

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£300
PER PERSON

LA DOLCE VITA

An in-depth exploration of Italy's wonders from Rome to Venice
aboard the MS Island Sky with Guest Speaker Andrew Wallace-Hadrill

30th September to 12th October 2025



NOBLE CALEDONIA



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 south from Rome's port of Civitavecchia aboard the all-suite MS Island Sky, we will call into Naples, cruise around the Amalfi Coast to Salerno, continue to Sicily and then onwards to Puglia. We then sail along Italy's Adriatic Coast to Ancona followed by time spent in the region of Emilia-Romagna before arriving at Venice, a fitting conclusion for our Italian odyssey. 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 the 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.

Guest Speaker – Andrew Wallace-Hadrill



Andrew Wallace-Hadrill, OBE, FBA is an Emeritus Professor of Roman Studies in the Faculty of Classics at the University of Cambridge, and an Emeritus Fellow and former Master of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. Before returning to Cambridge, he was Professor of Classics at the University of Reading from 1987-2009, and from 1995-2009 was on secondment from the University as Director of the British School at Rome. He took his first degree in Classics at Oxford (1969-73), where he also gained his doctorate. His first book, based on his doctorate, was *Suetonius: the Scholar and his Caesars*; this was followed by monographs on *Augustan Rome*, *Houses and Society in Pompeii and Herculaneum*, *Rome's Cultural Revolution*, and, *Herculaneum: Past and Future*. His new book, *The Idea of the City in Late Antiquity* is in press. He has directed archaeological projects in both Pompeii and in Herculaneum, where since 2001 he has played a leading role in the Herculaneum Conservation project, an initiative of the Packard Humanities Institute.





Trevi Fountain

Wall Mosaic, Herculaneum

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Rome, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive and transfer to our central hotel for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 2 Rome. Spend the morning in the Eternal City and choose to explore at your own pace or join a guided walking tour which will visit some of the iconic sites of the city including the Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, Navona Square and the Spanish Steps. This afternoon we will transfer to the port of Civitavecchia to embark the MS Island Sky and sail in the early evening.

Day 3 Naples & Herculaneum. Arriving in Naples we see the Norman castle that protects the port and the backdrop of Mount Vesuvius in the distance. There will be a choice of tours today and you may choose to 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. Alternatively explore Naples including 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. 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.

Day 4 Salerno, Paestum & Cilento. 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. Maybe 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 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 Cilento region's main exports as we visit a farm to hear about the production of the local Mozzarella di Bufala.

Day 5 Messina for Taormina or Tindari, Sicily. From the nearby port of Messina, you can choose to 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 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 astounds 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, and 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 6 Syracuse. Syracuse 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 we 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. Returning to the ship for lunch we have a free afternoon 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 meet this evening for a private concert in one of the town's palazzos accompanied by local food and wine.

Day 7 At sea. After a busy few days, spend a leisurely day on board allowing time to relax on deck and attend a lecture.

Day 8 Otranto & Lecce. After breakfast 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, maybe walk the winding streets or along the seaside promenade. The highlight is the wonderful cathedral with its Medieval mosaic floor created by the monk, Pantaleone, between 1163 and 1165. You can also see the Chapel of the Dead which shows the bones and skulls of 813 martyrs killed by the invading Turks in 1480.

Day 9 Monopoli, Alberobello & Ostuni. This morning there is a choice of excursions. You may choose to join the tour into the Puglian countryside which is scattered with 'trulli', limestone dwellings built with dome or conical roofs. We will enjoy a pleasant walk in Alberobello, a fairy-tale trulli village and a UNESCO World Heritage Site and see the St Anthony Church also built in trullo style. Alternatively, head to the 'White City' of Ostuni, so called due to the almost blinding sunlight reflecting 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 maintained its Medieval atmosphere which we will experience as we walk through the meandering, narrow and picturesque streets of the old town which lead to the impressive 15th century cathedral, a beautiful example of Apulian Romanesque style. After lunch on board you can enjoy a free



Trulli Houses, Alberobello



Rovinj



Temple of Hera, Paestum



Monopoli

afternoon in Monopoli to wander through the historic centre, visit the cathedral or see the Castello di Carlo V.

Day 10 Ancona for Urbino & Loreto. Arrive this morning at the busy port of Ancona, from where we will have a choice of excursions. We will head inland to the UNESCO city of Urbino, birthplace of the artist Raphael, with 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 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. The afternoon is free 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 will include the Basilica di Sant'Apollinare, named after Ravenna's patron and featuring 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.

Day 12 Rovinj, Croatia & Venice, Italy. Spend the morning in Croatia and the atmospheric town of Rovinj where the houses inside the old town are small and lean into each other creating a unique atmosphere. Our guided walking tour will include the Franciscan Monastery, City Palace and the 17th century clock tower before we visit the town's main landmark, St Euphemia Church, which is built on the top of a small hill. This Baroque building built in Venetian style was dedicated to the saint and martyr whose sarcophagus, according to a legend, was miraculously washed ashore somewhere around 800 AD. Depart over lunch and be on deck in the late afternoon as we sail into Venice where you may want to take the opportunity to enjoy a pre or post-dinner stroll. Moor overnight.

Day 13 Venice to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled flight.

Post-cruise Venice Extension 12th to 14th October 2025

If you would like to extend your time in Venice, we are offering a two night extension inclusive of a guided tour which will show you the 'hidden' Venice.



Grand Canal

The Itinerary

Day 1 Venice, Italy. Disembark this morning and join a walking tour to discover the hidden corners of Venice. We will walk beyond the busy 'calli' around St Mark's square to more hidden away ones in the Castello district. We will see the entrance to the Arsenale, a colossal shipyard of the Serenissima Republic, which is still a military restricted area; the San Giorgio dei Greci Church and its secret courtyard; Campo Santa Maria Formosa, one of the city's largest squares and Marco Polo's House. After lunch we transfer to our hotel and the remainder of the day is at leisure. (B, L)

Day 2 Venice. Today is free to explore the wonderful city at your own pace. Maybe take a local boat to one of the islands of the lagoon, stroll through the maze of streets or visit one of the cities impressive museums. (B)

Day 3 Venice to London. After breakfast in the hotel we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. (B)

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£795** Single: **£995**

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 £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard	£7295	£6995
Columbus	Superior	£7595	£7295
Marco Polo	Premium	£7795	£7495
Marco Polo	Corner	£8095	£7795
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£8595	£8295
Explorer	Owner's Balcony Suites	£9095	£8795
Explorer	Island Suite	£9795	£9495
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£8295	£7995
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£8595	£8295

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Overnight hotel accommodation in Rome with breakfast • 11 nights aboard the MS Island 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.
Not Included: Travel insurance.

MS ISLAND SKY



Friendly Service



Deluxe Balcony Suite



The Restaurant

The much loved MS Island Sky is one of our two flag ships and sister vessel to the MS Hebridean 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 Island 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 seating area and some have private balconies, whilst those on the Marco Polo Deck feature tinted, sliding glass doors allowing greatly enhanced viewing opportunities and quick access to the deck. 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 each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, a large wardrobe, dressing table and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, flat screen television with inbuilt DVD/CD player and a telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown toiletries, air-conditioning and heating. The comfortable beds in each suite can be configured as either double or twin.

Your Dining

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



Superior Suite



The Club



The Library

Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Columbus 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 Marco Polo 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 Columbus 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 as well as 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 Erikson Deck, and outside there is a rear Lido Deck located on the Erikson Deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade. Further to this on the top Explorer Deck there is an observation area ideal for spotting wildlife, complete with sun loungers for sunbathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. The Promenade Deck wraps around the whole ship giving outstanding views. There is also a small beauty salon on board with appointments made on request.

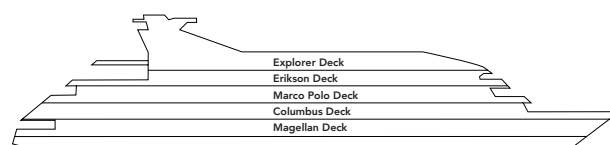
Your Comfort

The MS Island 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.

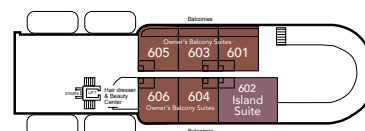
Your Life On Board

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 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 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.

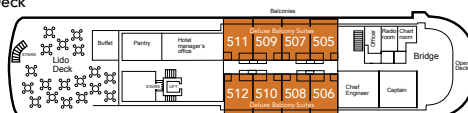
MS ISLAND SKY DECK PLAN



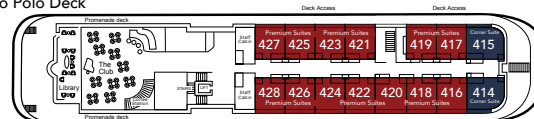
Explorer Deck



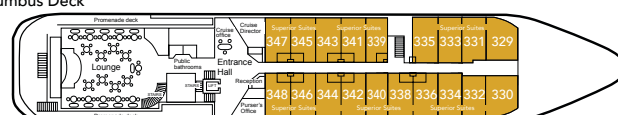
Erikson Deck



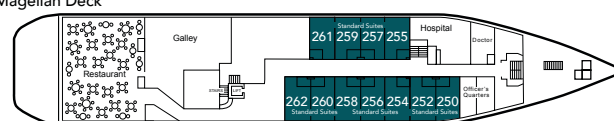
Marco Polo Deck



Columbus Deck



Magellan Deck



- Standard Suites
- Corner Suites with Deck Access
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Superior Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Island Suite
- Premium Suites with Deck Access



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
Cover image: Italian coastal scenery.