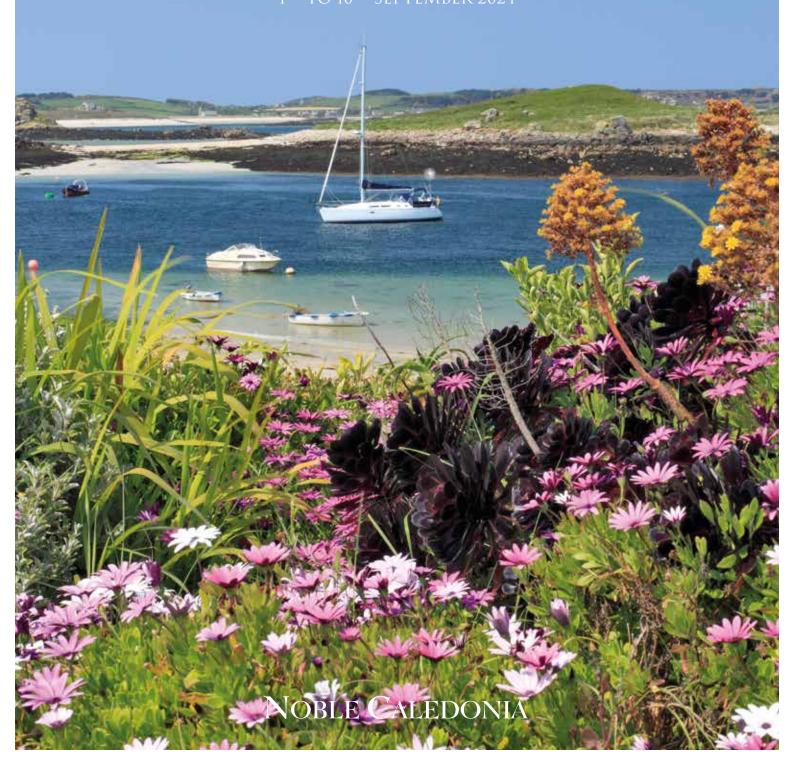


# SEPTEMBER INTHE ISLES

AN EXPLORATION OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS & ISLES OF SCILLY
ABOARD THE MS HEBRIDEAN SKY

4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> september 2024



Sometimes, a few days away in a totally different environment is just what the doctor ordered, particularly if it does not involve flights. Join us aboard the 118-passenger MS Hebridean Sky in Portsmouth and visit some of the most idyllic islands from the Channel Islands, which combine beautiful scenery, gallic charm and reminders of their occupation during World War II along the coastlines, to the remote Isles of Scilly where nature abounds.

We will be visiting some of the most bewitching of places off our shorelines beginning in the Channel Islands where each island has its own unique character and where we head to some of the least explored including Herm and Sark. Our calls in the Isles of Scilly will include Tresco, St Martin's and St Agnes with their crystal clear waters and fine white sandy beaches that would not disgrace a Caribbean island. We will explore on foot amazing little

St Martin's
Bryher
Tresco
St Agnes
St Mary's
St Mary's
Guernsey
CHANNEL
ISLANDS

contained worlds which are rich in plant life, wildlife and history and you can be as active and footloose as you choose. These islands are so close yet are not easily visited and whilst the sailing distances are relatively short, there is much to see and experience.

The MS Hebridean Sky is the perfect small ship for such a venture as we can explore places otherwise inaccessible to larger ships and with just over 100 passengers, we will not overrun the islands but instead will be absorbed into island life. The islands are small and each day there will be a choice of walks to suit all, and rather than hopping on and off coaches, our transport will be provided by Zodiacs or local tenders.





# The Itinerary

**Day 1 Portsmouth, England.** Embark the MS Hebridean Sky this afternoon. Transfers will be provided from Portsmouth Harbour Railway Station at a fixed time, alternatively car parking will be available at the port (at additional cost). Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

Days 2 & 3 Herm, Sark & Guernsey, Channel Islands. We will have two days to explore the Channel Islands beginning on the islands of the Bailiwick of Guernsey. We will use our Zodiacs to land on the peaceful traffic-free island of Sark. Horse-drawn carriages take us along the narrow lanes alive with the songs of chaffinches, skylarks and mistle thrush as we see the narrow isthmus which joins Little Sark and Big Sark and the enchanting gardens at La Seigneurie. See Herm, the smallest inhabited Channel Island and, at just one and a half miles long and half a mile wide, perfect for exploring on foot. Here, you will have free time to explore, perhaps take a stroll over to Shell or Belvoir Beach whilst our naturalists will be ashore on the lookout for wildflowers. Our last day is on Guernsey where a panoramic drive will see the beautiful coastline and beaches and we visit the Little Chapel, built in 1914 as a miniature version of the famous basilica at Lourdes and covered in fragments of shattered china. After a free afternoon to explore the charming town of St Peter Port we will sail in the evening.

Days 4 to 6 Tresco, St Agnes, Bryher, St Mary's & St Martin's, Isles of Scilly. Arrive in the Isles of Scilly for two and a half days of exploration. From our central anchorage, we will use our Zodiacs and local tenders to visit a number of the islands in the group. We will visit traffic-free Tresco, walking its idyllic lanes from the beach to the famous subtropical Abbey Gardens. Defying the Atlantic weather, this miracle of a garden is home to more than 20,000 species of plants from over 80 countries. Enjoy time to wander at your own pace along the paths, maybe visit the Valhalla collection of ship figureheads from ships wrecked on the islands or relax in the café. On St Agnes we find the most south westerly community in the UK. Surrounded by rocks and reefs this delightful tiny island offers marvellous coastal walks. The small island of Gugh lies across a narrow sandbar and here we find a single stone monolith called the 'Old Man of Gugh' which dates back to the Bronze Age. We will tender ashore to Bryher, the smallest of the inhabited Isles of Scilly where you can wander along the tracks that cross the island amongst hedgerows and fields with wildflowers. Those feeling active may wish to climb Watch Hill, where in the past islanders would keep watch for ships in distress or alternatively take a stroll to one of the beautiful beaches. Visit the northernmost island of the group, St Martin's, a small island

community of just 120 residents. Enjoy time to explore independently, climb to one of the viewpoints for vistas over the islands and the offshore seal colonies or maybe visit the vineyard. On St Mary's, the largest island in the archipelago (yet still only six square miles), you can enjoy some time in the shops in Hugh Town or walk the historic Garrison Walls. Our final afternoon will be at sea as we sail back to Portsmouth.

**Day 7 Portsmouth.** Disembark this morning. Transfers will be provided to Portsmouth Harbour Railway Station at a fixed time.

# **SHIP TO SHORE**

Due to the many small ports that we will be visiting during this voyage, we will be at anchor every day. The vessel's Zodiacs will be utilised for transportation ashore in the Channel Islands and Tresco and local tenders will be used on other days. There are no wet landings.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Amundsen	Standard	£3695	£3395
Byrd	Superior	£3895	£3595
Mawson	Premium	£3995	£3695
Mawson	Corner	£4295	£3995
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£4595	£4295
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£4795	£4495
Shackleton	Hebridean	£4995	£4695
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£3995	£3695
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£4295	£3995

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Six nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner

- Noble Caledonia onboard team Shore excursions Gratuities
- Transfers Port taxes

Not Included: Travel insurance.

www.noble-caledonia.co.uk +44 (0)20 7752 0000





# MS HEBRIDEAN SKY

The much loved MS Hebridean Sky is one of our two flag ships and sister vessel to the MS Island Sky. 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 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, flat screen 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.

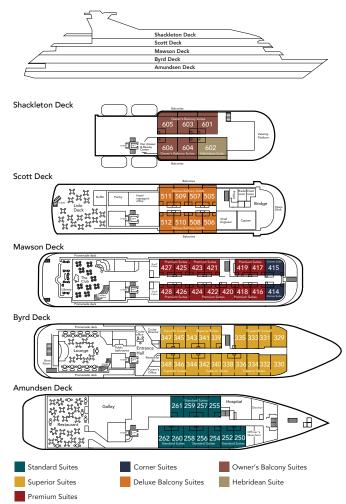
### Your Dining

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 buffetstyle 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. 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.

## Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Byrd Deck where daily briefings given by the Cruise Director and talks from Guest Speakers and expedition staff take place. In addition to the main Lounge, there is also The Club, located on the Mawson Deck which features the main bar. Towards the aft of the ship on the Mawson Deck is the Library which is well stocked with reference books along with a collection of games and devices to access the internet via the ship's satellite. Access to the ship's satellite Wi-Fi via your own device is complimentary on board (signal strength varies depending on location and demand). On the top Shackleton Deck there is an observation area.



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.



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