

LUXURY UNDER SAIL IN THE  
WEST INDIES &  
MEDITERRANEAN

VOYAGES ABOARD THE MAGNIFICENT SEA CLOUD II

FEBRUARY & JUNE 2023



NOBLE CALEDONIA



# SEA CLOUD II

We are delighted to have once again chartered the magnificent Sea Cloud II for voyages in the West Indies and Mediterranean in 2023. Launched in 2001, she is a stunning vessel, built along traditional lines, but offering deluxe accommodation. She combines the timeless elegance of sailing ships of the past with the highest safety standards and the luxurious comfort of modern cruise ships. The 32,000 square feet of sails are set by hand which is a truly magical sight; she really is the most exquisite of vessels.

## Your Cabin/Suite

Built to accommodate 94 passengers in five star luxury, Sea Cloud II offers a range of beautifully appointed suites and cabins which are furnished with great style. Spread over three decks are 29 deluxe outside cabins with showers, 16 junior suites with bathtubs, and two owner suites with bathtubs and showers. All accommodations have outside views and the bathrooms, in light marble, are unusually spacious and aesthetically pleasing. The two owner suites feature a king size canopy bed and all other cabins feature queen size beds (with separate mattresses, excluding category F staterooms which feature upper and lower single beds). Cabin sizes range from 16m<sup>2</sup> to 27m<sup>2</sup> (category F measure 14m<sup>2</sup>). The finest, carefully chosen fabrics, combined with leather, rattan and other materials, brass and gold,

precious woods and marble together create an impressive ensemble. All cabins have a television with DVD player, minibar, dressing table, wardrobe and a safe. A welcome bottle of champagne and a fruit basket which is replenished daily are provided to enjoy whilst in your cabin.

## Your Space

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

## Your Dining

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



Category C cabin



Lounge



Category A cabin



Sun deck



Category B cabin



On deck



Restaurant

### Life On Board

Whilst there are many large sailing ships offering passages around the world there are few if any that can compare in terms of luxury to Sea Cloud II. Despite the luxurious setting, casual clothing is appropriate and the atmosphere onboard is friendly and generally informal. Service is personal, and the crew of 65 quickly acquaint themselves with passengers and the officers on the bridge are also available to answer questions; manoeuvres permitting. After all, Sea Cloud II is not only a cruise ship, but a private yacht as well.

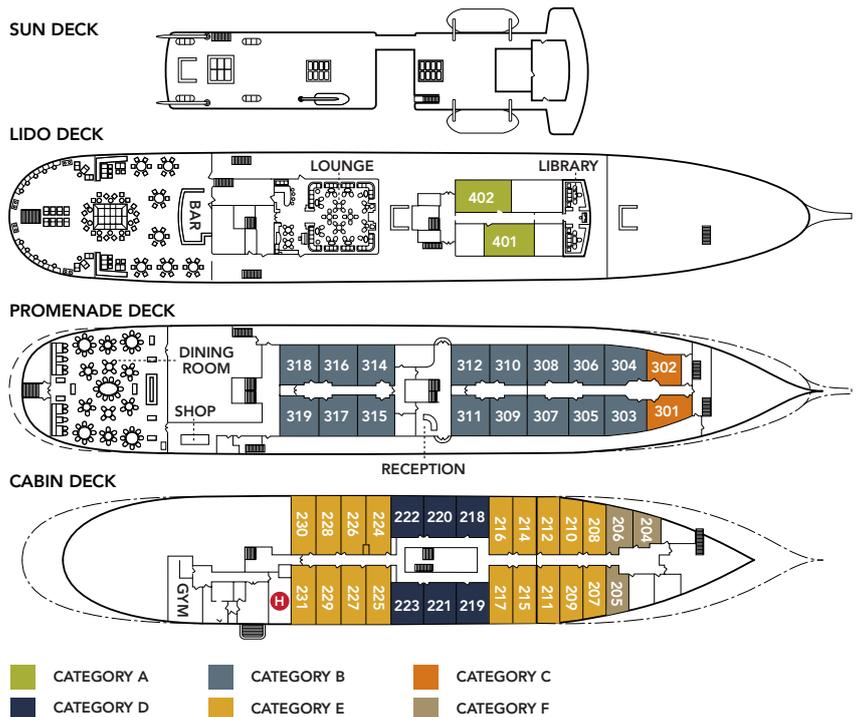
### For your Comfort, Safety & Security

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



Dining on Deck

## DECK PLAN



# GLORIES OF THE WEST INDIES

A voyage under sail aboard the magnificent Sea Cloud II with Guest Speaker Rear Admiral Roy Clare  
3<sup>rd</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February & 17<sup>th</sup> February to 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Just when winter seems to be endless, it is the perfect time to escape to the warmth and beauty of the West Indies. Join us aboard the 94 passenger, magnificent Sea Cloud II for our island hopping adventure through the Caribbean Sea as we explore some of the most beautiful tropical isles, many still untouched by the hands of mass tourism. There is no doubt that the less commercialised of the islands have enormous charm and great natural beauty. But, beyond the fabulous beaches and pastel painted towns there is more. During the 17th and 18th centuries the West Indies attracted all manner of adventurers, buccaneers, pirates and the navies of the major European seafaring nations and this colourful history makes for an intriguing background to our voyage as we are able to hop from island to island and experience the heritage left by the Spanish, French, Dutch and British accompanied by our expert Guest Speaker.

Having operated voyages in the West Indies for many years aboard Sea Cloud II, we know that these waters provide the perfect sailing conditions for her and we have therefore planned our itinerary to ensure ample sailing time allowing you to relax on deck in the warmth and enjoy the majesty of the vessel. Occasionally our paths will cross with the mega-factory like cruise ships and it is at such times we will appreciate even more how fortunate we are to be enjoying our classic ship that embodies all the best sailing traditions. To be on deck when the sails are fully extended as we navigate through the West Indies is a marvellous experience. The forces of nature and ingenuity of man combining in the most natural of ways allows us to experience the thrill of sailing and a form of transport that has existed since the earliest of times.



## GUEST SPEAKER



### Rear Admiral Roy Clare CBE DL

We are delighted to be joined on board by Rear Admiral Roy Clare who has almost three decades' experience as a professional museum director and as a non-executive in social businesses. His roles have included Director National Maritime Museum, Queen's House & Royal Observatory, Greenwich, Chief Executive Museums, Libraries & Archives Council and Director Auckland War

Memorial Museum, New Zealand. Previously in the Royal Navy, Roy served worldwide from Junior Seaman to Rear Admiral. His commands included destroyers, the aircraft carrier Invincible and Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth. He retired voluntarily to develop opportunities in museums. An active yachtsman, Roy has raced in the Fastnet and Sydney-Hobart races. Nowadays he sails purely for pleasure, mainly in British waters. In 2007 Roy was made CBE 'for services to museums'.



Bequia

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Barbados.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to Sea Cloud II for embarkation before we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Charlotteville, Tobago.** Spend the morning at sea before we arrive in Tobago and anchor in the small fishing village of Charlotteville, situated in Man of War Bay. An afternoon island drive will take us to the Main Ridge Rainforest, home to numerous species of birds, reptiles and flora as well as scenic views over the island. Return to the ship via the Argyle Waterfall, an impressive three-tiered fall with a 54 metre drop that is set in the rainforest where we can take a refreshing swim in one of the natural rock pools.

**Day 3 St George's, Grenada.** Explore this wonderful Windward Island which many regard as the most beautiful in the Caribbean. It is a lush and verdant island with spice plantations, rum distilleries, tropical forests, secluded coves, nature trails and select hotels which cling to the hillsides overlooking the ocean. We will moor in the picturesque capital of St George's

at lunchtime before heading to Fort George. Built in 1706 with wonderful views over the harbour, it was here in 1983 that the Prime Minister, Maurice Bishop, was assassinated which prompted the invasion by US troops. Continue to a spice garden to learn about the herbs that grow here before we end at one of the island's finest rum distilleries.

**Day 4 Bequia, Grenadines.** We have the morning on this delightful Grenadine island which is totally unspoilt and a place of pure escapism with a charming old-world atmosphere. Only seven miles by two it is a long way from the well beaten tourist track, a serene and peaceful island with some of the best beaches in the Caribbean. We will use the Zodiacs to land at Port Elizabeth where there will be some time at leisure to explore at your own pace or wander to a nearby beach. Those feeling active can make their way to Fort Hamilton offering views over the bay.

**Day 5 Cabrits, Dominica.** Stepping back in time, the island of Dominica is still the primitive



Waterfall, Dominica



Iles des Saintes



Collared sunbird



Fort Shirley, Dominica

garden that Columbus first sighted in 1493. An area of tropical rainforests, there are flowers of incredible beauty and animals that exist nowhere else in the world. We arrive this afternoon in the small port of Cabrits, just below the national park and the former British garrison of Fort Shirley, which successfully repelled a French attack during the Trafalgar campaign in 1805. Here you can climb to the fort to explore the ruins, visit the small museum or perhaps simply wander the surrounding trails on the lookout for birds, hermit crabs and lizards.

#### Day 6 Little Bay, Montserrat.

Ask any Caribbean connoisseur about their favourite places and Montserrat will always be high on the list. Learn about the indigenous flora and fauna at the Botanical gardens before we visit the volcano observatory and learn how the islanders coped with the devastation which the volcanic eruptions of 1995 and 2010 caused. From Richmond hill we can see the impact of the eruptions before walking through the buried city of Plymouth itself. We will also see some of

the untouched areas which are as beautiful as ever.

#### Day 7 Charlestown, Nevis.

This morning we will land by tender on one of the loveliest and least developed islands on the Leewards. British naval history is linked with most of the Leeward Islands and on Nevis the connection is particularly interesting. It was here that Nelson met Fanny Nesbit and later married her in the old Montpelier House, on the site where a hotel now stands. Prince William, later to become William IV, who was under Nelson's command, attended the wedding and gave the bride away. The island is also the birthplace of Alexander Hamilton, one of the founding fathers of the United States of America. Our tour of the island will include Nelson's Museum, Hamilton's Museum and the Fig Tree Church. This afternoon we hope to find a bay to take a swim from the ship.

**Day 8 Basseterre, St Kitts.** We will make a landing this morning on the delightful island of St Kitts. This lovely island has it all, restful green fields of sugar

cane plantations, rainforests and long stretches of uncrowded beaches. The atmosphere here is wonderfully relaxed and full of old-world charm. Choose to either wander the streets of Basseterre with its colonial buildings or see the impressive UNESCO fortress at Brimstone Hill. This 18th century British garrison played a key role in the battles with the French and is situated on a hill offering fine views over to Nevis. This afternoon we continue our sailing north.

#### Days 9 & 10 British Virgin Islands.

These islands are recognised throughout the seafaring world as one of the finest sailing areas. The 36 islands and cays sit in a dazzling turquoise sea surrounded by beautiful coral reefs. We have a day and a half here and will drop anchor and use our Zodiacs or local tenders to explore. We may make calls at the islands of Virgin Gorda, Jost Van Dyke and Tortola. We will enjoy island drives and allow for time to relax on the beautiful beaches and swim in the clear waters.

#### Day 11 Gustavia, St Barthelemy.

We arrive over lunch at this tiny

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

#### Day 12 St John's, Antigua.

Antigua was one of the main British Naval bases in the Windward Islands and so our voyage under sail would not be complete without a visit to this island with so much important history. During a morning island drive we will have the opportunity to visit the beautifully restored 18th century dockyard in English Harbour and see the impressive collection of restored historic buildings which were occupied by the British Navy from 1707 till 1899. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon sailing.

#### Day 13 Iles des Saintes,

**Guadeloupe.** The eight island Iles des Saintes archipelago dots the waters off the southwest coast of Guadeloupe. In 1782, this was

Pitons, St Lucia



the site of one of the greatest naval battles of the sailing era, in which the tactics used by the British admiral Sir George Rodney foreshadowed those used 20 years later by Nelson at Trafalgar. This morning tender ashore and explore at leisure or take a walk up to Fort Napoleon and visit the museum which focuses on the Battle of the Saintes.

#### Day 14 Soufriere, St Lucia.

St Lucia is a splendidly rugged island of towering mountains, lush green valleys and acres of banana plantations. Due to its strategic position, the island was fought over repeatedly by the French and British and changed hands fourteen times. We will anchor in sight of St Lucia's best-known feature, the twin peaks of the Pitons, which rise dramatically from the sea to more than 2400 feet. In the nearby town of Soufriere we can visit the bubbling Sulphur springs, part of a low lying volcano which erupted thousands of years ago. Our tour will also include the splendid botanical gardens.

#### Day 15 Barbados to London.

Barbados is the most easterly of the Caribbean Islands, with Atlantic surf on the east coast and sparkling Caribbean waters on the west coast. Captain Powell landed here in 1625 and claimed the island for England. Although



Sugar Mill, Nevis

independent from Britain since 1966, afternoon tea remains a tradition and cricket is the national sport. We disembark this morning and will take an island drive including visits to the historic 17th century Sunbury Plantation House and the impressive St John's Church. After lunch we have some free time before transferring to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

**Day 16 London.** Arrive this morning.

#### VIDEO FOOTAGE

To find out more about the cruise and what to expect, watch our 'Sea Cloud II in the Caribbean' video at [www.noble-caledonia.co.uk](http://www.noble-caledonia.co.uk)



St Barts

#### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

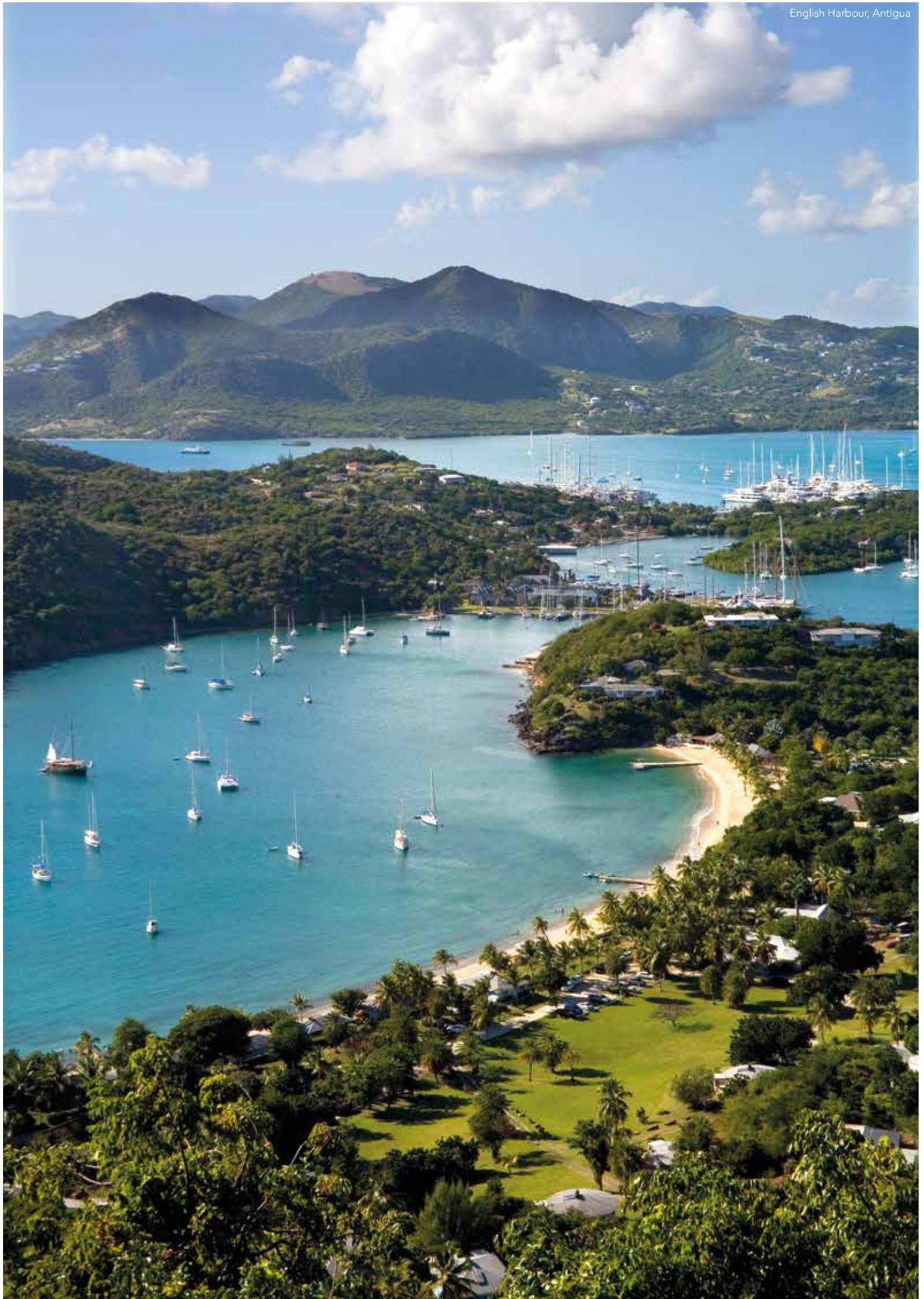
#### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Deck	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
E	Deluxe double	Cabin	£9995	£9495
D	Deluxe double	Cabin	£10295	£9795
C	Deluxe double	Promenade	£10795	£10295
B	Junior Suite	Promenade	£11295	£10795
A	Luxury Owner's Suite	Lido	£12595	£12095
F	Stateroom for sole use	Cabin	£10995	£10495
E	Deluxe double for sole use	Cabin	£12995	£12495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 14 nights aboard the Sea Cloud II on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia Tour Manager • Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

**NB.** Ports and itinerary subject to change and weather conditions. Tenders or Zodiacs will be used frequently during this voyage.



# LA DOLCE VITA

A voyage from Malta to Bari aboard Sea Cloud II with Guest Speaker Dr David Price-Williams  
6<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Here is a wonderful journey which will appeal to those with a love of Italy, who enjoy a varied programme of interesting visits ashore and who relish spending time at sea under sail. Setting sail from Valletta's Grand Harbour, we will spend time in Sicily to appreciate the island's rich legacy of so many invading civilisations followed by time in both Calabria and Puglia. Our days will be split between the port of call and time at sea allowing for ample time to enjoy the magnificent Sea Cloud II.

Our visits ashore in Sicily will include the Greek remains at the Valley of Temples, the beautiful city of Syracuse and the impressive Greek theatre at Taormina which offers stunning views of Mount Etna. Crossing to Calabria we visit Santa Severina, one of Italy's prettiest towns and the Norman, Carafa Castle. Then follows three days discovering Puglia including visits with local guides to prehistoric dwellings and traditional trulli abodes as well as splendid Baroque architecture.

Our days will be varied as we explore UNESCO World Heritage Sites, walk through historic hilltop villages and discover the uniqueness of each region as well as enjoying wine tastings and a private concert in one of Syracuse's palazzos.



## GUEST SPEAKER



**Dr David Price-Williams**

David Price-Williams has a first degree from the University of Wales in Ancient Near Eastern languages with a subsidiary in Attic and Koine Greek. His postgraduate work and his doctorate, from the University of London, is in Near Eastern archaeology.

His first overseas archaeological field work in the eastern Mediterranean was in 1969 as a field surveyor at the classical site of Knidos in Turkey. He then worked for the Smithsonian Institution as an archaeological field surveyor on excavations in the Near East before directing his own field research in the same area through the early 1970s. David has recently retired after almost forty years lecturing on the Archaeology of Western Asia (Eastern Mediterranean) at the Institute of Archaeology for the University of London Extra Mural Department. He is the author and co-author of numerous academic papers on the area and several books. David is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, an elected life member of the Society for Old Testament Studies as well as the Southern African Quaternary Research Association.

## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Malta.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to Sea Cloud II and enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Agrigento & Valley of the Temples, Sicily.** Although handsome in its own right and awash with Medieval atmosphere, Agrigento is not our main reason for calling at this southern Sicilian coastal port. Close by is the Valle dei Templi, a series of Doric temples and the most captivating of Sicilian Greek remains, and a grouping unique outside Greece. Surrounded by greenery of olive and almond trees, we will admire the Temple of Juno (Hera), the Temple of Concord, the Temple of Hercules, the Temple of Zeus Olympic and the Dioscuri Temple. We also hope to have time to

see the excellent archaeological museum. Return to Sea Cloud II for lunch and spend the afternoon on deck as we cruise under sail.

**Day 3 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 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 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 with local food and wine.

**Day 4 Taormina.** From our anchorage at Giardini Naxos 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 Corvaia and the impressive Greek Theatre from where there are marvellous views over the town and coast. Return to Sea Cloud II for lunch and enjoy an afternoon under sail as we make our way to mainland Italy.

**Day 5 Crotone, Italy.** After a morning at sea we arrive in 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 contains intricate underground labyrinths and stables, with the remains of Medieval frescoes. Also see the cathedral, the beautiful Byzantine baptistry and wander the town's tangled streets. As we return to the ship we will stop at one of the vineyards that produce famous Calabrian wine, Ciro, for a tasting accompanied by typical Calabrian food.

**Days 6 Taranto.** Today we arrive in Puglia for our morning tour which will take us into Basilicata as we visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sassi di Matera (stones of Matera). Situated in the old town of Matera, the Sassi are prehistoric dwellings dug into the rock itself and are suspected to be some of the first human settlements in Italy. The site comprises over 1000 buildings including houses, churches, shops, workshops and monasteries covering over 1000 hectares and we will learn more about the history of the town on a walking tour of the labyrinthine streets. Alternatively spend the morning at leisure in Taranto where you may want to see the 15th century Aragonese Castle and the 11th century cathedral. We will return to the vessel for lunch and spend the afternoon under sail.

**Day 7 Otranto.** From the port of 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



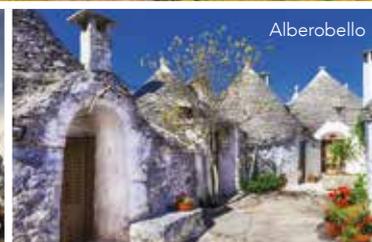
Matera old town



Greek theatre at Taormina overlooking Mount Etna



Lecce



Alberobello

to the beautifully decorated Santa Croce Basilica and Piazza Duomo, considered one of the finest and most impressive squares in southern Italy. After lunch on board, the afternoon is free to explore Otranto independently, maybe walk the winding streets or along the seaside promenade or take a swim from the nearby beaches.

**Day 8 Monopoli.** Today we drive 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. Afterwards we visit 'Cantina Albea' and its wine museum, home to old instruments used in the past for the production of wine and where we will enjoy a tasting along with a talk on the wine production. Return to the ship for lunch and there will be a little free time to explore the old town independently before we sail in the late afternoon. Arrive this evening in Bari where we moor overnight.

**Day 9 Bari 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 £400 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Deck	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
E	Deluxe double	Cabin	£5995	£5595
D	Deluxe double	Cabin	£6295	£5895
C	Deluxe double	Promenade	£6695	£6295
B	Junior Suite	Promenade	£7095	£6695
A	Luxury Owner's Suite	Lido	£8195	£7795
F	Stateroom for sole use	Cabin	£7195	£6795
E	Deluxe double for sole use	Cabin	£8295	£7895

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • Eight nights aboard Sea Cloud II on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia Tour Manager • Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

## PRE-CRUISE MALTA EXTENSION

4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023



Valletta

If you would like to spend some time in Malta before embarking Sea Cloud II 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 for an overnight stay and spend the remainder of the day at leisure. Meet tonight for dinner in the hotel.

**Day 2 Valletta.** After breakfast in the hotel we will embark on a city tour of Valletta, the 16th century "Fortress City" built by the Knights of St John. The afternoon and evening are free for independent exploration.

**Day 3 Mdina.** Enjoy time at leisure before we check out of the hotel in the late morning and transfer to Mdina. Originally given the name of "Citta Nobile", the city is now known as the "Silent City". Mdina is Phoenician in origin and was the fortified capital of the island before the arrival of the Knights. After lunch in a local restaurant we will transfer to Sea Cloud II moored in Valletta.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£795**; Single: **£995**

**Price Includes:** Two nights hotel accommodation with breakfast, tours as described, dinner on day 1, lunch on day 3, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# VOYAGE TO THE LAND OF GODS & HEROES

A voyage from Bari to Athens aboard Sea Cloud II with Guest Speaker Dr David Price-Williams  
14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

Join us aboard the magnificent Sea Cloud II for a relaxing and informative voyage from Puglia to Athens and discover an extraordinary collection of great archaeological sites with tangible traces of the many civilisations which have at one point over the course of history called this region home including classical temples, Byzantine cities, Medieval towns and Venetian fortresses. Beyond these fascinating sites, there is also beautiful mountainous scenery and charming harbours.

We will visit some of the Ancient World's most fascinating sites including ancient Butrint in Albania, Olympia, the principal shrine of Zeus and Hera and the site of the original Olympic Games and Epidaurus, one of the most renowned of Greece's ancient sites. In addition to these we visit the equally interesting Byzantine town of Mystras, a Medieval ghost town set on a cliff overlooking the site of ancient Sparta. Our penultimate port of call is the town of Nafplio, one of the most beautiful towns on mainland Greece.

With a maximum of only 94 guests, our trips ashore will be a pleasure as we explore with local guides and, with its wealth of historic sites, dramatic scenery and the crystal-clear waters of the Aegean, it will become evident why this region has inspired writers, poets and artists since the time of Homer. Whether you are interested in ancient history, Greek myths or simply the joy of travelling under sail and experiencing new places, our voyage has something for everyone.



## THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 London to Bari, Italy.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to Sea Cloud II and enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Vlore for Apollonia, Albania.** Arrive at lunchtime in Albania and the port of Vlore. This afternoon we drive to nearby Apollonia, the ancient city of Illyria. Set on rolling hills the city reached its zenith around the 4th to 3rd centuries BC when it is believed the population numbered over 70,000. See the city council building with its surviving facade, the library, triumphal arch,

theatre, Byzantine monastery and temple of Artemis.

**Day 3 Sarande for Butrint.** After breakfast we will discover the ancient city of Butrint, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. On a guided tour explore the ruins that feature the remains of many eras and cultures. From the Hellenistic period there are temples, the promenade and the 4th century BC theatre. From the Roman era are the public baths, gymnasium and fountains. From the Byzantine era we see chapels and the large Basilica of

St Peter and St Paul, whilst the Venetians are represented by a watchtower and a small castle with commanding views over the Straits of Corfu. Return to Sea Cloud II for lunch and enjoy a relaxing afternoon under sail.

**Day 4 Preveza, Greece.** Our first call in Greece will be at Preveza, situated at the entrance of the Gulf of Amvrakikos. Our tour will take us to the ruins of the ancient city of Nikopolis. It was built in 31 BC by Octavian (later Emperor Augustus) to commemorate defeating Marc Antony and Cleopatra in the naval

Battle of Actium. The scale of this vast site is breathtaking. We will explore the Roman and Byzantine walls, churches and theatre before also spending some time in the excellent museum. Continue on to the picture perfect town of Parga where we will have some time to explore the charming old quarter or enjoy a swim before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon will be at leisure to relax on board or discover the pretty yacht lined harbour town and nearby beaches.

**Day 5 Katakolon for Olympia.** Spend the morning sailing to the





Monemvasia



Apollonia

Peloponnese arriving at the port of Katakolon, our base for our afternoon excursion to Olympia. Pastoral and lush, Olympia's plentiful ruins are shaded by Aleppo pines and olive trees. The fame of Olympia rests upon the Olympic Games. During the celebrations that accompanied the Games, competitors, while not forgetting that they were Athenians, Spartans or from other city states, remembered that they were Greeks and regarded an Olympic victory as the highest honour. We will see the gymnasium, the stadium and the palestra or wrestling school. We will also explore the Altis, or sacred precinct of Zeus, which houses structures including the Temple of Zeus, one of the largest temples on the Greek mainland and the Archaeological Museum which houses some fine sculptures and artefacts from the site.

**Day 6 Kalamata.** After a morning cruising we arrive in Kalamata at lunchtime. Our destination today is Mystras, a remarkably intact Byzantine hillside town that once housed a population of 20,000 people. Here we visit the Cathedral of Agios Dimitrios, where the two-headed eagle which is the symbol of the Palaeologos Dynasty is carved into a plaque on the floor. According to tradition, this is where Constantine XII stepped when he was crowned king. Strolling through the narrow lanes of the dead city, we will also visit the Church of Agia Sophia, the Palace of the Despots and the Monastery of Pantanassa, with its brilliant frescoes. Before returning to the vessel, refreshments will be served at the picturesque taverna located just beneath the site offering sweeping views over the local terrain.

**Day 7 Monemvasia.** This is a magical place. A massive rock rises dramatically out of the sea and on top there is a fortress. However, the real attraction is the Medieval town with its narrow cobbled streets and winding stairways which lead to a warren of stone houses with walled

gardens and courtyards, and the main square dominated by an old cannon and the cathedral. On an afternoon walking tour we will visit the town followed by some free time.

**Day 8 Nafplio.** Looking out across the translucent water of the bay towards the Arcadian Mountains, Nafplio's sheltered location below a rocky headland and large natural fortress crowned by a Venetian castle is perhaps unrivalled in Greece. This morning you can choose to visit either Epidaurus or Nemea. Situated on the slopes of a beautiful and wooded valley, Epidaurus was known throughout the Hellenic world for its unique medical facilities and healing treatments. Dedicated to Aesclepius, the god of healing, the city was filled with curative spas and baths. Most of the ruins of Epidaurus have been reduced to their foundations, with the exception of the astonishing theatre. Alternatively enjoy a scenic drive through the Argos Plain to Nemea, the site of a religious sanctuary which hosted the pan-Hellenic athletic games every two years from 573 BC until 271 BC. The mythical origin of the Games is sometimes ascribed to Hercules who, after his first labour in which he had to kill the Nemean lion living in the caves of Mount Tritos above the site, established the athletic games in honour of his father, Zeus. Nemea was not a town or settlement but a venue where festivities were held during the games and our tour will include the Temple of Zeus, the bath house and the stadium before spending time in the small but excellent on site museum. Nemea is also famous for its red wines and we will enjoy a wine tasting at a local vineyard. Return to Nafplio for a free afternoon wandering the twisting labyrinthine streets.

**Day 9 Athens to London.** Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

## POST-CRUISE ATHENS EXTENSION 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023



Poseidon Temple, Cape Sounion

If you would like to spend some time in Athens after disembarking Sea Cloud II we are offering the opportunity to join our two night extension.

### THE ITINERARY

**Day 1 Athens.** Disembark after breakfast and enjoy a trip along the coast to Cape Sounion to see the majestic Temple of Poseidon sitting atop a craggy rock overlooking the sea. Enjoy a local lunch before transferring to the NJV Athens Plaza Hotel (or similar) for a two night stay.

**Day 2 Athens.** Today is free to explore independently before we meet this evening for dinner.

**Day 3 Athens to London.** After breakfast check out of the hotel and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£695**; Single: **£895**

**Price Includes:** Two nights hotel accommodation with breakfast, lunch on day 1, dinner on day 2, tours as described, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

#### SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £400 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Deck	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
E	Deluxe double	Cabin	<b>£5995</b>	<b>£5595</b>
D	Deluxe double	Cabin	<b>£6295</b>	<b>£5895</b>
C	Deluxe double	Promenade	<b>£6695</b>	<b>£6295</b>
B	Junior Suite	Promenade	<b>£7095</b>	<b>£6695</b>
A	Luxury Owner's Suite	Lido	<b>£8195</b>	<b>£7795</b>
F	Stateroom for sole use	Cabin	<b>£7195</b>	<b>£6795</b>
E	Deluxe double for sole use	Cabin	<b>£8295</b>	<b>£7895</b>

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • Eight nights aboard Sea Cloud II on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia Tour Manager • Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.



---

## NOBLE CALEDONIA

2 Chester Close, Belgravia, London, SW1X 7BE

+44 (0)20 7752 0000 | [info@noble-caledonia.co.uk](mailto:info@noble-caledonia.co.uk) | [www.noble-caledonia.co.uk](http://www.noble-caledonia.co.uk)



---

All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.  
Cover image: Sea Cloud II.