

NOBLE CALEDONIA

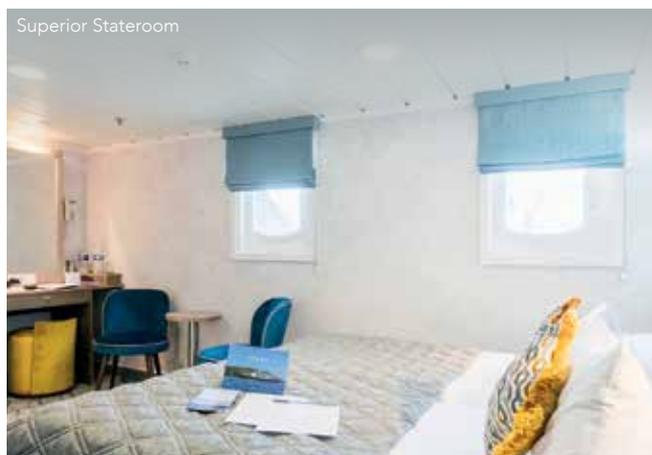
Late Summer Voyages in the
MEDITERRANEAN

ABOARD THE MS SERENISSIMA
SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2021



MS SERENISSIMA

The charming MS Serenissima began her career as the Harald Jarl, cruising the Norwegian coastline and fjords. Extensively renovated in 2003 she was rechristened MS Andrea and began her life as a classic cruise ship, and was chartered by Noble Caledonia for a number of years. In spring 2012 MS Andrea was purchased by our longstanding associates Volga Dream and renamed the MS Serenissima. After a thorough renovation and upgrading, the charming MS Serenissima commenced cruise operations in April 2013 and we have chartered her for the majority of each year since knowing her to be perfect for small ship cruising. With her small size she can navigate into small, remote ports inaccessible to the big cruise ships and appears an impressive sight when moored. With her fleet of Zodiacs she is capable of both destination and expedition cruising.



Your Cabin/Suite

Accommodating no more than 95 passengers, there are eight different grades of cabins arranged over five decks, and all feature either windows or portholes. Cabins for double occupancy range in size from 10 to 25 square metres. The cabins are attractively designed for comfort and convenience and all cabins are fully air conditioned with an en-suite bathroom with shower (please note cabins 601 – 605 and 507 have a bath with shower attachment) and a selection of toiletries in addition to a hairdryer, telephone, robes and slippers, safety deposit box and other thoughtful appointments. All cabins feature a flat screen television on which the lectures are relayed live should you wish to listen to them from the comfort of your cabin. Refillable water bottles are also available in the cabins. Due to the quirky nature of the ship, no two cabins are the same and cabins vary in shape and size, adding to the vessel's overall charm.



Harald Jarl Lounge



Friendly staff



Venice Restaurant

Your Dining

The free seating Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in one sitting and, with its Deck 5 location, all of the tables benefit from great views. The picture windows also make the restaurant wonderfully light and airy. Breakfast is served buffet-style with cooked dishes available and eggs to order by the ship's accomplished chef. Lunch is also served buffet-style with hot and cold dishes available. Dinner is served à la carte and is four courses, except at the Captain's Dinner, which is a six course affair. Where possible, local produce is sourced for an authentic dining experience. A choice of red or white wine, beer, soft drinks and water is included at lunch and dinner. In good weather there are al fresco dining facilities available and tea and coffee are available around the clock in the Andrea Lounge. In keeping with the relaxed atmosphere on board, when dining you are able to choose your seating arrangements at your leisure and dress is informal except for the Captain's Dinner for which you may wish to dress in smarter attire.

Your Space

The facilities on board include two lounges – the larger Andrea Lounge is comfortable and spacious and the smaller Harald Jarl Lounge is more intimate. There is also a small library and Wi-Fi is available at an extra cost throughout the vessel. The outside areas really are something special. A spacious observation deck allows 360 degree views of the passing scenery. From here, step down to the lido area with Jacuzzi and outside bar. The covered seating area at the back of Deck 6 is ideal for relaxing with a drink in hand. Perhaps, one of the best known and loved features of this vessel is its unique style. During the major refit in Sweden the then owners commissioned Swedish interior designers to create a country house style which has recently been updated with some Art Deco styling which works particularly well on a vessel of this vintage, providing intimacy and a classic nautical sensibility often lacking in larger vessels.



Andrea Lounge



Lido Deck, covered seating area



Bar

Life On Board

If large resort-style vessels accommodating many thousands of passengers are your ideal, then the MS Serenissima is not the vessel for you as you will not find endless entertainment, round the clock buffets and the people management which is so much a part of today's big ship on board style. However, if like us, you prefer a more peaceful life at sea you will find the MS Serenissima the ideal vessel. The MS Serenissima is more akin to a country hotel than one of the large ships trawling the seas today. The Captain, Officers and crew offer a first class service and have been selected for their professionalism and caring attitudes. The atmosphere on board is warm and welcoming, and the emphasis is on well-thought out itineraries, relaxation, time spent with like-minded passengers and discovery. A little music in the lounge after dinner, Guest Speakers and informative port briefings from our Cruise Director and of course, good food with wine included at lunch and dinner, all contribute to make a voyage aboard the MS Serenissima a memorable and joyful experience.

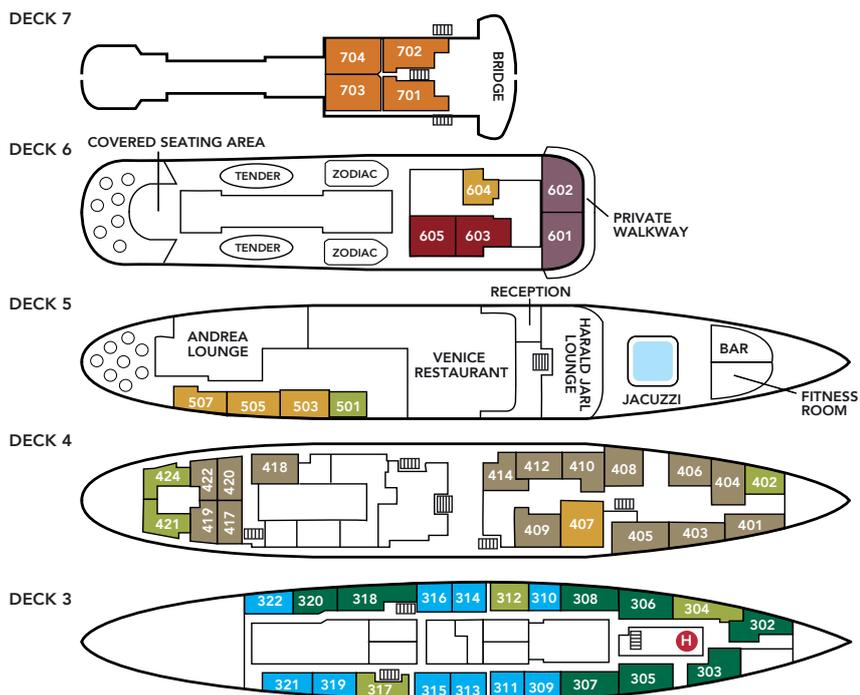
For your Comfort, Safety and Security

There are so few ships of this generation still cruising and MS Serenissima is a great testament to her present and previous owners that they have seen fit to invest considerable sums over the years to keep her in top form and complying with health and safety requirements. There is a Doctor on board and a lift. During your voyage you will have 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 and whenever possible a tour to see the unique engine room is offered.



Venice Restaurant

MS SERENISSIMA DECK PLAN & CABINS



- STANDARD STATEROOM
- DELUXE STATEROOM
- SERENISSIMA SUITE
- CLASSIC STATEROOM
- JUNIOR SUITE
- STANDARD SINGLE
- SUPERIOR STATEROOM
- OWNER'S SUITE

NB. Please note cabin sizes vary in each category and measurements shown are approximate.



DELUXE STATEROOM
(15 to 25 square metres)



SUPERIOR STATEROOM
(11.5 to 18 square metres)



CLASSIC STATEROOM
(14 to 19 square metres)



STANDARD STATEROOM
(10 to 11.5 square metres)



STANDARD SINGLE
(7 to 12.5 square metres)



Friendly housekeeping team looking after your cabin



SERENISSIMA SUITE
(25 square metres)



OWNER'S SUITE
(22 square metres)



JUNIOR SUITE
(21 square metres)

Mediterranean Island Odyssey

A late summer voyage from Mallorca to Livorno with Guest Speaker Professor Jeremy Black
4th to 13th September 2021

There are of course no shortages of cruise vessels plying the major ports and cities of the Mediterranean, but few are inclined to focus on just the islands and devote a complete itinerary to them as we have done with this delightful voyage from Mallorca to Italy aboard the MS Serenissima. Our intention has been to design a voyage as if it were to be undertaken on a small private yacht concentrating on some of the most picturesque and interesting places in the region.



September is the perfect time for our voyage, when the crowds have dispersed but the weather is ideal for touring and sightseeing. We have created the itinerary to combine time in the Balearics, Sardinia, Corsica and Elba, all of which are easy to visit individually but difficult to combine independently in a nine night trip. We will have time on each island to see the main sites but also explore some of the smaller ports and less visited destinations, ensuring that each day has an enjoyable mix of culture with some time at leisure to explore under your own steam.

Guest Speaker



Professor Jeremy Black

Jeremy Black is a prolific historian with specialties in world military history, the history of tourism, and both the 18th and 20th century. Educated at Cambridge and Oxford, he is Professor at Exeter having previously been Professor at Durham. He received his MBE for services to stamp design. Jeremy Black's many books include 'A Brief History of Italy' and 'A Brief History of Spain' (2019). 'A Brief History of the Mediterranean' will be published later in 2020.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Palma de Mallorca, Spain. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Serenissima and embark. This evening we will enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

Day 2 Palma de Mallorca. Mallorca, the largest of the Balearic Islands, has a rich history dating back to the Phoenicians when it was under control of Carthage, the principal North African city at that time, before flourishing under Roman rule. From our berth in Palma we will take the beautifully maintained vintage train that connects Palma with the pretty town of Soller on the island's west coast and enjoy splendid mountain views of the Serra de Tramuntana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Over the course of just seven kilometres the railway rises 199 metres, runs through 13 tunnels and crosses several bridges. We will enjoy some time to explore Soller before taking a scenic drive to the village of Valldemossa. With a population of around 2000 Valldemossa is a quiet and traditional town with narrow streets and lanes. We will enjoy a walk around the town followed by lunch at a local restaurant before returning to Palma where we will have some time to explore at leisure or return to the MS Serenissima.

Cathedral, Palma de Mallorca



Day 3 Mahon, Menorca. Over breakfast we arrive in Menorca, the most northerly of the Balearics and the least dedicated to tourism. The island offers pastoral countryside, historic towns and superb beaches. This morning choose to join an island drive which will include the mysterious rock mounds (talayots) and megalithic stone monuments which were erected some 4000 years ago before making our way to aristocratic Ciudadella, the architectural showpiece of Menorca. Situated at the head of a long channel from the sea, the city has had its share of disputes over sovereignty, and its character reflects the influence of Moorish, Turkish and Spanish rule. Alternatively, spend the morning exploring the pretty harbour town of Mahon at your own pace. Return to the MS Serenissima for lunch before we sail in the early afternoon to Sardinia.

Day 4 Alghero, Sardinia. The Medieval city of Alghero was colonised by the Catalans in the 14th century and today there is still a strong Catalan identity throughout the town, and it is often even referred to as "Barceloneta". We will use the attractive port as our base for a day of exploration in the region. This morning's panoramic drive takes us to Nuraghe Palmavera with its main tower of the Nuraghe, which still has its dome shaped ceiling that dates back to 1100 years BC. The complex, which was abandoned in the 5th century BC due to fire, shows the different phases of social life and political organisation of the tribal community. We return to Alghero for lunch on board and the afternoon is free to explore the town at your own pace. *Please note that we will be at anchor today and will use the vessel's Zodiacs or local tender to transfer ashore.*

Day 5 Bonifacio, Corsica. Be on deck this morning as we arrive in Corsica and Bonifacio's stunning natural harbour. Well known by Odysseus as the home of the savage and giant laestrygonians, today Bonifacio's breathtaking clifftop setting and relaxed pace make it one of the most welcoming ports in the Mediterranean. On our morning tour we will explore the narrow streets and the historical heart of the town. We will discover the Bosco quarter with the St Francis Convent, the 14th century Church of St Marie Majeure and take in the views from the clifftop on which the city is built. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon in port to explore further at your own pace.

Day 6 Ajaccio. The capital of Corsica is famed as the birthplace of Napoleon Bonaparte whose family arrived here in 1492 with about 100 other Genoese and Ligurian family's intent on colonising this part of the island. On a leisurely morning walking tour of the old town we will take in many of the places associated with Napoleon including the late 17th century Maison Bonaparte, which is now a museum, and Ajaccio Cathedral, where it is rumoured Napoleon was born on the cathedral steps. After lunch on board enjoy an afternoon to explore independently.



Bonifacio



Valldemossa, Mallorca



Portoferraio, Elba

Day 7 L'île Rousse & Calvi. Arrive this morning in the prosperous Balagne region of the island. A morning tour will take us to Calvi where our guide will lead us through the alleyways and cobbled streets before continuing uphill to the imposing citadel. Built by the Genoese, this 15th century structure has seen off several assaults through the centuries and offers wonderful views from its five bastions. We will also see the Caserne Sampiero and 13th century Cathedral St Jean Baptiste. After lunch on board, spend some time exploring L'île Rousse at your own pace.

Day 8 Bastia & Portoferraio, Elba. Situated on the north of the island of Corsica, Bastia was the old Genoese capital and is now a busy port. Its setting is handsome, the classic Mediterranean allure of pale, sunlit streets flanked with tall colourful buildings. Our walking tour of the historic quarter will include the 15th century cathedral, chapels and Baroque buildings such as the Oratoire St Roch, Oratoire de l'Immaculee Conception and the Roccoco church, St Jean Baptiste, famous for its twin campaniles. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon at sea as we sail to Elba and arrive this evening in the charming port of Portoferraio where you may wish to take an after dinner stroll.

Day 9 Portoferraio. After breakfast we explore the enchanting island of Elba, best known as Napoleon's island of exile from 1814 to 1815. From our berth we set out for a delightful drive exploring the southern region of this charming island with superb views over the coastline. The first stop will be Villa San Martino which was the summer residence of Napoleon Bonaparte and has been transformed into a museum. Later enjoy some time at leisure in Porto Azzurro to explore this delightful town which is dominated by an ancient Spanish fortress and a picturesque harbour. Our drive continues along the coast to the 17th century country wine farm, La Chiusa which is beautifully nestled in a vineyard estate surrounded by olive trees and overlooking the ocean. As any self-respecting mansion on Elba, La Chiusa claims to have

once housed Napoleon during his exile here. Experience the estate's interesting cellar to learn how the wine is produced and enjoy a delicious sampling of the local wine. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy some free time in Portoferraio before we sail to Livorno this afternoon and moor overnight.

Day 10 Livorno, Italy to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Pisa airport for our scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£4295	£4095
3	Classic Stateroom	£4495	£4295
4	Superior Stateroom	£4895	£4695
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£5395	£5195
6	Junior Suite	£5895	£5695
7	Owner's Suite	£6795	£6595
8	Serenissima Suite	£6795	£6595
10	Standard Single	£5495	£5295

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

Not Included: Travel insurance.

Post-Cruise Tuscany Extension 13th to 16th September 2021



Villa Poggio Torselli



Vinci



Florence



Villa il Poggiale

Extend your stay with a three night visit to Tuscany which includes accommodation at the typical Tuscan Manor of Villa il Poggiale and a number of tours of the region as well as time to relax and enjoy the villa's grounds.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Villa Poggio Torselli & Villa il Poggiale, Italy. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the charming Villa Poggio Torselli. This magnificent Tuscan villa was once inhabited by the Machiavelli family and was known as the "queen of the villas". It is particularly famous for its gardens which date from the late 17th century and consist of an Italianate garden divided into two terraces to the south and an English park area to the north. Meanwhile the interiors are characterised by colour, tromp l'oeil and allegorical paintings which were created at the end of the 17th century. After the visit to the villa and its gardens, we enjoy some Tuscan specialties and a wine tasting. We then transfer to the Villa il Poggiale to check in and spend some time at leisure before meeting for dinner later this evening. (B, L, D)

Day 2 Florence. This morning we drive the short distance to discover the historical city of Florence which lies on the River Arno and is surrounded by gentle hills, olive groves and vineyards. Founded by the Romans, the city fell in the 15th century to the rule of the Medici family who later became the Grand Dukes of Tuscany. During this period the city achieved new heights of glory in art, culture, politics and economic power. It is considered the birthplace of the Renaissance and is possibly one of the most beautifully preserved and artistically rich cities in the world. Here, artistic treasures and architectural masterpieces of the past blend with ancient streets lined with elegant boutiques, peaceful parks, street side cafés and pastry shops, with breathtaking views at every turn. During our morning guided walk we will see the Duomo, with its Brunelleschi's works of art, Giotto's Bell Tower and the Baptistery, with such beautiful doors that Michelangelo called them the Gates

of Paradise. Our walk will continue past the Piazza Della Signoria, Palazzo Vecchio, Ponte Vecchio, the only bridge in Florence to survive the World War II bombings, and the Santa Croce Basilica. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure for lunch and to explore further at your own pace before we return to the villa for dinner. (B, D)

Day 3 Vinci. We have a free morning to relax in the villa, maybe sit by the pool or find a spot in the garden or lounge. In the early afternoon we will make our way to Vinci, the town where Leonardo da Vinci was born in 1452. Visit the Museo Leonardiano, Palazzina Uzielli and the Conti Guidi Castle which houses one of the broadest and most original collections devoted to Leonardo the engineer, the architect and the scientist, and to the history of Renaissance technology in general. We also visit the house where Leonardo was born surrounded by the century's old olive trees of Montalbano. After our visit we will make a stop at one of the local Chianti vineyards where we tour the ancient cellars and learn about the winemaking techniques. We will enjoy a tasting of some of the wines before being served a traditional Tuscan dinner. (B, D)

Day 4 Villa il Poggiale to Pisa to London. Check out after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our return scheduled flight to London. (B)

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1345**

Single: **£1695**

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation at the Villa il Poggiale, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner), drinks with included meals, tours as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

Please note: The Villa il Poggiale has many steps and no lift. It is in a remote rural location and all the rooms have varying sizes and styles.



Islands of Italy

An exploration of Italy's islands & Corsica with Guest Speaker Nigel McGilchrist

13th to 24th September 2021

This is a voyage that will appeal to those who love Italy, and who enjoy hopping between islands. Our late summer voyage is wonderful and rare opportunity to visit the islands of Elba, Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily and Gozo from the comfort of the MS Serenissima. The islands feature an array of ancient ruins and attractive towns and villages which we will discover during our included, guided excursions whilst we have also allowed for ample time to explore independently.

Sailing from Livorno we first visit the enchanting island of Elba, best known as Napoleon's island of exile from where we continue on to Corsica. Despite officially being a part of France, the island of Corsica has its own identity with stunning natural harbours and charming towns. Continuing to Sardinia we spend time in Alghero and Cagliari followed by four days of exploration of Sicily which, with a history of 3000 years has a wealth of sites to discover. Our penultimate call will be the pretty Maltese island of Gozo. Local guides and our onboard Guest Speaker will contribute greatly to our enjoyment and understanding of these island gems and you will find yourself wanting to return time and time again.



Guest Speaker



Nigel McGilchrist

Nigel McGilchrist has lived and worked in the Mediterranean – Italy, Turkey and Greece – for nearly forty years. After graduating from Oxford with a starred First in English, he began teaching at the University of Rome and subsequently worked for the Italian Superintendence of Fine Arts. All his spare time was spent in exploring the lands, coasts and the cultures of the Mediterranean world. He has lectured for many years on the art and history of the area for museums and institutions in Europe and America – among them, the Getty Museum and the Smithsonian in Washington, DC. He has taken many specialist tours to Italy, Greece, Sicily and Malta; and has been a Guest Speaker for several Noble Caledonia cruises. He was formerly Dean of European Studies for a consortium of American universities. He is the author of a twenty-volume series of survey/guides of the archaeology, history and art of the sixty inhabited Aegean Islands. He lived previously in Umbria, where he produced wine and oil; he now lives in Greece.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Livorno, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight to Pisa. On arrival transfer to the MS Serenissima and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner on board as we sail this evening.

Day 2 Portoferraio, Elba. After breakfast we will explore the enchanting island of Elba, best known as Napoleon's island of exile from 1814 to 1815. From our berth we set out for a delightful drive exploring the southern region of this charming island with superb views over the coastline. The first stop will be Villa San Martino which was the summer residence of Napoleon Bonaparte and has been transformed into a museum. Later enjoy some time at leisure in Porto Azzurro to explore this delightful town which is dominated by an ancient Spanish fortress and a picturesque harbour. Our drive continues along the coast to the 17th century country wine farm, La Chiusa which is beautifully nestled in a vineyard estate surrounded by olive trees and overlooking the ocean. As every self-respecting mansion on Elba, La Chiusa claims to have once housed Napoleon during his exile here. Experience the estate's interesting cellar to learn how the wine is produced and enjoy a delicious sampling of

the local wine. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy some free time in Portoferraio before we sail later this evening.

Day 3 L'Île Rousse & Calvi, Corsica. Arrive this morning on the island of Corsica and the prosperous Balagne region of the island. A morning tour will take us to Calvi where our guide will lead us through the alleyways and cobbled streets before continuing uphill to the imposing citadel. Built by the Genoese, this 15th century structure has seen off several assaults through the centuries and offers wonderful views from its five bastions. We will also see the Caserne Sampiero and 13th century Cathedral St Jean Baptiste. After lunch on board spend some time exploring L'Île Rousse at your own pace.

Day 4 Bonifacio. Be on deck this morning as we arrive in Bonifacio's stunning natural harbour. Well known by Odysseus as the home of the savage and giant laestrygonians, today Bonifacio's breathtaking clifftop setting and relaxed pace make it one of the most welcoming ports in the Mediterranean. On our morning tour we will explore the narrow streets and the historical heart of the town. We will discover the Bosco quarter with the St Francis Convent, the 14th century Church of St Marie Majeure and take in the views from the clifftop on which the city is built. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon in port to explore further at your own pace.

Day 5 Alghero, Sardinia. The Medieval city of Alghero was colonised by the Catalans in the 14th century and today there is still a strong Catalan identity throughout the town, and it is often even referred to as "Barceloneta". We will use the attractive port as our base for a day of exploration in the region. This morning's panoramic drive takes us to Nuraghe Palmavera with its main tower of the Nuraghe, which still has its dome shaped ceiling that dates back to 1100 years BC. The complex, which was abandoned in the 5th century BC due to fire, shows the different phases of social life and political organisation of the tribal community. Return to the ship for lunch or spend a little longer ashore to explore the town at your own pace. *Please note that we will be at anchor today and will use the vessel's Zodiacs or local tender to transfer ashore.*

Day 6 Cagliari. Spend the morning exploring the Sardinian capital of Cagliari, an ancient city which dates back to the Phoenicians and



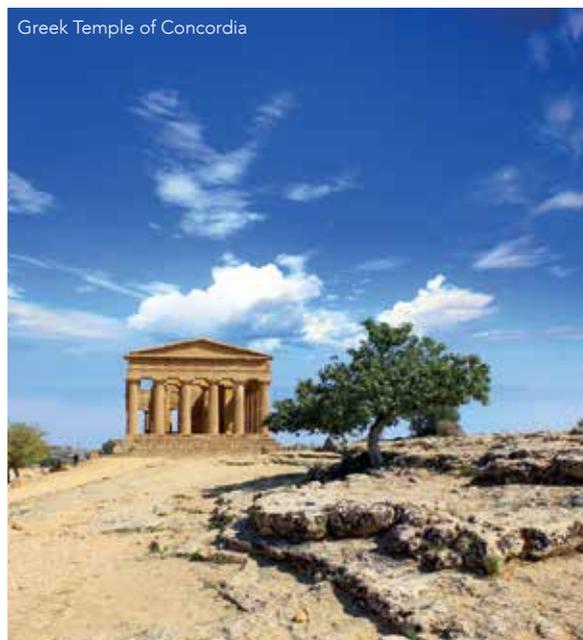
L'Île Rousse



Gozo



Portoferraio, Elba



Greek Temple of Concordia

Romans. On a walking tour we will stroll around the old town with its narrow streets running along a steep hillside. See the terraced Piazza del Palazzo and the 14th century Cathedral of St Cecilia. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. Alternatively, drive along the southwestern coast to reach Nora which was founded by the Phoenicians but also has Carthaginian and Roman ruins. After a period of Roman prosperity, there was a decline and in the 3rd century AD the city was engulfed by the sea. Still visible today are the remains of a Carthaginian warehouse and various Roman buildings, including the baths with splendid mosaics and the theatre.

Day 7 Trapani, Sicily. Spend the morning at sea arriving into Trapani over lunch. This was the landing point for Peter of Aragon in 1282 to start the Spanish occupation of Sicily. This afternoon there is 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 Erice, famed in antiquity for its temple dedicated to the goddess of love, the Phoenician Astarte, Greek Aphrodite or Roman Venus. A tour via cable car will take us to this stunning site high above the sea and to the beautifully preserved Medieval town characterised by its winding cobblestone streets and beautiful courtyards.

Day 8 Porto Empedocle. Today we will visit the Valle dei Templi, a series of Doric temples and the most captivating of Sicilian Greek remains, a grouping unique outside Greece. Admire the Temple of Hera, the Temple of Concordia, the Dioscuri Temple, the Temple of Olympic Jove and the Temple of Hercules. There will be the option to visit the Valley of the Temples and the Museum or just the Valley of the Temples. After lunch on board the afternoon is free to explore Agrigento and shuttles will run from the port to the town.

Day 9 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. We will break our journey at one of these vineyards and enjoy a chance to sample some wine over a Sicilian lunch.

Day 10 Syracuse. 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. On leaving the vessel we 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 'Dionysus' Ear,' a vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. We will continue to explore the island of Ortigia where we will 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. The afternoon is free to explore independently before we meet this evening for a private concert in one of the town's palazzos accompanied by local food and wine.

Day 11 Gozo, Malta. Arrive this morning off the Maltese island of Gozo, thought to be the Calypso Isles of Homer's Odyssey and a lovely place to spend a day. On a morning drive 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. Continue 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 return to the ship for lunch and the afternoon is free to explore at your own pace. Shuttle buses will run to the capital of Victoria where you can take your time to walk the walls or through the narrow streets of this small picturesque city. In the late afternoon we will sail the short distance to Valletta where we moor overnight.

Day 12 Valletta 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 £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£4995	£4795
3	Classic Stateroom	£5195	£4995
4	Superior Stateroom	£5595	£5395
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£6095	£5895
6	Junior Suite	£6595	£6395
7	Owner's Suite	£7495	£7295
8	Serenissima Suite	£7495	£7295
10	Standard Single	£6195	£5995

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

Not Included: Travel insurance.

Pre-Cruise Tuscany Extension

10th to 13th September 2021



Extend your stay with our three night visit to Tuscany which includes accommodation at the typical Tuscan Manor of Villa il Poggiale and a number of tours of the region as well as time to relax and enjoy the villa's grounds.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Pisa, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight to Pisa. Upon arrival transfer to Villa il Poggiale for check in. After some free time we will meet for dinner this evening. (D)

Day 2 Florence. This morning we will drive the short distance to discover the historical city of Florence which lies on the River Arno and is surrounded by gentle hills, olive groves and vineyards. Founded by the Romans, the city fell in the 15th century to the rule of the Medici family who later became the Grand Dukes of Tuscany. During this period the city achieved new heights of glory in art, culture, politics and economic power. It is considered the birthplace of the Renaissance and is possibly one of the most beautifully preserved and artistically rich cities in the world. Here, artistic treasures and architectural masterpieces of the past blend with ancient streets lined with elegant boutiques, peaceful parks, street side cafés and pastry shops, with breathtaking views at every turn. During our morning guided walk we will pass the Duomo, with its Brunelleschi's works of art, Giotto's Bell Tower and the Baptistery, with such beautiful doors that Michelangelo called them the Gates of Paradise. Our walk will continue past the Piazza Della Signoria, Palazzo Vecchio, Ponte Vecchio, the only bridge in Florence to survive the World War II bombings, and the Santa Croce

Basilica. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure for lunch and to explore further at your own pace before we return to the villa for dinner. (B, D)

Day 3 Vinci. We have a morning at leisure to relax in the villa, maybe sit by the pool or find a spot in the garden or lounge. In the early afternoon we will make our way to Vinci, the town where Leonardo da Vinci was born in 1452. Visit the Museo Leonardiano, Palazzina Uzielli and the Conti Guidi Castle which houses one of the broadest and most original collections devoted to Leonardo the engineer, the architect and the scientist, and to the history of Renaissance technology in general. We also visit the house where Leonardo was born surrounded by the centuries old olive trees of Montalbano. After our visit we will make a stop at one of the local Chianti vineyards where we tour the ancient cellars and learn about the winemaking techniques. We will enjoy a tasting of some of the wines before being served a traditional Tuscan dinner. (B, D)

Day 4 Villa Poggio Torselli & Livorno. Check out this morning and drive to the charming Villa Poggio Torselli. This magnificent Tuscan villa, accessed by a long driveway flanked by Cypress trees, was once inhabited by the Machiavelli family and was known as the "queen of the villas". It is particularly famous for its gardens which date from the late 17th century and consist of an Italianate garden divided into two terraces to the south and an English park area to the north. Meanwhile the interiors are characterised by colour, tromp l'oeil and allegorical paintings which were created at the end of the 17th century. After the visit to the villa and its gardens, we enjoy some Tuscan specialties and a wine tasting before transferring to Livorno to embark the MS Serenissima. (B, L)

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1345** Single: **£1695**

Price Includes: Three nights hotel accommodation at the Villa il Poggiale, meals as indicated (B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner), drinks with included meals, tours as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

Please note: The Villa il Poggiale has many steps and no lift. It is in a remote rural location and all the rooms have varying sizes and styles.

Post-Cruise Malta Extension

24th to 26th September 2021



Extend your stay and spend two nights exploring the island of Malta.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Valletta, Malta. After breakfast we will disembark and begin a city 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 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. After lunch we transfer to our hotel and check in. The remainder of the afternoon and evening are free for independent exploration. (B, L)

Day 2 Valletta. 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. Spend the afternoon at leisure before we meet for dinner. (B, D)

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

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£695** Single: **£945**

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



Wonders of Sicily & the Amalfi Coast

An exploration of Sicily & the Amalfi Coast

24th September to 4th October & 4th to 14th October* 2021

The island of Sicily has an incredible wealth of treasures and a geography which lends itself beautifully to exploration by sea with most points of interest located close to the coast. Owing to its benevolent climate and superb strategic position, Sicily has been coveted, fought over and colonised numerous times with the Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Normans, Byzantines and Bourbons having all made their mark. During our voyage aboard the MS Serenissima we will discover Sicily's rich heritage which is the result of so many invading civilisations.

From magnificent Doric temples to great Byzantine cathedrals and bizarrely styled villas, there is so much to explore during our voyage which we have timed for September and October when the crowds of high summer will have departed and the temperatures will be pleasant for our guided tours. We finish our voyage by sailing across to mainland Italy where we visit beautiful Positano, considered one of the prettiest towns along the Amalfi coast and the magnificent site of Herculaneum.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Valletta, Malta. Fly by scheduled flight to Malta. On arrival transfer to the MS Serenissima and enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

Day 2 Porto Empedocle, Sicily. This morning we will explore 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. There will be the option to visit the Valley of the Temples and the Museum or just the Valley of the Temples. After lunch on board the afternoon is free to explore Agrigento.

Day 3 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 at one of these vineyards and enjoy a chance to sample some wine over a Sicilian lunch.

Day 4 Noto & Ragusa. From our berth in Pozzallo we will explore the Baroque villages of Noto and Ragusa. Built in 1703 Noto is a picturesque city located on the terraced slopes of Mount Iblei among olive groves and almond trees. A quiet walk along the central streets will reveal the 18th century Palazzo Ducale and some Baroque churches: San Francesco Immacolata, the cathedral, San Carlo, Santa Chiara and the imposing Palazzo Nicolaci di Villadorata, built in 1737. We return to the MS Serenissima for lunch and this afternoon continue to charming Ragusa. It has been included in the UNESCO World Heritage list for its artistic architectural heritage with its Baroque palaces, churches, squares, stairways and winding narrow streets, all of which create an evocative and ancient atmosphere. We will discover the wonderful Ragusa Ibla: the "Pearl of the Baroque", the gardens, the magnificent palaces, the splendid church of San Giuseppe and the Dome of San Giorgio, built in the 18th century on the site where an older church stood before the earthquake of 1693.

Day 5 Syracuse. 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 we will visit the Neapolis Archaeological Park where we 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 'Dionysus' Ear,' a vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. Continuing to explore the island of Ortigia we will 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. The afternoon is free to explore independently before meeting this evening for a private concert in one of the town's palazzos accompanied by local food and wine.

Day 6 Messina for Taormina. 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 exploring 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. Those who wish to spend longer here will be able to take lunch independently in one of the local restaurants and spend an afternoon exploring at leisure before our coach returns to Messina. Alternatively, return to the ship for lunch and enjoy free time in Messina before we sail this evening.

Day 7 Lipari & Stromboli, Aeolian Islands. We anchor off the picturesque island of Lipari situated in the Aeolian Islands off the north coast of Sicily. Here 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. After landing by Zodiac, our morning tour includes 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. Maybe stay in town for lunch before we sail in the late afternoon. Enjoy dinner anchored off the volcanic island of Stromboli. *Please note that we will be at anchor today and will use the vessel's Zodiacs to transfer ashore.*

Day 8 Palermo, Sicily. 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 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.



Lipari



Palermo



Taormina



Naples



Syracuse

Day 9 Amalfi & Positano, Italy. From our anchorage in Amalfi we will board local boats and take a cruise to Positano considered one of the prettiest towns along the coast where white Moorish style houses cling to the slopes around a small sparkling bay. Spend some time exploring the streets and browsing in some of Positano's boutiques that sell the casual, locally made cotton clothing the town is noted for. We return to our private boat and transfer back to Amalfi. Flanked by an old Saracen tower and a 12th century Capuchin monastery, Amalfi boasts a splendid cathedral dating from the 11th century that is covered with geometrical designs in coloured stones. We will visit St Andrew's Cathedral and the Basilica of the Crucifix dating back to 596 AD. We will also have some free time to stroll along the impressive marina and discover the picturesque shops and cafes.

Day 10 Naples. Spend the morning at sea as we cruise round the Sorrentine Peninsula and into the Bay of Naples seeing the Norman castle that protects Naples port and the backdrop of Vesuvius in the distance. An afternoon tour will take us to Herculaneum, this wealthy Roman town 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. Return to the ship for dinner as we remain overnight in Naples.

Day 11 Naples to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

*Please note that the 4th October departure operates from Naples to Valletta in the reverse direction to that shown. A full itinerary can be viewed at www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£4595	£4395
3	Classic Stateroom	£4795	£4595
4	Superior Stateroom	£5195	£4995
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£5695	£5495
6	Junior Suite	£6295	£6095
7	Owner's Suite	£7195	£6995
8	Serenissima Suite	£7195	£6995
10	Standard Single	£5895	£5695

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

Malta Extension

22nd to 24th September & 14th to 16th October* 2021



Valletta

If you would like to spend some time in Malta we are offering a two night stay providing the chance to explore Valletta and the surrounding area.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Valletta, Malta. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to our hotel and check in for our 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" 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. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. (B)

Day 3 Valletta. This morning we will tour the city of Mdina. Originally this city was given the name of "Citta Nobile" and 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. We enjoy a local lunch before transferring to the MS Serenissima moored in Valletta. (B, L)

* Please note that the 14th October extension is post-cruise in conjunction with the 4th October cruise. A full itinerary can be viewed at www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£695** Single: **£945**

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



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request. Ports & itineraries subject to change.

Cover image: Calvi