berth in Husavik we will head inland to visit the Lake Myvatn-Krafla area, a fine example of the volcanic world with lava fields, boiling and steaming mud pools and steam vents of sulphur and craters. The area illustrates the sheer magnitude of Iceland's forces at work. The lake itself, with beautiful natural rock formations and hot springs, is also a unique ecosystem and the largest migratory bird sanctuary in Europe. There will be the opportunity to

spend some time in the natural baths before returning to the ship. After lunch on board we have the afternoon to explore the pretty town of Husavik including time at the excellent whale museum, the exploration museum and quaint local church. Be on deck in the early evening as we sail from Husavik whilst our expedition team keep an eye out for whales.

**Day 7 Neskaupstadur & Mjoi fjordur.** Today we will enjoy the benefits of our small ship as we spend the day exploring the lesser known fjords in the east of Iceland. We hope to land at the small town at Neskaupstadur for a chance to visit the excellent museum which features the local art gallery, the Museum of Natural History and Maritime Museum. Those that are feeling active can hike to the avalanche barriers behind the town, offering great views of the surrounding areas. We will also cruise through Mjoi fjordur where we can enjoy the wilderness of this remote area.

**Day 8 Hofn.** As we approach Hofn we will see the shimmering white Vatnajokull Glacier, Europe's largest glacier, sometimes called an icecap. The 600 metre thick ice surmounts active volcanoes, one of which erupted in 1996 creating a crater on the surface of the glacier, a most unusual phenomenon. From our berth we will drive to the otherworldly glacial lagoon of Jokulsarlon, a dramatic drive through some of the finest scenery that Iceland offers. Once we reach

Jokulsarlon, the 100 metre deep glacial river lagoon which is full of large icebergs carved from the glacier Breioamerkurjokull, we will embark on a cruise on the pristine water. Spend a relaxing afternoon on board as we make our way to the Faroe Islands.

**Day 9 Klaksvik, Faroe Islands.** After a morning at sea we will arrive in the Faroes and the island of Borooy, in the north of the group. During our afternoon excursion we will learn more about the Faroese and Viking traditions as we make our way via a three mile long tunnel, 500 feet under the sea, to Leirvik on the island of Eysturoy. Here we will see the archaeological excavations of a thousand year old Viking farm before continuing to Gota, located at the head of the broad Gotuvik fjord. This historic area was the home of the famous Viking chieftain, Trondur i Gotu, who defended the old Viking ways against the desire of the Norwegian king and the Faroese chieftain, Sigmundu Brestisson, to convert the Faroese to Christianity. Ruins of his farm are found in Gota, whilst the Blasastova Museum provides an insight into the culture and way of life in the Faroe Islands in past centuries.

**Day 10 Suduroy.** Sail overnight to Suduroy, the southernmost island of the group. From the port of Tvoroyri we have a choice of activities. Choose to join an island tour passing the beautiful scenery as we drive between the villages seeing the stunning

geology, fjords, tunnels and architecture of the island and end at the southernmost point and the Akraberg lighthouse. In Porkeri we will take the ridge top road which winds up the mountainside for wonderful views. Alternatively, you may wish to join a hike to Hvaanhagi, a beautiful, uninhibited place north of Tvoroyri on the east coast of Suduroy. The view is fantastic towards the three islands Litla Dimun, Stora Dimun and Skuvoy.

**Day 11 Torshavn.** This morning, join a guided tour through Torshavn over the hills to Kirkjubour, the island's oldest cultural centre, where we see the ruins of the 13th century St Magnus Cathedral and the 11th century church, still in use. We also visit the 900-year old 'Rokystovan', the old bishopric, considered to be the oldest wooden house in Europe. This afternoon is free to explore the town at your own pace or, for those feeling active, we will arrange a hike in the hills surrounding the town to discover the local flora and fauna. Sail over dinner to Vestmanna where we moor overnight.

**Day 12 Vestmanna.** Vestmanna is our base as we explore the northwest corner of Streymoy and the nearby cliffs. Here we will board local boats to explore these vertical cliffs that climb almost 1500 feet, sailing into grottos carved by the surf over the years and watching the thousands



Torshavn



Vigur Island



Akraberg Lighthouse



Whale spotting

of seabirds including puffins, guillemots, fulmars and kittiwakes that nest here each summer. After lunch on board, we will drive to the beautiful village of Saksun, an isolated settlement situated beneath steep majestic mountains. We visit Duvugaroar, an old farmhouse, which is now a museum and a traditional Faeroese wooden church in Kollafjord.

**Day 13 At Sea.** Spend the day at sea as we return north to Iceland.

**Day 14 Westman Islands, Iceland.** Our morning is spent at the Vestmannaeyjar (Westman Islands). Islanders here live with a dramatic volcanic history. In 1973 the island of Heimaey experienced an eruption which created a new mountain, Eldfell, known as Mount Fire. Explore the only community, Heimaey, where half buried houses can be partially seen peeking out through the lava and ash. We will also use the Zodiacs to explore the cliffs and coves. If time permits, we will also use our ship to circumnavigate Surtsey Island which was created volcanically in 1963 and is a closed nature reserve. Few places in the world illustrate more dramatically the powerful forces of nature.

**Day 15 Thorlakshofn for the Golden Circle.** A full day tour will head inland to the famous 'Golden Circle' with three of Iceland's most iconic landmarks. We will start at Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site which is situated in a rift valley

that offers incredible views of the Reykjanes Ridge. This is the only place in the world where the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, which separates the Eurasian and North American plates, is above sea level. Not only is Thingvellir of tremendous geological interest, it is also where the legislative parliament, the Althing, was founded in the year 930 AD. Also see the Gullfoss Waterfall, the most famous of the country's numerous waterfalls. Here, a huge amount of water rushes down a stone cascade into a deep ravine with incredible force, creating a powerful spectacle. Our last stop is the Geysir geothermal area, the place where the word 'geyser' originates and where Strokkur, an explosive geyser, erupts every few minutes.

**Day 16 Reykjavik to London.** Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

### SHIP TO SHORE

This voyage is a combination of both expedition style cruising and small ship destination cruising. Whilst we will be alongside most days, we will be at anchor and the vessel's Zodiacs will be utilised to transport passengers ashore when visiting Grimsey, Hrisey Island and Vigur Island. 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.



Strokkur geyser

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

**LAUNCH OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON PLUS LIMITED NUMBER OF SUITES AVAILABLE WITH NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT**

Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Main Deck Standard	£8195	£7895
Ocean Deck Classic	£8495	£8195
Club Deck Superior	£8795	£8495
Sports Deck Deluxe Balcony	£9795	£9495
Sun Deck Premium Balcony	£10295	£9995
Sun Deck Owner's with Private Deck	£11295	£10995
Main Deck Standard for Sole Use	£8195	£7895
Ocean Deck Classic for Sole Use	£8495	£8195

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 15 nights aboard the Sea Spirit on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# SEA SPIRIT



The Restaurant



Superior Suite



Club Lounge

For this exploration of Iceland and the Faroe Islands we have chartered the 118-passenger Sea Spirit, which is a sister vessel to our very own MS Island Sky and MS Hebridean Sky. As with our Sky vessels, the Sea Spirit benefits from unusually large suites and a fleet of Zodiac landing craft allowing for the exploration of remote destinations while providing her guests with a high level of comfort and service.

## Your Suite

There are 54 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites and all feature a seating area and some have private balconies. Suites range in size from 21 to 30 square metres with the exception of the Owner's Suite which is an extra spacious suite measuring 63 square metres with a separate living room and private deck. The Deluxe and Premium Suites feature a private balcony, the Superior and Classic Suites feature a picture window and the Standard Suites feature a minimum of two portholes. The passenger accommodation is arranged over five decks and each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, a large wardrobe, dressing table and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, flat screen television with inbuilt DVD player and a telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a safe, hairdryer, air-conditioning and heating. The comfortable beds in each suite can be configured as either a king size bed or a twin with the exception of the Owner's Suite which features a fixed king sized bed.



Deluxe Suite



Standard Suite



Presentation Lounge



Owner's Suite

### Your Dining

In keeping with the informal atmosphere on board, the Restaurant offers open-seating dining allowing you to choose who you dine with for each meal. In the main Restaurant, breakfast is served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order on request. For lunch and dinner there is plenty of choice on the menu which offers international fare. To enhance your dining experience further a selection of wines is included with both meals. In addition to the elegant restaurant, lunch is served at the Outdoor Bistro when weather permits.

### Your Space

The spacious public rooms include the Club Lounge, a perfect area for socialising, relaxing and enjoying the views. After a day of exploration passengers can enjoy a variety of beverages and this comfortable seating area also offers a 24-hour self-service tea and coffee facilities. The Library is a quiet place for reading and relaxation and features a selection of DVDs, magazines, books and reference materials. There is also a Presentation Lounge equipped with state-of-the-art equipment where all lectures, briefings and social gatherings take place. Further to this there is ample outdoor deck space on the Sports Deck and Sun Deck to enjoy the scenery and watch for passing wildlife. There is also a Jacuzzi and a small gym on board, a lift which serves all passengers decks and an infirmary. During your voyage, when possible we hope to offer the opportunity to visit the Captain and Officers on the Bridge to learn more about your journey.

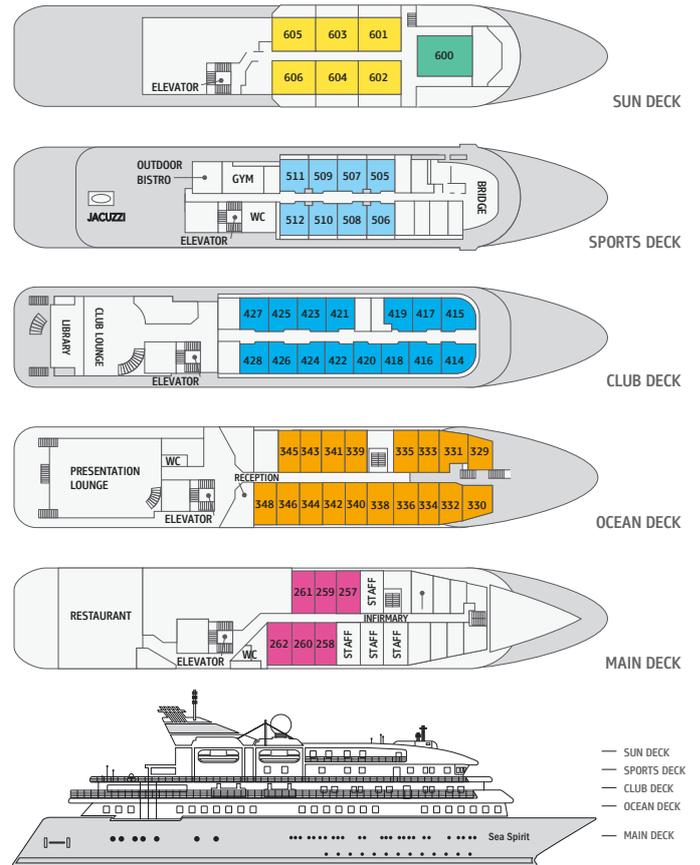
### Your Life On Board

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 wonderful destinations you are visiting in the company of like-minded people. There is a high ratio of crew to passengers and after a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well-run and exceedingly comfortable ship. Talks by the onboard team, informative port briefings and of course good food, all contribute to make any voyage aboard the Sea Spirit a memorable and joyful experience.



The Reception

### SEA SPIRIT DECK PLAN



- Owner's
- Premium
- Deluxe
- Superior
- Classic
- Standard



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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: Godafoss waterfall.