

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£300
PER PERSON

NATURAL WONDERS OF ICELAND

A CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF ICELAND ABOARD THE MS ISLAND SKY
13TH TO 22ND JUNE & 22ND JUNE TO 1ST JULY 2021

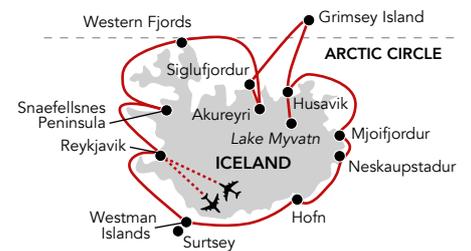


NOBLE CALEDONIA



Godafoss Waterfall

If you want to see nature in the raw, where better than the 'Land of Ice and Fire' - Iceland. Europe's least populated country offers the visitor an unparalleled experience of elemental forces at work. Its largely deserted interior is dotted with huge ice-caps and glaciers, active volcanoes, gurgling mud pools, steaming hot springs and lava fields. And, if this is not enough, the immense scale of the landscape is dominated by towering snow-capped mountains and thundering waterfalls. Under the surface, this island simmers with the sparks that are the telltale signs of its youthfulness as Europe's most recent geological addition, only 16-20 million years old. Iceland is continuously being created; some of its newest land is a mere 40 years old.



Europe's least populated country offers the visitor an unparalleled experience of elemental forces at work and we will take advantage of weather conditions and possible sightings to achieve the maximum with our time. Early summer is the optimum time for this expedition, the skies and rocks will be filled with the sights and sounds of puffins, guillemots and gannets, the wildflowers will be prevalent and the seas will hopefully be rich with whales and marine life. In addition to the wildlife, the island also provides a unique historical, cultural and geological experience.

The MS Island Sky is the perfect small ship for such a venture as, with a maximum of just 118 passengers and a fleet of nimble Zodiac craft, we can get up close to nature and explore areas otherwise inaccessible to the larger ships. With our expert expedition team who will bring to life all that we will see, we will cruise close to shorelines and cliffs crowded with birdlife, explore the magnificent landscapes and learn more of the centuries old legacies of a Viking and Norse heritage.

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Full circumnavigation of Iceland.
- Experience the long days of The Midnight Sun, the perfect time for wildlife spotting.
- Excellent bird & whale watching opportunities.
- Explore the smaller fjords such as Mjóifjörður which the larger ships are unable to access.
- Cross the Arctic Circle on Grimsey.
- Explore some magnificent scenery during guided hikes.
- Travel with an experienced expedition team bringing knowledge of the flora, fauna, geology and culture of Iceland.



Husavík



Arctic tern



Jokulsarlon Lagoon



Mjoi fjordur



Humpback whale



Siglufjörður

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Reykjavik, Iceland. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Island Sky and enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

Day 2 Snaefellsnes Peninsula. Sail this morning into Stykkisholmur, located in Breidafjörður Bay and surrounded by an archipelago of islands. The town is famed for its beautiful and well preserved old houses and is also the gateway to the Snaefellsnes Peninsula which is dominated by the Snaefellsjokull volcano, regarded as one of the symbols of Iceland and known as the setting for Jules Verne's "Journey to the Centre of the Earth". Our tour will include a drive through the lava landscape to the glacier visiting pretty fishing ports and beaches along the way. Afterwards, there will be the opportunity to spend some time at leisure in the town.

Day 3 West Fjords. Awake this morning in the West Fjords, an isolated but spectacular area of Iceland. We will cruise into Isafjörður and, depending on local weather conditions, we will use local boats or our fleet of Zodiacs to land on Vígur, a serene little island with only five residents but home to many more puffins, eider ducks, black guillemots and Arctic terns. Our island walks will also visit Iceland's

only extant windmill dating from the 19th century. Alternatively take a scenic drive to the village of Thingeyri, one of the oldest settlements in the West Fjords and the location of the area's first trading post and return to the ship via the thunderous Dynjandi, the highest waterfall in the West Fjords.

Day 4 Akureyri. Be on deck this morning as we cruise into Eyafjörður, a 70 kilometre fjord that leads to Akureyri and is home to whales and puffins during the summer months. Over lunch we arrive in Akureyri, a delightful town on the north coast of Iceland and not what you would expect to find in such a remote location; in summer months the gardens and window boxes are ablaze with colour. From our berth we visit the spectacular Godafoss Waterfall where water from the Skjalfandafliot River falls from a height of 12 metres over a width of 30 metres. Also see the botanical garden which was founded in 1912 and grows examples of every species indigenous to Iceland as well as an extensive collection of high-latitude and high-altitude plants from around the world. Our tour ends at the Art Alley, where artisans keep their workshops and galleries.

Day 5 Siglufjörður & Grimsey Island. Siglufjörður is a picturesque town that enjoys an idyllic setting in a small fjord backed by mountains.

Here in the early 1900s, a booming economy due to the herring industry resulted in a prosperous town with some marvellous Icelandic architecture. Stroll through the town and visit the Herring Era Museum. In the afternoon we head to Grimsey Island. The Arctic Circle bisects this island which is known for its tiny community, basalt cliffs and a large variety of birdlife. Here we enjoy free time to take a nature walk on the island with our expedition team. Sail this evening for Husavik where we moor overnight.

Day 6 Husavik. Husavik is known as the whale capital of Iceland and there will be a choice of excursions to choose from. Using local boats, explore Skjalfandi Bay looking for one of the 15 species of whales, the most popular being humpback, minke and blue whales, as well as white-beaked dolphins and many different kinds of birds. After lunch on board we have the afternoon to explore the pretty town including time at the excellent whale museum, the exploration museum and quaint local church. Alternatively, visit the Lake Myvatn-Krafla area, a fine example of the volcanic world with lava fields, boiling and steaming mud pools and steam vents of sulphur and craters. The area illustrates the sheer magnitude of Iceland's forces at work. The lake itself, with beautiful natural rock formations and hot springs, is also a unique ecosystem and the largest

migratory bird sanctuary in Europe. We will offer time in the natural baths before returning to the ship.

Day 7 Mjoi fjordur & Neskaupstaður. Enjoy the benefits of our small ship as we explore the lesser known fjords in the south east of Iceland. This morning we cruise through Mjoi fjordur where we can enjoy the wilderness of this remote area. In the early afternoon we hope to land at the small town at Neskaupstaður for a chance to visit the excellent museum which features the local art gallery, Museum of Natural History and Maritime Museum. Those feeling active can hike to the avalanche barriers behind the town, offering great views of the surrounding areas.

Day 8 Hofn. Today we will see the shimmering white Vatnajökull Glacier, Europe's largest glacier, sometimes called an icecap. The 600 metre thick ice surmounts active volcanoes, one of which erupted in 1996, creating a crater on the surface of the glacier, a most unusual phenomenon. We will drive to the otherworldly glacial lagoon of Jokulsarlon, a dramatic drive through some of the finest scenery that Iceland offers. Once we reach Jokulsarlon, the 100 metre deep glacial river lagoon which is full of large icebergs, carved from the glacier Breioamerkurjokull, we will embark on a cruise on the pristine water, sailing in between the blue, white and black ice.



Lake Myvatn



Vigur Island

Day 9 Westman Islands & Surtsey.

Our last morning in Iceland is spent at the Vestmannaeyjar (Westman Islands). Islanders here live with a dramatic volcanic history. In 1973 the island of Heimaey experienced an eruption which created a new mountain, Eldfell, known as Mount Fire. Spend the morning at the only community, Heimaey, where half buried houses can be partially seen peeking out through the lava and ash. If time permits we will also use the Zodiacs to explore the cliffs and coves. As part of our exploration of the Westman Islands, we will

use our ship to circumnavigate Surtsey Island which was created volcanically in 1963 and is a closed nature reserve. Few places in the world illustrate more dramatically the powerful forces of nature.

Day 10 Reykjavik to London.

Disembark and take a scenic drive around Reykjavik seeing the Hallgrímskirkja Church, Harpa Concert Hall and also the colourful old quarter before we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.



Snæfellsjökull volcano

Post-cruise Reykjavik Extension

22nd to 24th June & 1st to 3rd July 2021



If you would like to spend some time in Reykjavik after disembarking the MS Island Sky, we are offering a two night optional extension staying at a centrally located hotel on a bed and breakfast basis. During your stay there will be a half day Reykjavik city orientation tour and a full day tour to the Golden Circle including the Geysir geothermal area, Gullfoss Waterfall and Thingvellir National Park.

PRICES PER PERSON - Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£875**

Single: **£1245**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Reykjavik with breakfast, full day Golden Circle tour including lunch, half day Reykjavik city tour, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance, dinners.

SHIP TO SHORE:

This voyage is a combination of both expedition style cruising and small ship destination cruising. Whilst we will be alongside most days, we will be at anchor and the vessel's Zodiacs will be utilised when visiting Vigur Island and Grimsey island. If you have any queries pertaining to the use of Zodiacs or the level of fitness required for this voyage, please do not hesitate to ask one of our experienced travel consultants.



Puffin

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard	£5295	£4995
Columbus	Superior	£5495	£5195
Marco Polo	Premium	£5995	£5695
Marco Polo	Corner	£6495	£6195
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£6995	£6695
Explorer	Owner's Balcony Suites	£7495	£7195
Explorer	Island Suite	£8395	£8095
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£6885	£6585
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£7145	£6845

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Nine nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia expedition team • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

MS ISLAND SKY



Friendly Service



Deluxe Balcony Suite



The Restaurant

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

Your Suite

On board there are 59 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites. All feature a seating area and some have private balconies, whilst those on the Marco Polo Deck feature tinted, sliding glass doors allowing greatly enhanced viewing opportunities and quick access to the deck. The feeling of luxury is enhanced by the wood panelling and brass, which predominates throughout the vessel conveying the atmosphere of a private yacht. The passenger accommodation is arranged over five decks and each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, a large wardrobe, dressing table and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, flat screen television with inbuilt DVD/CD player and a telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown toiletries, air-conditioning and heating. The comfortable beds in each suite can be configured as either double or twin.

Your Dining

With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the cuisine on board the MS Island Sky is of a consistent superior quality that befits such a vessel. In keeping with the informal atmosphere on board, when dining you are able to choose your seating arrangements and choice of restaurants at your leisure; whether that be joining a table of four to six other passengers in the elegant à la carte Restaurant or outside buffet-style on the Lido Deck in the evening sunshine. In the main Restaurant, breakfast is served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order on request. Lunch and dinner menus offer plenty of choice, often reflecting the daily catch and local delicacies. The Welcome and Farewell dinners are a sumptuous five course affair. To enhance your dining experience further a selection of wines is included with both meals. Afternoon tea and pre-dinner canapés take place in either the comfort of the Lounge or out on the Lido Deck when the weather is favourable. Tea and coffee are also available 24 hours a day. Special diets can be catered for with sufficient notice.



Superior Suite



The Club



The Library

Your Space

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

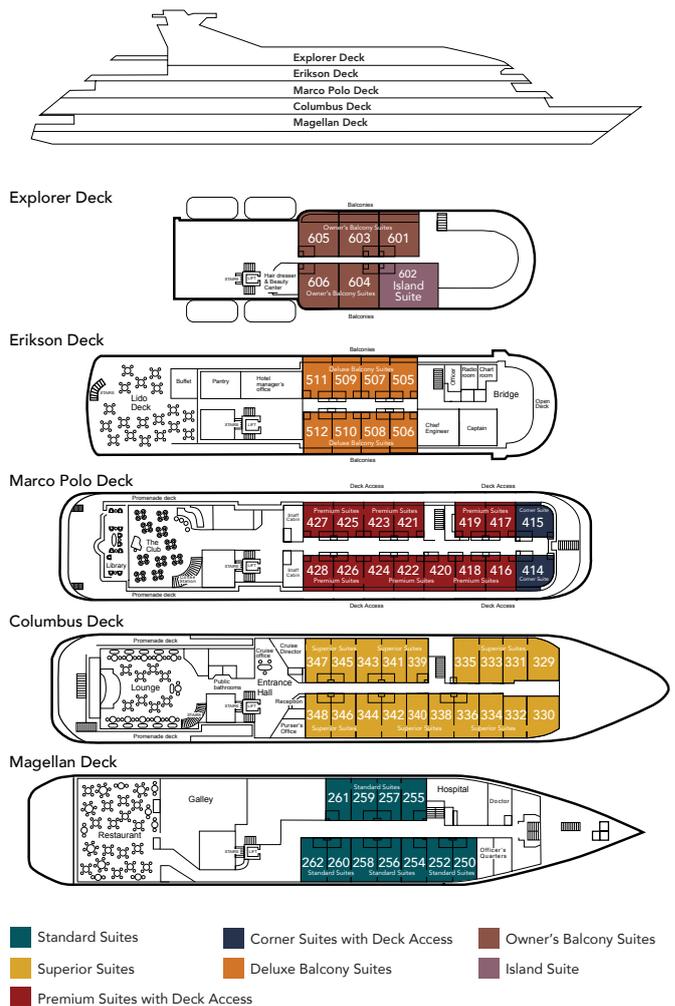
Your Comfort

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

Your Life On Board

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

MS ISLAND SKY DECK PLAN



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: Snaefellsnes peninsula.