

NOBLE CALEDONIA

SPECIAL  
OFFER - SAVE  
**£400**  
PER PERSON

# NATURAL WONDERS OF THE PACIFIC COAST

A VOYAGE FROM PERU TO COSTA RICA  
ABOARD THE MS HEBRIDEAN SKY

27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH TO 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2019

# MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



Alfresco Dining



Owner's Balcony Suite



The Restaurant

The MS Hebridean Sky is one of our three flag ships and sister vessel to the MS Island Sky and MS Caledonian 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. Formerly known as the Sea Explorer, the vessel underwent a multi-million pound refurbishment in Sweden in Spring 2016 before being re-launched as the MS Hebridean Sky.

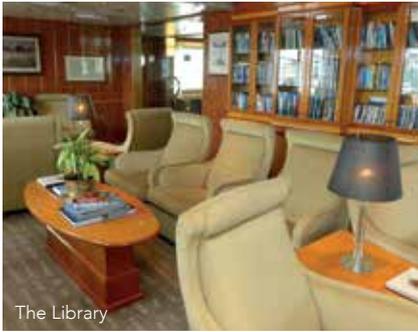
## Your Cabin/Suite

On board there are 59 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites. All feature a sitting room 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 marble-topped 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, flat screen television and a telephone in each suite. Bottled water, 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 will 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 at your leisure. Whether that be joining a table of four to six other passengers outside on the Lido Deck in the evening's sunshine or whether you prefer to enjoy meals in the à la carte restaurant.

In the main elegant dining room, breakfast is served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order on request. Lunch and dinner are an à la carte five course affair, with the menu often reflecting the daily catch or local delicacies. To enhance your dining experience further a selection of wines are 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.



The Library



The Club



Superior Suite

### 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 which is fitted with the highest standard of presentation equipment including multiple screens. In addition to the main Lounge, there is also The Club, located on the Mawson Deck which features the main bar where the onboard pianist plays periodically throughout the day. 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 selection of games and two computers complete with internet access can also be found in the Library. The main dining room, 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, ideal for sunbathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. There is also a small hairdressers 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 stabilizers 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.

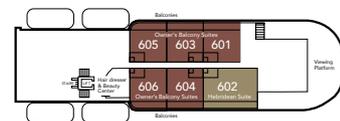
### Your Life On Board

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 wonders of nature in the company of like-minded people. A little music in the lounge or bar after dinner, Guest Speakers and informative port briefings from our Expedition Leader or Cruise Director 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



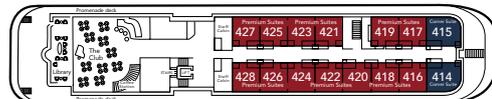
Shackleton Deck



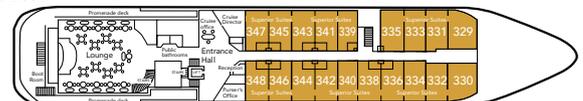
Scott Deck



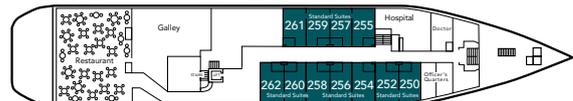
Mawson Deck



Byrd Deck



Amundsen Deck



- Standard Suites
- Corner Suites
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Superior Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Hebridean Suite
- Premium Suites

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.



During this voyage you will be visiting out of the way destinations and will be accompanied by an expedition team. Landings and excursions will be made by Zodiac landing craft. This cruise will appeal to the more adventurous and those who enjoy the natural world.



Let us take you to some of the loveliest and least explored places along South and Central America's Pacific coastline. Beginning in Lima, we will sail north along the coast of Peru visiting Chan Chan, a pre-Columbian site of the Chimu culture and the largest adobe city in the world and land on Lobos de Tierra, a tiny island off the Peruvian coast, famous for its abundant marine and birdlife. After a day at sea we continue our exploration of this wildlife rich region visiting Ecuador's Machalilla National Park, a protected coastal haven for over 200 species of birds and wildlife and Colombia's Utria National Park with its dense rainforest, mangroves and home to many bird species, reptiles and monkeys. Finally, we arrive in Costa Rica where we have four days to explore this remarkably diverse region with its teeming rain forest, cool cloud forest and sugar-sand beaches.

Much of the itinerary is far from the 'big ship' routes and includes little known but fascinating destinations with magnificently diverse wildlife, beautiful beaches and fascinating indigenous cultures. With an amazingly rich biodiversity of flora and fauna seen against some of the lushest of landscapes to be found anywhere in the world, a voyage such as this would be difficult to comprehend or undertake by any other means than a cruise. The MS Hebridean Sky is the perfect vessel for such a journey and our Zodiacs will be put to good use in the more remote places allowing us to land and explore otherwise unreachable places.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Lima, Peru.** Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this evening into Lima and transfer to our hotel for a two night stay.

**Day 2 Lima.** After breakfast in the hotel we will have a free morning to relax or explore independently. In the early afternoon we enjoy a tour of Lima city, which was founded by the conquistador Francisco Pizarro in 1535, and then named the 'City of Kings' by the Spaniards who took the city in name of the Spanish Crown. During the vice royalty the city became the most important capital in the region, and as testament to this, today you can still see the imposing buildings that were constructed principally in the city centre. See the most important buildings in the Plaza Mayor, such as the Government Palace, the beautiful cathedral and the various small palaces and colonial balconies that adorn the capital of the Peruvian Republic, all of which was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO thanks to its well-preserved architecture. Return to the hotel and meet for dinner in the hotel this evening.

**Day 3 Lima.** Today we will head out of the city to the famous Pachacamac Temple, a religious compound which dates from the 3rd century and made entirely of clay. Visit the impressive Temples of the Sun and Moon as we learn about the Inca and Pre-Inca people that lived here. After lunch in a local restaurant we transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky, berthed in the port of Callao, where we enjoy a Welcome Dinner and Drinks as we sail tonight.

**Day 4 At Sea.** Spend a relaxing day on board the MS Hebridean Sky. Maybe join a lecture or find a spot on deck.

**Day 5 Salaverry.** Arrive this morning at Salaverry, our base for a full day tour of touring. From the port we will drive to Huaca de la Luna to see the Huaca del Sol pyramids from the Moche culture, a remarkable pre-Inca civilisation. Continue on to the ruins of Chan Chan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the imperial capital of the Chimu, where we explore the ruins of the largest adobe city in

the world, marvelling at their skillful irrigation and engineering projects. We also visit the intriguing desert city of Trujillo. This oasis city was founded by Pizarro in 1536 and still exudes much Spanish colonial charm. Visit the Casa Urquiaga, a mansion containing pre-Columbian ceramics and the Plaza de Armas with its imposing 17th century cathedral.

**Day 6 Lobos de Tierra.** Today, weather permitting, will be the first opportunity to use our Zodiacs as we visit the offshore island of Lobos de Tierra. In the 19th century this was the site of a large guano mining centre however today it is an important seabird sanctuary and home to Peruvian pelicans, blue footed boobies and cormorants. We will explore the coastline in the Zodiacs and take walks ashore watching for the birdlife and South American sea lions in the waters.

**Day 7 At Sea.** Maybe join one of the lectures in the lounge, read a book in the library or watch for wildlife from the deck as we have a day at sea sailing to Ecuador.

**Day 8 Puerto Lopez, Ecuador.** Today we start our exploration of coastal Ecuador and anchor at Puerto Lopez for an excursion to the Machalilla National Park, an area of great diversity on the juncture of the cold Humboldt current flowing north and the warm El Nino current flowing south. It contains one of the world's largest tropical dry forests, at 55,000 hectares, and is an example of the vegetation that once covered 25% of Ecuador's land mass. We travel inland to a small village with an interesting archaeological site. Here we will split into groups for our walks to see the varied flora and fauna, including several types of cacti, kapok and palo santo trees that have adapted to the arid conditions, and the many varieties of birds including coastal parrots. We will take lunch in the park before returning to the pleasant fishing village of Puerto Lopez.

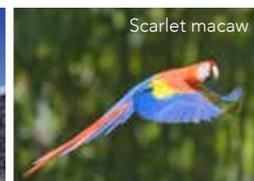
**Day 9 Isla de la Plata.** Around forty kilometres off the Ecuadorian coast is the small island of Isla de la Plata (Silver Island) where



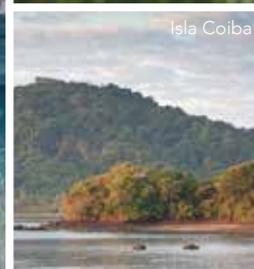
Capuchin monkey



Isla Tortuga



Scarlet macaw



Isla Coiba



Sloth

it is claimed Sir Francis Drake buried some of his treasure. The island is part of the Machalilla National Park and a sanctuary for sea birds such as the red footed, blue footed and Nazca boobies who share the steep cliffs with frigate birds, albatrosses and the red-billed tropic birds. Today our naturalists will lead nature walks searching for wildlife before sailing in the late afternoon.

**Day 10 At Sea.** Spend a relaxing day at sea.

**Day 11 Isla Gorgona, Colombia.** Once a high security prison island located 50 miles off the Colombian mainland, Gorgona Island has reinvented itself as a natural paradise with golden sandy beaches, fresh water streams, waterfalls and tropical forests. In the mid-1980s the island became a National Park, the prison converted to a research centre and one of the houses to a museum. We will spend the day on the island and offer a choice of activities including nature walks looking for some of the many species of birds, snakes, sloths and monkeys as well as the blue anole – the world's only blue lizard. Alternatively enjoy a swim or snorkel from the beaches or learn more about the history of the island from the local guides.

**Days 12 & 13 Utria National Park & Bahia Solano.** Today we land on the Pacific coast of Colombia and have a day and a half to explore this beautiful area which is well off the traditional cruise routes. Here we find the Utria National Park, a tropical forest which reaches down to the sandy beaches. Using our Zodiacs to get ashore we will enjoy hikes and nature trails and observe the flora and fauna with our local guides. In Bahia Solano we will visit the small town whilst the more active amongst us may

wish to join a walk to a private rainforest reserve which runs alongside the Rio Mecana and is part of a 170 hectare nature reserve. Made up of mangroves, tropical forest, native plants and trees of the Choco region, our local guides will point out the indigenous plants and birdlife and highlight the ongoing reforestation programmes. We also hope to offer a chance to swim from the beaches.

**Day 14 Isla Coiba, Panama.** Spend the morning at sea arriving at Isla Coiba during lunch. This once infamous prison island, now a National Park, has reverted to an island paradise. We will anchor off the ranger station and use our Zodiacs to land on the island. Here our onboard naturalists will lead some guided walks as we explore the main island, which boasts some 147 species of birds, and walk up to the observation tower. If time and conditions permit we hope to find a suitable spot to swim.

**Day 15 Golfo Dulce, Costa Rica.** After clearing immigration formalities into Costa Rica at Golfito we make our way to Casa Orquideas (Orchid House) a five hectare private botanical garden cut out of the rainforest by Ron and Trudy MacAllister who now cultivate over 100 species of orchids which attract many different bird species. Plants of the tropics burst with colour and the air here is heady with the fragrance of flowers and humid soil. Due to the open space, it is often easy to spot a number of tropical birds here including toucans.

**Day 16 Corcovado National Park.** Resting on the northern side of the Osa Peninsula, Drake Bay (Bahía Drake) is our gateway to the Corcovado National Park. We will use the Zodiacs to land on one of the beaches before

enjoying a walk through the primary and secondary forest with our naturalist guides. The rich biological diversity of the biological corridor of Corcovado National Park is astounding and bird lovers will be enchanted by a wide variety of birds, including tanagers, flycatchers, kingfishers, manakins, trogons, crested guans, and spectacular scarlet macaws and toucans. We return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we will look for another landing site to explore this fascinating area.

**Day 17 Manuel Antonio National Park.** From the port of Quepos we travel to the Manuel Antonio National Park which is one of the most stunning and bio-diverse areas of the world. Spread out over 683 hectares it is filled with diverse wildlife, has both primary and secondary forests, boasts a stunning shoreline ideal for bird watching or swimming and is home to a number of endemic species of plants and animals. We will make an early start this morning allowing for the best viewing of monkeys, vividly coloured birds and the lethargic three-toed sloth. This afternoon

we will have time at leisure in Quepos as we sail later tonight.

**Day 18 Curu National Park and Isla Tortuga.** We spend our last morning exploring the Curu National Wildlife Refuge which boasts a rich and diverse wildlife in five different habitats ranging from marine zones, including a wide beach area, mangrove swamps and tropical forests. Here on a range of walks we will find over 200 species of birds, howler and capuchin monkeys, mammals such as otters, ocelots, pumas and turtles. Over lunch we sail the short distance to Tortuga Island where we have the chance to snorkel over the volcanic reef home to angelfish, morays and needlefish. Alternatively spend the afternoon relaxing on the white sand beaches.

**Day 19 Puerto Caldera to London.** Disembark this morning and transfer to San Jose for our scheduled flight to London. Alternatively join our extension programme to see more of Costa Rica.

**Day 20 London.** Arrive this morning.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £400 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY			
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Amundsen	Standard	£9295	£8895
Byrd	Superior	£9495	£9095
Mawson	Premium	£9995	£9595
Mawson	Corner	£10495	£10095
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£11995	£11595
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£12395	£11995
Shackleton	Hebridean	£13995	£13595
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£12295	£11895
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£12495	£12095

**Price Includes:** Economy class scheduled air travel, two nights hotel accommodation in Lima with breakfast, dinner on day 2, 16 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis, house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board, Noble Caledonia onboard team, shore excursions, gratuities, transfers, port taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance, visas.

## Pre-Cruise Extension



## Pre-Cruise Peru Extension including Machu Picchu & Sacred Valley 22<sup>nd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Discover the heart and soul of one of the most fascinating civilisations in the Americas - the Incas. Explore Cusco, capital of the Inca Empire; the Sacred Valley, a setting of picturesque communities, impressive terraces and some important archaeological sites; and the ultimate Inca site, Machu Picchu.

### The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Lima, Peru.** Fly by scheduled flight arriving into Lima this evening. On arrival transfer to an airport hotel for an overnight stay.

**Day 2 Lima to Sacred Valley.** After breakfast in the hotel we return to the airport for our scheduled flight to Cusco before transferring to the Sacred Valley where we have the afternoon to acclimatise before we meet for dinner this evening at the hotel.

**Day 3 Cusco & Sacred Valley.** Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before visiting the local village of Chinchero, famous for its bustling, colourful market. The village of Chinchero is a quaint little town that houses an important Incan outpost, built at the end of the 1400s, as well as a lovely colonial church. The townsfolk are famous for having preserved traditional Andean spinning and weaving techniques, and they set up a market in the town square to sell their handmade crafts to visitors. After lunch, continue on to the massive fortress of Ollantaytambo. The fortress, a formidable stone structure that climbs massive terraces reaching the top of a high peak, was the valley's main defence against the Antis and the site of the Incas' greatest victory against the Spanish during the wars of conquest. Below the fortress lies a complete Incan town, also called Ollantaytambo, still inhabited and with its original

architecture and layout preserved. We board the train to Aguas Calientes and transfer to our hotel for dinner and an overnight stay.

**Day 4 Machu Picchu & Sacred Valley.** After breakfast this morning we will take a bus ride to Machu Picchu accompanied by our local guide. We explore the city's ruins and imagine the lives of the priests, craftsmen and servants who inhabited this incredible place. Excavations at the site have revealed skeletons, artefacts and woollen clothing, but no gold. The same precision of assembled stones exists here as in other Incan sites. We will enjoy lunch at Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge and afterwards make our way to Cusco by train. Check in to the hotel for our two night stay and meet for dinner tonight.

**Day 5 Cusco.** Today we explore Cusco, including the Cusco Cathedral and Santo Domingo, a Dominican church and convent built upon the foundations of the Koricancha temple. This was the 'place of gold' - the Inca's principal religious building, which was dedicated to the worship of the sun. After seeing the sights of the ancient city, we continue to the ruins of Sacsayhuaman, a true testimonial to Incan architectural expertise. Compiled of massive stones we are challenged to try to slip a piece of paper into the cracks in

between these blocks, cut and fitted together with incredible precision without a single drop of mortar to hold them in place. This ancient fortress (where the greatest battle between the Spanish and Incas took place) overlooks the red-tiled roofs of Cusco and the breathtaking countryside surrounding the city. We head back into Cusco for lunch before spending the remainder of the day and evening at leisure. Dinner will be served at the hotel this evening.

**Day 6 Cusco to Lima.** After breakfast we transfer to the airport in Cusco for our scheduled flight to Lima. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to our hotel to join the main programme on day 1.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£2495** Single: **£2995**

**Price Includes:** Economy class scheduled air travel between Lima and Cusco, overnight hotel accommodation in Lima, Aguas Calientes and Sacred Valley on a bed and breakfast basis, two nights accommodation in Cusco on a bed and breakfast basis, dinner on days 2, 3, 4 and 5, lunch on days 3, 4, and 5, excursions, gratuities, transfers, airport taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, visa.

**NB.** Please be advised that this extension will visit areas of high altitude.

## Post-Cruise Extension



## Post-Cruise Costa Rica Extension

14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Upon disembarking the MS Hebridean Sky we are offering a six night extension in Costa Rica to explore this wonderful and biologically diverse country further. We will visit the Monteverde Cloud Forest, an area of extremely high biodiversity and home to many species of mammal, birds, butterflies, insects, trees and plants as well as Arenal Volcano National Park.

### The Itinerary

**Day 1 Puerto Caldera to Monteverde, Costa Rica.** Disembark this morning and transfer to Monteverde enjoying lunch along the way. On arrival we transfer to the El Establo Hotel (or similar) for a two night stay and will have dinner in the hotel this evening.

**Day 2 Monteverde.** Today we will experience the hanging bridges of Monteverde Cloud Forest Sky Walk which cross the canyons below and bring us face to face with the upper level of the forest canopy. The trails extend for slightly over a mile and a half and we will be accompanied by local guides. Biologists now know that about 90 percent of all organisms in a rainforest are found in the canopy. Among the 400 species of birds, some of the best known species are: the quetzal, the bird bell, the black turkey bird, the mot-mot, the orange-bellied trogon, and the bare-neck umbrella bird. We will also have the opportunity to make our way up to one of the highest mountains in the area by Sky Tram, a tranquil way to take in the natural beauty of the forest. After lunch we will enjoy further exploration of the forest with a walk in the Monteverde Cloud Forest Biological Reserve. Dinner tonight will be served at a local restaurant.

**Day 3 Monteverde to Arenal.** This morning we will start our stunning journey to Arenal including a stop for lunch at the Bon Appetit Restaurant. Afterwards enjoy some time at leisure absorbing the region's lush and verdant flora and fauna whilst taking in its rare and diverse biosphere. Continue on to Arenal and check in to the Kioro Hotel (or similar) for our two night stay. Tonight we will enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

**Day 4 Arenal.** After breakfast, we depart for a guided visit to Arenal Park. Here, we will take a walk through the area where the Arenal volcanic eruption took place in 1968, learning about the destruction this caused and the subsequent rebirth of life via the rich mineral deposits the eruption provided to the region. There will also be the opportunity to enjoy a treetop cable car ride and, for the more adventurous, to participate in a zip-line adventure, providing an exhilarating bird's eye view of the park. Following lunch, there will be time to relax and explore Arenal at leisure. This evening we will enjoy dinner at our hotel.

**Day 5 Arenal to San Jose.** Following breakfast at our hotel, we will make our way to San Jose including visits to the Doka Estate for an insight into one of Costa Rica's prime exports, coffee.

We will learn the processes involved in the harvesting and manufacturing of this ubiquitous beverage. We will also visit the Poas Volcano National Park, where after a short walk, we will be treated to spectacular 180 degree views of the volcano's crater and the picturesque surrounding areas and the Tabacon Hot Springs which are heated by the nearby volcano and set in a tropical paradise. Arrive into San Jose this evening and transfer to the Real Intercontinental Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay.

**Day 6 San Jose to London.** Check out from the hotel after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

**Day 7 London.** Arrive this morning.

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### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1995** Single: **£2595**

**Price Includes:** Overnight hotel accommodation in San Jose, two nights hotel accommodation in Arenal and Monteverde, all meals as mentioned in the itinerary, gratuities, excursions and transfers as described, English speaking guides.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, visa.



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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 subject to change.  
Cover image: Capuchin monkey, Manuel Antonio National Park

