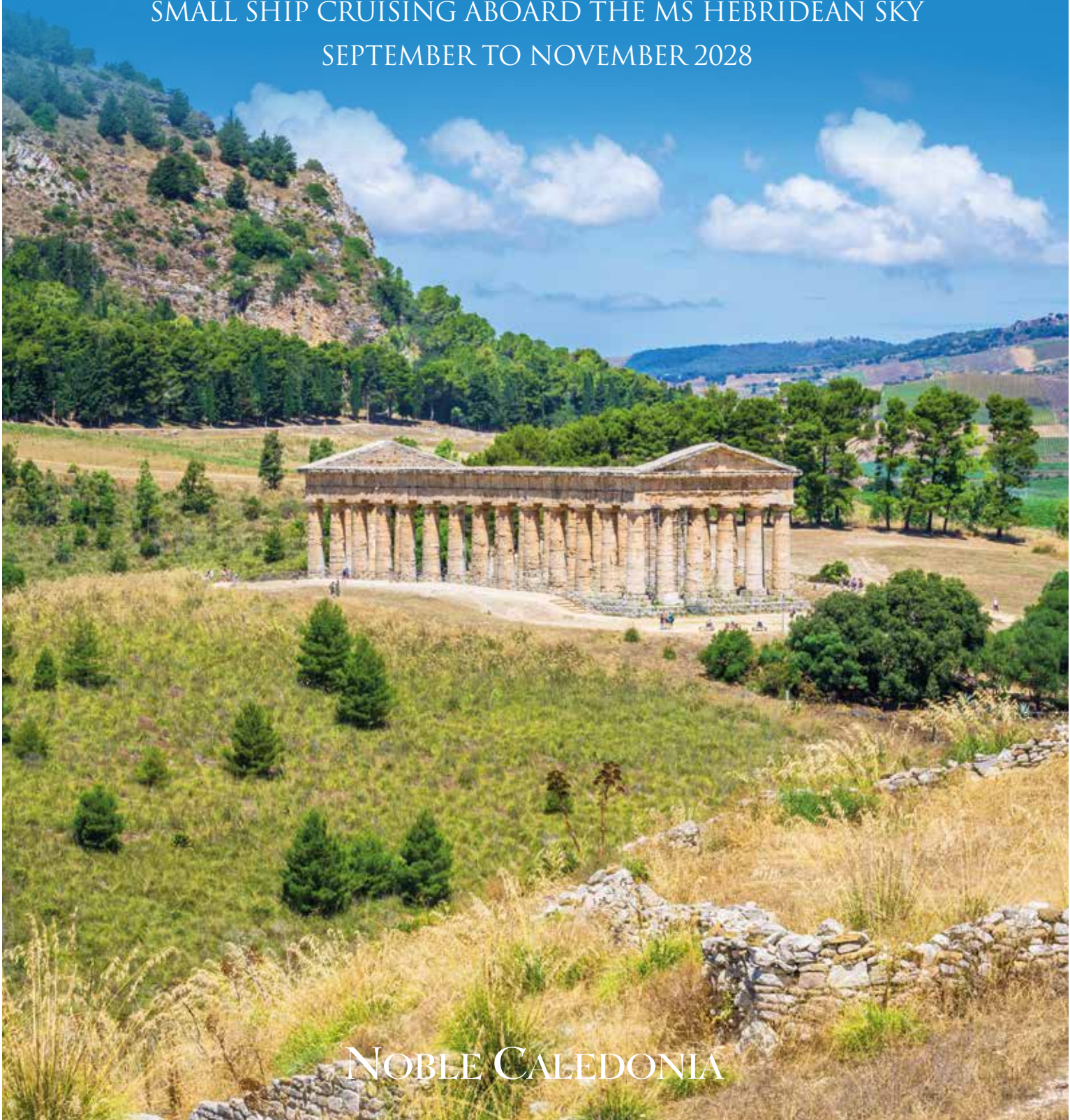


SPECIAL
OFFER – SAVE
£500
PER PERSON

ITALY & NORTH AFRICA

SMALL SHIP CRUISING ABOARD THE MS HEBRIDEAN SKY
SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2028



NOBLE CALEDONIA

MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



The Club



Deluxe Balcony Suite



Alfresco Dining

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 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



Standard Suite



The Lounge

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.

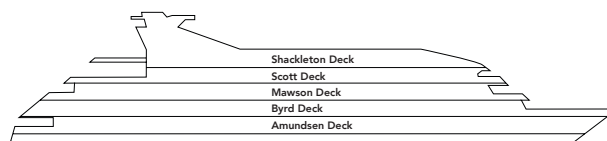


Observation Deck

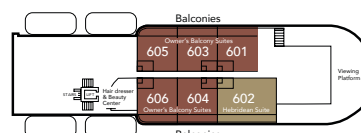


The Restaurant

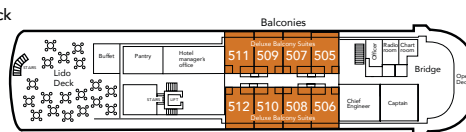
MS HEBRIDEAN SKY DECK PLAN



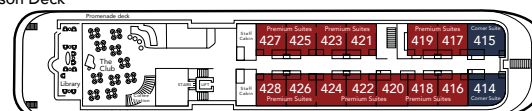
Shackleton Deck



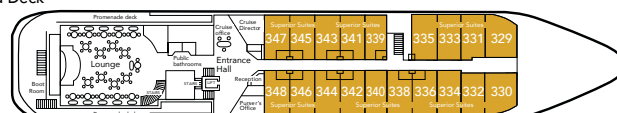
Scott Deck



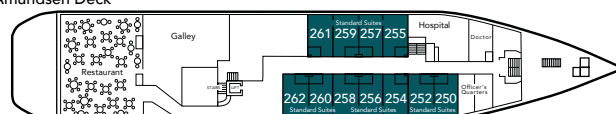
Mawson Deck



Byrd Deck



Amundsen Deck



- Standard Suites
- Superior Suites
- Premium Suites
- Corner Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Hebridean Suite

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.

LA DOLCE VITA

An in-depth exploration of Italy's wonders aboard the MS Hebridean Sky

28th September to 9th October & 9th to 20th October* 2028

Here is a wonderful journey which will appeal to those who have a love of Italy, enjoy a varied programme of interesting visits ashore, travelling in the company of just 100 or so like-minded travellers and sailing aboard a delightful small ship. It is difficult to imagine a better time of year or a more ideally suited vessel for our voyage; just about everything is as perfect as it can be, from the comfortable temperatures to the relatively crowd free sites.

Sailing from the vibrant southern Italian port of Naples aboard the MS Hebridean Sky, we will cruise around the Amalfi Coast to Salerno and continue to Calabria followed by a call into Malta's Grand Harbour of Valletta before sailing to Sicily and then onwards to charming Puglia. We continue along Italy's Adriatic Coast to Ancona followed by time spent in the region of Emilia-Romagna before our Italian Odyssey concludes in Veneto. We will discover all aspects of this wonderfully diverse country from its art, architecture, music and ancient sites to some charming towns and stunning coastal scenery.

Our days will be varied as we explore UNESCO World Heritage Sites, walk through historic villages and towns, and discover the uniqueness of each region as well as enjoying opportunities to sample the local food and wine. Owing to the fact that our small ship can moor centrally, we have the added advantage of being able to access towns by foot in many ports of call, and we have also included time at leisure for individual exploration enabling you to soak up the atmosphere at your own pace.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Naples, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky and embark. Sail this evening.

Day 2 Salerno. Overnight we will have sailed around the Amalfi coast to the ancient city of Salerno, our gateway to the Cilento region, a mix of small villages, coastal paths, archaeological sites, national parks and renowned as the home of the Mediterranean diet. There will be a choice of excursions this morning and you may choose to visit the site of Paestum, which was founded by Greeks in 600 BC. This well preserved and fascinating site was rediscovered in 1752 and during our time here we will see the impressive Temple Poseidon, the Basilica, Amphitheatre and Aethenian before spending some time in the museum adjacent to the site. Alternatively learn about one of the main exports of the region during a visit to a farm where we will hear about the production of the local Mozzarella di Bufala. This afternoon is free to explore Salerno at leisure before we sail this evening.

Day 3 Vibo Valentia. Arrive this morning into the Calabrian town of Vibo Valentia. Founded as a Greek colony known as Hipponion and part of Magna Graecia, the town has, over the centuries, fallen under the rule of the Brutti, Romans, Normans, Arabs and Byzantines. We will see the ancient Norman Castle and the bell tower of San Michele as we drive to nearby Tropea, a clifftop village voted one of the most beautiful in Italy. During our tour of the historical centre, we will see the Norman Cathedral and the Sanctuary of Santa Maria dell'Isola, an 11th century chapel originally built on an island but now connected to the town by a causeway. We will also sample the town's famous delicacy of sweet red onions. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and enjoy a relaxing afternoon at sea.

Day 4 Valletta, Malta. This morning we will sail into the Grand Harbour of Valletta and discover the significant role that Italy has played in Malta's history. From the Middle Ages onwards, Malta maintained close political, commercial, and cultural links with Italy whose merchants, artists, architects, and craftsmen contributed to the development of Maltese towns. This influence reached its height during the rule of the Knights of St John, when Malta became an important centre of European art and architecture. Italian architects helped transform Valletta following the Great Siege of 1565,



Urbino



Monopoli



Piazza Duomo and the Cathedral of Syracuse



Temple of Hera, Paestum

while artists brought the grandeur of the Renaissance and Baroque to the islands. The celebrated Calabrian painter Mattia Preti was particularly influential, creating the magnificent paintings that adorn the interior of St John's Co-Cathedral in Valletta, whilst the Grandmaster's Palace reflects the Renaissance and Baroque styles favoured by the Knights. We will discover these sites on our morning guided walking tour of Valletta. After lunch there will be time at leisure to explore further or you may wish to join the excursion to Palazzo Parisio in Naxos, an 18th century palace celebrated for its lavish interiors, intricate stucco work, gilded ceilings, and elegant ballrooms. Our visit will also include a tour of the palace's ornate Italianate gardens, beautifully landscaped with fountains, statues and fragrant orange trees.

Day 5 Syracuse & Noto, Sicily, Italy. For our day in Sicily we arrive in 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 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 'Ear of Dionysius', a vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. Alternatively, drive to Noto, a picturesque city built in 1703 located on the terraced slopes of Mount Iblei. A guided walk along the central streets will reveal the 18th century Palazzo Ducale, some of the many Baroque churches and the imposing Palazzo Nicolaci di Villadorata, built in 1737. After lunch on board we have an afternoon at leisure to explore Ortigia, the historical centre of Syracuse where we find the Temple of Apollo, considered to be Sicily's most ancient Doric temple and the Baroque Cathedral, erected over the remains of the Temple of Minerva. We will meet this evening for a private concert in one of the town's palazzos accompanied by local food and wine before we sail tonight.

Day 6 Crotone. After a leisurely morning at sea we return to Calabria and the port of Crotone which is on the site of the ancient Greek City of Kroton. Whilst little remains of the Greek city it was one of the most important settlements of Magna Graecia, where Pythagoras set up a school in 530 BC and whose athletes were very successful at the Olympic Games. We will take a scenic drive inland this afternoon to Santa Severina, one of Italy's prettiest towns overlooking the Neto River valley. We will explore the majestic Carafa Castle, which was built by the Normans in 1076 and is surrounded by strong, crenellated walls with a moat on three sides and contains intricate underground labyrinths and stables, with the

remains of Medieval frescoes. We will also see the cathedral, the beautiful Byzantine baptistery and there will be the opportunity to wander the town's tangled streets. On our return journey to the ship, we will stop at a local farmhouse for a tasting of typical Calabrian food served with local wine.

Day 7 Otranto for Lecce. From our berth in Otranto we will drive to Lecce, often referred to as 'The Florence of the South' with its amazing collection of Baroque architecture. A guided walk will include a visit to the beautifully decorated Santa Croce Basilica and Piazza Duomo, considered one of the finest and most impressive squares in southern Italy. We return to the ship for lunch and a leisurely afternoon to explore Otranto independently where the highlight is the wonderful cathedral with its Medieval mosaic floor created by the monk, Pantaleone, between 1163 and 1165.

Day 8 Monopoli for Alberobello or Ostuni. This morning there will be a choice of excursions. You may wish to join the tour into the Puglian countryside which is scattered with 'trulli', limestone dwellings built with dome or conical roofs. Enjoy a pleasant walk in Alberobello, a fairy-tale trulli village and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where we will also visit St Anthony Church, built in the same distinctive style. Alternatively, travel to the 'White City' of Ostuni, so called due to the dazzling sunlight reflected on the walls of its whitewashed dwellings. Ostuni has a privileged position as it was built on three hills and from the top of the town you can enjoy a stunning view of the Adriatic coast from which Ostuni is separated by an ocean of centuries-old olive trees. The town has retained much of its Medieval charm, which we will experience as we wander through the narrow, winding streets of the old town which lead to the impressive 15th century cathedral, a beautiful example of Apulian Romanesque architecture. After lunch on board, enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Monopoli to explore the historic centre.

Day 9 At Sea. After a busy few days we have a relaxing day at sea as we cruise up the Italian Adriatic coast. Spend time on deck or maybe join a lecture in the lounge.

Day 10 Ancona for Urbino or Loreto. Arrive this morning at the busy port of Ancona, from where we will have a choice of excursions. A full day tour will head inland to the UNESCO city of Urbino which features a historic centre that appears little changed since the 15th century, when it became a centre of culture attracting artists and scholars from all over Italy. See the Duomo, the house where the artist Raphael was born in 1483, which is now a museum, as well as the impressive Palazzo Ducale, built under Federico da Montefeltro, where we find the National Gallery of Marche containing



a stunning collection of Renaissance art. Alternatively, join a morning tour to the renowned Marian pilgrimage site of Loreto to visit the small town, its lovely piazza and the church of the 'Holy House', built for enshrining the house in which the Blessed Virgin Mary is believed by some Catholics to have lived, which was transported all the way to Marche from Palestine. This afternoon is at leisure to relax on board or explore Ancona at your own pace.

Day 11 Ravenna & Bologna. From our berth in Ravenna there will be a choice of tours today. Ravenna has a rich history being the capital of the Western Roman Empire and capital of the Ostrogoth Kingdom of Italy whilst the port of Classe was one of the largest in the Roman world. From the 4th to 6th century, the city became a hub for skilled craftsmen who covered the city's churches in stunningly beautiful mosaics which were described by Dante as a 'symphony of colour'. A morning tour of the city will include the Basilica di Sant'Apollinare which is named after Ravenna's patron and features mosaics of biblical figures such as Abraham and Emperor Constantine IV. Meanwhile, at the Basilica di San Vitale we will see mosaics representing Old Testament scenes and the Byzantine Emperor Justinian. Alternatively join a full day tour to Bologna, considered as one of the most beautiful cities in Italy, dominated by spectacular architecture from the Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque periods. We will see the iconic Fountain of Neptune in Piazza Maggiore, the San Petronio Basilica and Archiginnasio university building before enjoying lunch in a local restaurant.

Day 12 Chioggia to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to Venice airport for our scheduled flight to London.

*Please note that the 9th October 2028 departure operates in the reverse direction to that shown, from Chioggia to Naples. Full itinerary can be viewed on our website.

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	£8295	£7795
Byrd	Superior	£8495	£7995
Mawson	Premium	£8795	£8295
Mawson	Corner	£9295	£8795
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£9995	£9495
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£10495	£9995
Shackleton	Hebridean	£11495	£10995
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£10295	£9795
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£10495	£9995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 11 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

Naples Extension

26th to 28th September 2028

Pre-cruise in conjunction with 28th September cruise

20th to 22nd October 2028*

Post-cruise in conjunction with 9th October cruise



If you would like to spend some time in Naples we are offering a two night hotel stay including a city tour and visit to Herculaneum.

The Itinerary (pre-cruise)

Day 1 London to Naples, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to our hotel. Meet for dinner tonight. (D)

Day 2 Naples. After breakfast in the hotel we explore Naples including the Piazza del Plebiscito with its range of buildings including the Galleria Umberto I, the Maschio Angioino and the Palazzo Reale. Also see the Teatro San Carlo which was built in 1737 and is the oldest opera house in Europe. After lunch the remainder of the day is at leisure. (B, L)

Day 3 Herculaneum. This morning we visit Herculaneum, a wealthy Roman town which was completely submerged by volcanic mud following the 79 AD eruption of Vesuvius. Since its rediscovery in 1709, excavations have revealed beautiful public baths, villas and gardens. After lunch we will transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky. (B, L)

*Please note that the post-cruise itinerary for the October extension can be viewed on our website.

PRICES PER PERSON – Based on double occupancy

Twin: £1195 Single: £1495

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner), local beer, wine and soft drinks with included meals, tours as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers. **Not Included:** Travel insurance.

Verona Extension

9th to 11th October 2028

Post-cruise in conjunction with the 28th September cruise

7th to 9th October 2028

Pre-cruise in conjunction with the 9th October cruise



If you would like to spend some time in Verona, we are offering a two night hotel stay including a city tour of both Padua and Verona.

The Itinerary (post-cruise)

Day 1 Padua & Verona, Italy. Disembark in Chioggia this morning and drive to Padua. See the Piazza delle Erbe and Piazza dei Frutti, home to a daily produce market that has operated for centuries. Also see the famous palazzo, the Basilica of Sant'Antonio and the Prato della Valle, a 90,000-square-metre elliptical square, one of the largest in Europe. After lunch we will continue to Verona and check into our hotel. (B, L)

Day 2 Verona. After breakfast at the hotel enjoy a guided walking tour of Verona, a fascinating Medieval city. Visit Piazza Bra with the Arena which was completed in the year 30 AD and is the third largest in Italy. We will also see the nearby Piazza delle Erbe, Juliet's balcony and many examples of Romanesque architecture. After our tour, the remainder of the day is at leisure before we meet for dinner this evening. (B, D)

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

*Please note that the pre-cruise itinerary for the October extension can be viewed on our website.

PRICES PER PERSON – Based on double occupancy

Twin: £995 Single: £1395

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner), local beer, wine and soft drinks with included meals, tours as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers. **Not Included:** Travel insurance.



SICILY & THE AEOLIAN ISLANDS

A voyage from Naples to Malta aboard the MS Hebridean Sky

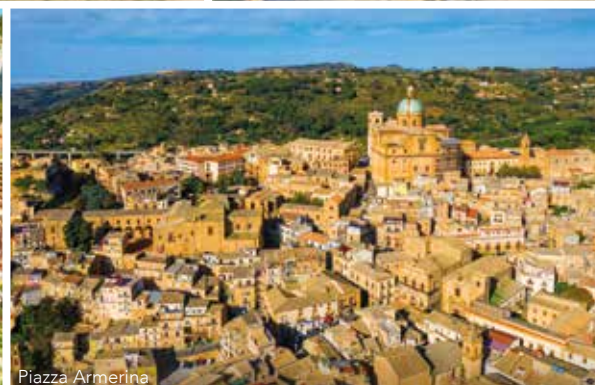
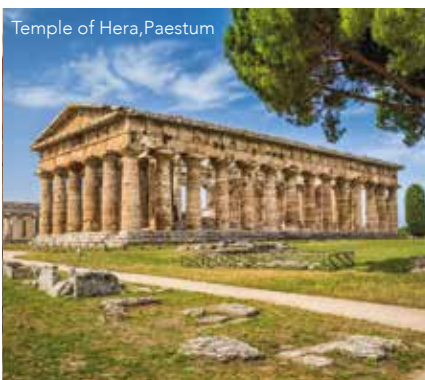
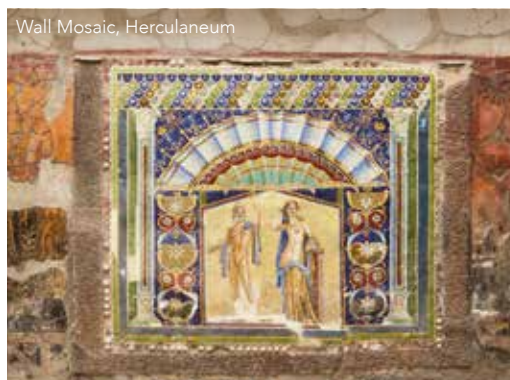
20th to 31st October 2028

Join us aboard the MS Hebridean Sky for this unique cruise which combines calls in Southern Italy with the stunning islands of the Aeolian archipelago and Sicily. Our journey begins in Naples, where we have the opportunity to discover the atmospheric streets of this fascinating city, or explore the remarkably preserved Roman town of Herculaneum before we spend a day in Salerno from where you can venture into the ancient world of Paestum and the landscapes of the Cilento. We then sail south towards the Aeolian Islands, a series of volcanic islands located in the Tyrrhenian Sea which are known for their natural beauty, rich history, and unique geological features and we will spend two days exploring the islands before continuing to the fascinating island of Sicily.

We will have six days to explore Sicily's incredible wealth of treasures made all the easier owing to the geography of the island which lends itself beautifully to exploration by sea with most points of interest located close to the coast. From magnificent Doric temples to great Byzantine cathedrals and bizarrely styled villas, there is so much to explore during our exploration of the island and with our voyage timed for October, the temperatures will be pleasant for our guided tours and the sites will be free of the summer crowds. We will visit the stunning Greek theatre at Taormina, the picturesque fishing town of Cefalu, Byzantine Monreale Cathedral from Palermo, the superbly well-preserved Greek temples of Segesta, the Roman mosaics of Villa Romana di Casale and will also spend time in beautiful Syracuse.

During our voyage, our excellent local guides and onboard Guest Speaker will contribute greatly to your enjoyment and understanding of the rich cultural legacy and fascinating history of southern Italy and the islands and there will also be opportunities to taste some local produce and traditional cuisine including Mozzarella di Bufala, olive oil and wines.





The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Naples, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky and embark.

Day 2 Naples & Herculaneum. For our day in Naples, there will be a choice of excursions this morning. A city tour will include the Piazza del Plebiscito with its range of buildings including the Galleria Umberto I, the Maschio Angioino and the Palazzo Reale. Inside the palace you will visit the Historical Apartment, which is accessed through the majestic Staircase of Honour, which Montesquieu described as the most beautiful in Europe. Also see the Teatro San Carlo which was built in 1737 and is the oldest opera house in Europe. Alternatively, visit Herculaneum, a wealthy Roman town which was completely submerged by volcanic mud following the 79 AD 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. The afternoon is free to explore at your own pace and you may wish to walk the bustling Via dei Tribunali in the historic centre or make your way to one of the city's pizzerias to enjoy one of Naples's most famous exports, before we sail tonight.

Day 3 Salerno. Overnight we will have sailed around the Amalfi coast to the ancient city of Salerno, our gateway to the Cilento region, a mix of small villages, coastal paths, archaeological sites, national parks and renowned as the home of the Mediterranean diet. There will be a choice of excursions and you may choose to visit the site of Paestum which was founded by the Greeks in 600 BC. This well preserved and fascinating site was rediscovered in 1752 and during our time here we will see the impressive Temple Poseidon, the Basilica, Amphitheatre and Aethenian before spending some time in the museum adjacent to the site. Alternatively learn about one of the main exports of the region during a visit to a farm where we will hear about the production of the local Mozzarella di Bufala. This afternoon will be at leisure to explore Salerno independently before we sail this evening.

Days 4 & 5 Aeolian Islands. The Aeolian archipelago is a UNESCO World Heritage Site made up of seven islands located in the Tyrrhenian Sea off the north coast of Sicily and is our base for the next two days. During our time here we will be at anchor and will use local tenders to land ashore. We hope to land on Lipari where 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 and our tour

will include a visit to the upper town set within fortress walls and a drive around the volcano followed by a visit to the Archaeological Museum with its impressive relics from nearby excavations. We also plan to land at Salina, the greenest island in the group with a nature reserve which covers the slopes of the now dormant volcanoes. The island is famed for its capers harvest and its Malvasia wines and after a tour through the picturesque island villages we will have the opportunity to sample a traditional dish of 'pani cunzatu' with some locally sourced wines. For our final evening, we will anchor off the island of Stromboli, the 'Lighthouse of the Mediterranean' where, if weather permits, we hope to view the eruptions from the island's active volcano.

Day 6 Messina for Taormina or Tindari, Sicily. From the nearby port of Messina we will visit Taormina, a walled town lying in the shadow of Mount Etna, Europe's highest volcano. The town has been a popular tourist destination since the 19th century and our guided tour will include walking the characteristic alleys before visiting the 15th century Palazzo Corvaja and the impressive Greek Theatre from where there are marvellous views over the town and coast. Alternatively, join an excursion to the town of Tindari, founded by Syracusan merchants during the war against Carthage in 396 BC. The ruins of the ancient city are relatively well preserved including the 4th century Greek Theatre which is a marvel of acoustic engineering. However, the foremost attraction is the Sanctuary of the Madonna Nera containing the sculpture of the Virgin and Child, in citron wood, which is said to have reached Tindari in an attempt by the faithful to keep it safe from the 8th century Byzantine Iconoclast movement.

Day 7 Cefalu. Enjoy a leisurely morning on board as we cruise to Termini Imerese from where we will drive along the coast to visit the picturesque fishing town of Cefalu. The town exudes typical Sicilian charm and during our guided walk we will see the Gothic-Norman style cathedral and Medieval Wash House before enjoying some free time to stroll among the narrow streets, perhaps tasting the famous Sicilian ice creams and cakes. Return to ship in the early evening as we sail the short distance to Palermo where we will moor overnight.

Day 8 Palermo. After breakfast we will explore the Sicilian capital, 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. We will visit the impressive 12th century cathedral which houses the royal tombs of Henri VI and King



Ruggiero. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and this afternoon either enjoy some time to explore Palermo independently or join the excursion to Monreale Cathedral, said to be the most beautiful Norman Church in Italy, designed and completed by William the Good in 1174. With its thick walls and powerful towers, the exterior looks like an austere fortress yet it is the interior of this great cathedral which is its crowning glory. Here the large nave, with its side aisles and grey granite columns set off the exquisite Byzantine mosaics on the walls above the arches.

Day 9 Trapani. This morning there will be the option to travel inland to explore Segesta, one of the grandest Doric monuments to survive. See the unfinished temple dating from 424 BC as well as the theatre from where you can enjoy excellent views of the countryside and distant coastline. Alternatively, visit the fascinating salt pans that are located between Trapani and Marsala. This area, used by the Phoenicians who first understood how favourable the natural conditions were for salt extraction, has been declared a Natural Reserve and is full of colours thanks to the unique flora and fauna. Visit the museum of salt before we continue to a nearby farmhouse which is dedicated to promoting Sicilian produce including olive oils and wines which we will try before returning to the ship. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore Trapani at your own pace before we sail this evening.

Day 10 Licata for Piazza Armerina. From the port of Licata we travel inland to what is regarded as the finest Roman site in Sicily, the Imperial Roman Villa of Casale, which is located close to Piazza Armerina amidst wooded rolling countryside. This huge villa was built in the 3rd century and has some stunning floor mosaics. Our return drive takes us through the province of Caltanissetta, recognised today as one of the best winemaking regions in Italy thanks above all to its production of high quality, prestigious red wines including Nero D'Avola. We will break our journey back to the ship at one of these vineyards and enjoy a chance to sample some wine over a Sicilian lunch.

Day 11 Syracuse & Noto. Arrive this morning in 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 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 'Ear of Dionysius', a vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. Alternatively, drive to Noto, a picturesque city built in 1703 located on the terraced slopes of Mount Iblei. A guided walk along the central streets will reveal the 18th century Palazzo Ducezio and some of the Baroque churches: San Francesco Immacolata, the cathedral, San Carlo, Santa Chiara and the imposing Palazzo Nicolaci di Villadorata, built in 1737. After lunch on board enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore Ortigia, the historical centre of Syracuse where we find the Temple of Apollo, considered to be Sicily's most ancient Doric temple and the Baroque Cathedral, erected over the remains of the Temple of Minerva.

Day 12 Valletta, Malta to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Malta Post-cruise Extension

31st October to 2nd November 2028



If you would like to spend some time in Malta after your cruise we are offering a two night hotel stay which includes a tour of Valletta and Mdina.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Valletta, Malta. After breakfast we will disembark the MS Hebridean Sky and begin a walking tour of Valletta, the 16th century 'Fortress City' built by the Knights of St John. Our morning tour will include the highlights of Valletta with its stunning views across the harbour from the Barrakka Gardens. After lunch we transfer to our hotel and check in. The remainder of the day is free for independent exploration. (B, L)

Day 2 Mdina. A morning tour will take us to Mdina. Originally this city was given the name of 'Citta Nobile', and it is now known as the 'Silent City' at the heart of the island. Mdina is Phoenician in origin and was the fortified capital of the island before the arrival of the Knights. The remainder of the day is at leisure. (B)

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

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£895** Single: **£1295**

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.

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	£8295	£7795
Byrd	Superior	£8495	£7995
Mawson	Premium	£8795	£8295
Mawson	Corner	£9295	£8795
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£9995	£9495
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£10495	£9995
Shackleton	Hebridean	£11495	£10995
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£10295	£9795
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£10495	£9995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 11 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

NB. Whilst visiting the Aeolian Islands, we will be at anchor and use local tenders to land ashore.



CLASSICAL TREASURES OF SICILY & TUNISIA

Discover the ancient wonders of the Mediterranean aboard the MS Hebridean Sky
31st October to 11th November 2028

Few regions of the Mediterranean can rival Sicily and Tunisia for the richness and variety of their ancient heritage. During this fascinating voyage we will discover some of the most magnificent sites from the Greeks and Phoenicians to the Romans, Byzantines, Arabs and Normans, all of which will be brought vividly back to life with the help of our knowledgeable Guest Speaker and local guides.

Setting sail from the historic port of Valletta, we begin with two days of exploration in Sicily, an endlessly fascinating island which lends itself beautifully to discovery by small ship with most points of interest located close to the sea. Here the Roman world will come vividly to life at the magnificent Villa Romana del Casale, renowned for its extraordinary mosaics, and at the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento, a series of beautifully preserved Doric temples. Crossing to Tunisia, our explorations continue among the extraordinary remains of Roman North Africa. We will visit the Roman amphitheatre of El Djem and Carthage, with its Phoenician ruins, which later became an important Roman administrative centre. It is easy to imagine how daily life played out in Roman times in this great city which will transport you to another world and time. Returning to Sicily, we have five full days to further explore the island's rich heritage with visits to the impressive ruins of the ancient city of Selinunte, the superbly preserved Greek temples of Segesta, Monreale Cathedral in Palermo, the stunning Greek theatre at Taormina and the timeless city of Syracuse.

We have timed our voyage for autumn when the temperatures are pleasant and agreeable for exploration and we have planned a choice of excursions in many ports, as well as ample time for independent exploration, allowing you to maximise your enjoyment at each destination. All this will be achieved with great ease aboard the MS Hebridean Sky and with just over 100 like-minded travellers, we are able to explore in a way that is impossible from aboard a large cruise vessel.



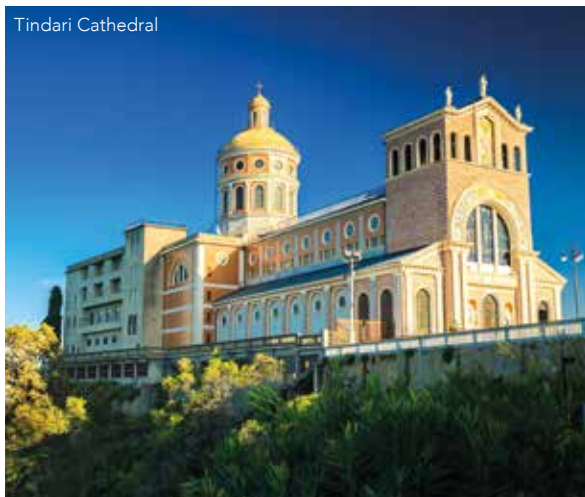
The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Valletta, Malta. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky and embark. Sail this evening.

Day 2 Licata, Sicily, Italy. From the port of Licata we travel inland to what is regarded as the finest Roman site in Sicily, the Imperial Roman Villa of Casale, which is located close to Piazza Armerina amidst wooded rolling countryside. This huge villa was built in the 3rd century and has some stunning floor mosaics. After our visit, our return drive will take us through the province of Caltanissetta, recognised today as one of the best winemaking regions in Italy thanks above all to its production of high quality red wines including Nero D'Avola. We will break our journey at one of the vineyards and enjoy a wine tasting over a Sicilian lunch before returning to the MS Hebridean Sky.

Day 3 Agrigento for Valley of the Temples. Although handsome in its own right and awash with Medieval atmosphere, Agrigento is not our main reason for calling at this southern coast port. Close by is the Valle dei Templi, a series of Doric temples and the most captivating of Sicilian Greek remains, a grouping unique outside Greece. Surrounded in greenery of olive and almond trees, admire the Temple of Hera, the Temple of Concordia, the Dioscuri Temple, the Temple of Olympic Jove and the Temple of Hercules. After lunch on board the afternoon is at leisure to explore Agrigento, and shuttle buses will run from the port to the town and the excellent archaeological museum which you can explore at leisure.

Day 4 Sousse for El Djem, Tunisia. After a leisurely morning at sea we begin our exploration of Tunisia in the port of Sousse. This afternoon we will drive out of the city to the small village of El Djem. Here we will see



Tindari Cathedral



The Temple of Concordia, Valley of the Temples



Carthage



Mosaic floor, Villa Romana del Casale

the great Roman Amphitheatre, constructed between 230 and 238 CE by order of the Imperial official Gordian and built to accommodate 35,000 spectators. After our visit we will continue to the excellent museum with its collection of well-preserved mosaics.

Days 5 & 6 Tunis for Carthage & Uthina. We will spend the next two days exploring from our berth in Tunis. During our time here we will drive to the site of Carthage which, founded by the Phoenicians in the 8th century BC, became one of the most influential cities in the Mediterranean. This prosperity led to rivalry with Rome and it was during the Third Punic War, in 146 BC, that the Roman forces destroyed the city. Due to its strategic location the Romans rebuilt Carthage in the 1st century AD to become one of the most important cities in their empire. See the Phoenician remains of Tophet, the sanctuary of the gods Tanit and Baal as well as some interesting monuments from the Roman era including the baths and the amphitheatre. We also hope to explore the Bardo Museum which houses some renowned Roman mosaics from the archaeological sites of El Djem, Sousse and Dougga as well as artefacts and sculptures from Carthage. We will also travel inland to the ruins of ancient Uthina, one of the Roman Empire's oldest cities in Africa. Here our guided walk will include the nearly fully restored Hadrian era amphitheatre which was dug into the hillside and could hold about 16,000 spectators, the grand Capitole, pinned down on one side by five partially reconstructed columns, and the baths of the Laberii, which take their name from an inscription found on a mosaic of Orpheus charming the animals, now in the Bardo Museum.

Day 7 Mazara del Vallo for Selinunte, Sicily, Italy. We return to Sicily today and the city of Mazara del Vallo which was founded in the 9th century BC by the Phoenicians. The city was used as a strategic location for their trans-Mediterranean trading interests, before it became part of Magna Graecia when it served as a port for the nearby city of Selinunte. Arriving at lunchtime we spend the afternoon visiting the impressive remains of the ancient city of Selinunte. Once one of the most eminent cities of Magna Graecia, it was ransacked by the Carthaginians, led by Hannibal, who sent 100,000 soldiers to attack in 409 BC, massacring thousands of the inhabitants with the remainder taken into slavery. The city

was destroyed and forgotten until 1823 when excavations began. Situated on a high plain overlooking the sea, it is a lovely place to walk and our guided tour will explore the Acropolis, the eastern temples and the ancient city.

Day 8 Trapani. Trapani was the landing point for Peter of Aragon in 1282 to start the Spanish occupation of Sicily. This morning there will be the opportunity to travel inland to explore Segesta, one of the grandest Doric monuments to survive. See the unfinished temple dating from 424 BC as well as the theatre from where you can enjoy excellent views of the countryside and distant coastline. Alternatively, visit the fascinating salt pans that are located between Trapani and Marsala. This area, used by the Phoenicians who first understood how favourable the natural conditions were for salt extraction, is now a nature reserve, rich in colour thanks to the unique flora and fauna. We will visit the Museum of Salt before we continue to a nearby farmhouse which is dedicated to promoting Sicilian produce including olive oils and wines which we will sample before returning to the ship.

Day 9 Palermo. Arrive this morning in the Sicilian capital of Palermo. After breakfast we will explore the city, 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. We will visit the impressive 12th century cathedral which houses the royal tombs of Henri VI and King Ruggiero. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon either enjoy some time to explore independently or join an excursion to Monreale Cathedral, said to be the most beautiful Norman Church in Italy, designed and completed by William the Good in 1174. With its thick walls and powerful towers, the exterior looks like an austere fortress yet it is the interior of this great cathedral which is its crowning glory. Here the large nave, with its side aisles and grey granite columns set off the exquisite Byzantine mosaics on the walls above the arches.

Day 10 Messina for Taormina or Tindari. From the nearby port of Messina we will visit Taormina, a walled town lying in the shadow of Mount Etna, Europe's highest volcano. The town has been a popular tourist destination since the 19th century and our guided tour will include walking the characteristic alleys before visiting the 15th century Palazzo Corvaja and the



The 'Ear of Dionysius', Syracuse

impressive Greek Theatre from where there are marvellous views over the town and coast. Alternatively, join an excursion to Tindari, a town which was founded by Syracusan merchants during the war against Carthage in 396 BC. The ruins of the ancient city are relatively well preserved and the structure that impresses above all others is the 4th century Greek Theatre which is a marvel of acoustic engineering. However, the foremost attraction is the Sanctuary of the Madonna Nera containing the sculpture of the Virgin and Child in citron wood, which is said to have reached Tindari in an attempt by the faithful to keep it safe from the 8th century Byzantine Iconoclast movement.

Day 11 Syracuse & Noto. Syracuse was founded by the Greeks in 734 BC and by the 5th century was a political and military power throughout the Mediterranean which rivalled Athens as the largest and most beautiful city in the Greek world. This morning you may wish to visit the Neapolis Archaeological Park where we will find a 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 'Ear of Dionysius' a vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. Alternatively visit the Baroque town of Noto, a picturesque city built in 1703 and located on the terraced slopes of Mount Iblei among olive groves and almond trees. A guided walk along the central streets will reveal the 18th century Palazzo Ducale and some Baroque churches. After lunch on board the afternoon is at leisure to explore the island of Ortigia at your own pace before we sail this evening.

Day 12 Valletta, Malta to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

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	£8295	£7795
Byrd	Superior	£8495	£7995
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Byrd	Superior for sole use	£10495	£9995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 11 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch & dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

Malta Pre-cruise Extension

29th to 31st October 2028

Valletta



If you would like to spend some time in Malta before embarking the MS Hebridean Sky, we are offering a two night hotel stay which includes a guided tour in both Valletta and Mdina.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Valletta, Malta. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to our hotel and check in for a two night stay. After some time at leisure we will meet for dinner this evening. (D)

Day 2 Valletta. Enjoy a morning walking tour of Valletta, the 16th century 'Fortress City' which was built by the Knights of St John. Our morning tour will include the highlights of Valletta with its stunning views across the harbour from the Barakka Gardens. We will explore Merchants Street, containing the surviving auberges built by the Knights of St John of Jerusalem, together with the palace where Napoleon Bonaparte is believed to have stayed in 1798. Our final stop will be at St John's Cathedral. The remainder of the day and evening is free for independent exploration. (B)

Day 3 Valletta. This morning we will tour the city of Mdina. Known as the 'Silent City' at the heart of the island, Mdina was the fortified capital of the island before the arrival of the Knights. Enjoy a local lunch before transferring to the MS Hebridean Sky moored in Valletta. (B, L)

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£895** Single: **£1295**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner), local beer, wine and soft drinks with included meals, tours as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

Hadrian's amphitheatre, Uthina





NORTH AFRICAN ODYSSEY

A fascinating voyage from Malta to Morocco including Tunisia & Algeria
aboard the MS Hebridean Sky with Guest Speaker Chris Bradley

11th to 25th November 2028

Africa's Mediterranean coast has always been a magnet for travellers with its array of wonderful ancient sites which in the main are little visited and yet offer the visitor some of the most splendid and varied remains of the Roman World. First colonised by Phoenicians and Greeks around the 7th century BC, the region eventually fell to Rome and with agricultural development came cities; many impressive and said to rival Rome in their magnificence. The favourable desert influenced climate has been remarkably kind to the sites and they provide an unparalleled insight into life in classical times.

This is a region that is best discovered by sea and from Valletta's magnificent harbour we will sail to Tunisia for our exploration of North Africa. Tunisia has a wealth of sites and whilst here we will visit the great Roman amphitheatre of El Djem, the ancient city of Kairouan, the Hadrian-era amphitheatre of ancient Uthina and Carthage with its Phoenician ruins. It is easy to imagine how daily life played out in Roman times in this great city which will transport you to another world and time. Continuing west we spend five days in Algeria with its striking Mediterranean coastline and rich cultural heritage. Here our touring options will include visits to one of the oldest cities in all of Africa, Constantine, the Roman ruins at Djemila which were declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1981 due to its unique adaptation of Roman architecture to a mountain environment, the ancient city of Tipaza and the Mausoleum of Mauretania, Oran with its notable Arab, Spanish, Ottoman and French influences and finally the city of Tlemcen in the north of the country known for its Moorish buildings. We will also visit the little known Spanish enclave of Melilla on the Moroccan coast, a fascinating place to spend a few hours before we continue to Morocco for our calls in Tangier and Casablanca.

All this will be achieved with great ease aboard the MS Hebridean Sky and with just over 100 like-minded travellers, we are able to explore in a way that is impossible from aboard a large cruise vessel and being timed for November, we can expect pleasant temperatures, agreeable for exploration. The magnificent sites provide an unparalleled experience of life in classical times which with the help of our knowledgeable Guest Speaker and local guides, will be brought vividly back to life. Whether your interest lies in exploring the ancient world, modern politics or simply the joy of experiencing new places from modern cities to Berber villages, this itinerary has it all.



Guest Speaker – Chris Bradley



Chris Bradley is a graduate of the University of Liverpool specialising in the Middle East and North Africa having lived and worked in the region for over 40 years. As a professional tour guide and lecturer he has led many tours in North Africa. In 2010 he was an invited consultant for the United Nations World

Tourism Organisation analysis on tourism development of the Giza and Saqqara area helping to open up the rural area and attract tourists out of Cairo. He also worked to develop tourism into Libya for more than a decade. He still leads several tours each year to a variety of destinations, designing many specialist itineraries. He is a lecturer to noted societies, such as the Royal Geographical Society and the Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Societies. Chris has worked as a cameraman and producer on many television documentaries and films for the BBC, Channel 4 and National Geographic TV. He developed and filmed 'Atlas Biker' Nicholas Crane's first television adventure documentary.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Valletta, Malta. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky and enjoy welcome drinks and dinner. Moor overnight.

Day 2 Valletta & Gozo Island. We have a choice of options today. You may wish to take the ferry to the Maltese island of Gozo, thought to be the Calypso Isles of Homer's Odyssey. After arriving in Mgaar harbour we will visit the Ggantija Temples in Xaghra. Dating back to 3600 BC the temples, which are now recognised as a World Heritage Site, are one of the most significant archaeological finds in Malta. We continue to the capital of Gozo, Victoria, which is spread beneath the Citadel, the walled castle dominating the island. Walk within the city walls and view the imposing cathedral before continuing to Our Lady of Victories Church, one of the most richly embellished places of worship on the island which was elevated to the rank of a minor Basilica in 1967. We will enjoy a local lunch before returning to Valletta by ferry. Alternatively, join a morning walking tour of Valletta, the 16th century 'Fortress City' built by the Knights of St John. Take in the stunning views across the harbour from the Barrakka Gardens. We will explore Merchants Street, containing the surviving auberges built by the Knights of St John of Jerusalem, together with the palace where Napoleon Bonaparte is believed to have stayed in 1798. Our



final stop will be at St John's Cathedral before we return to the vessel for lunch and an afternoon at leisure.

Days 3 & 4 Sousse, El Djem & Kairouan, Tunisia. Our base for the next day and a half is the port of Sousse. During our time here we drive out of the city to the small village of El Djem to see the great Roman amphitheatre, built to accommodate 35,000 spectators, and visit the excellent museum with its collection of mosaics. Our tour of Sousse will include the museum which is located in the ramparts of the kasbah and houses a fine collection of mosaics, and the imposing Ribat, one of the finest and best conserved buildings of the series of 'fortress-monasteries' that dotted the North African coastline. We will also drive to the ancient city of Kairouan where we will see the Great Mosque which is a universal architectural masterpiece and one of the most impressive and largest Islamic monuments in North Africa. In addition we see the Aghlabid Basins, the majestic cisterns built by the Aghlabids in the 9th century which represent a highly sophisticated work of engineering from the Middle Ages.

Days 5 & 6 Tunis. Continuing our exploration of Tunisia we arrive in the port of La Goulette, our base for the next day and a half. There will be a number of guided tours to choose from including the site of Carthage which was founded by the Phoenicians in the 8th century BC and became one of the most influential cities in the Mediterranean. This prosperity led to rivalry with Rome and it was during the Third Punic War, in 146 BC, that the Roman forces destroyed the city. Due to its strategic location, the Romans rebuilt Carthage in the 1st century AD to become one of the most important cities in their Empire. We also hope to explore the Bardo Museum which houses some renowned Roman mosaics from the archaeological sites of El Djem, Sousse and Dougga as well as artefacts and sculptures from Carthage. Meanwhile, a full day tour will travel inland to the ruins of ancient Uthina, one of the Roman Empire's oldest cities in Africa. A guided walk includes the nearly fully restored Hadrian era amphitheatre which was dug into the hillside and could hold about 16,000 spectators, the grand Capitole, pinned down on one side by five partially reconstructed columns, and the baths of the Laberii, which take their name from an inscription found on a mosaic of Orpheus charming the animals, now in the Bardo Museum. Later we will drive to Zriba Olia, an abandoned Berber village that was built in the seventeenth century but deserted in the 1960s.

Day 7 Skikda for Constantine, Algeria. Our first day in Algeria takes us

inland to historic Constantine, one of the oldest cities in Africa. Over 2000 years ago it was part of the kingdom of Numidia and went by the name of Cirta. The Phoenicians were the first to build the city and called it Sewa – the Royal City and it was invaded and ruled by the Romans, Ottomans, and French. Today it sits on two sides of a 200 metre gorge which was carved out by the Rhumel River to create a natural fortress. The picturesque city is known as the 'City of Bridges' as it has a number of engineering marvels including the Sidi M'Cid bridge which was the highest bridge in the world when constructed in 1912 and offers stunning views towards the town and the gorge below. After taking in the views, we will explore the city centre including the Palace of Ahmed Bey, Islamic University and the imposing Mosque Emir Abdelkader.

Day 8 Bejaia. Bejaia is built on a beautiful bay protected by mountains which give the city a splendid backdrop. A minor port in Roman times, it was named Saldæ having been settled by the Roman Emperor Vespasian and is our base for a choice of excursions today. Perhaps take a full day tour to Djemila which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1981 due to its unique adaptation of Roman architecture to a mountain environment. In a remarkable setting, the ruins are some of the finest preserved in North Africa. We will drive along a very scenic route and traverse spectacular scenery as we climb from little Kabylia towards the high plateau of Setif where the Roman ruins are located. See the Arch of Caracalla, the forum, the basilica and the temples before viewing the mosaics displayed in the museum that represent the best collection in Algeria. This is a long but rewarding excursion. Alternatively, drive through the valley of the Soumman, the legendary meeting place of the leaders of the Freedom Fighters. It was here that they launched the revolution of the 1st of November 1954 which lasted for seven years until they gained independence for Algeria on the 5th July 1962. Afterwards we travel to a Berber village in Kabylia where we visit a typical house and various workshops where items are still made in the old-fashioned, unhurried way. Enjoy a 'degustation' of Berber olive oil whilst tasting the different types of bread and other local produce and gain an insight into Berber culture and history.

Day 9 Algiers. Depart this morning for the ancient city of Tipaza which was probably founded by the Phoenicians but really came into being under the Romans. The city was extended by Emperor Claudius and grew wealthy on Mediterranean trade. It was built on three small hills which overlooked the sea. There are ruins of three basilicas, two cemeteries, the baths, the theatre, the nymphæum and the unusual oval shaped



amphitheatre. After visiting the city, we will enjoy a typical Algerian lunch before continuing to the mysterious Mausoleum of Mauretania which lies in the hills above the sea and is one of the most breathtaking sights in Algeria. The vast pyramid-like structure is named the Tomb of the Christian on account of the large crosses that decorate the tomb which predates Jesus Christ. Alternatively, a half day city tour will include the Martyrs' Monument, a dominant landmark which offers spectacular views over the city and Bay of Algiers. Continue to La Grande Poste, an impressive piece of Hispano-Moorish architecture completed in 1908, and the Basilica of Notre Dame D'Afrique.

Day 10 Oran. Oran is a city of architectural riches, and the Arab, Spanish, Ottoman and French influences are very noticeable. Its originality is owed much to its turbulent history during the Medieval period which profoundly changed the evolution of its landscape to such an extent that, unlike other Algerian cities, it is indelibly marked by its Hispanic past. Today, Oran can be described as an open-air museum of Western military architecture, alongside buildings with Arab and Ottoman influences as well as modern buildings dating from the French colonial period. Arriving at lunchtime we will take an afternoon guided walking tour to view some of the most striking buildings including the Cathedral, La Place d'Armes, Pasha Mosque, Sidi El Houari and the old Arab quarters followed by a drive to Mount Aidour and the Fort of Santa Cruz to take in the sweeping aerial views of Oran.

Day 11 Ghazaouet. Our last call in Algeria is the port of Ghazaouet located close to the border with Morocco. From here we drive approximately 50 miles inland to Tlemcen, an interesting and cultured city. Our visit will include the 11th century Great Mosque and the deconsecrated Sidi Bel Hassan Mosque which was transformed into a museum in 1901 and houses a selection of mosaics, carvings and pottery. After a local lunch we will continue to El Mansourah to see the remains of an old minaret and El Mechouar, which was built as a citadel in 1145 before it became the royal residence of the Zianide dynasty in the 13th century.

Day 12 Melilla, Spain. Spend the morning at a little bit of Spain in North Africa. Situated on the northern coast of Morocco the Spanish city occupies a rocky peninsula which juts out into the Mediterranean. It has been in Spanish hands since 1497 and previous colonisers included the Phoenicians, Greeks and Romans. It is a fascinating place to spend a morning observing the co-existence of Catholic and Muslim faiths, the influences of Spanish and Moorish architecture and the old walled city, fortress and busy marketplace. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon at sea.

Day 13 Tangier, Morocco. Having passed the Strait of Gibraltar we arrive in Morocco and the port of Tangier. A short drive will bring us to the Donabo Gardens located on the coast with wonderful sea views. Divided into ten sections, the garden includes the Moroccan garden that

celebrates the tradition of tea, the mint maze where multiple varieties blend their fragrances along the alleys, a rose garden thriving in the cool shade and a pollinators garden purposely designed to attract bees. Later we can explore the city where on a walking tour we will visit the Medina, enjoy the views from the kasbah situated at the highest point of Tangier, and wander through the Grand Souk. Alternatively drive across the beautiful Rif Mountains to Tetouan. Visit the unique School of Art Dar Sanaa which is located in a former palace and teaches the most traditional of Moroccan crafts to its students before we continue to the Medina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site which is full of narrow alleys and streets with vendors selling local handicrafts, foods and spices. Our tour will end at the old Royal Palace, a 17th century building which is itself a reflection of the Hispano-Moresque architecture, and the nearby Hassan II Square.

Day 14 Casablanca. Arriving into Casablanca we visit the city's most important sights including the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Olive Market. The highlight of our tour will be our visit to the Hassan II Mosque, one of the largest religious monuments in the world after Mecca. It took 3300 traditional Moroccan artisans to create the beautiful mosaics, marble floors and splendid wood ceiling. The remainder of the day is at leisure to explore further independently as we moor overnight.

Day 15 Casablanca to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

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	£9895	£9395
Byrd	Superior	£10195	£9695
Mawson	Premium	£10495	£9995
Mawson	Corner	£10695	£10195
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£11495	£10995
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£11995	£11495
Shackleton	Hebridean	£12495	£11995
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£11295	£10795
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£11995	£11495

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 14 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 • Gratuities • Transfers • Shore excursions • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, Algeria visa.





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