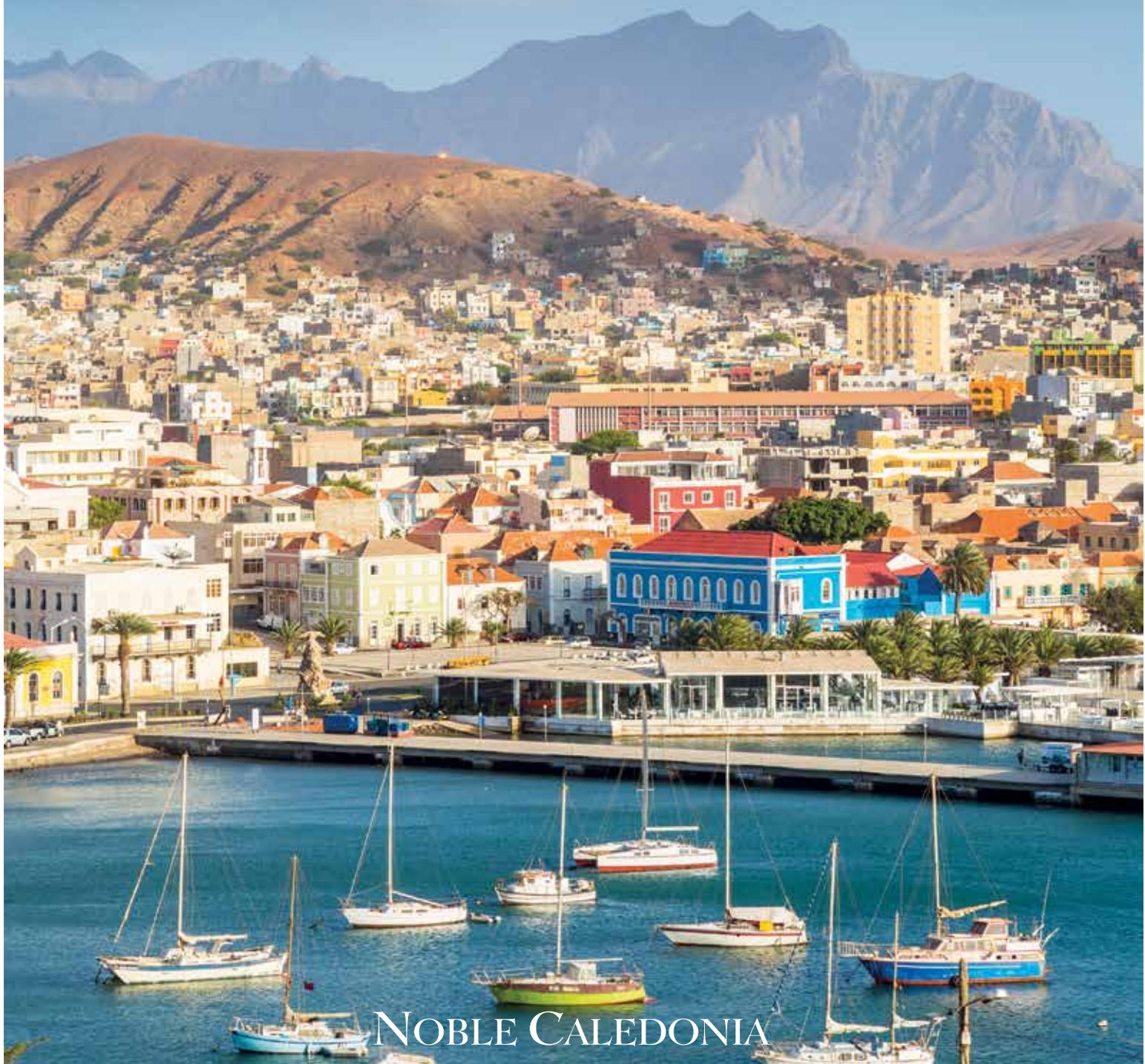


EXPLORING THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS

AN ISLAND HOPPING VOYAGE FROM SENEGAL
TO SAL ABOARD THE MS CALEDONIAN SKY

23RD FEBRUARY TO 5TH MARCH 2021

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£200
PER PERSON

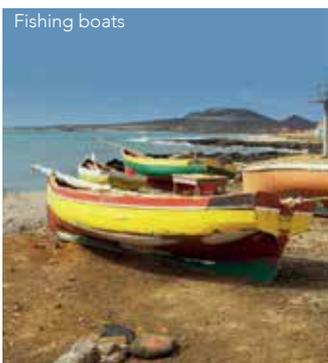


NOBLE CALEDONIA



Join us aboard the wonderfully comfortable MS Caledonian Sky as she undertakes an island hopping adventure; exactly the type of itinerary that suits her best. Our voyage will begin in Dakar where, after a day to explore Senegal’s fascinating capital city we sail to the intriguing Cape Verde archipelago for an in-depth discovery of the islands, exploring volcanic landscapes, colonial towns and villages and breathtaking beaches. They are an amazingly varied group of islands that have been used as a staging post by mariners through the ages and there is truly no better way to explore this region, with its dramatic beauty and cultural vibrancy than by small ship, and with the MS Caledonian Sky as our base we can island hop with great ease.

During our voyage we will discover the culture, wildlife and lifestyle of the islands, some of which are arid and flat with extraordinary beaches and dunes contrasting with lush mountainous islands. It is a little world of its own, each island having a distinct culture and atmosphere and an ideal archipelago for small ship cruising. On some islands the infrastructure is minimal but with our nimble Zodiacs we are able to land on the remotest of islands and explore. For those who enjoy visiting out of the way islands where tourists are a rarity, this is a unique opportunity.



Fishing boats

The Itinerary

Day 1 London Heathrow to Dakar, Senegal. Fly by scheduled indirect flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky and enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

Day 2 Dakar. Dakar is one of West Africa’s most westernised capitals and has a strong French influence. Skyscrapers sit side-by-side with the old part of the city, where

terracotta roofs and tree-lined avenues give it a sophisticated and elegant appearance. This morning on a city tour see Independence Square and the Presidential Palace with its Red Guards permanently on duty outside. Drive through the main shopping areas of Lamine Gueye Avenue, Sandaga and Tilene to see the hectic scenes at the Senegalese markets, before continuing past the Grand

Mosque, one of the most beautiful monuments in Africa, inaugurated by the late Hassan II in 1964. Before returning to the ship for lunch, visit the craft market and the Sand Painting Art Galleries. Alternatively, we hope to offer the opportunity to visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Goree Island which lies off the coast of Dakar. This tiny island, measuring only 900 metres long and 300 metres wide, was



first discovered by the Portuguese explorer Dinis Diaz in 1444, since then it has been controlled by the Dutch, the French and English and as such has a rich and fascinating history. Enjoy a walking tour through the narrow streets and visit the castle fortifications and the IFAN Historical Museum in the Fort d'Estree. Our guide will narrate the history of the island and take you on a tour of the ancient slave depot that bears witness to the slave trade that thrived in colonial Africa. This afternoon will be at leisure to relax on board or explore independently.

Day 3 At Sea. Relax on board as we sail across to the Cape Verde Islands.

Day 4 Praia, Sao Tiago, Cape Verde. Arrive this morning in the Cape Verde Islands, a varied archipelago off the West African coast. Today we explore the historic capital of Praia on the island of Sao Tiago. Praia has a wonderful African feel and we visit Cidade Velha, the old Portuguese capital with a rich history which was once the centre of the slave trade.

See the fort and cathedral which dominate the narrow, cobbled lanes and stone houses. Enjoy a traditional performance of Batuco dance before we continue into the green interior, climbing the steep mountains and enjoying the colours as we make our way to Rui Vaz where we enjoy a lunch of local produce in the shadow of Pico da Antonia. We will see local farms and drive past the only water dam in Cape Verde before returning to our ship and sailing this evening.

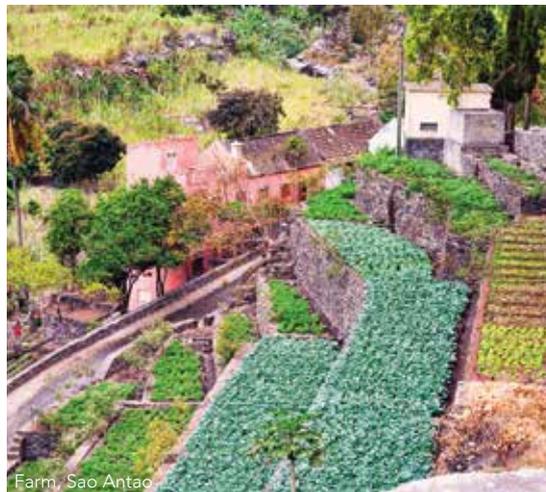
Days 5 & 6 Fogo & Brava. Over the next couple of days we will visit both Fogo and Brava. Fogo is an extraordinary place. Known as

the 'Mother Island' it has its own unique character and people. It is a volcano that rises steeply out of the Atlantic and has become an island, the summit reaching some 3000 metres. An island drive will take us through dramatically contrasting areas of fertile valleys that are dominated by the massive grey volcanic cone of Pico de Fogo. Later, call into the main town of Sao Filipe, a gracious town of faded grandeur with its pretty squares and wide boulevards of colonial houses. Here we enjoy lunch and listen to local guides talk of the eruptions of 1995 and 2014, over local wines. Brava is often referred to as the 'Secret Island'. It

is sometimes mist-shrouded and the humid conditions produce wonderful conditions for the flora. It is also one of the most mountainous of the islands with soaring peaks and deep valleys. There will be opportunities here for walkers and a tour which will include arguably the most beautiful bay in the islands at Faja d'Agua with its pretty nearby village. The capital of Nova Sintra, named after its namesake in Portugal is a charming town full of colour from the blooming hibiscus, coconut trees and bougainvillea.

Day 7 Porto Novo, Santo Antao. We have a full day on the most beautiful of the islands, Sao Antao. Driving up the old trading route, we pass the volcanic crater 'Cova' with its agricultural plantations and enjoy panoramic views of the island before arriving in the tiny picturesque mountain village of Fontainhas on the northern side of the island. After lunch in the seaside village of Ponta do Sol, we will take the coastal road towards the greenest valley in the archipelago, the valley of Paul. Here we will enjoy a coffee break whilst learning about





the production of sugarcane on the island. Also discover 'Grogue', the national drink of the islands and have a taste of it at the oldest traditional Grogue distillery of the island. We will sail the short distance to Sao Vicente where we berth overnight.

Day 8 Mindelo, Sao Vicente.

Today we explore Mindelo, the cultural capital of Cape Verde and one of the most attractive of all the Cape Verde towns with its colonial buildings, cobbled streets, cafes and lively restaurants. Depart on a discovery tour of the lively markets and the secret corners of the harbour town. After a coffee break in a typical Cape Verdean bar, learn about the life of the local artists and their works by visiting the national museum of handicraft. Enjoy a free afternoon to explore the town or visit the local beach. This evening, before we sail, we will be entertained by local music and capoeira on board.

Day 9 Tarrafal, Sao Nicolau.

Sao Nicolau is a charming, peaceful and attractive island of

plantations, smallholdings and busy farming villages. It also has impressive, almost untouched mountain scenery, friendly residents and lively traditions. On our tour we will drive through a spectacular landscape towards the historical capital Ribeira Brava. Here we will discover the lively centre of the island which reflects the character of the people and learn why Ribeira Brava was the bedrock of Cape Verdean intellect in the 19th century. After lunch on board enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

Day 10 Palmeira, Sal.

The island of Sal was relatively undeveloped until the mid-nineteenth century when the salt export business was established and this morning we will visit one of the original sites at Pedra de Lume. We will see the salt pans, learn of the salt extraction process and even have the chance to float in the waters. After lunch on board the afternoon is free and shuttle buses will run to the town of Santa Maria where you can swim from the beaches

or explore the local shops for Cape Verdean crafts.

Day 11 Sal to London Stansted.

Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

SHIP TO SHORE

This cruise is not classified as an expedition cruise; however, Zodiac landing craft will be used on some days to land on islands which have minimal infrastructure.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Castle	Standard	£5495	£5295
Caledonian	Superior	£5695	£5495
Promenade	Premium	£5895	£5695
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£6295	£6095
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£6495	£6295
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£6695	£6495
Castle	Standard for sole use	£6695	£6495
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£6895	£6695

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

NB. For the return flight, we plan on chartering a direct flight from Sal to London Stansted. Details will be confirmed approximately eight months before departure.

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. Refillable water bottles, 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



Caledonian Lounge



The Library

Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large lounge where briefings are given by the onboard team and talks from Guest Speakers take place. Also in the Lounge is a 24-hour tea and coffee station along with an elegant bar where the onboard pianist plays periodically throughout the day. In addition there is the Lounge on the Panorama Deck which has a bar, library and further spacious seating arrangements, ideal for watching the world go by as you cruise to your next destination. The Travel Library is the perfect place to relax with a good book and is well stocked with reference books pertaining to the destinations the vessel is visiting. A selection 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). 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.

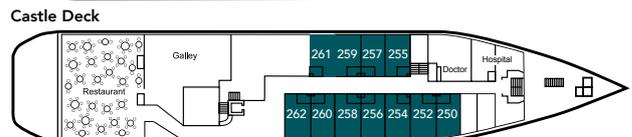
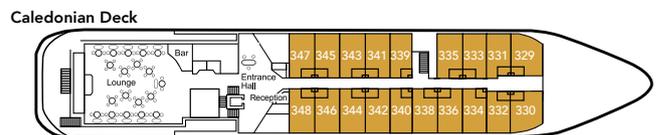
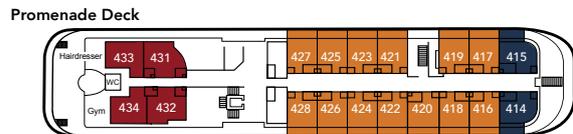
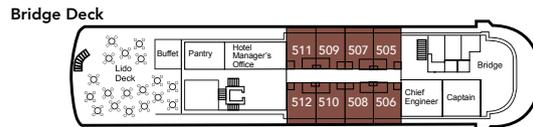
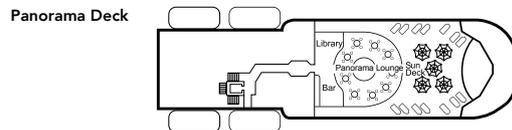
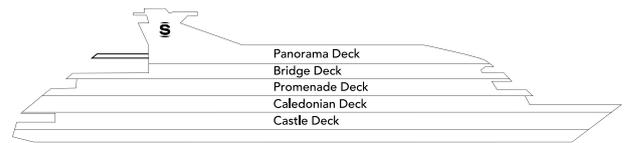
Your Comfort

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

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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: Mindelo