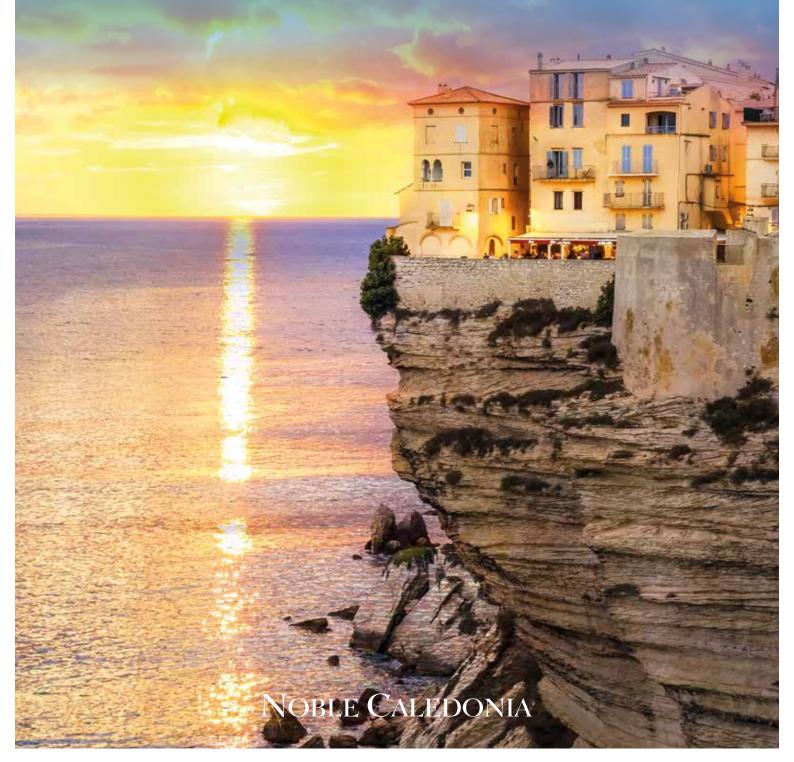


# ISLAND HOPPING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

A voyage from Malaga to Livorno aboard the MS Hebridean Sky 17<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2026



Join us aboard the all-suite MS Hebridean Sky for this relaxing and informative island hopping voyage across the Mediterranean. There is of course no shortage of cruise vessels plying the major ports and cities of the Mediterranean, but few are inclined to focus on the islands as we have done on this delightful voyage. Our intention has been to design a journey as if it were to be undertaken on a small private yacht, concentrating on some of the most picturesque and interesting places in the region. Come with us and enjoy discovering timeless islands with their aura of history, unique island lifestyles and spectacular beauty as we travel a less well-trodden path across the Mediterranean.



Late summer is the perfect time for our voyage, when the crowds of August have dispersed but the weather is perfect for touring and sightseeing. From time to time we may pass a huge cruise liner and at moments like this we can be thankful that with just over 100 fellow, like-minded travellers, we are able to visit atmospheric ports and towns which the big ships cannot access.

Upon leaving Malaga on mainland Spain, we have designed our itinerary to reach the islands of the Mediterranean combining time in the Balearic Islands of Ibiza, Mallorca and Menorca before crossing to the islands of Sardinia, Corsica and Elba, all of which are easy to visit individually but difficult to combine independently in a ten night trip. Owing to the fact that our small ship can moor centrally, we have the advantage of being able to access the towns by foot in many ports of call and in addition to the included guided tours, we have planned in ample time at leisure for individual exploration enabling you to soak up the atmosphere at your own pace. We have the added benefit of excellent local guides and our knowledgeable Guest Speaker who will add much to your experience and knowledge of these fascinating islands. Whether you are interested in ancient history, unspoiled islands or simply the joy of cruising aboard a small ship and experiencing new places and islands in this beautiful region, our voyage has something for everyone.











## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London or Manchester to Malaga, Spain.** Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive and transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky. Sail this evening.

Day 2 At Sea. Spend a relaxing day at sea as we begin our journey across the Mediterranean.

Day 3 Ibiza, Balearic Islands. Our first call in the Balearic Islands is Ibiza where vast Medieval walls guard the maze of cobbled streets of the UNESCO listed Old Town. There will be a choice of excursions this morning and you may like to join a guided tour of the old town starting at the 13th century Cathedral of Santa Maria which stands at the highest point in the fortified old town and offers marvellous views. After our visit we continue meandering down through the winding paths towards the Portal de Ses Taules, a dramatic drawbridge entrance into the old town. Alternatively, take a scenic drive to the beautiful north of the island and spend time in San Miguel, a typical village with its parish church high up on the hill and San Juan Bautista before we take the scenic woodland road to Santa Eulalia. Here you can stroll at your leisure along the promenade which is lined with open-air cafes and restaurants and has been a favourite haunt of painters since the time of Sorolla. After lunch on board the afternoon is free to explore further at your own pace.

Day 4 Palma, Mallorca. Mallorca, the largest of the Balearic Islands, has a rich history dating back to the Phoenicians when it was under the control of Carthage, the principal North African city at that time, before flourishing under Roman rule. This morning there will a choice of tours including a drive to Valldemossa, a quiet and traditional town with narrow streets and lanes constructed with blonde stone. Each doorway and street is lined with beautiful green plants and flowers making the town one of the most beautiful in Mallorca. Popular with artists, we will see some of the studios during a walking tour which will include the 13th century monastery linked with the composer Frederic Chopin, who lived here during the winter of 1838-39. Alternatively, explore Palma including the cathedral, Spain's second largest Gothic church, before we continue to the lovely Plaza Mayor. Later take in the impressive views from Bellver Castle, a unique structure in Spain being entirely round. For many centuries the castle was used as a prison but today it houses Palma's History Museum containing artefacts and pottery from the Talaiotic, Roman, Arab and Spanish periods. After lunch on board the afternoon is free to explore further at your own pace.

Day 5 Mahon, Menorca. Over breakfast we arrive in Menorca, the most northerly of the Balearics and the least dedicated to tourism. The island offers pastoral countryside, historic towns and superb beaches. A morning island drive will include the mysterious rock mounds (talayots) and megalithic stone monuments which were erected some 4000 years ago. We will continue to aristocratic Ciudadella, the architectural showpiece of Menorca. Situated at the head of a long channel from the sea, the city has had its share of disputes

over sovereignty, and its character reflects the influence of Moorish, Turkish and Spanish rule. After lunch on board you can enjoy a few hours exploring the pretty harbour town of Mahon independently before we sail this evening.

Day 6 Porto Torres for Alghero, Sardinia. We will arrive in Sardinia and the port of Porto Torres over lunch. An afternoon panoramic drive takes us to Nuraghe Palmavera with its main tower of the Nuraghe, which still has its dome shaped ceiling that dates back to 1100 BC. The complex, which was abandoned in the 5th century BC due to fire, shows the different phases of social life and political organisation of the tribal community. Continue to the Medieval city of Alghero, which was colonised by the Catalans in the 14th century and today there is still a strong Catalan identity throughout the town, and it is often even referred to as 'Barceloneta'. There will be some free time to walk through the Medieval streets and along the city walls or maybe visit the archaeological museum.

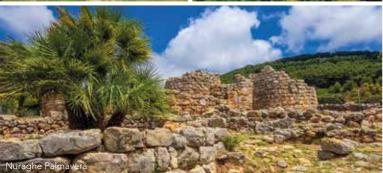
Day 7 Bonifacio, Corsica. Be on deck this morning as we arrive at Bonifacio's stunning natural harbour. Well known by Odysseus as the home of the savage and giant laestrygonians, today Bonifacio's breathtaking cliff-top setting and relaxed pace make it one of the most welcoming ports in the Mediterranean. On our morning tour we will explore the narrow streets and the historical heart of the town. We will discover the Bosco quarter with the St Francis Convent, the 14th century church of St Marie Majeure and take in the views from the clifftop on which the city is built. Afterwards maybe take a walk in the nearby Marine Park which offers some stunning views back to the town. We plan to sail late this evening allowing time for an after dinner stroll.

Day 8 Ajaccio. The capital of Corsica is famed as the birthplace of Napoleon Bonaparte whose family arrived here in 1492 with about 100 other Genoese and Ligurian families intent on colonising this part of Corsica. During our leisurely morning walking tour of the old town we will take in many of the places associated with Napoleon including the late 17th century Maison Bonaparte, which is now a museum, and Ajaccio Cathedral, where it is rumoured Napoleon was born on the cathedral steps. After lunch on board enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore further independently.

Day 9 Bastia. Situated on the north of the island of Corsica, Bastia was the old Genoese capital and is now a busy port. Its setting is handsome, the classic Mediterranean allure of pale, sunlit streets flanked by tall colourful buildings. Our walking tour of the historic quarter will include the 15th century cathedral, chapels, and Baroque buildings such as the Oratoire St Roch, Oratoire de l'Immaculee Conception and the Rococo church, St Jean Baptiste, famous for its twin campaniles. After lunch on board you can spend some free time in Bastia or alternatively join an excursion to the small fishing port of St Florent. Our drive will take us through the Nebbio which takes its name from the thick mist that sweeps over the region and is now reputed for its fine wines from







Patrimonio. On arrival in St Florent we will have time to wander the maze of narrow streets and take a coffee in one of the waterfront cafes whilst watching the yachts in the marina.

Day 10 Portoferraio, Elba. Today we call into the enchanting island of Elba, best known as Napoleon's island of exile from 1814 to 1815. Departing from the island's busy capital Portoferraio, we set out for a delightful drive exploring the southern region of this charming island with superb views over the coastline. The first stop will be Villa San Martino which was the summer residence of Napoleon Bonaparte and has been transformed into a museum. Later enjoy some time at leisure in Porto Azzurro with its picturesque harbour. Our drive continues along the coast to the 17th century country wine farm, La Chiusa, which is beautifully nestled in a vineyard estate surrounded by olive trees and overlooking the ocean. As any self-respecting mansion on Elba, La Chiusa claims to have once housed Napoleon during his exile here. We will tour the estate's interesting cellar and learn how the wine is handled and produced and in the estate's garden, which faces the sea, we will enjoy a delicious sampling of the local wine. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Portoferraio.

**Day 11 Livorno to London or Manchester.** Disembark this morning and transfer to Pisa airport for our scheduled flight to London or Manchester.

### 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
Amundsen	Standard	£6795	£6295
Byrd	Superior	£6995	£6495
Mawson	Premium	£7295	£6795
Mawson	Corner	£7595	£7095
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£7795	£7295
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£7995	£7495
Shackleton	Hebridean	£8395	£7895
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£8295	£7795
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£8595	£8095

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes • Airport taxes Not Included: Travel insurance.

# Post-cruise Florence Extension 27th to 29th September 2026

After disembarking the MS Hebridean Sky we are offering a two night extension in the beautiful city of Florence staying at the wonderful Grand Hotel Baglioni.



## The Itinerary

Day 1 Livorno to Florence, Italy. Disembark this morning as we drive to the charming Villa Poggio Torselli. This magnificent Tuscan villa, accessed by a long driveway flanked by Cypress trees, was once inhabited by the Machiavelli family and was known as the 'queen of the villas'. It is particularly famous for its gardens which date from the late 17th century and consist of an Italianate garden divided into two terraces to the south and an English park area to the north. Meanwhile the interiors are characterised by colour, tromp I'oeil and allegorical paintings which were created at the end of the 17th century. After our visit we will enjoy a local lunch before continuing to Florence to check into our hotel. The remainder of the day will be at leisure to explore the city at your own pace. (B, L)

Day 2 Florence. After breakfast in the hotel we will meet for a guided tour of Florence. Founded by the Romans, the city fell in the 15th century to the rule of the Medici family. It is considered the birthplace of the Renaissance and is possibly one of the most beautifully preserved and artistically rich cities in the world. Our tour includes the Duomo with its Brunelleschi's works of art, Giotto's Bell Tower and the Baptistery, with doors so beautiful that Michelangelo called them the 'Gates of Paradise'. We will continue to the Piazza Della Signoria, Palazzo Vecchio, Santa Croce Basilica and Ponte Vecchio, the only bridge in Florence to survive the bombings during World War Two. The afternoon is at leisure for you to see more of the city or maybe visit one of the art galleries under your own arrangements. (B)

Day 3 Florence to London. Check out and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. (B)



#### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£895** Single: **£1195** 

**Price Includes:** Two nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch), tours as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

# MS HEBRIDEAN SKY









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, 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 Noble Isle 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  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right)$ 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 the Club. Tea and coffee are also available 24 hours a day. Special diets can be catered for with sufficient notice







#### 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.

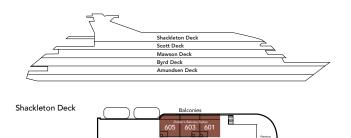
#### Your Comfort

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

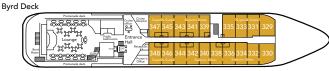
The atmosphere on board is warm and convivial and more akin to a private yacht or country hotel in which you can learn more about the wonderful destinations you are visiting in the company of like-minded people. There is a high ratio of crew to passengers and our friendly crew of 75 are mainly Filipino 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.

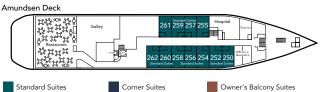
#### MS HEBRIDEAN SKY DECK PLAN













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.



## Noble Caledonia

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



