

# ISLAND HOPPING IN THE WEST INDIES

LUXURY UNDER SAIL ABOARD THE  
MAGNIFICENT SEA CLOUD II

1<sup>ST</sup> TO 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY; 14<sup>TH</sup> TO 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY\*;  
27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY TO 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018

SPECIAL  
OFFER - SAVE  
**£300**  
PER PERSON

NOBLE CALEDONIA



Admiralty Bay, Bequia

Just when winter seems to be endless, it is the perfect time to escape to the warmth and beauty of the West Indies. Every island is different, each with its unique character, and by and large we will head for the smaller less visited places during our voyage aboard the magnificent Sea Cloud II. Occasionally our paths will cross with the mega-factory like cruise ships and it is at such times we will appreciate even more how fortunate we are to be enjoying our classic ship that embodies all the best sailing traditions.

To be on deck when the sails are fully extended as we navigate through the West Indies is a marvellous experience. The forces of nature and ingenuity of man combining in the most natural of ways allows us to experience the thrill of sailing and a form of transport that has existed since the earliest of times. This is a journey that will appeal to those who enjoy being at sea, particularly under sail with many days split between the port of call and time at sea.



## GUEST SPEAKER

Joining us on board as Guest Speaker will be naval expert, Peter Warwick. He was vice-chairman of the Official Nelson Commemorations Committee and in 2005, organised the reconstruction of Lord Nelson's river-borne funeral procession. Peter is a published author and lectures widely on naval history.

## THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE ROYAL NAVY



Nelson

The story of the Royal Navy is a vital part of the story of Britain. Our greatest heroes are sailors; our most memorable victories were won at sea. It is a long and distinguished story, going back to the Tudors and continuing right up to the present day. But one period stands out as a true 'golden age' - the years between 1750 and 1815. During those years, the great sailing battleships reached their peak of perfection in famous vessels such as HMS Victory. A uniquely gifted generation of seamen - of whom Horatio Nelson was but one shining example - sailed those great ships to an almost unbroken series of decisive victories. It is a record of success unparalleled in any other period, which no other navy in the world can match.

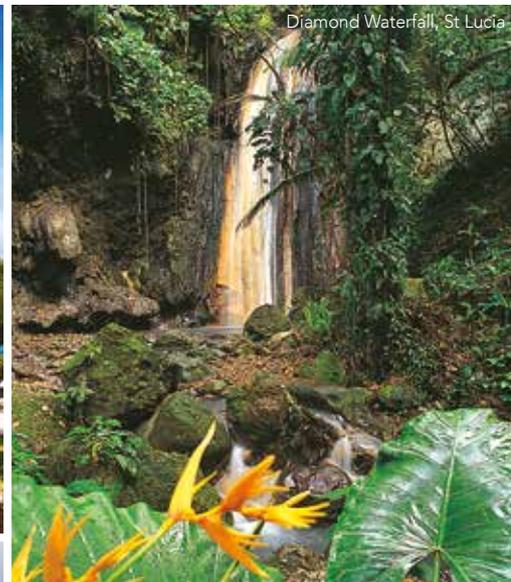
One of the great theatres of war in this period was the West Indies. Some of the most important battles were fought there. Some of the key personalities served there, and learned their trade sailing among the beautiful islands. Our voyage offers a unique opportunity to learn about this pivotal period in British history, while exploring the places where that history was actually made - and under sail aboard the superb Sea Cloud II.

## OUR VIEW

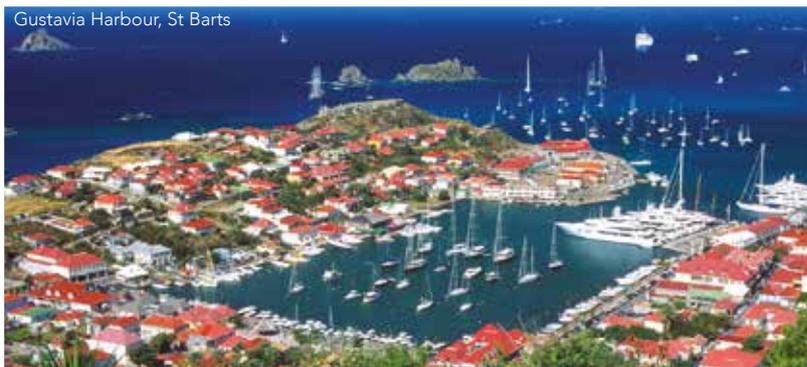
*"Following on from the success of previous years we are delighted to once again be returning to the glorious West Indies with a thirteen night charter on the magnificent Sea Cloud II. Our comprehensive and diverse island hopping itinerary includes some of the better known islands as well as some more off the beaten track. There will be the opportunity to learn more about the Golden Age of the Royal Navy with our superb Guest Speaker Peter Warwick, experience the West Indies with Sea Cloud II's sails fully extended, explore the beautiful islands or simply relax on one of the stunning beaches."*



Nelson's Dockyard, Antigua



Diamond Waterfall, St Lucia



Gustavia Harbour, St Barts



Old Sugar Mill, Nevis



Butterfly Fish

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Barbados.** Fly by scheduled flight. Upon arrival transfer to Sea Cloud II and embark. Moor overnight.

**Day 2 Barbados.** Barbados is the most easterly of the Caribbean Islands, with Atlantic surf on the east coast and sparkling Caribbean waters on the west coast. Captain Powell landed here in 1625 and claimed the island for England, now independent it continues to embrace its British Empire roots, afternoon tea remains a tradition and cricket is the national sport. This morning an island drive will include visits to the historic 17th century Sunbury Plantation House and the impressive St John's Church. Return to the vessel for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore Bridgetown independently.

**Day 3 Grenada.** After a relaxing morning at sea, this afternoon moor in the picturesque capital of St George's and explore this wonderful windward Island which many regard as the most beautiful in the Caribbean. It is a lush and verdant island with spice plantations, tropical forests, secluded coves, nature trails and select hotels which cling to the hillsides overlooking the ocean. This evening enjoy a performance on board by a local band from the island.

**Day 4 Bequia.** This delightful Grenadine island is totally unspoilt, a place of pure escapism in a charming old-world atmosphere. This afternoon tender ashore and visit the Hegg Turtle Sanctuary followed by time to relax on one of the stunning beaches or for some swimming or snorkelling.

**Day 5 St Lucia.** After a morning at sea, this afternoon we visit to St Lucia, a splendidly rugged island of towering mountains, lush green valleys and acres of banana plantations. Because of its strategic position, it was fought over repeatedly by the French and British and changed hands fourteen times. We will anchor off the island in sight of its best known feature, the twin peaks of the Pitons, which rise dramatically from the sea to more than 2400 feet. Tender ashore and explore the island independently or on a guided tour including the volcano.

**Day 6 Martinique.** Enjoy a morning at sea cruising past Diamond Rock, captured by the British in 1804 and held against repeated French attacks. We will base ourselves this afternoon at the small port of Le Marin and enjoy a scenic drive which will include the Musee de la Pagerie, the birthplace and childhood home of Empress Josephine, the

impressive plantations and offer a chance to sample some of the local rum.

**Day 7 Dominica.** Stepping back in time, the island of Dominica is still the primitive garden that Columbus first sighted in 1493. An area of tropical rainforests, flowers of incredible beauty and animals that exist nowhere else in the world. We arrive this morning in the small port of Cabrits, just below the national park and the former British garrison of Fort Shirley, which successfully repelled a French attack during the Trafalgar campaign in 1805. The active can climb to the fort to explore the ruins, visit the small museum and maybe wander the surrounding trails on the lookout for birds, hermit crabs and lizards.

**Day 8 Iles des Saintes.** The eight island Iles des Saintes archipelago dots the waters off the southwest coast of Guadeloupe. In 1782, this was the site of one of the greatest naval battles of the sailing era, in which the tactics used by the British admiral Sir George Rodney foreshadowed those used 20 years later by Nelson at Trafalgar. This morning tender ashore and explore at leisure or join Peter Warwick on a walk up to Fort Napoleon and visit the museum focusing on the Battle of the Saintes.

**Day 9 Montserrat.** Ask any Caribbean connoisseur about their favourite places and Montserrat will always be high on the list. Following the damaging volcanic eruptions of 1995 and 2010, much of the island is now returning to normal. We will visit the volcano observatory and learn how the islanders coped with the devastation it caused. Even now we will drive through areas where volcanic material lies in the roads. We also see some of the untouched areas which are as beautiful as ever.

**Day 10 Nevis.** Land this morning, by tender, on one of the loveliest and untouched islands on the Leewards. British naval history is linked with most of the Leeward Islands and on Nevis the connection is particularly interesting. It was here that Nelson met Fanny Nesbit and later married her in the old Montpelier House, on the site where a hotel now stands. Prince William, who was under Nelson's command, attended the wedding and gave the bride away. Our tour of the island will include Nelson's Museum and the church displaying Nelson's wedding certificate.

**Day 11 St Kitts.** We will make a landing this morning on the



delightful island of St Kitts. This lovely island has it all, restful green fields of sugar cane plantations, rainforests and long stretches of uncrowded beaches. The atmosphere here is wonderfully relaxed and full of old-world charm. Either wander the streets of Basseterre including the colonial buildings or see the impressive UNESCO fortress at Brimstone Hill. This 18th century British garrison played a key role in the battles with the French and is situated on a hill offering fine views over to Nevis. Enjoy lunch on board and a leisurely afternoon at sea.

**Day 12 Jost Van Dyke.** Sail through the beautiful island dotted waters of the British Virgin Islands. Drop anchor at the little visited islands of Jost Van Dyke and after a short Zodiac ride ashore enjoy relaxing on the beach or snorkelling.

**Day 13 St Barts.** This tiny French West Indian island is proud of its reputation as a stylish and exclusive tropical resort. It is a very top drawer place and the island's capital of Gustavia, where the tenders will take us ashore this afternoon, offers gourmet restaurants, street cafes and smart shops which would not be out of place on the French Riviera.

**Day 14 Antigua to London.**

Antigua was one of the main British Naval bases in the Windward Islands and so no cruise such as this would be complete without a visit to this island with so much important history. We will disembark this morning and on an island drive will have the opportunity to visit the beautifully restored 18th century dock yard in English Harbour. See the impressive collection of restored

historic buildings which were occupied by the British Navy from 1707 till 1899. After lunch we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

**Day 15 London.** Morning arrival.

*\* This departure will operate in the reverse direction to that shown from Antigua to Barbados. Full itinerary can be viewed online at [www.noble-caledonia.co.uk](http://www.noble-caledonia.co.uk)*

**PRICES PER PERSON**

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY				
Cat	Cabin Description	Deck	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
E	Deluxe double	Cabin	£7595	£7295
D	Deluxe double	Cabin	£7995	£7695
C	Deluxe double	Promenade	£8295	£7995
B	Junior Suite	Promenade	£8795	£8495
A	Luxury Owner's Suite	Lido	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
F	Stateroom for sole use	Cabin	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
E	Deluxe double for sole use	Cabin	£9595	£9295

**Price Includes:** Economy class scheduled air travel, 13 nights aboard Sea Cloud II on a full board basis with house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, Tour Manager, Guest Speaker, shore excursions, all gratuities, transfers, port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

*Ship to Shore: Please note for this itinerary Zodiacs, tenders or local boats will be used to transport passengers ashore in all ports apart from Antigua, Martinique, Grenada and Barbados.*

**NB.** Ports subject to change and weather conditions.

“ I have seen history come alive aboard the magnificent tall ship Sea Cloud II. The wind fills her canvas and we sail the West Indies as if in a time machine. In the great age of sail these small islands were crucial to Britain’s trade, prosperity and burgeoning power. ”





# SEA CLOUD II

For this voyage under sail we have chartered the magnificent Sea Cloud II. Launched in 2001, she is a stunning vessel, built along traditional lines, but offering deluxe accommodation. She combines the timeless elegance of sailing ships of the past with the highest safety standards and the luxurious comfort of modern cruise ships. The 32 000 square feet of sails is set by hand which is a truly magical sight; she really is the most exquisite of vessels.

## Your Cabin/Suite

Built to accommodate 94 passengers in five star luxury, Sea Cloud II offers a range of beautifully appointed suites and cabins which are furnished with great style. Spread over three decks are 29 deluxe outside cabins with showers, 16 junior suites with bathtubs, and two owner suites with bathtubs and showers. All accommodations have outside views and the bathrooms, in light marble, are unusually spacious and aesthetically pleasing. The two owner suites feature a king size canopy bed and all other cabins feature queen size beds (excluding category F staterooms which feature upper and lower single beds). Cabin sizes range from 16m<sup>2</sup> to 27m<sup>2</sup> (category F measure 14m<sup>2</sup>). The finest, carefully chosen fabrics, combined with leather, rattan and other materials, brass and gold, precious woods and marble together create an impressive ensemble. All cabins have a television with DVD player, minibar, dressing table, wardrobe and a safe. A welcome bottle of champagne and a fruit basket which is replenished daily are provided to enjoy whilst in your cabin.

## Your Space

No expense has been spared to create a sympathetic ambience in both the accommodations and public areas and this is reflected throughout the vessel. Public areas include an elegant lounge, library, fitness centre, boutique, lido bar and hospital. The single sitting dining room is airy and modern and the quality of the cuisine and service will be to the highest of standards, as one would expect on a Sea Cloud II cruise. The Lounge is located mid-ship on the Lido Deck offering comfortable seating areas. The vessel's magnificent Steinway can be found here and will be played for your enjoyment by an accomplished pianist. In addition enjoy interesting lectures and presentations, or perhaps a drink from the bar. There is also a library on board where you can relax, write postcards, play a board game, find a film to watch in your cabin, send emails from the laptop or just enjoy the peaceful atmosphere. Relax on the Lido Deck and experience the natural grandeur of travelling under sail whilst watching the sailors manoeuvre the sails high above, rekindling memories of a bygone age.

## Your Dining

The cuisine aboard the Sea Cloud II is of an exceptionally high standard and has been accepted by the international Chaîne des Rôtisseurs. Enjoy international dishes complemented by local specialities selected fresh from the market by the onboard chef. Dinner is served à la carte and is a four course affair with a vegetarian option always available. All cruises aboard the Sea Cloud II are full board with carefully selected wines and beers served to complement your lunch and dinner. All soft drinks, coffee and tea whilst on board are also included.

## Life On Board

Whilst there are many large sailing ships offering passages around the world there are few, if any that can compare in terms of luxury to Sea Cloud II. Despite the luxurious setting, casual clothing is appropriate and the atmosphere on board is friendly and generally informal. Service is personal, and the crew of 65 quickly acquaint themselves with passengers



Category C cabin



Lounge



Category A cabin



Lido Deck



Category B cabin



On Deck



Restaurant

and the officers on the bridge are also available to answer questions; manoeuvres permitting. After all, Sea Cloud II is not only a cruise ship, but a private yacht as well.

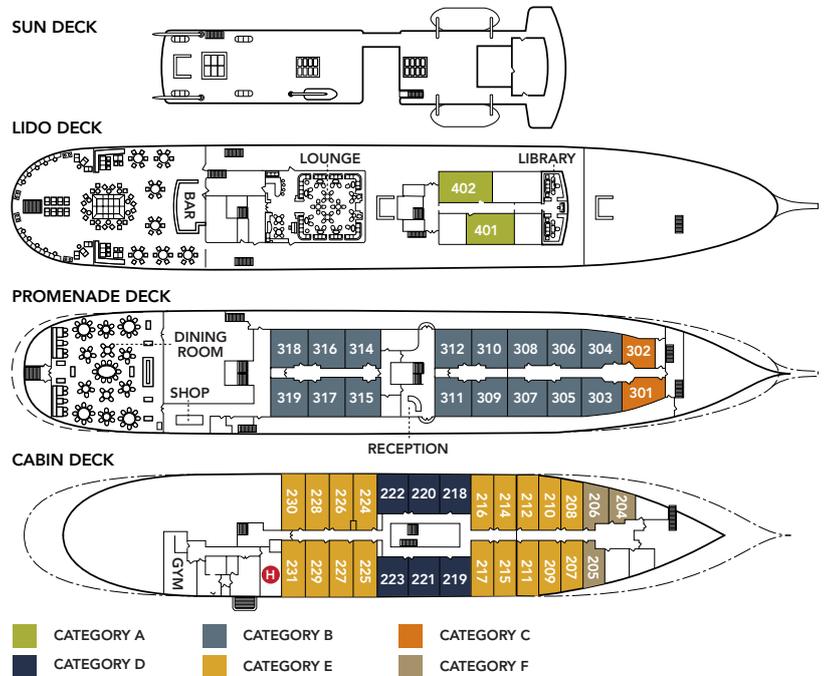
#### For your Comfort, Safety & Security

Sea Cloud II combines the timeless elegance of sailing ships of the past with the highest safety standards and the luxurious comfort of modern cruise ships. The hospital is located on the Cabin Deck and is staffed by a ship's doctor. In consideration of all passengers, smoking is not permitted on board with the exception of designated areas on open Decks.



Dining on Deck

## DECK PLAN



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