

PASSAGE TO ICELAND

A voyage from Aberdeen to Reykjavik aboard the MS Hebridean Sky

21st June to 3rd July 2025

NOBLE CALEDONIA



Celand is without doubt one of the most extraordinary and dramatic lands on the planet and is certainly best explored by small ship, allowing for opportunities to get up close to nature and explore areas inaccessible to larger vessels. With the 118-passenger MS Hebridean Sky, her expert expedition team and fleet of Zodiac landing craft, we are able to land on remote islands and cruise close to shorelines and cliffs crowded with birdlife. We have timed our voyage to Iceland for June when the long summer days are ideal for exploring and to experience the spectacular midnight sun.

Join us as we sail north from Aberdeen stopping at the Orkney Islands before continuing to the little-visited Faroe Islands where our time will be spent exploring the villages and rolling hills of these distant isles before venturing further north to Iceland. We have seven days to discover the wonders of Iceland and will witness the immense scale of the landscape dominated by towering

snow-capped mountains, thundering waterfalls and spontaneous erupting geysers as we learn of the centuries old legacies of a Viking and Norse heritage. Europe's least populated country offers the visitor a truly unparalleled experience of elemental forces at work and we will visit some of its most dramatic areas and, whilst we sail its waters, will look out for humpback whales, orcas, white-beaked dolphins and observe the colonies of seabirds.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Aberdeen, Scotland. Embark the MS Hebridean Sky this afternoon. Transfers will be provided from Aberdeen Airport and Railway Station at a fixed time. Sail early this evening.

Day 2 Kirkwall, Orkney Islands. This morning we arrive at the Orkney capital of Kirkwall from where we will head into the west of Mainland, Orkney's largest island. We will pass through gentle rolling landscape and into the Neolithic Heartland of Orkney; an area designated as a World Heritage Site due to its wealth of pre-historic archaeology. We will see the Standing Stones of Stenness and the Ring of Brodgar; a huge ceremonial circle of stones dating back almost 5000 years. We continue to the 5000-yearold village of Skara Brae and see the remarkable dwellings revealed from beneath the sand dunes by storms only 150 years ago. This afternoon is free to explore at your own pace, maybe visit St Magnus Church which dates back over 900 years.

Day 3 Suduroy, Faroe Islands. Over lunch we will arrive at Suduroy, the southernmost island of the group. From the port of Tvoroyri we have a choice of activities. Choose to join an island tour passing the beautiful scenery as we drive between the villages seeing the stunning geology, fjords, tunnels and architecture of the island and end at the southernmost point and the Akraberg lighthouse. In Porkeri we will take the ridge-top road which winds up the mountainside for wonderful views towards the steep cliffs on the west coast, the Beinisvoro promontory to the north and the luscious grass slopes to the east. To locals, this delivers the essence of the Faroe Islands with mountains and fjords, villages and valleys, birds, sheep and nature. Alternatively you may wish to join a hike to Hvaanhagi, a beautiful, uninhabited place north of Tvoroyri on the east coast of Suduroy. The view is fantastic towards the three islands Litla Dimun, Stora Dimun and Skuvoy.

Day 4 Torshavn. From our berth this morning we will join a guided tour through Torshavn over the hills to Kirkjubour, the island's oldest cultural centre, where we see the ruins of the 13th century St Magnus Cathedral and the 11th century church, still in use. We also visit the 900-year old 'Roykstovan', the old bishopric, considered to be the oldest wooden house in Europe. For those feeling active we will arrange a hike in the hills surrounding the town to discover the local flora and fauna. After lunch on board, we will drive to the beautiful village of Saksun, an isolated settlement situated beneath steep majestic mountains. We visit Duvugaroar, an old farmhouse, which is now a museum and visit a traditional Faeroese wooden church in Kollafjord.

Siglufjordur

Akureyri

ICELAND

ATLANTIC

Vigur Island

WESTERN

FJORDS

Revkiav

Stvkkisholmu

Grimsey Island

Hofn

Vestmanna 🔥

Suduroy

Mjoifjordur Neskaupstadur

Husavik

ARCTIC CIRCLE

FAROE ISLANDS

Streymov

Torshavn

SCOTLAND Aberdeen

ORKNEY

Kirkwall

Day 5 Vestmanna. Vestmanna is our base this morning as we explore the northwest corner of Streymoy and the nearby cliffs. We will board local boats to explore the vertical cliffs that climb almost 1500 feet, sailing into grottos carved by the surf over the years and watching the thousands of seabirds including puffins, guillemots, fulmars and kittiwakes that nest here each summer. Return to the ship for lunch and spend a relaxing afternoon on board sailing towards Iceland.

Day 6 Hofn, Iceland. Today we will see the shimmering white Vatnajokull 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.



Day 7 Neskaupstadur & Mjoifjordur. Enjoy the benefits of our small ship as we explore the lesser known fjords in the south east of Iceland. This morning we hope to land at the small town at Neskaupstadur 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. This afternoon we cruise through Mjoifjordur where we can enjoy the wilderness of this remote area.

Day 8 Husavik. Be on deck this morning as we cruise into Husavik. Our expedition team will keep an eye out for one of the many species of whales, the most popular being humpback, minke and blue whales, which are prevalent in this area. The remainder of the morning is free to explore the pretty town including time at the excellent whale museum, the exploration museum and quaint local church. After lunch we will visit the Lake Myvatn-Krafla region, 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. For those interested there will be an opportunity to spend time in the natural baths before returning to the ship.

Day 9 Hrisey Island & Akureyri. We will use our Zodiacs to land on Hrisey Island this morning where you can join nature walks. The island is known for its rich and diverse bird life and approximately 40 species of birds nest on the island. In the early afternoon we continue our journey down Eyafjordur, on the lookout for whales, during our approach to Akureyri. Akureyri is 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. The afternoon we visit the spectacular Godafoss Waterfall where water from the Skjalfandafljot river falls from a height of 12 metres over a width of 30 metres. From Godafoss we return to the charming town of Akureyri and visit 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. We stay late this evening for anyone wishing to take an after dinner stroll.

Day 10 Grimsey Island & Siglufjordur. Spend the morning on Grimsey Island. The Arctic Circle bisects this island which is known for its tiny community, basalt cliffs and large variety of birdlife. On arrival join our expedition team members for a nature walk on the island. Over lunch we sail to Siglufjordur, 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.

Day 11 Western Fjords. This morning we enter the Western Fjords, an isolated but spectacular area of Iceland. We will explore Isafjardardjup with the MS Hebridean Sky and depending on local weather conditions, we hope to land on Vigur, a serene little island with only five residents but home to many more puffins, eider ducks, black guillemots and Arctic terns. We will also visit Iceland's only extant windmill dating from the 19th century.

Day 12 Stykkisholmur. During breakfast we arrive at Stykkisholmur located in Breidafjordur 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 Snæfellsjokull 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". A morning tour will include a drive through the lava landscape to the glacier visiting pretty fishing ports and beaches along the way. Spend the afternoon at leisure in the town.

Day 13 Reykjavik to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight to London.



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 to transport passengers ashore when visiting Grimsey, Hrisey Island and Vigur 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.

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	£7695	£7295
Byrd	Superior	£7895	£7495
Mawson	Premium	£8395	£7995
Mawson	Corner	£8795	£8395
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£9295	£8895
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£9495	£9095
Shackleton	Hebridean	£10395	£9995
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£9695	£9295
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£9895	£9495

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel from Reykjavik to London • 12 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes. Not Included: Travel insurance.

Post-cruise Reykjavik Extension 3rd to 5th July 2025

If you would like to spend some time in Reykjavik after your cruise, we are offering a two night extension which will include the 'Golden Circle' touring route.



The Itinerary

Day 1 Reykjavik & Golden Circle, Iceland. Disembark after breakfast as we enjoy one of Iceland's classic touring circuits, the 'Golden Circle' including three of Iceland's most iconic landmarks. We will start at Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site which is situated in a rift valley that offers incredible views of the Reykjanes Ridge. This is the only place in the world where the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, which separates the Eurasian and North American plates, is above sea level. Also see the Gullfoss Waterfall, the most famous of the country's numerous waterfalls. Our final stop is the Geysir geothermal area where Strokkur, an explosive geyser, erupts every few minutes. After lunch we transfer to our hotel for check in and a free evening in Reykjavik. (B, L)

Day 2 Reykjavik. After breakfast in the hotel we enjoy a city tour of Reykjavik. See the Hallgrimskirkja Church that dominates the city skyline, the new Harpa Opera House and the charming old quarter before we enjoy the views of the city from Perlan. The afternoon and evening are at leisure. **(B)**

Day 3 Reykjavik to London. Check out this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. (B)

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£895** Single: **£1195**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Reykjavik, meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch), full day Golden Circle tour, half day Reykjavik tour, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers. Not Included: Travel insurance.



MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



The much loved MS Hebridean Sky is one of our two flagships and sister vessel to the MS Island 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 Hebridean 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 sitting 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 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, television and a telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, towelling 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 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 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



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. In addition to the main Lounge, there is also The Club, located on the Mawson 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 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 collection of games and 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 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 for sunbathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. The Promenade Deck wraps around the whole ship providing outstanding views. There is also a small beauty salon 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 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 the 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 or bar 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 HEBRIDEAN SKY DECK PLAN



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.

PEDRUARY 2020 Which? Recommended Provider Ocean cruises



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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.