

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£500
PER PERSON

PASSAGE THROUGH THE EAST CHINA SEA

A VOYAGE FROM KANAZAWA TO HONG KONG
ABOARD THE MS ISLAND SKY

9TH TO 25TH JUNE 2027

NOBLE CALEDONIA

Here is a unique voyage offering the opportunity to visit Japan with its unique heritage and culture, combined with modern pulsating cities as well as little known and remote regions that are well away from the usual cruise routes in the Far East. Setting sail from the Japanese port of Kanazawa we will explore this alluring country with its blend of ancient traditions and modern technology before continuing to the islands of Japan, delightful outpost islands that offer an altogether different experience from Japan's mainland. Finally, by way of Taiwan where we have two days to explore, we reach the vibrant city of Hong Kong.

Highlights of our voyage will include the historical city of Kanazawa with its traditional crafts and one of Japan's most famed landscape gardens, Kenroku-en, atmospheric Kyoto, the historic and serene castle town of Matsue and Nagasaki where Japan's first contact with the West took place. Here we will learn of the more sombre history of the Atomic Bomb attack at the Peace Museum and Peace Park and we will also explore Dejima Island which served as a trading post during Japan's isolation period. We will also visit the awe-inspiring contemporary landscape of Tokyo but what makes our itinerary truly unique is our visits to parts of Japan where relatively few tourists set foot such as the southernmost inhabited islands which are home to idyllic beaches, crystal clear waters and an abundance of natural wonders. Largely unspoilt, we will enjoy three days cruising amongst these delightful outposts, including Yakushima, Amami and Ishigaki, where we can enjoy nature at its very best whilst on guided walks.

Our journey to Hong Kong also takes us past the southeastern tip of South Korea where we will spend a day in Gyeongju, the former capital of the Silla Dynasty (57 BC to 935 AD) which is known as the 'Museum Without Walls' and here you can walk through streets lined with royal palaces, temples, shrines and tombs. We continue to Taiwan, a relatively unexplored treasure in the Far East which offers breathtaking scenery and a remarkable diversity for an island of its size. We will visit the country's ultra modern capital, Taipei which is an interesting place to learn more about the Japanese colonial period and the more recent era of Chiang Kai Shek, and spend a day in Taichung from where there will be a choice of tours. Such places invoke the strongest of memories and allow you to immerse yourself in the myth and mystique of these ancient lands whilst returning each evening to the peace and comfort of the MS Island Sky.

This unusual itinerary will appeal to those who would like to combine Japan's mainland and her islands with the treasures of Taiwan, or to those simply looking for something different, combining explorations of the natural world with a look at the culture of the region visiting a number of ports which are off the usual cruise route. All this will be achieved with great ease sailing aboard the MS Island Sky and in the company of just over 100 fellow like-minded passengers, our expert Guest Speaker and guides who will bring to life all that we see and experience.



Gyeongju, Bulguksa Temple, Buddha Statue, Daeungjeon Pavilion

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Tokyo, Japan. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Tokyo. Arrive and transfer to our centrally located hotel for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 3 Tokyo to Kanazawa. After breakfast in the hotel, our morning city tour will include the Meiji Shrine and Sensoji Temple. Continue to the train station to join the bullet train to Kanazawa where, on arrival, we will transfer to the MS Island Sky. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

Day 4 Kanazawa. Kanazawa is a thriving centre of the arts, long known for its lacquer ware, outstanding collectable pottery of the Kutani style, gold leaf workmanship, delicate hand painting of silk for kimonos and Noh theatre dramas. The narrow and winding cobblestone streets have a quaint photogenic charm with old fashioned streetlamps and wooden lattice windows hiding elegant restaurants and craft galleries. Around each bend is a traditional house, museum, art gallery, craft shop, historic samurai residence and even a geisha house to explore. The fascinating open-air market displays a vast variety of items from flowers to fish and local handicrafts. Next to the Kanazawa Castle ruins, we will visit one of Japan's premier highlights, the famed Kenroku-en Garden, ranked among the country's top three gardens.

Day 5 Kyoto. From our berth in Maizuru, we drive inland to Kyoto, Japan's former historic capital and the Emperor's home for nearly 1000 years. Our full day tour begins with a visit to the bamboo forest before continuing to the World Heritage Site of Tenryu-ji Temple, ranked first amongst the city's five great Zen Temples. After lunch we continue to the Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion), which was built as a retirement villa for the Shogun and converted



into a Buddhist Temple after his death. Built on the edge of a tranquil pond with the second and third stories covered in gold leaf we can walk through the peaceful gardens and marvel at the reflection in the still waters. Alternatively, spend the morning at the quaint fishing village of Ine, famous for its 'funaya' boat houses which line the bay. Enjoy a walk through the village and a boat tour in the bay for the picturesque views from the sea.

Day 6 Matsue. From the port of Sakaiminato we visit Matsue, the 'town of water,' which nestles between a scenic lake and a large lagoon. We will visit the cultural attractions of the town including the 17th century Matsue Castle before enjoying a boat ride on the local canals. Alternatively visit the Adachi Museum of Art which is set in a beautiful natural environment and well known for both its superb Japanese gardens and its collection of contemporary Japanese paintings, comprising approximately 1500 of the country's most highly regarded paintings produced after the Meiji period. Return to the ship for lunch as we sail for South Korea this afternoon.

Day 7 Ulsan, South Korea. Crossing over to South Korea we embark on a full day excursion to magnificent Gyeongju, a World Heritage Site which is often described as the world's finest open-air museum embracing ancient Korean history and Buddhist culture. As the ancient capital of the Silla Dynasty, Gyeongju's cultural heritage dates back to the first millennium. Today, as we stroll through some of the hundreds of excavated monuments, temples, tombs and pagodas, there will be time to explore the National Museum with its exceptional collection of finely worked gold jewellery, metal weapons and distinctive pottery. At lunchtime, we will sample Korean delicacies and enjoy a cultural performance of traditional dance.

Day 8 Nagasaki, Japan. Back in Japan, this morning we will explore Nagasaki, the second city destroyed by an A-bomb in World War II. Our tour will include the Peace Memorial Park, Atomic Bomb Museum and Glover Garden. This afternoon we will visit Dejima Island which was built during the Edo Period to house Portuguese Christian missionaries and prevent the propagation of their religion. It was also the residential quarters of the Dutch, the only foreigners allowed to trade in Japan during the Sakoku isolation period for 200 years until Japan reopened to the world. Alternatively, there will be a visit to the abandoned Gunkan-jima, or Hashima Island* that lies just off the coast of Nagasaki. The island was populated until 1974 and served as a coal mine with more than 5000 residents living on an island only 480 metres long and 150 metres wide. To accommodate so many people in such a small area every piece of land was built on, so the island came to resemble a battleship and was given the name Gunkan-jima or 'Battleship Island'. In 1974 the coal mine closed and the residents had to leave the island. Over the years the natural elements have taken hold giving the island an eerie atmosphere. In more recent years the island has become a set for several movies, including the James Bond film, 'Skyfall'. During your visit the guide will walk you through the island to observation areas before taking the local ferry back to the mainland. **Please note that the visit to the island is weather/tidal dependent.*

Day 9 Yakushima Island. Sailing down the coast of Kyushu this afternoon we arrive on the island of Yakushima which became Japan's first World Heritage

Site in 1993. Yakushima is famous in botanical circles for many great garden plants, including dwarf plants that have evolved to grow smaller than their mainland cousins. We will spend time here on nature walks, including Yakusugi Land, a nature park populated by a number of the island's ancient cedar trees such as the Buddhasugi, Futagosugi and Sennensugi.

Day 10 Amami Oshima. Today we arrive on Amami Oshima, a natural subtropical paradise situated in the Amami Islands and surrounded by transparent waters, brightly coloured coral reefs and tropical fish. The island is almost entirely covered in forest and mangrove and offers fantastic bird watching and wildlife sightings. We have the day to explore and will visit the Nature Observation Park where we can walk through the forest and hope to see the Amami jay, ruddy kingfisher, Ryukyu akashobin, butterflies and possibly the rare black hare. We will also see local industry and watch the process of making tsumugi and kasuri silk-cotton fabrics, used for making kimonos, at the Oshima Tsumugi Village, a craft complex in a beautiful hillside setting amongst flowers. In the afternoon we will visit the Amami Park which focuses on the artist Tanaka Isson with a museum of his works which depict the natural beauty and life of Amami.

Day 11 At Sea. Enjoy a day at sea with time to relax on deck and join the lecture programme in the lounge.

Day 12 Ishigaki Island. Our final call in Japan will be at the Yaeyama Islands, a cluster of coral reefs and forested mountains. This morning, from our base in Ishigaki we will explore the island. Our tour will start with a visit to the Yoneko-Yaki Pottery to learn about the craft of making the famous Shisa – half dog, half lion statuettes, typically sold in pairs. From here we will drive along the scenic roads to Ishigaki Yaima Village. We will explore this open-air museum that has preserved traditional Japanese houses. Located in the forests, keep an eye out for the local wildlife such as squirrel monkeys. There will also be a chance to walk through the mangroves along the boardwalk and see the unique flora and fauna. Later, after lunch on board, we will take in more of the island with a visit to the Tamatozaki Cape, where from the observatory there are wonderful views of the Hiraokubo Peninsula and the sea of Ishigaki. We will continue to Kariba Park located on Kariba Bay, taking in the stunning views while exploring the shrines and statues that decorate the park. Our final stop will be the Yaesen Brewery which produces awamori, a sake-like Okinawan spirit.

Day 13 Keelung for Taipei, Taiwan. After breakfast we will travel by coach to Taiwan's capital, Taipei. We will delve into the history and heritage of Taiwan and explore how Taipei fuses the past with modernity. We begin our exploration at the National Palace Museum which houses over 600,000 priceless treasures of Chinese art, many dating back almost 5,000 years. Many of the items were removed from the Forbidden Place before the Communist revolution. From here we will visit the Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall, which pays tribute to the former President of Taiwan. Lunch will be at a local restaurant where we will enjoy a range of dishes including dumplings. Later we will ride the lift to the 89th floor of the Taipei 101 building for panoramic views of the city and after some time at leisure will return to the ship.

Pre-cruise Tokyo Extension 7th to 10th June 2027

If you would like to spend some time in Tokyo before embarking the MS Island Sky we have arranged a two night extension.



Meiji Shrine, Tokyo

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Tokyo, Japan. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Tokyo. Arrive and transfer to our hotel for a two night stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 3 Tokyo. Enjoy a full day tour of Tokyo which will include time at the attractive Hamarikyu Gardens and the Tsukiji Outer Market where we will learn about traditional Japanese foods. After a barbeque lunch we will continue to the Nezu Museum. This private museum showcases over 7000 objects including calligraphy, sculptures and textiles whilst outside we can stroll through the Japanese gardens. (B, L)

Day 4 Tokyo. Today is at leisure to continue exploring Tokyo and follow the main itinerary from Day 2. (B)

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1995** Single: **£2595**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Tokyo, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch), full day guided tour, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers. **Not Included:** Travel insurance.

Post-cruise Hong Kong Extension 24th to 27th June 2027

If you would like to spend some time in Hong Kong after disembarking the MS Island Sky, we are offering the opportunity to join a two night extension.



Tokyo

The Itinerary

Day 1 Hong Kong. Disembark the MS Island Sky this morning and explore Hong Kong with a city tour including riding the Peak Tram up Victoria Peak for wonderful views of the city. We will also board a sampan and experience life on the water and after a local lunch will visit Stanley and Kowloon. Enjoy an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 2 Macao. This morning, we will cross the Hong Kong-Shuhai Macao Bridge into the island of Macao. Known to many as the 'Las Vegas of the East', Macao has a lot more to offer than gambling and glitz. It was a Portuguese Colony for 300 years and has an interesting history that can be observed throughout the city. We will explore the ancient temples, see the Chinese architecture, the colonial buildings and the island's natural beauty. We will return to Hong Kong this afternoon for an evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 3 Hong Kong to London. Today is at leisure to relax at the hotel or continue to explore Hong Kong independently. We will arrange a late check out from the hotel so that your room will be available until the evening when we will transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. (B)

Day 4 London. Arrive this morning.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1895** Single: **£2295**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Hong Kong, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch), excursions, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers. **Not Included:** Travel insurance.

Day 14 Taichung. From our berth in Taichung we have a choice of tours. Choose from a full day tour inland to the Sun Moon Lake, the largest lake in Taiwan and so named as the eastern part of the lake is round like the sun and the western side is shaped like a crescent moon. Its crystalline, emerald green waters reflect the hills and mountains which rise on all sides and provide one of Taiwan's most mesmerising landscapes. We will spend time on the lake and also visit one of the temples on the banks before enjoying lunch. We return to the ship via the Chung Tai Chun Monastery, a lavish monument to Chan Buddhism which has fused ancient traditions with modern architecture. Alternatively, join a half day tour to Lukang, one of Taiwan's oldest port towns which was used as a major harbour by Dutch traders in the 17th century. We will see the 17th century Lungshan Temple, one of the best preserved in Taiwan, and whilst in Old Street we can see the historic buildings or purchase some of the rare handicrafts produced here. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon in Taichung.

Day 15 At Sea. Spend a final relaxing day at sea as we sail towards Hong Kong.

Day 16 Hong Kong to London. We arrive in Hong Kong this morning. Disembark and enjoy a tour of Hong Kong with lunch before transferring to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Day 17 London. Arrive this morning.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard	£11495	£10995
Columbus	Superior	£11895	£11395
Marco Polo	Premium	£12295	£11795
Marco Polo	Corner	£12795	£12295
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£13995	£13495
Explorer	Owner's Balcony Suites	£14495	£13995
Explorer	Island Suite	£14995	£14495
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£12995	£12495
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£13495	£12995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 13 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • Overnight accommodation in Tokyo with breakfast • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, dinner on Day 2.

MS ISLAND SKY



The Library



Deluxe Balcony Suite



The Restaurant

The much loved MS Island Sky is one of our two flagships and sister vessel to the MS Hebridean 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 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, television 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 Noble Isle 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 the Club. Tea and coffee are also available 24 hours a day. Special diets can be catered for with sufficient notice.



Superior Suite



The Lounge



The Club

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.

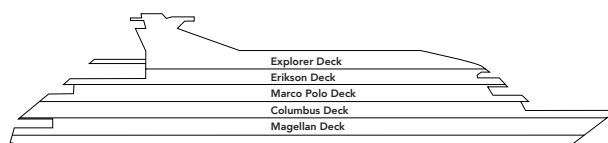
Your Comfort

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.

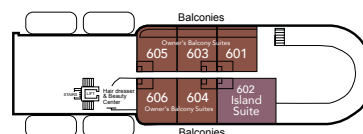
Your Life On Board

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.

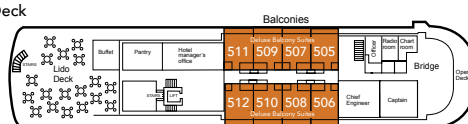
MS ISLAND SKY DECK PLAN



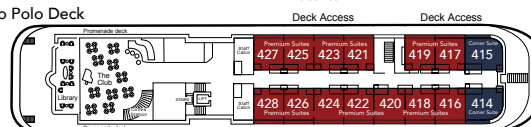
Explorer Deck



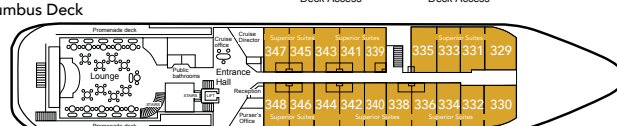
Erikson Deck



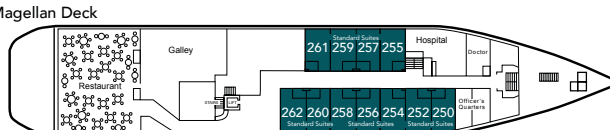
Marco Polo Deck



Columbus Deck



Magellan Deck



- Standard Suites
- Superior Suites
- Premium Suites with Deck Access
- Corner Suites with Deck Access
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Island Suite



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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: Kinkakuji Temple (Golden Pavilion), Kyoto.