

VERY LIMITED AVAILABILITY REMAINING – SAVE £300 PER PERSON

HISTORY, MUSIC & GARDENS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

A luxurious springtime voyage from Athens to Rome aboard **Le Bougainville**

20th to 30th May 2019



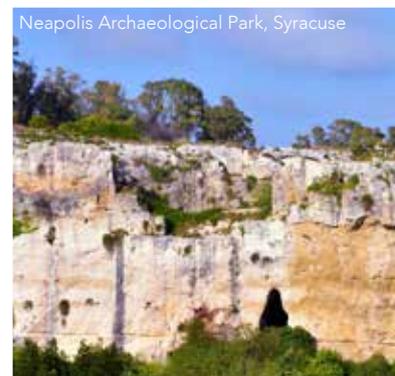
NOBLE CALEDONIA



Taormina



Palamidi castle, Nafplion



Neapolis Archaeological Park, Syracuse

Join us for this relaxing and informative voyage as we explore the Mediterranean and all its wonders. Our luxurious, small ship is perfect for this journey of discovery as we cruise to some of the most culturally fascinating and scenically beautiful places in Greece and Italy. The combined effect of the natural beauty of the islands and coast with the intriguing history and stunning architecture of the towns and cities makes this journey unforgettable.

The itinerary has been planned to ensure the balance is just right between exploring ashore and relaxing on board to enjoy the facilities of our five-star vessel as well as some time at leisure for individual exploration. It is also the most perfect time of year; verdant gardens, landscapes awash with blossoms, moderate temperatures and the ancient sites and attractive towns can be enjoyed in the absence of high season crowds.

With just a few like-minded fellow travellers and the benefit of excellent local guides and our knowledgeable guest speakers, by the end of the voyage you will have seen and learnt so much about this fascinating region. All this will be achieved with great ease from the comfort and luxury of the newly built Le Bougainville, which has the advantage of being able to access many of the region's ports which the big ships simply cannot.

VOYAGE HIGHLIGHTS

- A choice of guided excursions in select locations.
- Exclusive private concerts in stunning palaces in Syracuse and Palermo.
- Visit gardens in their springtime glory accompanied by our horticultural expert, Rosemary Legrand.
- Daylight transit of the Corinth Canal, accessible only by small ship.
- Explore spectacular Greek ruins including Delphi, Taormina & Syracuse.

GUEST SPEAKERS



Rosemary Legrand

Rosemary is a former nursery owner and daughter of the late George Hyde, who was a hybridist of azaleas and rhododendrons. Many of his award winning hybrid plants can be seen at the Royal Horticultural Society's gardens at Wisley, Surrey, the de Rothschild rhododendron gardens at Exbury, Hampshire, and the National Trust Gardens at Kingston Lacy in Dorset. Rosemary had the honour of presenting H M The Queen with a collection of her late father's azaleas named after the Queen's former Head Gardener, Fred Nutbeam, at Chelsea Flower Show in 1996. She has travelled extensively to gardens in many parts of the world and is an experienced public speaker. She is on RHS Speakers Register and also speaks for NADFAS; she wrote a number of contributions for the book, '1001 Gardens you must see before you die' and a recent article for the Royal Horticultural Society 'Rhododendron, Camellia and Magnolia 2014 Year Book'.



Philip Blake-Jones

Philip studied singing and piano at the Royal Academy of Music. As a professional opera singer he made his solo debut with Glyndebourne Festival Opera and was a principle with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company which included national tours and singing Strephon in the most recent recording of Iolanthe. He is the Artistic Director of London Festival Opera and over twenty-five years has produced opera performances in a wide range of venues including Buxton Opera House, Windsor Theatre Royal, St John's Smith Square, St James's Palace, Kensington Palace, 10 Downing Street, Guildhall and Mansion House. Overseas performances include the British Embassy in Paris, the President's Palace in Malta and La Fenice Opera House in Venice. Most recently he has created and presented performances for Salisbury and Windsor Festivals and a lecture on performing opera internationally at the House of Lords.



Palermo



Delphi

THE ITINERARY



Day 1 London to Athens, Greece.

Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival, transfer to Le Bougainville, moored in Piraeus and enjoy drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

Day 2 Nafplion. Looking out across the translucent water of the bay towards the Arcadian Mountains, Nafplion's sheltered location below a rocky headland and large natural fortress crowned by a Venetian castle is perhaps unrivalled in Greece. This morning we will visit one of the most renowned of Greece's ancient sites. Situated on the slopes of a beautiful and wooded valley, Epidaurus was known throughout the Hellenic world for its unique medical facilities and healing treatments. Dedicated to Aesclepius, the god of healing, the city was filled with curative spas and baths and only priests had access to certain secret rites. Most of the ruins of Epidaurus have been reduced to their foundations, with the exception of the astonishing theatre. Built into the ground, rather than above it, it is known for its fantastic acoustics. Return to Nafplion and enjoy time wandering the twisting labyrinthine

streets, view the Venetian and Turkish architecture and maybe enjoy a pre-dinner drink ashore. Alternatively take a scenic drive through the Argos Plain to Nemea, the site of a religious sanctuary which hosted the pan-Hellenic athletic games every two years from 573 BC until 271 BC. Nemea was not a town or settlement but a venue where festivities were held during the games and our tour will include the Temple of Zeus, the bath house and the stadium before spending time in the small but excellent onsite museum. Nemea is also famous for its red wines and we will enjoy a wine tasting at a local vineyard and lunch at a local restaurant before we continue to the famous citadel of Mycenae. Located high above the confluence of two boulder strewn ravines, once inside the gate, we will explore the Royal Palace, the shaft graves and the remains of the city walls. An archaeological briefing within the Treasury of Artrus will add to our understanding and appreciation of the sights.

Day 3 Corinth Canal & Delphi. Be on deck this morning as we transit the Corinth Canal. Completed in 1893 and only 6.4 kilometres long and 21.5 metres wide, it is only small ships like ours which can now make this journey. We spend the remainder of the morning cruising arriving into Itea at lunchtime our base for an afternoon at Delphi, one of Greece's most important sites of antiquity. The ruins here are exceptional and we will explore the Sanctuary of Apollo, site of the

sacred Delphic Oracle and walk along Delphi's Sacred Way, visiting the Treasury of the Athenians and the 5000 seat theatre dating from the 4th century BC.

Day 4 Olympia. The port of Katakolon will be our base today for our excursion to Olympia. Pastoral and lush, Olympia's plentiful ruins are shaded by Aleppo pines and olive trees. The fame of Olympia rests upon the Olympic Games. During the celebrations that accompanied the Games, competitors, while not forgetting that they were Athenians, Spartans or from other city states, remembered that they were Greeks and regarded an Olympic victory as the highest honour. We will see the gymnasium, the stadium and the palaestra or wrestling school. We will also explore the Altis, or sacred precinct of Zeus, which houses structures including the Temple of Zeus, one of the largest temples on the Greek mainland and the Archaeological Museum which houses some fine sculptures and artefacts from the site. Return to the ship for lunch and relax on board as we spend the afternoon at sea.

Day 5 Syracuse, Sicily. After a morning at sea we will arrive in Sicily at the port of Syracuse which was founded by the Greeks in 734 BC and by the 5th century was a political and military power throughout the Mediterranean, rivalling Athens as the largest and most beautiful city in the

Greek world. This morning you may choose to visit the Neapolis Archaeological Park to discover the well-preserved Greek theatre with seats carved from limestone. Paradise Quarry, now an attractive garden and orange grove, was the primary source of that limestone and is the site of the curious 'Dionysus' Ear' – a vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. Alternatively enjoy a private visit to the gardens of the Marquis of San Giuliano. See the Mediterranean, Arabian and Tropical gardens which owe much to the head gardener, Rachel Lamb. After dinner this evening we will transfer to a stunning private 18th century palace, located in the central square near the cathedral where we will enjoy a private concert.

Day 6 Giardini Naxos for Taormina or Mount Etna. We anchor this morning in Giardini Naxos, the oldest Greek settlement in Sicily which dates from 735 BC and our base for our visit to Taormina, a walled town lying in the shadow of Mount Etna. Popular since the 19th century as a holiday resort it nevertheless has some truly impressive sites including the 3rd century Greek Theatre, Palazzo Corvaja, a 15th century building adorned with the classic double windows, Corso Umberto, the Cathedral and the public gardens. After our tour we return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon in Giardini Naxos to explore the small town independently or relax on the local beach. Alternatively you may prefer to drive to Mount



Etna, Europe's largest active volcano. We will climb to the Cratere Silvestri which at 1950 metres above sea level offers wonderful views out to the Gulf of Catania. Before we return to the ship we visit one of the vineyards which benefits from the nutrients in the volcanic soils to produce excellent wines and is now one of the premier wine growing regions. We will learn about the cultivation and enjoy a tasting with Sicilian delicacies.

Day 7 Palermo. Over breakfast we arrive in Palermo famous for its jumbled and picturesque streets punctuated with ornate Baroque churches, domed Arab mosques and the glittering Byzantine mosaics that reveal a unique and diverse heritage. There will be a choice of tours today, enjoy a city tour or join an excursion to visit the remarkable Byzantine mosaics in the cathedral at Monreale. Alternatively take the drive along the coast to Cefalu where a walking tour will include the splendid Norman-Arab Cathedral, begun in 1131 and famous for its mosaics as well as a Medieval wash-house and the Osterio Magno, the 11th century residence of King Ruggiero II. This evening, after an early dinner, return to the centre of Palermo for an exclusive private concert and cocktail reception at one of the stunning palazzo, a truly fitting end to our time in Palermo.

Day 8 Lipari Island, Italy.

This morning we arrive at the picturesque island of Lipari situated in the Aeolian Islands off the north coast of Sicily. Here we will find an amazing collection of ruins from the prehistoric through to the Roman period. Lipari town is a thriving little place prettily located between two harbours. Our morning tour includes a visit to the upper town set within fortress walls, a drive around the volcano followed by a visit to the

Archaeological Museum with its impressive relics from nearby excavations. After lunch there will be some free time for further exploration of the attractive port before we sail in the early afternoon. In the early evening we will anchor off the island of Stromboli, the 'Lighthouse of the Mediterranean' where we enjoy dinner on board and, if weather permits, we hope to view the eruptions from island's active volcano.

Day 9 Amalfi Coast. Awake this morning at our anchorage off the town of Amalfi for a full day to enjoy the stunning Amalfi Coast. Amalfi has a Spanish flavour, its white houses sitting on the rocks facing a bright blue bay. Flanked by an old Saracen tower and a 12th century Capuchin monastery, Amalfi boasts a splendid cathedral dating from the 11th century that is covered with geometrical designs in coloured stones. Enjoy time to walk the town or maybe people watch from one of the cafes by the marina. There will also be a chance to join a tour to Ravello where we will visit the beautiful gardens of the Villa Cimbrone. Transformed in the early 20th century by Lord Grimthorpe and Vita Sackville-West, it is an essentially English style garden perched high above the sea offering "the most beautiful panorama in the world". A visit will also be made to Villa Rufolo which it is said inspired Wagner in his composition of Parsifal and has a garden referred to as "Garden of the soul". Alternatively join a local boat for a cruise to Positano, considered the prettiest town along the coast where white Moorish style houses cling to the slopes around a small sparkling bay.

Day 10 Naples. Arrive this morning in Naples and see the Norman castle that protects the port and



the backdrop of Vesuvius in the distance. We have a choice of activities today and you may choose to spend the day on the garden island of Ischia. We will travel to the island by ferry from Naples and on arrival on the island our focus will be La Mortella, a wonderful garden designed by architect Russell Page for Lord and Lady William Walton. Divided into two parts called the Valley and Upper Garden, the areas are linked by a network of paths and inviting walks from where you can enjoy the breathtaking views of the Bay of Forio. Spread over two hectares there are fountains, ponds, streams and scattered everywhere are water loving plants. After some free time, we will have lunch in a local restaurant. Alternatively enjoy a day in Naples where a morning tour will take us to Herculaneum. This wealthy Roman town was completely submerged by volcanic mud following the AD79 eruption of Vesuvius. Since



its rediscovery in 1709, excavations have revealed beautiful public baths, villas and gardens of noble families, decorated with murals and floor mosaics, and the remains of a theatre. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a free afternoon in Naples or join us on a guided tour of the spectacular San Carlo Opera House. Founded in 1737, it is the oldest opera house in Italy. Illustrious composers such as Bach, Haydn, Rossini, Verdi and Puccini have all graced the theatre with their immortal music.

Day 11 Civitavecchia to London.

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

SHIP TO SHORE

Please note that we will be at anchor at the following ports and will use local boats/Zodiacs to tender ashore: Giardini Naxos, Lipari, Amalfi.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

LIMITED AVAILABILITY REMAINING – SAVE £300 PER PERSON

Stateroom/Suite Category	Deck	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
1 Deluxe Stateroom	3	£5995	£5695
2 Prestige Stateroom	4 & 5	£6295	£5995
3 Prestige Stateroom	6	£6695	£6395
4 Deluxe Suite	3, 4 & 5	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
5 Deluxe Suite	6	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
6 Privilege Suite	5	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
7 Privilege Suite	6	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
8 Prestige Suite	5	£7895	£7595
9 Prestige Suite	6	£8595	£8295
10 Grand Deluxe Suite	5, 6	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
11 Owner's Suite	6	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
1 Deluxe Stateroom for Sole Use	3	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
2 Prestige Stateroom for Sole Use	4	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard Le Bougainville on a full board basis with open bar • Onboard team including Guest Speakers • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Group transfers • Permits and port taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance.

PRE & POST-CRUISE EXTENSIONS



ATHENS PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION

18th to 20th May 2019

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Athens, Greece. Fly by scheduled flight and on arrival transfer to our central hotel for a two night stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure before we meet for dinner tonight.

Day 2 Athens. After breakfast we drive to the Acropolis, a symbol of the glory of ancient Greece. We will see the Temple of Athena Nike (Wingless Victory), and the Erechtheum, with its classical Porch of Maidens, the Caryatids. Stand in awe of what is considered the most perfect example of classical architecture in the world – the Parthenon, designed as a shrine to Athena and at one time housing a massive gold and ivory statue of the warrior goddess. A brief walk will bring you to the new Acropolis museum with artefacts from the site. After our visit we will make our way to Plaka for a traditional Greek lunch. This afternoon is free to explore independently, you may wish to visit the National Archaeological Museum, Temple of Olympian

Zeus, the Panathenaic Stadium or take the funicular up Mount Lycabettus.

Day 3 Athens. Enjoy a morning and lunch at leisure before we transfer to Le Bougainville, moored in Piraeus.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£425**; Single: **£695**

Price Includes: Two nights accommodation in Athens on a bed and breakfast basis, dinner on day 1, lunch on day 2, excursions, Tour Manager, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel insurance, meals not mentioned in itinerary.



ROME POST-CRUISE EXTENSION

30th May to 2nd June 2019

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 Civitavecchia to Rome. Disembark after breakfast and drive to Rome where on an orientation drive we will take in the sites of the Eternal City including the Colosseum, an amphitheatre large enough to seat 80,000 spectators at Roman events which was built between 75 and 80 AD. We will visit the well preserved Arch of Constantine, the Roman Forum, with its majestic columns and ruins and Piazza Venezia, dominated by the imposing Monument to Vittorio Emanuele II. As we pass by the Capitoline Hill, the city's oldest settlement and most sacred site, we will see the remains of Marcellus Theatre, the Circus Maximus, Caracalla Baths and the Tiber River. Also see Castel Sant'Angelo and the Vatican State with St. Peter's Basilica. After lunch we will transfer to our hotel for check in and have the afternoon and evening at leisure to explore further independently.

Day 2 Tivoli. Today we visit two magnificent villas in Tivoli. The Villa Adriana is an exceptional complex of classical buildings created in the 2nd century AD by the Roman Emperor Hadrian. We will have time to enjoy some lunch in the town of Tivoli before we continue to Villa d'Este,

masterpiece of the Italian Garden and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Return to the hotel this afternoon and enjoy a free evening.

Day 3 Rome. Enjoy a full day at leisure. We will meet tonight for dinner.

Day 4 Rome to London. After a leisurely breakfast in the hotel we will check out and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£995**; Single: **£1495**

Price Includes: Three nights accommodation in Rome on a bed and breakfast basis, dinner on day 3, lunches on days 1 & 2, excursions, Tour Manager, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel insurance, meals not mentioned in itinerary.



LE BOUGAINVILLE

For this fascinating itinerary we are delighted to have chartered Le Bougainville, a luxurious vessel with just 75 staterooms and suites. Currently being built, this elegant vessel offers a subtle blend of sophistication combined with comfort creating the feeling of being aboard a private yacht. After a day of exploration, you can return to the ship's spacious and luxurious surroundings and enjoy high quality cuisine with the added advantage of an open bar. Staterooms and suites are located over four decks, and all feature balconies. Public areas include two restaurants, a lecture theatre, a swimming pool, a shop, two lounge bars, a spa and fitness centre.

Your Stateroom / Suite

Staterooms and suites are spread over four decks and include deluxe and prestige staterooms, both of which measure 19 square metres, deluxe suites which measure 27.5 square metres, privilege suites which measure 32 square metres, prestige suites which measure 38 square metres and grand deluxe suites and the magnificent owner's suite, both of which measure 45 square metres. All staterooms and suites feature a private

balcony ranging in size from 4 to 30 square metres dependent on cabin category. The owner's suite also boasts a private hot tub. All staterooms and suites feature en-suite facilities, individually controlled air-conditioning, desk with stationery, minibar, flat screen satellite television, video on demand and I-pods. A security safe, hairdryer, direct dial telephone, Wi-Fi internet access, bathrobes and French bath products are also provided.

Your Space

Whether you want to join other guests in one of the bars or to relax on your own in a quiet corner of the ship, Le Bougainville has been designed to meet the needs of every guest. On Deck 3 you will find the reception desk, shop and large lecture theatre. The Main Lounge leads out to the Grill Restaurant and pool with loungers and chairs. Leading down to Deck 2 there is a hydraulic platform, with adjustable height, which provides ease when embarking and disembarking the Zodiacs. Deck 4 features the Panoramic Restaurant, and on Deck 6 you will find the Panoramic Lounge offering fantastic views. Deck 7 houses the spa area which includes a massage facility, a hammam, a hairdresser and fitness room.

Your Dining

The cuisine on board is worthy of the finest restaurants, where discreet, attentive service is standard. The Panoramic Restaurant is situated on Deck 4 and can accommodate all passengers in a single sitting. This dining area has a buffet of salads,

desserts and cheeses, and there is also table service for hot meals. At the smaller, more casual Grill Restaurant on Deck 3, you will have the opportunity to eat lunch outside. House wine and beer will be served during lunch and dinner. Room service is also available.

Life On Board

Aboard Le Bougainville, the atmosphere is akin to being on your own private yacht. The independence and space of each guest has been considered in the design of the vessel and therefore you will find plenty of places to sit and relax in solitude, as well as areas for social gatherings and to meet fellow guests. The Captain, his officers and the hotel management are European and all crew members are fully bilingual.

For Your Comfort

Le Bougainville meets the highest safety specifications and the crew of 110 will ensure the best possible service. The ship is equipped with state of the art technology. There is also a doctor on board and lifts that serve all decks.

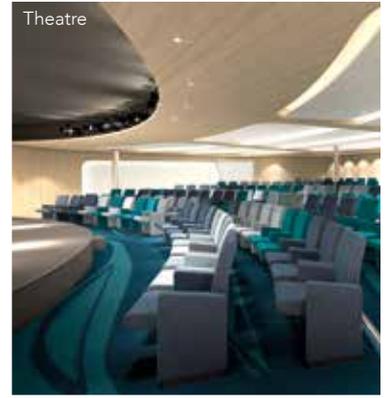




Stateroom



Lounge



Theatre



Marina



Restaurant

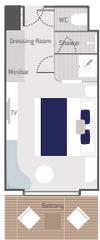


Pool

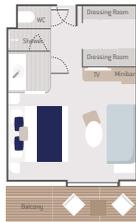
DECK & CABIN PLANS

Please note that the images shown are artist illustrations and photos will be available once the ship has been launched. Whilst the décor may differ slightly the overall look and design of the vessel will be very similar to the images shown.

CATEGORIES 1, 2 & 3



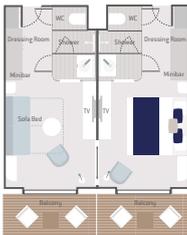
CATEGORIES 4 & 5



CATEGORIES 6 & 7



CATEGORIES 8 & 9



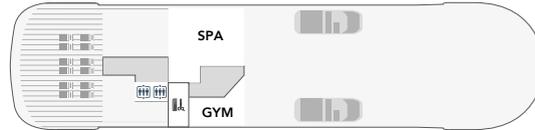
CATEGORY 10



CATEGORY 11



DECK 7



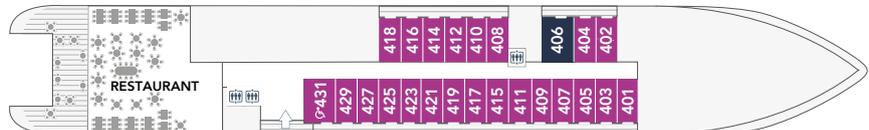
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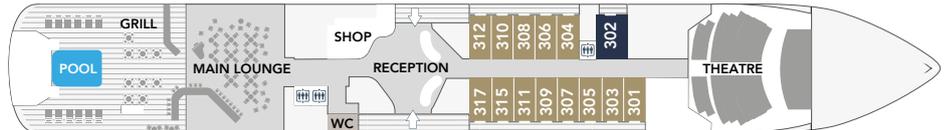
DECK 5



DECK 4



DECK 3



DECK 2



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| CATEGORY 2 | CATEGORY 5 | CATEGORY 8 | CATEGORY 11 |
| CATEGORY 3 | CATEGORY 6 | CATEGORY 9 | |



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request. Ports subject to change.
Cover image: Positano, Amalfi Coast.

