

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £1000 PER PERSON PLUS NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

# PASSAGE TO INDIA

A VOYAGE FROM THE SEYCHELLES TO INDIA'S  
MALABAR COAST INCLUDING THE MALDIVES  
& LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS  
ABOARD THE MS ISLAND SKY

14<sup>TH</sup> TO 31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2028

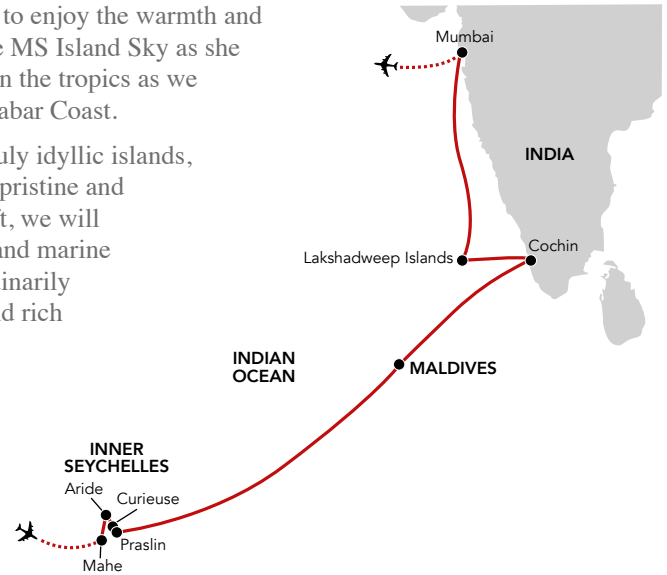
NOBLE CALEDONIA

We can think of few better ways to escape the British winter than to enjoy the warmth and beauty of the Indian Ocean aboard the wonderfully comfortable MS Island Sky as she undertakes exactly the type of itinerary that suits her so well. Join us in the tropics as we journey from the islands and atolls of the Indian Ocean to India's Malabar Coast.

Our journey between Mahe and Mumbai allows us to explore some truly idyllic islands, beginning with the Seychelles and Maldives, two of the world's most pristine and picturesque archipelagos. Using our purpose built Zodiac landing craft, we will land on otherwise inaccessible beaches, witness the magnificent bird and marine life, explore vast lagoons and coral reefs and encounter some extraordinarily beautiful tropical scenery. We will also discover the pristine beauty and rich biodiversity of Lakshadweep, a group of islands that make up India's smallest union territory. We will spend two days here discovering the serene islands with opportunities to swim and snorkel in the atoll's shallow waters which abound with marine life and corals. Our small ship, the MS Island Sky is the perfect means of discovering these three archipelagos, allowing us to enjoy the beauty, peace and tranquillity of the islands. After all, it would be disappointing to find yourself in the company of hundreds on what should be a deserted beach or whilst exploring these remote atolls.

Contrasting well with our natural world exploration, will be our visit to Cochin in the Indian state of Kerala which will have a more cultural focus. Cochin, an ancient city of islands has for centuries attracted traders and adventurers from Europe and the far Orient and from here we can explore the serene 'backwaters', a network of lagoons, lakes, rivers and canals. Finally, we will spend time in Mumbai, the perfect city in which to observe the colourful day to day life and the general hubbub of India.

This unusual itinerary will appeal to those looking for something different, incorporating explorations of some remarkable archipelagos combined with a call in southern India and the opportunity to experience the vibrancy of Mumbai. With the MS Island Sky as our base and travelling with just over 100 fellow passengers and our expert onboard team, we can enjoy great food, good company and a convivial atmosphere. After our expedition there is the option to extend your time in India with our post-cruise extension to Pench National Park.



Praslin



Exploring by Zodiac

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Mahe, Seychelles.** Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

**Day 2 Mahe.** Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Island Sky for embarkation. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail the short distance to our overnight anchorage.

**Days 3 & 4 Inner Seychelles.** Spend two days exploring the islands of the Inner Seychelles. We hope to include time on Aride which is one of the finest and most important seabird islands in the Indian Ocean. Over one million seabirds breed on the island including tropical shearwater, lesser noddy, frigatebirds and roseate tern in addition to five species unique to the Seychelles such as the Seychelles warbler and Seychelles magpie robin. The island is largely covered in native woodland, including the endemic Wright's gardenia, a shrub with beautifully scented flowers found nowhere else in the world. See Curieuse, a rugged island which was once home to a leper colony and now houses an eco-museum and visitor centre. The island is an important nesting site for hawksbill turtles and boasts endemic vines and mangroves which we explore on an island walk. Our last call in the Seychelles will be at Praslin where we explore the 'Vallee de Mai', the last remnant of the original high canopied Seychelles palm forest and home to the coco de mer. We will walk its paths looking out for the rare black parrot and enjoying the natural beauty. This evening we will clear customs formalities as we start our journey to the Maldives.



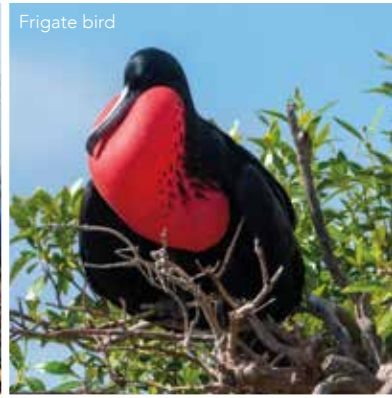
Hawksbill turtle



Fairy tern



Mumbai skyline



Frigate bird



Curieuse



Vallee de Mai

**Days 5 to 7 At Sea.** Relax and enjoy our days at sea. Watch out for bird and marine life and listen to the informative talks by our expedition team. We are assured of warm weather so make the most of the fresh air, get lost in a novel from your deck chair and enjoy all the comforts of the MS Island Sky.

**Days 8 to 11 Maldives.** We spend four days exploring the whole archipelago. This vast area of ocean is scattered with staggeringly beautiful dots of land surrounded by a cerulean sea. It offers some of the finest lagoons, beaches and coral reefs in the world. Our day to day schedule will be left in the capable hands of the Captain and Expedition Leader and we hope to include visits to a number of atolls as we sail from the southern islands to the north. Our expedition team will be on hand to lead guided walks exploring the birds and wildlife on land, whilst our Snorkel Master will take us to stunning reefs to view the wonderful coral and marine life. We also hope to visit one of the islands' villages and take the opportunity to mingle with the local population and learn a little about life in the Maldives.

**Day 12 At Sea.** Our lecture programme continues as we make our way across the Laccadive Sea to India.

**Day 13 Cochin, India.** Our first call in India is at Cochin, an extraordinary city with strong influences of Portuguese, Chinese, Arab, Dutch and British cultures still much in evidence today. From our berth you can choose to visit the serene Kerala backwaters at Alleppey where we will board a local boat for a cruise past colonial warehouses and coconut thatched houses. For centuries, these canals provided a safe and efficient means of transportation for goods and people moving between the heartland of Kerala and the port towns along the coast. Even today, traditional barges, or kettuvallams, haul coconut, pepper, rice and other goods along the waterways. Alternatively stay in Cochin to explore the diverse mix of cultures and religions that, together with its strong trading past in spices and silks, make for a fascinating city. Discover Mattancherry Palace with its ornately decorated rooms including some marvellous ancient murals. We see the oldest European church in India, St Francis, which was the original burial site of Vasco da Gama, and the oldest active synagogue in India built in 1568. Return to the ship via the atmospheric streets known for local handicrafts.

**Days 14 & 15 Lakshadweep Islands.** Situated about 200 miles off the coast of Kerala, Lakshadweep is comprised of 36 idyllic islands, 10 of which are inhabited and the archipelago is the smallest Union Territory of India, totalling just 11 square miles of land. Stunning lagoons, colourful birds, marine flora and fauna, swaying palms, and pristine beaches make these an island paradise. During our two days here we will stroll along lovely, unspoiled beaches and explore the underwater realm. Weather and tide conditions determine our course but we hope to land for walks amongst the palm trees, visit a village to learn about the local industries and culture as well as exploring the clear waters that surround these pristine islands which are perfect for swimming, and seeing the colourful hard and soft corals which teem with many marine species.

**Day 16 At Sea.** Relax on board as we make our way to our final destination of Mumbai.

**Day 17 Mumbai.** Over lunch we sail into Mumbai, a cluster of seven islands which were first home to the 'Koli' fishermen, who still occupy parts of the city shoreline today. Mumbai was derived from 'Mumba' the name of the Hindu goddess 'Mumbadevi' and 'Aai' – mother in the local Marathi language. First ceded to the Portuguese, the British Government took possession of the islands in 1665 before leasing them to the East India Company who founded the port and saw the city grow in size and importance. This afternoon we explore the city and see the prominent landmarks visiting the Gateway of India, the Victoria Terminus, Mani Bhavan, the former residence of Mahatma Gandhi when he stayed in Mumbai from 1917 to 1934 and Dhobi Ghat where we can observe the vast open air Indian laundry. Alternatively, those interested in the spice trade may prefer to visit Crawford Market, one of Mumbai's oldest markets, where the lively atmosphere provides a wonderful opportunity to observe everyday city life. Continue to Lalbaug's famous Mirchi Galli, Mumbai's traditional spice district. Walk through narrow lanes stacked high with colourful chillies, aromatic spices, and dry fruits, gaining insight into the age-old spice trade that has shaped Indian cuisine for centuries.

**Day 18 Mumbai to London.** Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. Arrive this afternoon.

Maldives



Kerala Backwaters



Mumbai

**PRICES PER PERSON**

Based on double occupancy

**SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £1000 PER PERSON PLUS NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY**

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard	£12995	£11995
Columbus	Superior	£13495	£12495
Marco Polo	Premium	£13995	£12995
Marco Polo	Corner	£14395	£13395
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£14995	£13995
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£15495	£14495
Explorer	Island	£15995	£14995
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£12995	£11995
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£13495	£12495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 16 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • 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, India visa, Maldives visa, Seychelles Travel Authorisation.

**Pench National Park Post-cruise Extension**  
 31<sup>st</sup> January to 4<sup>th</sup> February 2028

If you would like to spend some time in India after your cruise, we are offering a four-night escorted extension to Pench National Park, which lies between the states of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The park features a high density of wildlife including tigers, deer and antelope, leopards, Asiatic wild dogs and even the rare Indian wolf as well as prolific birdlife.



Bengal tigers

**The Itinerary**

**Day 1 Mumbai to Pench National Park.** Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Nagpur. On arrival transfer to our accommodation at Pench National Park. The remainder of the day is free to relax before we meet in the early evening for a talk with a local naturalist regarding the flora and fauna found in the national park. (B, L, D)

**Days 2 & 3 Pench National Park.** We will spend the next two days at Pench National Park. Named after the Pench River that meanders through its heart, the park forms part of the greater Satpura range, where teak forests, open meadows and gentle hills create a varied habitat. Declared a sanctuary in 1965 and later designated a national park, Pench today forms part of India's celebrated Project Tiger initiative, but its cultural resonance stretches further back, most famously inspiring Rudyard Kipling's 'The Jungle Book'. Pench is known for its healthy population of Bengal tigers, leopards, wild dogs (dhole) and sloth bears alongside herds of chital and sambar deer. Meanwhile, multiple species of birds have been recorded, from vibrant kingfishers to parakeets and hornbills. We will explore during morning and afternoon jeep safaris or guided nature walks with time to also relax in our comfortable accommodation. (B, L, D)

**Day 4 Pench National Park to Mumbai.** We will check out this morning and transfer to Nagpur Airport enjoying lunch on the way. In the afternoon we take our scheduled flight to Mumbai and on arrival we transfer to our airport hotel for an overnight stay. There will be free time to relax in the hotel before we meet for dinner this evening. (B, L, D)

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

**PRICES PER PERSON**

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1495** Single: **£1795**

**Price Includes:** Economy class scheduled air travel between Mumbai and Nagpur, three nights accommodation at Pench National Park, overnight accommodation in Mumbai, meals as indicated, (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner), Indian wine, beer and soft drinks with included lunches and dinners, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers, airport taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance, India visa.

# 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.

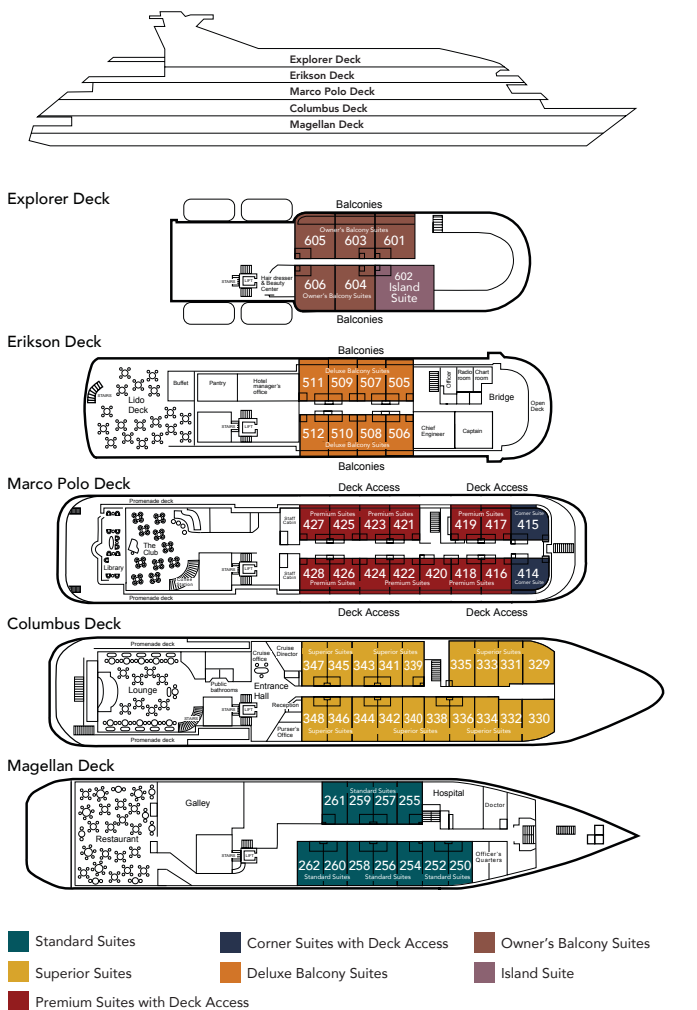
## Your Comfort

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



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.



# NOBLE CALEDONIA

2 Chester Close, Belgravia, London, SW1X 7BE  
 +44 (0)20 7752 0000 | info@noble-caledonia.co.uk  
 www.noble-caledonia.co.uk



All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.  
 Cover image: Lakshadweep Islands.