SPECIAL OFFER - SAVE £300 PER PERSON

# LATE SUMMER In the french & Italian rivieras

A voyage between Marseille & Livorno aboard the MS Hebridean Sky 26<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025





The British love affair with the French and Italian Rivieras dates back to the 18th century and the days of the Grand Tour. It is not surprising when you consider the charms on offer ranging from stunning coastal scenery, artistic gems, charming villages and atmospheric harbour towns coupled with the wonderful late summer climate.

Join us aboard the MS Hebridean Sky in the cosmopolitan port city of Marseille, our gateway to discover the artistic riches of Aix en Provence or to explore Avignon, the great City of the Popes with its Palais des Papes, one of the largest and most important Medieval Gothic buildings in Europe. We will then call into



the pretty Provencal maritime town of La Seyne sur Mer for a stroll around the picturesque harbour and a boat trip around the hidden bays of Les Calanques. Continuing along the Côte d'Azur, we call into Cannes for our visit to the beautiful resort town of Antibes before sailing the short distance to Nice with its old-world opulence and stunning seaside location.

Upon reaching the Italian Riviera we call into the Ligurian capital of Genoa, rich in maritime history and an archaeological heritage that speaks of its former glory and where we have arranged an exclusive evening visit to a private palazzo for a classical concert. From Genoa we will also visit Portofino with its colourful harbour. In addition, we have included the picturesque region of Cinque Terre and the lovely Tuscan town of Lucca.

This itinerary is very much a classic that has been enjoyed over the decades but with some interesting variations. It combines some 'must see' sites together with some smaller places and, with so many experiences on offer, we have planned our time carefully to ensure there is adequate opportunity to relax onboard, join the guided excursions and explore under your own steam.





### The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Marseille, France.** Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive in Marseille and transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner on board and moor overnight.

Day 2 Marseille for Aix en Provence or Avignon. From our berth in Marseille, we will offer a choice of excursions today. You can choose to head inland to Aix en Provence which was founded by the Romans in the 1st century and is now more renowned as the home of artist Paul Cezanne. We will visit his studio which still houses his equipment and the objects he used for models and the Jas de Bouffan estate, Cezanne's parents' country house which contains many of the painter's celebrated works. We will continue to the 'Terrain des Peintres' located on the heights of Aix en Provence, a few hundred metres from the Atelier Cezanne, and famous for the wonderful views of the Montagne Sainte Victoire which Cezanne often painted in the latter part of his life. After lunch in a local restaurant, we spend some time in Aix with its leafy boulevards and public squares lined with 17th and 18th century mansions. Alternatively spend the day in Avignon, the great City of the Popes which boasts a number of splendid museums, churches, and palaces. Our guided walking tour will include the Palais des Papes, one of the wonders of Provence and the largest and most important Medieval Gothic buildings in Europe, built in the 14th century as a fortified palace for the pontifical court. We also visit the cathedral and famous Pont Benezet, a bridge that spans the Rhone between Villeneuve les Avignon and Avignon and the Pont du Gard, one of the wonders of antiquity, built by Agrippa in 19 BC. This imposing aqueduct bridge was built by the Romans in order to provide the city of Nimes with fresh water from the Uzes area. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for dinner and set sail late this evening.

**Day 3 La Seyne sur Mer.** Today we will berth in the maritime town of La Seyne sur Mer, fantastically located at the foot of Cap Sicie. Spend the

morning at leisure relaxing on board or exploring the town independently. This afternoon there will be the choice of a boat trip to Les Calanques, stunning fjord like inlets carved into the limestone that stretch along the coast from Marseille to Cassis or alternatively join an excursion inland to the hilltop Medieval village of Le Castellet. This remarkable stronghold, formerly owned by the Lords of Les Baux, has well preserved ramparts, a carefully restored 12th century church and a castle dating back to the 11th century. We will have time to explore the village and its winding streets before enjoying a wine tasting at one of Le Castellet's centuries-old vineyards.

Day 4 Cannes & Nice. Our base for today will be Cannes and on our morning excursion we will drive along the beautiful coastline to Antibes. Founded by the Greek merchants in the 5th century it is one of the oldest cities in France. On a walking tour we will explore the historic part of the city which is a maze of small, flower-bedecked streets with Roman and Medieval sections. Its 16th century ramparts overlook the Mediterranean Sea and still protect the heart of the Old Town. Our visit will also include the famous Picasso Museum, located inside the Medieval castle of Grimaldi. Just after the second world war Picasso was invited to Antibes by his friend Dor de la Souchière where he spent a few months, and it was during his stay he painted one of his masterpieces 'Happiness'. There will be some free time in Antibes before we return to MS Hebridean Sky for lunch. This afternoon is at leisure to relax on board or explore Cannes independently. Just before dinner we sail the short distance to Nice where we will moor overnight. *Please note that we will be at anchor today and will use the vessel's Zodiacs or local tender to transfer ashore.* 

Day 5 Nice. This morning enjoy a choice of tours. There will be the opportunity to explore two of the area's finest museums in the exclusive Cimiez Hill District. We will begin with a visit to the Musee National Marc Chagall. Established by the artist himself, the collection features the most important permanent exhibition of his work. The main focus is a series of 17 canvases comprising his colourful 'Biblical Message'. We will continue to the Musee Matisse which is housed in the 17th century Arena Villa. The exquisite collection details the great master's development from the late 19th century through to 1954 when he died. Alternatively visit the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild. Built in 1900 in Italian palazzo style and surrounded by magnificent gardens, it houses an unbelievable collection of works including tapestries, furniture, candelabras, terracottas, porcelains and Chinese vases. We will return to the vessel for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore Nice independently. Perhaps walk amongst the charming architecture of the old city, explore Place Massena, or enjoy a stroll along the palm tree lined Promenade des Anglais.

Day 6 Genoa, Italy. Many regard Genoa as having the largest historic city centre in Europe as a result of having been, for centuries, a powerful commercial seaport and city-state. It was the birthplace of Christopher Columbus and its maritime roots have fostered a dialect that has absorbed elements of Neapolitan, Calabrese and Portuguese over the centuries. Our



morning walking tour through the historic town centre will include the Piazza de Ferrari and the Palazzo Ducale. We will visit the Cisterne del Ducale, the ancient cellars of the palace, where we will enjoy a tasting of typical Genoese fare such as bruschetta and focaccia accompanied by some local wine. This afternoon will be at leisure to explore independently or relax on board. After an early dinner we will make the short walk to a local palazzo for a private visit which will include a classical music concert and cocktail before we return to the MS Hebridean Sky.

Day 7 Genoa for Portofino. This morning drive along the gentle winding coastal road to the delightful village of Santa Margherite Ligure with its cobbled streets flanked by Medieval churches and intricately adorned Liberty (Art Nouveau) buildings. Here we will board a local boat and cruise the short distance to Portofino. Located in a beautiful cove surrounded by lush hills, olive groves and with a stunning colourful harbour we will enjoy a walking tour followed by free time before we continue our journey to San Fruttuoso. Not much more than an indentation along a mountainous coastline, surrounded by the hills and forests of the Portofino Regional Park, and only accessible by boat or foot, it is a stunning location. From our boat we will have the opportunity to admire the enchanting Benedictine Abbey positioned directly on the beach and learn about its history. Cruise back to Santa Margherite Ligure and choose to return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch or enjoy lunch in a local restaurant in the town of Recco, the gastronomic capital of Liguiria.

Day 8 La Spezia for the Cinque Terre. From the port of La Spezia today we will explore the Cinque Terre, a series of five villages along the coast which until recently were accessible only from the sea or via an ancient network of footpaths. We will board local boats and sail past the villages of Riomaggiore, Corniglia and Manarola before we step ashore and explore the picturesque villages of Vernazza and Monterosso. Lunch today will be served in a local restaurant before we return to the MS Hebridean Sky.

Day 9 Marina di Carrara for Lucca. Today we will have a choice of excursions. On a full day tour we will make our way inland to the lovely town of Lucca. Hidden behind imposing Renaissance walls it boasts delightful, cobbled streets, handsome piazzas and shady promenades. Our tour will include the San Martino Cathedral and the Puccini Museum. After lunch in a local restaurant, we will be treated to a private concert in the Santa Caterina Church before we return to the MS Hebridean Sky. Alternatively on a morning tour we will make our way to the delightful town of Torre del Lago, overlooking the Lake of Massaciuccoli. After a boat trip on the lake visit Puccini's villa which is now a museum and has been preserved almost exactly as it was during his residence. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

Day 10 Livorno to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to Pisa airport for our scheduled flight to London.







#### PRICES PER PERSON Based on double occupancy

#### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON PLUS NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT FOR A LIMITED TIME ONL

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Amundsen	Standard	£5995	£5695
Byrd	Superior	£6295	£5995
Mawson	Premium	£6595	£6295
Mawson	Corner	£6895	£6595
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£7595	£7295
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£7995	£7695
Shackleton	Hebridean	£8495	£8195
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£5995	£5695
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£6295	£5995

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

## MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



The much loved MS Hebridean Sky is one of our two flagships and sister vessel to the MS Island Sky. Both vessels were built in the same shipyard in Italy at similar times and share the same excellent attributes that make them two of the finest small ships in the world. With a maximum passenger capacity of only 118, a vessel of her size is capable of carrying many more but instead the MS Hebridean Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks.

#### Your Suite

On board there are 59 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites. All feature a sitting area and some have private balconies. The feeling of luxury is enhanced by the wood panelling and brass, which predominates throughout the vessel conveying the atmosphere of a private yacht. The passenger accommodation is arranged over five decks and all suites have outside views with those on the Scott and Shackleton Decks featuring private balconies. Each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, large wardrobes, dressing table with large mirror and stool and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, television and a telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown 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



#### Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Byrd Deck featuring a selection of seating options from individual armchairs and sofas to side cushioned benches. Daily briefings given by the Cruise Director and talks from Guest Speakers and expedition staff take place in the Lounge. In addition to the main Lounge, there is also The Club, located on the Mawson Deck which features the main bar. The Club also features a 24-hour tea and coffee station. Towards the aft of the ship on the Mawson Deck is the Library. Well stocked with reference books pertaining to the destinations the vessel is visiting and a selection of essential reads, you will not find yourself short of excellent literature on board. A collection of games and devices to access the internet via the ship's satellite can also be found in the library. Access to the ship's satellite Wi-Fi via your own device is complimentary on board (signal strength varies depending on location and demand). The main Restaurant, which can seat all guests at one sitting, is located on the Amundsen Deck, and outside there is a rear Lido Deck located on the Scott Deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade. Further to this on the top Shackleton Deck there is an observation area, complete with sun loungers for sunbathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. The Promenade Deck wraps around the whole ship providing outstanding views. There is also a small beauty salon on board with appointments made on request.

#### Your Comfort

The MS Hebridean Sky is equipped with the latest safety, navigation and communications equipment along with roll stabilisers to minimise the ship's motion. During your voyage we hope to offer you the opportunity to visit the Captain and Officers on the Bridge to check the vessel's progress by charts and learn more about your journey. On board you will also find a clinic and Doctor and a lift that serves all decks. When at anchor our nimble Zodiacs will ferry you ashore or, on select cruises, enjoy Zodiac cruises getting you closer to the natural world.

#### Your Life On Board

The atmosphere on board is warm and convivial and more akin to a private yacht or country hotel in which you can learn more about the wonderful destinations you are visiting in the company of like-minded people. There is a high ratio of crew to passengers and our friendly crew of 75 are mainly Filipino and Eastern European and our Captains are experienced mariners. After a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well-run and exceedingly comfortable ship where peace, high quality of service and attention to detail are the order of the day. A little music in the Lounge or bar after dinner, Guest Speakers and informative port briefings and of course good food, all contribute to make any voyage aboard this wonderful vessel a memorable and joyful experience.

#### MS HEBRIDEAN SKY DECK PLAN



Please note that beds in each suite can be configured as double or twin with the exception of suites 601 and 602 which feature a fixed double bed.



## NOBLE CALEDONIA

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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: Portofino.