

NOBLE CALEDONIA

LAUNCH
OFFER - SAVE
£500
PER PERSON

IN THE WAKE OF THE BOUNTY

An epic voyage from Easter Island & through
the South Seas aboard the MS Island Sky

2nd to 23rd April 2019



Nuku Hiva



Local dance, South Pacific



Exploring by Zodiac

Join us in paradise on a leisurely passage through the South Seas to an area long associated with Captain Cook, Captain Bligh and the Bounty, and Gauguin. We can promise you an unforgettable voyage to a corner of the world which has lured adventurers and romantics alike ever since Magellan first sailed to these waters in 1521.

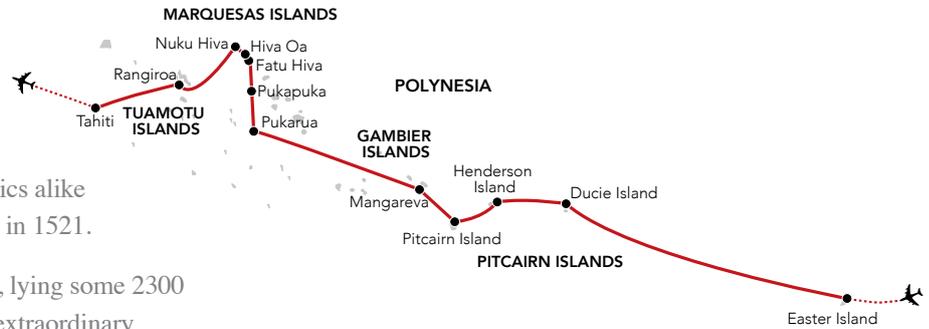
Our expedition begins on Easter Island, which, lying some 2300 miles off the coast of Chile is blessed with an extraordinary collection of remarkable archaeological sites which we will explore before setting sail aboard the MS Island Sky for our exploration of the South Pacific's islands and atolls. From coral reefs teeming with life to powerful legends that shaped history, each island is unique, each culture distinct. On the more remote islands, villages are still composed of thatched houses, set amongst the shade of the breadfruit and coconut trees. Many islands are important nesting grounds for seabirds and sea turtles and the lagoons everywhere are breeding grounds for countless species of fish. With our fleet of Zodiac landing craft we will explore inlets, bird sanctuaries and land in otherwise inaccessible places accompanied by an expert expedition team including naturalists, marine biologists and ornithologists who will share their knowledge and enthusiasm during forays ashore and whilst on board.

Our View

"We have been operating voyages in the South Pacific for over twenty years and this voyage from Easter Island to Tahiti has always been one of the most popular itineraries. The reason is clear to see as how else, other than by a small expedition ship, could you combine the culture of Easter Island, the history of Pitcairn Island and the remote natural wonders of the islands that dot the ocean providing refuge for indigenous birds and sea creatures or the beauty of the Marquesas that so inspired Paul Gauguin. Our journey covers over 3000 nautical miles and many of the places we visit can only be accessed by the ships nimble Zodiac fleet meaning that once we have landed on a remote beach, we will be the only guests ashore."

Voyage Highlights

- Opportunity to visit some of the iconic sites of the South Pacific in one voyage. From the Moai's of Easter Island, to the historic Pitcairn Island, Gauguin's islands in the Marquesas and the idyllic Tuamotus.
- Combination of history, culture and wildlife brought to life by on board team.
- Opportunities for snorkelling, nature walks and endemic birding opportunities, plus unique cultural experiences.
- Ability to visit remote atolls which are unaccessible to ships larger than ours and meet communities living remote existences.



What To Expect...

Flexibility is the key to an expedition cruise; sometimes the whole day's schedule will be changed to maximise your experience, something that would not be possible on a large cruise ship. Each day holds something new and below are some extracts from the ship's log from last season which will provide you with an idea of what to expect.



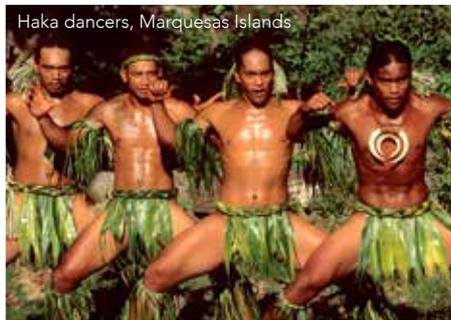
Pitcairn Island

The long awaited day finally arrived. At dawn, we sailed towards tiny Pitcairn Island which was silhouetted against pink skies and as we approached closer still, a beautiful rainbow. What an amazing welcome to such a mystical place. Pitcairn Island is of course so well known for its true story of the famous mutiny led by Fletcher Christian against William Bligh on the HMAV Bounty and the Pandora expedition sent to capture the mutineers which ended so disastrously. By 08.00 there was bright sunshine and clear blue skies overhead as the Zodiac shuttles between the ship and aptly named Bounty Bay began. The shuttle itself was an adventure as the Zodiac drivers carefully timed their entry to the harbour on the back of increasingly large waves. On arrival we were welcomed at the small harbour by a group of Pitcairn islanders who provided us with maps and some basic information about the island before we made our way up the Hill of Difficulty to the main square at Adamstown. At the main square and on the roads either side, the islanders had set up market style stalls where we were able to buy much sought after souvenirs such as t-shirts, wooden handicrafts, books, postcards, jewellery and honey which are a key source of income for the 50 or so inhabitants living on the island. The expedition team arranged a series of guided walks around the island.

After lunch on board, a new set of activities ensued, kicking off with the much anticipated opening of the post office to buy stamps and souvenir first day covers as well as opening the doors to the island museum where we could see artefacts from the days of the mutineers including the original bible from the Bounty as well as more recent history. Mid-afternoon we returned to the ship where it was clear as everyone chattered together about how they had spent their day and the great conversations we had enjoyed with our island hosts. There was no doubt that thus far Pitcairn Island was a voyage highlight.



Clownfish



Haka dancers, Marquesas Islands



Hiva Oa



Tiki carving, Hiva Oa

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Santiago, Chile. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Santiago. Arrive this morning and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. Enjoy the afternoon and evening at leisure to relax and enjoy the hotel facilities or explore the city independently.

Day 3 Santiago to Easter Island. After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Easter Island. This afternoon we explore Rano Kau, the second oldest volcano on the island. Its huge Caldera (1.5 kilometres at its base) contains one of the island's three fresh water lakes. From the look-out at the rim of Rano Kau we continue on to the ceremonial village of Orongo, best known for the birdman cult ceremonies. The site was restored in 1974 and within the village you will see 47 restored houses. Continue to Ahu Tahai, another restored ceremonial site and one of the oldest, dating back to the 6th century. This afternoon we will transfer to the MS Island Sky for embarkation and enjoy welcome dinner and drinks on board tonight.

Day 4 Easter Island. Today we enjoy a full day tour, visiting many of the different areas where moais (statues) can be found. We will see the volcano of Rano Raraku, the site where 95% of all moais were carved and today you will find nearly 400 statues in various stages of completion. A hike to the top of the volcano's crater will not only reveal many statues but also a beautiful fresh water lake. We continue our exploration of the island with Ahu Tongariki, the largest ceremonial site in Polynesia restored in 1996 and Ahu Akivi where we find 7 maoi built around 1460B.C and which face out to sea. Lunch will be a specially arranged barbecue on Anakena beach, home of Easter Island's ancient paramount chiefs and one of the prettiest coves in the South Pacific. We sail during dinner to start our epic journey across the South Pacific.

Days 5 & 6 At Sea. We have two days to spend relaxing on deck and listening to the lectures from our onboard experts.

Day 7 Ducie Island, Pitcairn Islands. After a morning at sea we will experience expedition cruising at its finest as we hope to land on one of wildlife sanctuaries. A remote coral atoll with good snorkelling and birding, Ducie Island is so remote that no threats to its native wildlife exist, and it is one of the rare places in the world where wildlife is relatively unaffected by man's presence. Our expedition team will lead a series of walks on the island.

Day 8 Henderson Island. We arrive at Henderson Island at lunchtime and will look for a suitable landing place. This upraised former coral atoll has fascinating eroded rock formations, with giant blowholes flinging up tremendous sea spray. Very rare birds inhabit the island, including the Henderson Island rail and Stephen's Lori. Numerous underwater ravines and crevices support a great diversity of fish whilst walks on the island or along the beach will come across coconut crabs.

Days 9 & 10 Pitcairn Islands. We arrive this morning on the island of Pitcairn, famous as the final destination of the Bounty in the late 18th century. Meet the Anglo-Tahitian descendants of the mutineers of the Bounty, who arrived here 200 years ago and see the ship's anchor outside the courthouse. We will have time to explore this inspiring island setting and visit with islanders who display memorable stamps and handicrafts. We will have a Pitcairn welcome in the Town Hall before exploring the capital of Adamstown. We will set up a number of walks with our expedition staff to explore the highlights of the island. We will stay overnight or if weather permits will sail to Oeno Atoll, three uninhabited islands situated around 75 nautical miles from Pitcairn, and spend a morning. It is an important bird area due to the colony of 12,500 pairs of Murphys petrels that nest here alongside sooty tern and brown noddy. *Please note that access to the Pitcairn Islands is very weather dependent.*

Day 11 Mangareva, Gambier Islands. Mountainous Mangareva is capital of the Gambier group of

islands and home to the remarkable St Michael's cathedral with a stunning mother-of-pearl altar. On a full day call, we will have the chance to join an island nature walks, take a hike up the 440 metre Mount Duff, named after the first European vessel to visit the island in 1797, or you can simply wander around the small village. If weather permits we may also set up a snorkelling platform on the surrounding coral reef.

Day 12 Expedition Day. As we make our way towards the Tuamotu Islands we will pass by the Acteon Group of islands. These remote, uninhabited atolls were named after the HMS Acteon who sighted the islands in 1837. Landing on the islands is very weather dependent but we hope that we can spend time on Tenararo which, whilst small, is an important habitat for Tuamotu sandpipers, curlews and Murphy's petrel which are not threatened by predators. We may also have the chance to snorkel or swim from the beach.

Day 13 Pukarua, Tuamotu Islands. Located on the outer fringes of French Polynesia, Pukarua faces thousands of miles of open ocean. Onshore, its small population lives in a spirit of cooperation and friendship, living largely on coconuts and the bounty of the sea. As we visit this small community, we will be enthusiastically greeted with genuine friendliness and lively music. We will have the chance to walk through the village or enjoy a swim in the lagoon before sailing at lunch time and continuing our cruise westward.

Day 14 Pukapuka. This morning we visit Pukapuka. To honour you and fellow guests, the islanders proudly decorate their tidy village with green palm fronds and flowers, and welcome you with a fragrant flower lei and entrancing dances. Sample traditional coconut treats and watch a demonstration of how copra – the dried meat of the coconut – is prepared for its various uses. Travel to the centre of the island past coconut plantations to swim in the turquoise waters of the inner lagoon.

Day 15 Fatu Hiva, Marquesas Islands. After a morning at sea we arrive in the Marquesas Islands, far removed from the rest of the South Pacific in everything from language and culture to geology. With a landscape of spectacular pinnacles towering over the cobalt Bay of Virgins, Fatu Hiva is one of the most floral and pristine islands. Villagers will perform their traditional dances and demonstrate their handicrafts of wood carvings and tapa making. Afterwards our expedition team will run a series of nature walks either climbing to the view point, searching for birds with our ornithologist or a nature walk to the waterfall. Meanwhile a snorkel platform will be set up for those who wish to swim.

Day 16 Hiva Oa. At first light we arrive at volcanic Hiva Oa. We will anchor off Atohuna where if we are lucky we may find mantarays before ashore. Our morning will be dedicated to Gauguin, the iconic artist of the South Pacific. We will visit his museum and make a pilgrimage to his final resting place, soaking up the landscape that inspired him to leave it all behind and go native. This afternoon we reposition the ship to Puamau and visit the Oipona me'ae temple, one of the best preserved archaeological sites in French Polynesia and home to the eight foot tall Tiki Takali. On our return to the ship you may wish to enjoy a swim from the beach.

Day 17 Nuku Hiva. Our last day in the Marquesas will be at Nuka Hiva, the largest of the Islands and the island group's economic capital. Today we will immerse ourselves in local culture and geography. Traditional Marquesan dancers welcome us to their village. We will visit the archeological centres at Kamuihei and Hikoku'a and see the temples, petroglyphs and tiki. Meanwhile a series of island walks will investigate the nature of the island whilst there will also be a chance to swim from the beaches. Return to the ship for lunch as we sail this afternoon.

Day 18 At Sea. Spend the day relaxing on board, maybe join the lecture programme or find a spot on deck.



Day 19 Rangiroa, Tuamotu Islands.

As one of the world's largest coral atolls, Rangiroa has a magnificent lagoon surrounded by small islets or motus, stretching as far as the eye can see. Today, a variety of activities await. There will be a chance to tour a black pearl farm, enjoy free time in the enchanting local village of Avatoru or have a last chance to snorkel or swim.

Day 20 Tahiti to London.

Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return indirect scheduled flight to London.

Day 21 En Route.

Day 22 London. Arrive this morning.

Post-Cruise Moorea Extension - 21st to 23rd April 2019



Extend your time in Tahiti with our two night stay on the island of Moorea, the heart shaped island situated close to the main island of Tahiti and renowned as one of the most beautiful in the world. From our hotel base there will be the opportunity to enjoy water sports or alternatively you may wish to explore the island seeing the plantations of cotton, coffee, sugarcane and pineapples and the majestic mountains with views over the island and wonderful waterfalls.

Prices per person based on double occupancy

Twin: **£695** Single: **£945**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Moorea on a bed and breakfast basis, transfers from the MS Island Sky to hotel and hotel to airport using local boats and vehicles, half day island tour. **Not Included:** Travel insurance, visas.

Post-Cruise Santa Monica Extension - 22nd to 24th April 2019



Break your journey back to the UK with a two night stay in Santa Monica, Los Angeles. Enjoy two nights at JW Marriott Le Merigot (or similar) on a bed and breakfast basis with time at leisure to explore at your own pace.

Prices per person based on double occupancy

Twin: **£595** Single: **£945**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Santa Monica on a bed and breakfast basis, airport transfers. **Not Included:** Travel Insurance, US Visa.



PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER - SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY			
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard Forward	£10995	£10495
Magellan	Standard	£11295	£10795
Columbus	Superior	£11795	£11295
Marco Polo	Premium	£12295	£11795
Marco Polo	Corner	£12995	£12495
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£13495	£12995
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£13695	£13195
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£15495	£14995
Marco Polo	Premium for sole use	£16495	£15995

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel for international flights, overnight hotel accommodation on bed and breakfast basis in Santiago, 17 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis, house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, Noble Caledonia expedition team, shore excursions, gratuities, group transfers, port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas.



MS Island Sky

The much loved MS Island Sky is one 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 Island Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks.



Standard Suite



Dining on deck



Lounge

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, having been in service aboard large 2000 plus passenger vessels and who now prefer a less frantic life aboard a small ship. If, like them and us, you prefer a more peaceful life at sea, you will find the MS Island Sky the perfect ship. When choosing the vessel for your next voyage of discovery, you can select a ship with endless entertainment and impersonal service or come with us where peace, high quality service and attention to detail are the order of the day.

There will be no organised entertainment, fancy dress, deck games or any of the usual big ship experiences. The atmosphere on board is more akin to a private yacht or country hotel. A little music in the lounge or bar after

dinner, informative port briefings and presentations from our expedition team and of course good food which may be enjoyed leisurely in the attractive dining room, all contribute to making any voyage aboard the MS Island Sky a memorable experience. After a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well run and exceedingly comfortable ship.

Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large lounge where daily briefings and talks will be provided throughout the voyage and an elegant bar where a pianist plays periodically throughout the day. The onboard library is the perfect place to relax with a book. Daily newspapers and magazines are placed in the library depending on local availability. Outside there is a rear sun deck, a bar and comfortable deck furniture for sun bathing or relaxing with a book. On the top deck there is a further observation and sun deck.



Deluxe Balcony Suite



Restaurant



Library

Your Dining

Another benefit of a small ship is the quality of the cuisine. With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the galley is able to provide delicious meals. Where possible and when it meets his high standards, the chef will obtain local produce in markets or buy the catch of the day from a passing fishing boat. In the main elegant dining room, breakfast is served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order and lunch and dinner is à la carte. When weather permits, breakfast and a buffet-style lunch are also served on deck. To enhance your dining experience even further a selection of wines are included with lunch and dinner. Afternoon tea is served in the lounge and tea and coffee are available 24 hours.

of a private yacht. The passenger accommodation is arranged over five decks and all suites have outside views. Each affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, large wardrobes, dressing table with large mirror and stool and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, flat screen television with inbuilt DVD/CD player and a telephone in each suite. Bottled water, Molton Brown toiletries, towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, air-conditioning and heating.

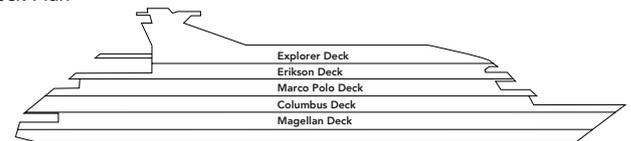


Exploring by Zodiac

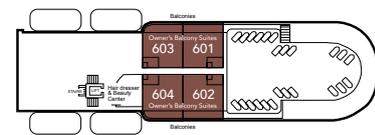
Your Suite

On board there are 57 exceptionally spacious and well designed suites. All feature a sitting room area and some have private balconies. The feeling of luxury is enhanced by the wood panelling and brass, which predominates throughout the vessel conveying the atmosphere

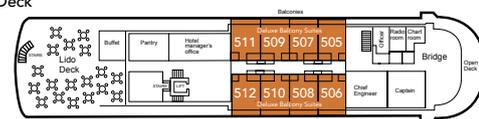
Deck Plan



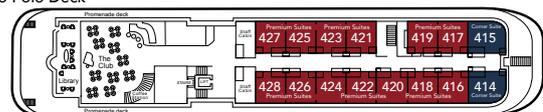
Explorer Deck



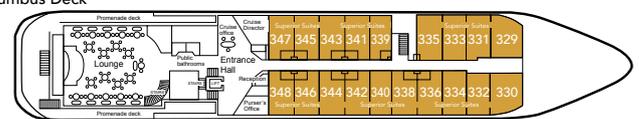
Erikson Deck



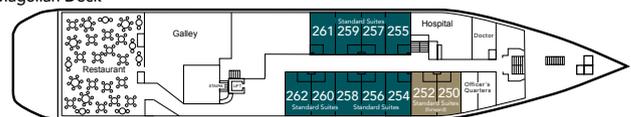
Marco Polo Deck



Columbus Deck



Magellan Deck



- Standard Suites (Forward)
- Premium Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Standard Suites
- Corner Suites
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Superior Suites



This cruise visits out of the way destinations. You will be accompanied by an expedition team and some landings ashore will be made by Zodiac landing craft. Cruises such as this will appeal to the more adventurous and those who enjoy the natural world.

NOBLE CALEDONIA

2 Chester Close, Belgravia, London, SW1X 7BE
 +44 (0)20 7752 0000 | info@noble-caledonia.co.uk | www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

