

EXCLUSIVE CHARTER FLIGHTS INCLUDED

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£200
PER PERSON

ISLAND HOPPING IN CAPE VERDE

AN IN-DEPTH DISCOVERY OF THE
CAPE VERDE ARCHIPELAGO
ABOARD THE MS HEBRIDEAN SKY
11TH TO 22ND NOVEMBER 2022

NOBLE CALEDONIA



Join us aboard the wonderfully comfortable MS Hebridean Sky as she undertakes an island hopping adventure; exactly the type of itinerary that suits her best. For our November voyage, we have the added benefit of specially chartered return flights from London, so you will be travelling exclusively with Noble Caledonia passengers.

Like the Azores but even more remote, the Cape Verde Islands are an intriguing archipelago located off the coast of Senegal and during our in-depth discovery of the islands we will explore volcanic landscapes, colonial towns and villages and breathtaking beaches. Every new day brings a different vista and in the company of just 100 or so like-minded travel companions, we will be able to fully explore the dramatic beauty and cultural vibrancy of this amazingly varied group of islands.

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 in the most remote places and explore. For those who enjoy visiting out of the way islands where tourists are a rarity, this is the perfect opportunity.

We have designed our itinerary ensuring it is both a leisurely and in-depth one with ample time on each island to enjoy the included guided excursion and also spend some time exploring at your own pace, absorbing the local culture and atmosphere of the charming towns independently. In order to experience the cultural diversity of the islands, our guided excursions include visits to the lively markets, a local music and a capoeira display on board, the opportunity to discover and taste ‘Grogue’, the national drink of the islands at a traditional distillery, a visit to a socio-cultural tourism and agriculture project and the chance to enjoy a performance of Batuco dance.





Santa Maria, Sal



Pico do Fogo



Tarrafal, Sao Tiago



Loggerhead sea turtle

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Mindelo, Cape Verde. Fly by exclusive charter flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky in Mindelo where we moor overnight.

Days 2 & 3 Mindelo, Sao Vicente. Spend two days in Mindelo, one of the most attractive of all the Cape Verde towns with its colonial buildings, cobbled streets, cafes and lively restaurants. We will take a discovery tour of the lively markets and the secret corners of the harbour town and learn about the life of the local artists and their works by visiting the national museum of handicraft. Meanwhile an island drive will take us through the agricultural valley and up the highest mountain "Monte Verde" offering great views over the plantations and neighbouring islands. We will ensure we sample some of the islands local coffee and offer time to explore at your own pace before we enjoy local music and a capoeira display on board the ship.

Days 4 & 5 Porto Novo, Sao Antao. We have two days on the most beautiful of the islands, Sao Antao. During our time we will drive up the old trading route and past the volcanic crater 'Cova' with its agricultural plantations. 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. We will discover 'Grogue', the national drink of the islands and have a taste of it at the oldest traditional Grogue distillery on the island. Visit the driest part of the island in the valley of Ribeira das Patas and see the bizarre rock formation volcanic eruptions have left behind. Take in the spectacular view over two valleys at Selada de Altomira and visit a socio-cultural tourism and agriculture project

and enjoy some snacks organised by the project itself with local specialities.

Day 6 Tarrafal, Sao Nicolau. Sao Nicolau is a charming, peaceful and attractive island of plantations, small holdings 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 enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

Day 7 Sal. The island of Sal was relatively undeveloped until the mid-nineteenth century when the salt export business was established and 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 at leisure and shuttle buses will run to the town of Santa Maria where you can enjoy the beaches or explore the local shops for Cape Verdean crafts.

Days 8 & 9 Fogo & Brava. Spend the next two days on the neighbouring islands of 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. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant and listen to local guides talk of the eruptions of 1995 and 2014, over local wines. There will then be the option to return to the MS Hebridean Sky or visit the main town of Sao Filipe, a



Terrace fields, Santo Antao



Mindelo



Santa Maria, Sal



gracious town of faded grandeur with its pretty squares and wide boulevards of colonial houses. 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 10 Maio. Arrive this morning in tiny Maio, a peaceful island with vast deserted beaches. Due to winds and erosion this relatively flat island shows little evidence of its volcanic past. Enjoy a relaxing day allowing for time at leisure to walk in the sand dunes and along the beach next

to the capital of Vila do Maio with its huge white Baroque church and pretty pastel painted houses. Alternatively join an informal guided walking tour of the town or join the expedition team on a nature walk.

Day 11 Praia, Sao Tiago. Today we explore the historic capital of Praia on the island of Sao Tiago. Praia has a wonderful African feel and we will 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 the ship.

Day 12 Praia to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our exclusively chartered flight to London.



Exploring by Zodiac

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 |
|------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Amundsen | Standard | £6195 | £5995 |
| Byrd | Superior | £6495 | £6295 |
| Mawson | Premium | £6695 | £6495 |
| Mawson | Corner | £6995 | £6795 |
| Scott | Deluxe Balcony | £7395 | £7195 |
| Shackleton | Owner's Balcony | £7595 | £7395 |
| Shackleton | Hebridean | £7995 | £7795 |
| Amundsen | Standard for sole use | £6795 | £6595 |
| Byrd | Superior for sole use | £6995 | £6795 |

PRICE INCLUDES: Exclusive charter flights • 11 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



Alfresco Dining



Owner's Balcony Suite



The Restaurant

The much loved MS Hebridean Sky is one of our two flagships and sister vessel to the MS Island Sky. Both vessels were built in the same shipyard in Italy at similar times and share the same excellent attributes that make them two of the finest small ships in the world. With a maximum passenger capacity of only 118, a vessel of her size is capable of carrying many more but instead the MS Hebridean Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks.

Your Suite

On board there are 59 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites. All feature a sitting 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 of a private yacht. The passenger accommodation is arranged over five decks and all suites have outside views with those on the Scott and Shackleton Decks featuring private balconies. Each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring 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 and a telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown toiletries and individually controlled air-conditioning and heating. Soft hues and blended tones enhance the traditional maritime style making the passenger accommodation an inviting and relaxing place to be.

Your Dining

With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the cuisine on board the MS Hebridean 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.



The Library



Superior Suite



The Club

Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Byrd Deck featuring a selection of seating options from individual armchairs and sofas to side cushioned benches. Daily briefings given by the Cruise Director and talks from Guest Speakers and expedition staff take place in the Lounge. In addition to the main Lounge, there is also The Club, located on the Mawson Deck which features the main bar. The Club also features a 24-hour tea and coffee station. Towards the aft of the ship on the Mawson Deck is the Library. Well stocked with reference books pertaining to the destinations the vessel is visiting and a selection of essential reads, you will not find yourself short of excellent literature on board. A collection 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*). The main Restaurant, which can seat all guests at one sitting, is located on the Amundsen Deck, and outside there is a rear Lido Deck located on the Scott Deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade. Further to this on the top Shackleton Deck there is an observation area, complete with sun loungers for sunbathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. The Promenade Deck wraps around the whole ship providing outstanding views. There is also a small beauty salon on board with appointments made on request.

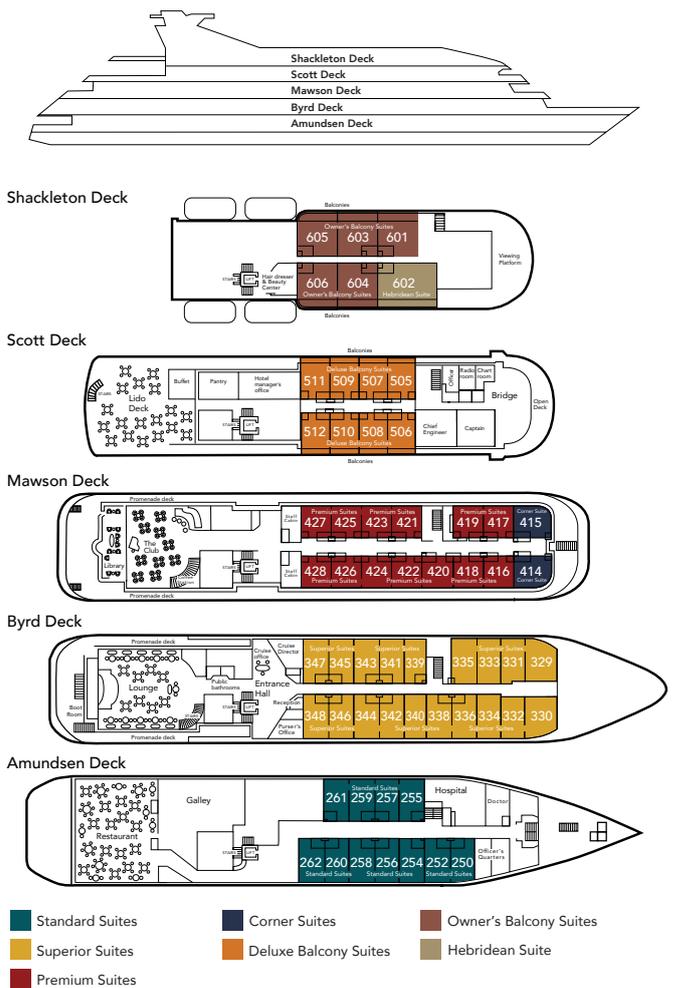
Your Comfort

The MS Hebridean 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. There is a high ratio of crew to passengers and our friendly crew of 75 are mainly Filipino and Eastern European and our 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 or bar after dinner, Guest Speakers and informative port briefings and of course good food, all contribute to make any voyage aboard this wonderful vessel a memorable and joyful experience.

MS HEBRIDEAN SKY DECK PLAN



Please note that beds in each suite can be configured as double or twin with the exception of suites 601 and 602 which feature a fixed double bed.



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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: Porto Novo, Santo Antao