

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£200
PER PERSON

PASSAGE THROUGH THE LEVANT

SPEND CHRISTMAS DISCOVERING
THE WONDERS OF THE EASTERN
MEDITERRANEAN ABOARD THE
MS SERENISSIMA
WITH GUEST SPEAKER ERNIE REA

15TH TO 29TH DECEMBER 2021

NOBLE CALEDONIA

MS SERENISSIMA



Harald Jarl Lounge



Venice Restaurant



Andrea Lounge

The charming MS Serenissima began her career as the Harald Jarl, cruising the Norwegian coastline and fjords. Since 2003, when she was extensively renovated, she has been operating as a classic cruise ship. Previously known as the MS Andrea, she was upgraded again in 2013 and started her new life as the MS Serenissima. With her small size she can navigate into small, remote ports inaccessible to the big cruise ships and appears an impressive sight when moored. With her fleet of Zodiacs, she is capable of both destination and expedition cruising.

Your Cabin/Suite

Accommodating no more than 95 passengers, there are eight different grades of cabins arranged over five decks, and all feature either windows or portholes. The cabins are attractively designed for comfort and convenience. All cabins are fully air conditioned with an en-suite bathroom with shower (please note cabins 601 - 605 and 507 have a bath with shower attachment) and a selection of toiletries in addition to a hairdryer, robes and slippers. All cabins come equipped with telephone, flat screen television, safety deposit box and other thoughtful appointments. Refillable water bottles are available in all cabins for use on board. Due to the very nature of the ship, the cabins vary in shape and size, adding to the vessel's overall charm.



Your Dining

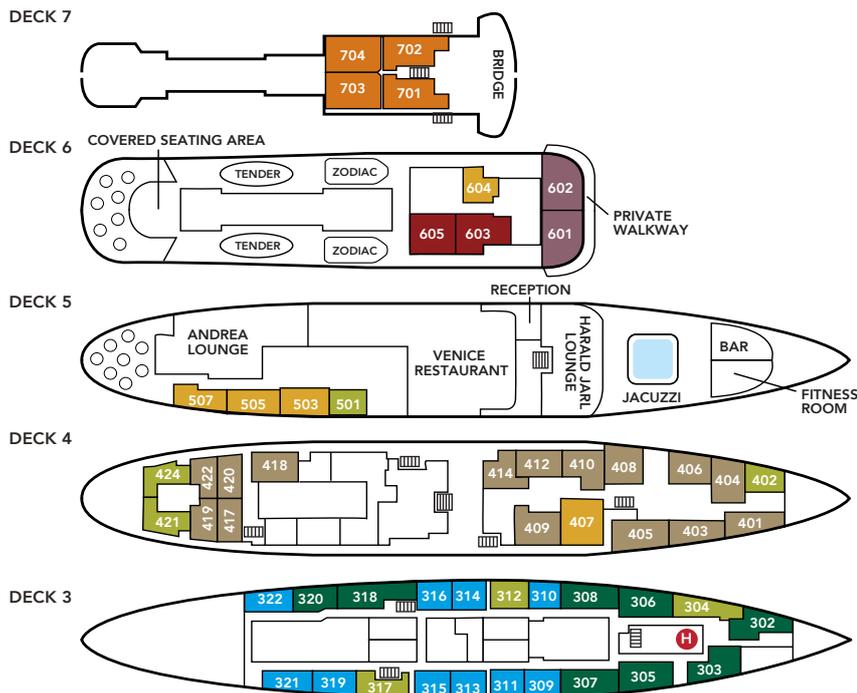
The free seating Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in one sitting and, with its Deck 5 location, all of the tables benefit from great views. The picture windows also make the restaurant wonderfully light and airy. Breakfast is served buffet-style with cooked dishes available and eggs to order by the ship's accomplished chef. Lunch is also served buffet-style

with hot and cold dishes available. Dinner is served à la carte and is four courses, except at the Captain's Dinner, which is a six course affair. Where possible, local produce is sourced for an authentic dining experience. A choice of red or white wine, beer and soft drinks is included at lunch and dinner. In good weather there are al fresco dining facilities available and tea and coffee are available around the clock in the Andrea Lounge.

Your Space

The facilities on board include two lounges – the larger Andrea Lounge is comfortable and spacious and the smaller Harald Jarl Lounge is more intimate. There is also a small library and Wi-Fi is available at an extra cost throughout the vessel. The outside areas really are something special. A spacious observation deck allows 360 degree views of the passing scenery. From here, step down to the lido area with Jacuzzi and outside bar. The covered seating area at the back of Deck 6 is ideal for relaxing with a drink in hand. Perhaps, one of the best known and loved features of this vessel is its unique style. During the major refit in Sweden the then owners commissioned Swedish interior designers to create a country house style which has recently been updated with some Art Deco styling which works particularly well on a vessel of this vintage, providing intimacy and a classic nautical sensibility often lacking in larger vessels.

MS SERENISSIMA DECK PLAN & CABINS



- STANDARD STATEROOM
- CLASSIC STATEROOM
- SUPERIOR STATEROOM
- DELUXE STATEROOM
- JUNIOR SUITE
- OWNER'S SUITE
- SERENISSIMA SUITE
- STANDARD SINGLE

NB. Please note cabin sizes vary in each category and measurements shown are approximate.



DELUXE STATEROOM
(15 to 25 square metres)



SUPERIOR STATEROOM
(11.5 to 18 square metres)



CLASSIC STATEROOM
(14 to 19 square metres)



STANDARD STATEROOM
(10 to 11.5 square metres)



STANDARD SINGLE
(7 to 12.5 square metres)



Lido Deck



SERENISSIMA SUITE
(25 square metres)



OWNER'S SUITE
(22 square metres)



JUNIOR SUITE
(21 square metres)

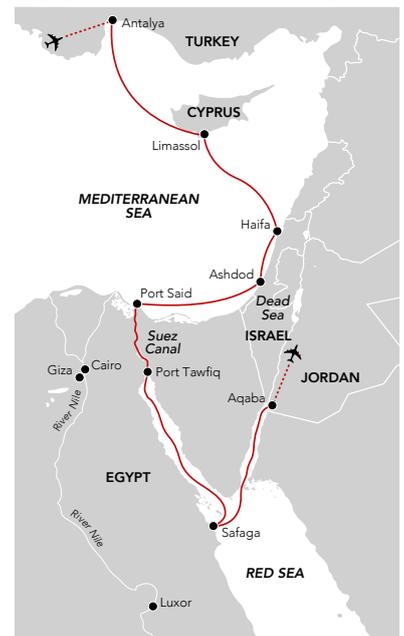
Bahai Gardens, Haifa



Christmas in the Eastern Mediterranean is a very special time and exploring by sea allows us to incorporate a heady mix of fantastic places with great ease from the ancient sites of Turkey and Cyprus and the biblical landmarks of Israel to the wonders of Cairo and Luxor on the Nile. The gentle temperatures and crowd free sites make it a lovely season to explore this corner of antiquity and with the 95-passenger MS Serenissima as our comfortable base, and the aid of our knowledgeable local guides and excellent Guest Speaker, we will learn of some fascinating civilisations.

Setting sail from Turkey’s southern coast city of Antalya we will visit the ancient city of Perge and, from Limassol in Cyprus, the Temple of Apollo and the ruins of Kourion with its Greco-Roman Theatre and lovely coastal views. Continue on to Israel for four days of exploration as we discover an extraordinary collection of both classical and Biblical sites from the City of Annunciation, Nazareth, to the ancient port city of Jaffa and the ‘Golden City’ of Jerusalem. Following our transit of the Suez Canal we spend time in Egypt exploring some of the great monuments of the Pharaohs, the divine kings of thirty dynasties who ruled Egypt for some thirty-five centuries. See the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx and spend some time in Cairo’s magnificent Egyptian Museum.

Enjoy a relaxing Christmas Day at sea as we sail to Safaga from where we have arranged an overnight stay in Luxor in order to maximise our time spent visiting the fascinating sites here such as the Valley of the Kings and the great temples of Karnak. Our journey through history ends in the Red Sea port of Aqaba where we disembark the MS Serenissima with the option to return home or join the post-cruise extension to explore delightful Jordan and one of the most spectacular archaeological sites in the region, the ‘Rose Red City’ of Petra.



Guest Speaker – Ernie Rea



Ernie Rea is a celebrated British broadcaster who specialises in the history of religions and the way that faith impacts on the contemporary world. His regular national radio programme, *Beyond Belief*, was awarded the prestigious Sony Gold Award for the Best Speech Programme on British Radio. He worked for the BBC for 22 years in a variety of production and editorial roles. From 1989 to 2001 he was Head of Religious Broadcasting for the BBC responsible for all religious television and radio programmes nationally and locally. During this period, he spent much time in the United States, brokering co-production television deals with leading American broadcasters. He was closely involved in a variety of key national events, including the Funeral Service for Diana, Princess of Wales. In 1997 he was personally awarded the Gold Medal of the International Council of Christians and Jews for his contribution to Inter Faith

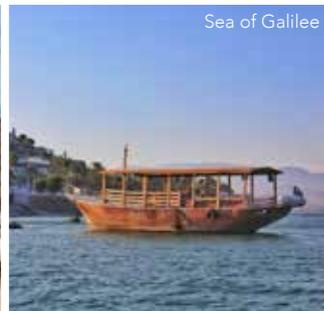
Understanding. He has First Class Honours Degrees in Theology and in History and Politics which helped to fuel his passion for the study of world religions and the way in which they impact on the ancient and modern worlds.



Church of the Annunciation, Nazareth



Perge



Sea of Galilee



Caesarea



The Old City, Jerusalem

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Antalya, Turkey. Fly by scheduled indirect flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Serenissima for embarkation. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

Day 2 Antalya. This morning we explore one of the principal Roman ruins along Turkey's southern coast. We pass the modern city of Antalya en-route to the ancient city of Perge which dates back to 1000 BC and was founded by Mopsus and Calchas after their retreat from Troy. See the Basilica of Perge, which played an important role in the spread of Christianity, the 2nd century AD stadium, the baths complex and two magnificent round towers of the Greek Gate. Return to the MS Serenissima for lunch and spend the afternoon at sea.

Day 3 Limassol, Cyprus. From our berth we take a morning tour which will include the Temple of Apollo, one of the main religious centres of ancient Cyprus where Apollo was worshipped as God of the Woodlands. It seems that the worship of Apollo on this site began as early as the 8th century BC and continued until the 4th century AD. We will continue to the ruins of Kourion, a city built in 1200 BC. Of particular interest are the public baths, the necropolis, the Fountain House, House of

Gladiators and House of Achilles. The most spectacular site at Kourion is the Greco-Roman Theatre that has been completely restored and is used today for open-air musical and theatrical performances. The afternoon is free for independent exploration.

Days 4 & 5 Haifa, Israel. We arrive in Israel at the northern port of Haifa for two days of exploration including options to visit Nazareth, the childhood home of Jesus. Called the City of Annunciation, Nazareth is revered as the spot where the Angel Gabriel appeared before Mary to tell her she was to bear the Son of God. Enjoy panoramic views of the city and visit the Church of the Annunciation, which is built where Mary is said to have lived. Maybe visit the shores of the Sea of Galilee where we find Capernaum's ancient synagogue and Peter's House before stopping in Tabgha, home to the Church of the Multiplication of Loaves and Leaves, with its 5th century mosaic floor. We will drive up Mount Carmel for a breathtaking view over the bay from the top of the city's famous Bahai Gardens. We also plan to visit Acre, one of the oldest continuously inhabited sites of the region and once the chief port of the Crusaders. Visit the underground city seeing the Crusader halls, crypt and the tunnels used as a secret route to the port. Also visit the bazaar and the UNESCO site of Kahn El

Umdan (Inn of the Columns) one of the best-preserved caravanserais in Israel. The last option is to drive to Caesarea – the impressive ruins rest on the coast halfway between Haifa and Tel Aviv. This grand ancient city and harbour were built by Herod the Great between 22 and 10 BC and reigned capital over its region for almost 600 years. Named after the Roman Caesar Augustus, it had all the amenities of a splendid Roman city: baths, a hippodrome, a theatre and an aqueduct and we can explore the remains in the archaeological park.

Days 6 to 8 Ashdod. We continue our exploration of Israel from the southern port of Ashdod where we will spend two and a half days. During our time here we will organise visits to Jaffa, the

ancient port city from which Tel Aviv developed. Famous for its association with the biblical stories of Jonah, Solomon and St Peter, it has a fascinating history stretching back over four thousand years. We will explore the highlights including the Clock Tower, Flea Market and the renovated alleys and buildings of the fascinating city. We will also drive inland to Jerusalem including a visit to the Mount of Olives from where we can enjoy spectacular views over the 'Golden City' of Jerusalem. Follow in the footsteps of Jesus as you walk through the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus spent the last moments before his arrest. Wander the streets of the Old City from Jaffa Gate to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and continue through the Christian Quarter to the bazaar, passing the



Ruins of the Roman Basilica, Kourion

Temple of Queen Hatshepsut



Roman Cardo in the Jewish Quarter and the Western (or Wailing) Wall. We also hope to visit Bethlehem seeing the Church of the Nativity, the oldest functioning Christian church in the world, and the grotto venerated as the birthplace of Christ. Our last afternoon is at sea as we arrive in Port Said in the evening to prepare for our transit of the Suez Canal.

Day 9 Suez Canal Transit, Egypt.

Spend the day in the transit of the Suez Canal and the Great Bitter Lake.

Day 10 Port Tawfiq for Cairo. Today is a full day tour dedicated to the capital city of Cairo. We visit the impressive Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx, the only survivor of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World and the tombs of the great Pharaohs and their queens. After lunch we visit the Egyptian Museum with 107 halls that are separated into seven sections. The museum houses statues, jewels and treasures of Tutankhamun. We will visit the Amarna Room and see the Fayoum portraits and monuments from the later periods from the Greeks and the Romans. Return to the MS Serenissima for dinner this evening.

Day 11 Christmas Day At Sea.

Celebrate Christmas Day on board sailing through the Red Sea and Gulf of Suez. Join one of our lectures or find a spot on deck as we sail to Safaga where we arrive this evening and moor overnight.

Days 12 & 13 Safaga for Luxor. The port of Safaga will be our base for our overnight trip to Luxor. After driving through the desert our first call will be on the West Bank, one of the most famous and important

archaeological sites in the world. See the Valley of the Kings, burial ground of the pharaohs for a period of 500 years. The tombs vividly depict the journey of the sun god and pharaoh through the dangers of the underworld. In the temple of Queen Hatshepsut you will discover scenes commemorating the reign of this exceptional monarch such as the ambitious voyage where she sent her ships on the Red Sea to the mysterious land of Punt. After our visit we transfer to our hotel in Luxor for some time to relax before meeting for dinner. Our second day will include the temples of Karnak, one of the most memorable and popular historical areas to visit in the world. Here you will witness the unbelievably vast array of monuments dedicated to Amun-Ra, king of the gods, his wife Mut and their son Khonsu. Just two of the highlights you will see are the great hypostyle hall with over 130 columns some 22 metres high and the obelisk of the powerful queen pharaoh Hatshepsut. We will have some time to explore the souk before continuing to the Nile for a short cruise including lunch. In the afternoon we will board our coaches and return to the MS Serenissima in Safaga.

Day 14 Aqaba, Jordan. After a busy couple of days we will have a relaxing morning at sea arriving in Aqaba at lunchtime. This afternoon explore the old town of Aqaba including time to walk through the bustling souk or take a chance to swim in the clear waters.

Day 15 Aqaba to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Great Sphinx and the Pyramids in Giza



PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£6795	£6595
3	Classic Stateroom	£6995	£6795
4	Superior Stateroom	£7395	£7195
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£7795	£7595
6	Junior Suite	£8395	£8195
7	Owner's Suite	£8895	£8695
8	Serenissima Suite	£9295	£9095
10	Standard Single	£7795	£7595

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 13 nights aboard the MS Serenissima on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board • Overnight hotel accommodation in Luxor with all meals • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, Egyptian visa, Jordanian visa.

PRE-CRUISE ISTANBUL EXTENSION — 13th to 15th December 2021

For those who wish to spend some time discovering Istanbul before embarking the MS Serenissima we are offering a two night hotel extension with included sightseeing.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Istanbul, Turkey. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this evening and transfer to our hotel for our two night stay. Meet this evening for dinner. **(D)**

Day 2 Istanbul. After breakfast we begin our guided tour of Istanbul during which we will visit the Hippodrome; the Blue Mosque, named for its glorious 17th century painted tiles; and the Hagia Sophia, first a Byzantine patriarchal basilica, later an imperial mosque and today a museum. A short walk brings us to the Basilica Cistern, one of the most magnificent covered cisterns in Istanbul. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant followed by the afternoon and evening at leisure. **(B, L)**

Day 3 Istanbul to Antalya. Spend the morning at the impressive Topkapi Palace, a complex of buildings and annexes that was used as the Imperial residence of the Ottoman Sultans for nearly 400 years. After lunch we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Antalya where we embark the MS Serenissima. **(B, L)**



Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£595** Single: **£745**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Istanbul, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner), Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, excursions, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

POST-CRUISE JORDAN EXTENSION — 29th December 2021 to 2nd January 2022

After disembarking the MS Serenissima in Aqaba we are offering the opportunity to join our four night extension in Jordan, a land steeped in history and awe-inspiring beauty.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Wadi Rum & Petra, Jordan. Disembark this morning and drive to Wadi Rum, known as the Valley of the Moon, where we will embark on an adventurous excursion by a Bedouin open top, four-wheel drive vehicle. During our excursion we will see the Alameleh inscriptions, Siq Um Al Tawaqi, and the ruins of Allat (Goddess) Temple of the AAD tribe. After lunch we continue our journey to Little Petra where a modest gorge (Siq el-Barid) leads into the area of carved tombs and monuments. See the Painted Cave which is believed to have been a shelter for a sect focused on Dionysus, the ancient Greek god of wine. After the visit transfer to our hotel and meet for dinner this evening. **(B, L, D)**

Day 2 Petra. Today we will explore the breathtaking Nabatean city of Petra which was carved out of the rose-red sandstone about 2000 years ago. Walk past the Obelisk Tomb and then through the Siq, the narrow 1.2 kilometre gorge that leads to Petra's most impressive monument, the Treasury which was carved out of the pale reddish sandstone in the 1st century BC. Pass by the dozens of classical Nabatean ruins and tombs, the remarkable 3000 seat Theatre, the Royal Tombs, the Colonnaded Street, the Byzantine Church, the Temple, the Monumental Arch and the mighty Qasr el-Bint Faroun. After lunch amidst the ruins of Petra you will have the option to return to the hotel for an afternoon at leisure or stay and explore the site further independently. Those feeling active may choose to climb about 900 steps up to the Monastery with its remarkable views over Wadi Araba. Meet this evening for dinner. **(B, L, D)**

Day 3 Madaba & Dead Sea. After breakfast drive to Madaba, home of the most famous Byzantine mosaics. Visit the wonderful mosaic map of ancient Palestine which is located on the floor of the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George. After lunch we will continue to our hotel by the Dead Sea and the afternoon is free to swim or float in the sea which, at 423 metres below sea level is the lowest spot on earth. Meet this evening for a New Year's Eve dinner in the hotel. **(B, L, D)**



Day 4 Bethany. This morning is free to relax and enjoy the hotel facilities or take a swim in the Dead Sea. After lunch in the hotel restaurant we will drive to Bethany, the site where John the Baptist met and baptised Jesus Christ. This evening we will meet for dinner at the hotel. **(B, L, D)**

Day 5 Amman to London. Check out this morning and transfer to Amman airport for our scheduled flight to London. **(B)**

Prices per person Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£2195** Single: **£2595**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Petra, two nights hotel accommodation at the Dead Sea, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner), house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch & dinner, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, excursions, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Jordanian 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. Itinerary & ports subject to change.
Cover image: Statues of Karnak Temple, Luxor.