

SECRET WORLD OF TWO OCEANS

DISCOVER THE NATURAL WONDERS OF COLOMBIA, PANAMA & COSTA RICA
INCLUDING A TRANSIT OF THE PANAMA CANAL ABOARD THE MS SERENISSIMA

16TH TO 31ST JANUARY 2021

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£300
PER PERSON





If you have been contemplating a visit to Central America, then this fascinating voyage could offer the perfect opportunity with its mix of cultural and natural wonders. During our voyage you will enjoy swimming, snorkelling and nature walks all overseen by our expert onboard team. Some days you will be venturing into national parks and conservation areas teeming with wildlife or visiting remote communities where locals live following ancient ways of life. We have the added benefit of spending time in the captivating city of Cartagena and with just 95 passengers, we will explore in small groups ashore and enjoy a convivial atmosphere on board.

Our voyage offers an easy and comfortable way to explore the region rather than arduous, lengthy land travel. You can relax on board as we sail between beautiful islands and interesting ports of call, and as much of the itinerary is far from the 'big ship' routes it includes little known but fascinating ports of call. One of the highlights for many will be the transit of the Panama Canal which makes an itinerary such as this possible as we cross from the Caribbean Sea to the Pacific, and as we do so we will toast the engineering marvel during our daylight transit.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Cartagena, Colombia. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Cartagena. Arrive today and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure to relax or explore independently before we meet for dinner this evening.

Day 3 Cartagena. Cartagena is one of the most fascinating cities in South America and this morning we enjoy a walking tour of the colonial walled-city which is virtually surrounded by water and steeped in history, with a wealth of 16th and 17th century buildings and churches. Our guides will bring the history of the city to life as we walk its streets and ramparts. We will visit the 16th century Fort of San Felipe, Monastery of San Pedro Claver, the Plaza de la Aduana and Iglesia de Santo Domingo. After lunch in a local restaurant we will transfer to the MS Serenissima this afternoon and sail this evening.

Day 4 San Blas Islands, Panama. Spend a relaxing morning at sea

before we arrive over lunch at the stunning San Blas archipelago. The archipelago is made up of over 400 islands which line the north coast of Panama with white sandy beaches set in a turquoise sea. The islands are home to the indigenous Kuna Indians who gained self-rule from the government of Panama in the 1920s and maintain their traditional way of life including the production of colourful fabric art known as 'molas'. We will have time to take a nature walk or maybe enjoy a swim or snorkel from the beach.

Day 5 Panama Canal Transit. An undisputed destination on the travel bucket list has to be the Panama Canal. The first attempt to build the canal was made by a French company but ended in failure in 1889. The American government eventually bought out the French for 40 million dollars, and their attempt to build the Canal started in 1904. Through the efforts of over 80,000 workers and the loss of more than 30,000 lives, the greatest single construction project ever undertaken was completed. The project ended in

triumph, with the Canal opening in 1914, and it is now a vital artery of international trade, with nearly 14,000 ships travelling through it every year. The canal is around 50 miles long and takes between eight to ten hours to cross and we hope to confirm a daytime crossing.

Day 6 Panama City. From our berth at Flamenco Marina, there will be a choice of excursions today. Join an excursion to the Panama Canal Observation Centre where you can learn about the expansion of the canal before visiting the Miraflores Locks Visitor Centre where you can see the history of the canal and watch the ships as they pass through. For those interested in meeting the Embera Indians, a tour to the Chagres National Park will be arranged where we can take a dugout canoe to the village in the jungle, meet the local tribe and learn about their history.

Days 7 & 8 Bahia Solano & Utria National Park, Colombia. 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 9 At Sea. Our lecture programme continues as we spend the day at sea.

Day 10 Isla Coiba, Panama. This once infamous prison island, now a National Park, has reverted to an island paradise. We will anchor off



Isla Coiba

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. Alternatively take the chance to swim from one of the beaches.

Day 11 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 12 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 the 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 hope to use our Zodiacs to land on one of the nearby beaches.

Day 13 Manuel Antonio National Park. Early this morning we will travel to 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 before we sail later tonight.

Day 14 Curu National Park & Isla Tortuga. We spend the 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 a number of species of birds, howler and capuchin monkeys and turtles. Over lunch we sail the short distance to Tortuga Island where we have the chance to snorkel over the volcanic reef which is home to angelfish, morays and needlefish. Alternatively spend the afternoon relaxing on the white sand beaches.

Day 15 Puerto Caldera to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to San Jose for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 16 London. Arrive today.



Toucan



San Blas Islands



White-faced Capuchin monkeys

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£7195	£6895
3	Classic Stateroom	£7395	£7095
4	Superior Stateroom	£7795	£7495
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£8295	£7995
6	Junior Suite	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
7	Owner's Suite	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
8	Serenissima Suite	£9295	£8995
10	Standard Single	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Overnight hotel accommodation in Cartagena with breakfast • 12 nights aboard the MS Serenissima on a full board basis • House wine, beer & 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 Bogota Extension 14th to 17th January 2021



If you would like to explore the Colombian city of Bogota before embarking the MS Serenissima we are offering a two night extension.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Bogota, Colombia. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Bogota. Arrive today and transfer to our hotel for a two night stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure to relax or explore independently before we meet for dinner this evening.

Day 3 Bogota. Bogota is a melting pot of people from around Colombia, it is diverse and multi-cultural, with a wonderful blend of modern and colonial architecture. On a full day tour we will visit the historic downtown of Candelaria, full of small cobbled streets and excellent museums including the Gold Museum where objects crafted by the Muisca, the first ever populations inhabiting Bogota are carefully exhibited. Spend time at the Paloquemao flower and fruit market before we travel up to Monserrate Hill top with magnificent views over the capital. Return to our hotel in the late afternoon and meet for dinner this evening.

Day 4 Bogota to Cartagena. Check out from the hotel this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Cartagena.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1395** Single: **£1895**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Bogota with breakfast, dinner on Day 2 & Day 3, lunch on Day 3, excursions, English speaking guide, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

Post-cruise Costa Rica Extension 30th January to 5th February 2021



Before returning to the UK, we are offering the opportunity to discover more of Costa Rica with our extension which will include the Monteverde Cloud Forest and Arenal.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Puerto Caldera to Monteverde, Costa Rica. Disembark this morning and transfer to Monteverde enjoying lunch along the way. On arrival check into the El Establo Hotel (or similar) for a two night stay and enjoy dinner at 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. Biologists now know that about 90 percent of all organisms in a rainforest are found in the canopy. The trails extend for slightly over a mile and a half and we will be accompanied by local guides. 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. 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 into 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.

Day 5 Arenal to San Jose. Today we will make our way to San Jose, visiting the Poas Volcano National Park this morning. After a short walk, we will be treated to spectacular 180-degree views of the volcano's crater and the picturesque surrounding area. We will also visit the Doka Estate for an insight into one of Costa Rica's prime exports, coffee. Upon arrival into San Jose check in 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 today.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£2295** Single: **£2795**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Arenal & Monteverde, overnight hotel accommodation in San Jose, all meals throughout (other than lunch on Day 6), excursions, English speaking guide, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance, lunch on Day 6.

MS SERENISSIMA



Harald Jarl Lounge



Andrea Lounge



The Restaurant

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 cabin 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. Bottles of still and sparkling water are replenished daily. Due to the very nature of the ship, the cabins vary in shape and size, adding to the vessel's overall charm.



Your Dining

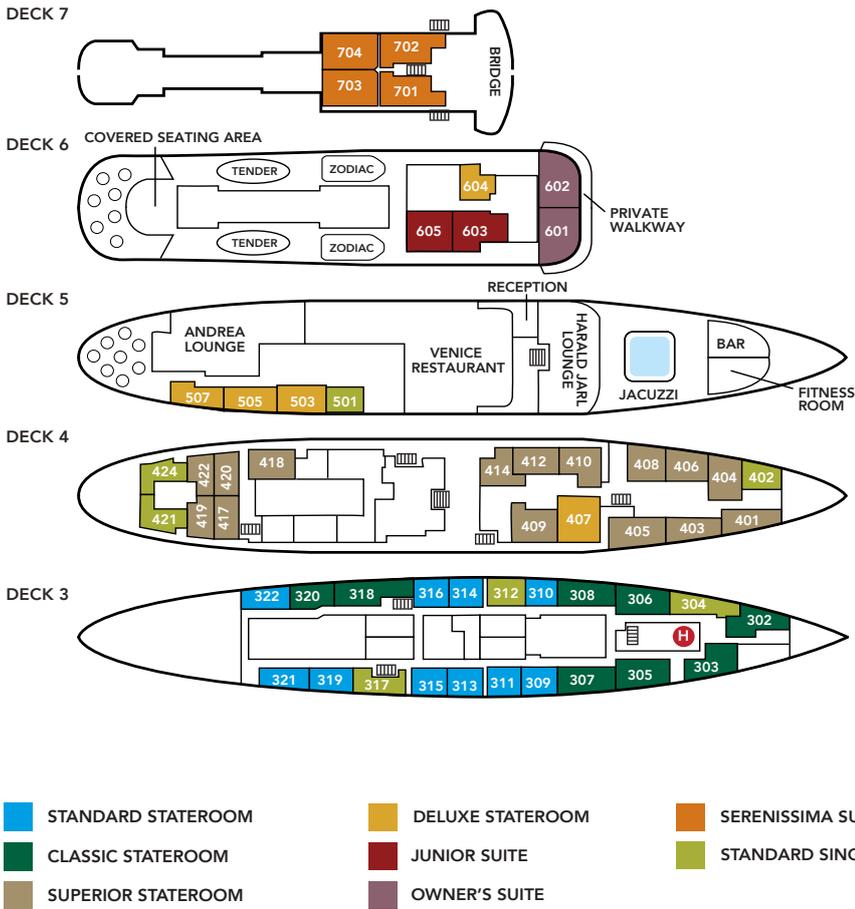
The free seating Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in one sitting and, with its Deck 5 location, all of the tables benefit from great views. The picture windows also make the restaurant wonderfully light and airy. Breakfast is served buffet-style with cooked dishes available and eggs to order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

available. Dinner is served a 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, soft drinks, and water 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 Gustavian style interior. This bright Swedish 18th century influenced, country house style 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



SERENISSIMA SUITE
(25 square metres)



OWNER'S SUITE
(22 square metres)



JUNIOR SUITE
(21 square metres)

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)



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.



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