

VOYAGES ABOARD THE  
**MS SERENISSIMA**

MEDITERRANEAN - NORWEGIAN FJORDS - UK  
APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2019



NOBLE CALEDONIA



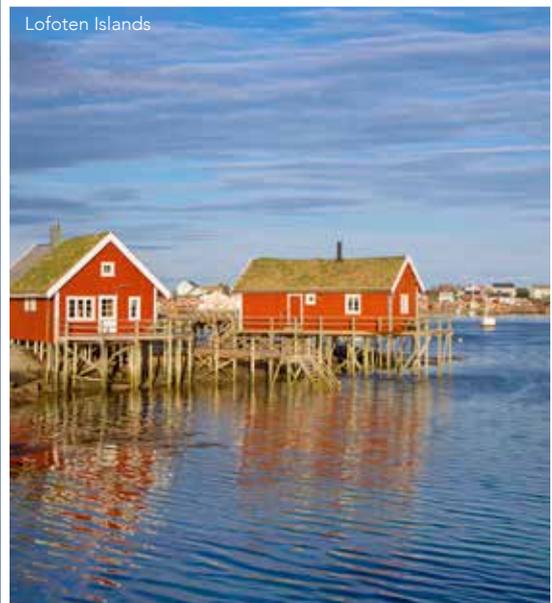
Dolphins

# Small Ship Cruising aboard the MS Serenissima

Ships of all different sizes and styles can make the selection of a cruise a somewhat hit and miss affair, and whilst some companies attempt to please everybody, we prefer to continue with our focus on small ships and to that end are delighted to have once again chartered the 95 passenger, MS Serenissima for a series of fascinating cruises in 2019.

In many ways the virtues of small ship cruising are best expressed by detailing what you will not find on board. For instance, there will be no organised entertainment and no black tie events. What there will be is a warm and peaceful atmosphere in which you can learn more about the wonders of nature, culture and ancient civilisations in the company of like-minded people in comfortable surroundings and with a high level of service. Due to her size, the MS Serenissima has the freedom of the seas and can come alongside in small docks or drop anchor in any suitable spot allowing us to still seek out and visit the ports which the larger cruise ships are unable to access.

Whilst on board you can listen to presentations from our onboard Guest Speakers and the informative port briefings from our Cruise Director and when ashore, explore the sites with our expert local guides. We will also ensure, whenever possible, that you have some time to discover the destination independently if you wish. After a day of discovery, you can then join different people each evening and discuss the day's adventures over dinner.



# MS SERENISSIMA



Harald Jarl Lounge



On Deck



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. In December 2018, the vessel will once again undergo a significant refurbishment and, after a re-configuration of the deck plan will accommodate a maximum of just 95 guests.

## Your Cabin/Suite

Accommodating no more than 95 passengers, 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 provided and replenished daily. From January 2019, there will be eight different grades of cabin arranged over five decks, and all feature either windows or portholes. Because of the very nature of the ship, the cabins do vary in shape and size, adding to the vessel's overall charm.



## Your Dining

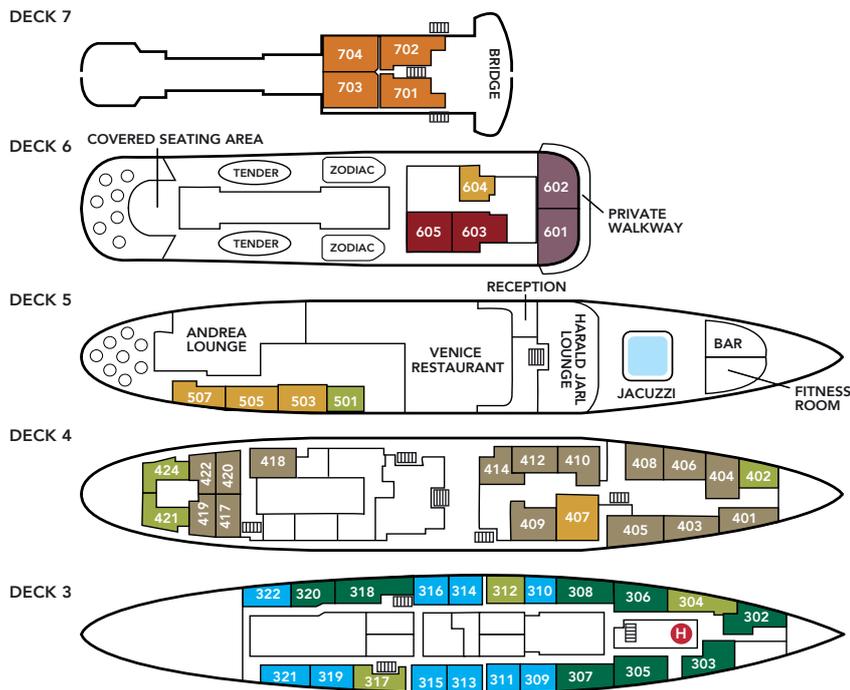
The free seating Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in one sitting and, with its Deck 5 location, all of the tables benefit from great views. The picture windows also make the restaurant wonderfully light and airy. Breakfast is served buffet-style with cooked dishes available and eggs to order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



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

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



**SERENISSIMA SUITE**  
(25 square metres)



**OWNER'S SUITE**  
(22 square metres)



**JUNIOR SUITE**  
(21 square metres)



**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)

# Spring in the Towns & Gardens of the Atlantic Edge

A voyage from Lisbon to Portsmouth with Guest Speaker Helena Attlee  
23<sup>rd</sup> April to 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019

Join the MS Serenissima in Lisbon next spring for this coastal voyage of some 1500 miles to Portsmouth visiting some marvellously historic and scenic places along the way. Giving the large ports a wide berth, we will instead call into some places away from the well traversed routes of the larger cruise lines and have allowed time to explore the horticultural splendours and delightful towns of the region in depth.

We will witness some splendid gardens in all their springtime glory, step into the pilgrimage cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, spend time exploring some of Brittany and Normandy's charming villages and towns and taste some local ports and wines. Added to this we have the benefit of remaining moored overnight in Oporto allowing the opportunity to dine ashore and enjoy the pretty old town which is so atmospheric in the evening. All this is combined with the rich maritime history of the region and the sheer beauty of the coastal landscapes making for an endlessly fascinating cultural experience.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Lisbon, Portugal.** Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Serenissima. Embark and sail this evening.

**Day 2 Figueira da Foz for Coimbra.** Located at the mouth of the Mondego River, Figueira da Foz is one of central Portugal's prime beach resorts. However our reason for coming is actually inland and the nearby city of Coimbra, the Medieval capital of Portugal for over 100 years, and the site of the country's greatest university for the past five centuries. On a walking tour we will view the stunning buildings from the 16th to 18th centuries, including the Paco das

Escolas (Royal Palace) and the Monastery of Santa Cruz, before we head to the university which was recently appointed UNESCO status. After a local lunch you can choose to return to Figueira da Foz or stay longer in Coimbra to explore independently. Perhaps visit the Botanical Gardens, created in the 18th century and designed to complement the Natural History and Medicinal Studies taking place at the university.

**Days 3 & 4 Oporto.** Continuing our journey in Portugal we arrive this morning into the port of Leixoes, the base for our two days of activities around Oporto.

During our time here we will arrange a number of tours including Oporto where we see the impressive St. Francis Church and the Ribeira, a riverside quarter made up of narrow, twisting streets and shadowy arcades, before continuing to a local port wine cellar. Here you will be able to learn all about the wines and how they are produced. The keen gardeners can join a drive to the 17th century Casa do Campo which has been with the Meireles Pereira Leite Teixeira Coelho family since its foundation and whose origins go back to the 12th century, where it started out as a part of a group of 29 farmhouses that established the Santo Andre

de Molares Parish. The Baroque style garden was built in around the 18th century and is crossed by a unique and graceful set of pathways of box-trees and trimmed camellias, and through these alleyways we find stone tables, fountains and a pond surrounded by cylinders, rings, sunshades, arches and camellia cupulas making it one of the most artistic gardens in Portugal. Maybe visit the Quinta de Aveleda, located in the heart of the Vinho Verde Demarcated Region, which creates a young fresh wine with a low alcoholic content and a lightly fruity flavour. Learn about the wine which has been created here since 1947 before exploring the beautiful park and gardens with rare specimens of trees, shrubs and flowers which surround the Manor House. There will also be the opportunity for free time to explore at your own pace and maybe visit the Jardins do Palacio de Cristal, a wonderful park with a rose garden offering superb views over Oporto and the River Douro. We will moor overnight and offer a shuttle service into Oporto for anyone who wishes to dine ashore at one of the waterfront restaurants.

**Day 5 Villagarcia De Arousa, Spain.** Arriving in Galicia we spend a relaxing morning in the port of Villagarcia De Arousa. After lunch on board, visit the nearby Pazo de Rubianes, originally founded in 1411 and one of the

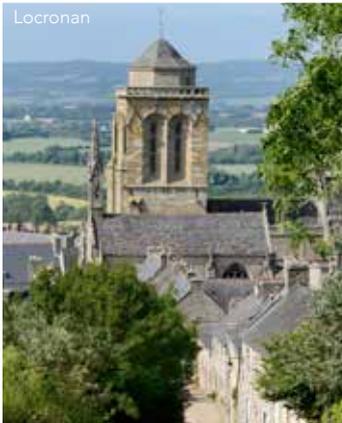




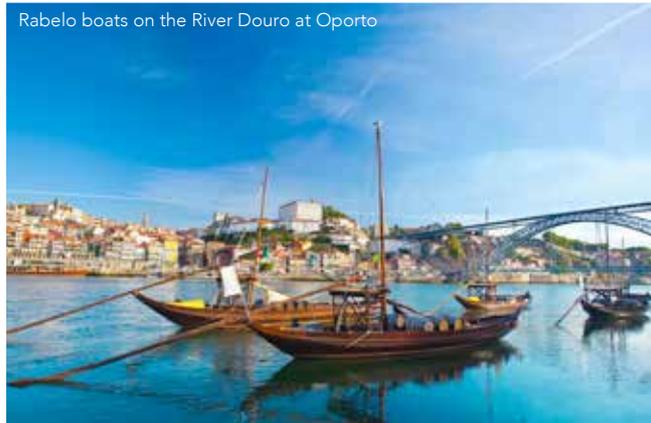
Saint Vaast la Hougue



Coimbra University



Locronan



Rabelo boats on the River Douro at Oporto

“ Giving the large ports a wide berth, we will instead call into some places away from the well traversed routes of the larger cruise lines and have allowed time to explore the horticultural splendours and delightful towns of the region in depth. ”

three official lordships in Spain. Enjoy a guided walk through the stunning gardens, famous for their thousands of camellias but also home to eucalyptus trees, sequoias and camphors. Also visit the Pazo's extensive vineyards and learn about the local Albarino wine production, before exploring the historical palace itself. Enjoy a wine tasting before returning to the ship.

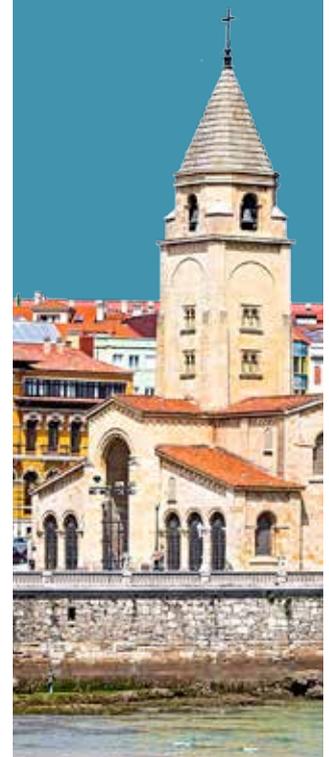
**Day 6 Santiago de Compostela.** From our berth in La Coruna we will make our way to Santiago de Compostela, the capital of the autonomous community of Galicia. The city's cathedral is the destination of the important Medieval pilgrimage route, the Way of St James (in Spanish the 'Camino de Santiago'), which is still walked today. For those keen to walk some of the route there will be the chance to hike a short section towards Santiago. Otherwise transfer directly to the site where we will visit the Conventual de San Francisco, the Faculty of Medicine and the world-famous Plaza del Obradoiro. Inside the cathedral, we will visit the Romanic crypt and see the facade of Platerias; the Quintana Plaza; House of Parra; facade of

Azabachería; and the facade of San Martin Pinario. Enjoy lunch at a Parador and some free time before returning to the ship this afternoon and sailing.

**Day 7 Gijon.** Gijon is the largest city in Asturias and our base for a day of exploration. This morning you can choose to visit nearby Oviedo, the modern capital of the Asturias region. Oviedo is recognised as the most culturally significant and historically interesting city of the province and, after a panoramic drive, we begin a walking tour where we will see the San Salvador Gothic Cathedral before exploring the restored Old Town decorated with beautiful sculptures. Alternatively remain in Gijon and explore the city including the 18th century Revillagigedo Palace and the university building before spending time at the 25 hectare Atlantic Botanic Gardens which specialises in flora and fauna that thrives in the Atlantic zone and is split over four zones including the Cantabrian and historic gardens. Return to the ship for lunch and the afternoon is free to explore independently. Maybe take a walk in the Cimavilla (old town) area or find a spot to enjoy a glass of the local cider.

**Day 8 At Sea.** After a busy few days take the chance to relax as we spend the day at sea. Our lecture programme continues in the lounge or find a spot on deck to watch the world go by.

**Day 9 Douarnenez, France.** This morning we arrive in the Finistere region of France and the port of Douarnenez which prospered as a major centre for the sardine industry in the 19th century. Traces of these days still show in the architecture and old fisherman's houses that line the harbour, whilst at the Port Musee you may find a number of traditional boats at anchor. Today you can choose to join a half day tour to Locronan, one of the most picturesque and preserved Medieval Breton villages which grew from the manufacture of sailcloth. Visit the 15th century church, remarkable for its stone vaulting and stained glass windows, before walking through the craft workshops. You might also be tempted to taste the famous "kouignamann", a traditional Breton butter cake. Return to the MS Serenissima for lunch and this afternoon will be at leisure to relax on board or to explore this lovely town at your own pace.





**Day 10 Cherbourg.** After a morning at sea we arrive in Normandy at lunchtime to the port of Cherbourg. In its heyday the port was a regular call for transatlantic vessels including a call from the Titanic in 1912, and a museum to the ship can be found close to the port. This afternoon we will drive to the east of the city along the Cotentin peninsula and enter the Saire Valley, a charming area of green landscapes and market gardens. We will stop in the village of Barfleur, an attractive and well-preserved fishing port frequented by the Dukes and Kings of England in the Middle Ages. From Barfleur continue on to Saint Vaast la Hougue. Famous for the Battle of La Hougue that took place in 1692, Saint Vaast

La Hougue is now a renowned centre of oyster production. Remnants of the decisive battle in the War of the Grand Alliance are everywhere. The imposing fortifications which still protect the port date back to 17th century. The atmosphere here today is relaxed compared to the past, with the moor, cliffs, inlets and the sea crashing over the pebbled beach. Return the ship and you may wish to spend some time in Cherbourg before we sail tonight.

**Day 11 Portsmouth.** Disembark this morning. Transfers will be provided to Portsmouth Harbour Railway station and to our departure London airport at a fixed time.

### 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	£3795	£3495
3	Classic Stateroom	£3995	£3695
4	Superior Stateroom	£4295	£3995
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£4495	£4195
6	Junior Suite	£4895	£4595
7	Owner's Suite	£5095	£4795
8	Serenissima Suite	£5095	£4795
10	Standard Single	£3795	£3495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel from London to Lisbon • 10 nights aboard the MS Serenissima on 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.

## Pre-Cruise Lisbon & Sintra Extension

21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019



If you would like to spend some time in Lisbon before embarking the MS Serenissima we are offering a two night extension staying at the Hotel Mundial which is located right in the heart of Lisbon in the elegant Baixa Pombalina district and overlooked by Medieval St George's Castle. Set on seven hills on the banks of the River Tagus, Lisbon has been the capital of Portugal since the 13th century. It is a city famous for its majestic architecture, old wooden trams, Moorish features and more than twenty centuries of history. Following disastrous earthquakes in the 18th century, Lisbon was rebuilt by the Marques de Pombal who created an elegant city with wide boulevards and a great riverfront and square, Praca do Comercio. During our stay we have included excursions and a day trip to the magnificent town of Sintra as well as time at leisure to explore this captivating city at your own pace.

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Lisbon, Portugal.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival in Lisbon we transfer to Hotel Mundial for our two night stay. The remainder of the day is free to relax at the hotel or for independent exploration. Dinner this evening will be at the hotel.

**Day 2 Sintra.** After breakfast in the hotel we will head to Sintra, situated in a stunning setting in the hills behind Lisbon and home to some of Portugal's finest palaces and gardens. We will start the day in the National Palace in the centre of Sintra, an interesting mix of styles with the original building dating back to the 15th century. Exploring on foot we continue to the Regaleira Gardens, an exotic and theatrical early 19th century creation and then, in complete contrast, we visit the Quinta Torre de Ribafria with its Medieval origins. After lunch we head for the Monserrate Gardens, a wonderfully romantic place designed by Sir Francis Cook in the mid-19th century. Return to Lisbon this afternoon and enjoy an evening at leisure.

**Day 3 Lisbon.** This morning is free to explore the city before checking out of the hotel. After lunch we will drive to the Queluz Palace to explore these very formal, yet intimate gardens. Often referred to as the Versailles of Portugal, this former royal palace is surrounded by extensive grounds. See the Malta Garden famous for its musical concerts, the Hanging Garden, its statues, ponds, grotto and the azulejo-tiled canal where the royal family would go boating. Return to Lisbon this afternoon to embark the MS Serenissima.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£495** Single: **£695**

**Price Includes:** Two nights accommodation in Lisbon at Hotel Mundial (or similar) on breakfast only basis, dinner on day 1, transfers from Lisbon airport to the hotel and hotel to ship, tours as described, lunch on days 2 & 3, gratuities.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, meals not mentioned in the itinerary.



# Midsummer in Norway & the Scottish Isles

A voyage from Aberdeen to Tromsø  
3<sup>rd</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Our voyage begins on the northeast coast of Scotland in the port of Aberdeen from where we call into the remote Shetland Islands to learn of the many legends that have shaped this mystical place. Cruising north, we will catch our first glimpse of Norway and begin our navigation of the fjords. Words cannot describe the awe-inspiring scenery as we take in views of mountains, glaciers, waterfalls, valleys and truly dramatic fjords. Amongst them, Naerofjorden has been included on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

This itinerary uniquely combines the wonders of the natural world with the historical and cultural highlights of the area. Our visits will include the archaeological site of Jarlshof in the Shetlands, Haugesund to learn of Norway's Viking heritage and Alesund to marvel at the Art Nouveau architecture. We will also spend time exploring the narrow and deep sided Trollfjorden and Runde, home to more than 240 species of birds. A highlight for many will be the journey on the Flam Railway, one of the most beautiful railway lines in the world.

Such a journey can only be undertaken by a special vessel with the self sufficient qualities of the MS Serenissima and joining you on board will be an expert team who have been selected for their enthusiasm, professionalism and specialist knowledge of the natural world. With our small ship we are able to access small harbours which are just not accessible to the larger cruise ships and ferries and we will be able to get up close to see nature at its rawest, cruise rugged coastlines, witness vibrant colours and admire the prolific birdlife of this wonderful region.



Puffin, Runde

## The Itinerary

### Day 1 Aberdeen, Scotland.

Embark the MS Serenissima this afternoon. Transfers will be provided from Aberdeen Airport and train station at a fixed time. Sail this evening for the Shetland Islands.

### Day 2 Lerwick, Shetland Islands.

From the Shetland capital we will visit the remarkable archaeological site of Jarlshof. The site was uncovered by a violent storm in the winter of 1896/7, revealing an extraordinary settlement site embracing at least 5000 years of human history. The site contains a remarkable sequence of stone structures – late Neolithic houses, a Bronze-Age village, an Iron-Age brooch and wheelhouses, several Norse longhouse, a Medieval farmstead, and the 16th century laird's house. Alternatively enjoy a free morning to explore this historic port. Perhaps wander through its narrow stone lanes or maybe visit the excellent Shetland Museum, containing artefacts from shipwrecks and the whaling era. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon sailing.

### Day 3 Haugesund, Norway.

It was in Haugesund where, a thousand years ago, King Harald Fairhair united Norway into a single kingdom, and it was from this area that the Viking Kings ruled Norway for more than 500 years. The region has laid claim to the title of Norway's Birthplace and Homeland of the Viking Kings. On a morning tour we will visit the 13th century St Olav's church before learning about the Viking Age at the Nordvegen Heritage Centre. We will return to the MS Serenissima via the national monument, Haraldshaugen which commemorates Norway's unification. After lunch on board the afternoon is free to explore this small town independently, maybe make your way to the top of Steinsfjellet Mountain with panoramic views over the town, fjord and surrounding islands. Alternatively join us as we visit the charming old town



of Skudeneshavn which consists of 130 white wooden houses originating from the 1800's, when herring fishing was at its peak. We will stroll through the streets and our guide will share stories about the locals that lived here before we visit the Maelandsgarden Museum which highlights the development of the town.

### Day 4 Rosendal, Hardangerfjord.

Arrive this morning in Hardangerfjord, the third largest fjord in the world. We anchor off Rosendal, from where we drive along the fjord towards the small part of the Hardangerfjord called Maurangerfjord, experiencing the idyllic scenery and farms along the way and viewing the magnificent Langfoss Waterfall. When we arrive at the small village of Sunndal we will walk to Bondhus Lake which is surrounded by a fascinating landscape of fjords and mountains. After lunch on board we have free time to explore the town.

**Day 5 Bergen.** We arrive this morning in the lovely fjord capital of Bergen. On our guided excursion we will drive past the fish market, Nordnes peninsula and Bergen Theatre on our way to Troidhaugen, the home of Norway's most famous composer, Edvard Grieg. Here we explore the house and gardens before enjoying a private concert of his music. We return to the ship for lunch via the Hanseatic Quarters of 'Bryggen'. This afternoon is at leisure to explore at your own pace.

### Day 6 Balestrand & Naerofjorden.

We spend the day enjoying spectacular fjord scenery from



Naerofjorden



Svolvaer, Lofoten islands



Flam railway



Bergen

aboard the MS Serenissima. Balestrand is known for its narrow fjord branches and scenic and lush mountain landscape. Here we will see waterfalls, glacier arms stretching down into green valleys and the typical Swiss style wooden villas. We will continue to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Naerofjorden, one of the many fjord arms of Sognefjord and considered one of the most dramatic. If time and weather permits we will drop the Zodiacs to find a suitable landing to explore and enjoy a walk. This evening we will moor at the village of Flam.

**Day 7 Flam.** This morning we will embark on one of the most dramatic train rides in Europe. The Flam Railway is only 20 kilometres long but a masterpiece of engineering. The train climbs up from sea level to 867 metres during these 20 kilometres, crossing back and forth across rivers and through 20 tunnels. To allow you to view the magnificent scenery the train will proceed slowly and stop at the Kjosfossen Waterfall where you may leave the train to take a closer look or take some pictures. We will leave the train at Vatnahalsen and walk from the station to the Mountain Hotel where there will be time to relax before re-boarding the train back to Flam.

**Day 8 Nordfjord & Loen.** At dawn we will enter the spectacular scenery of Nordfjord and cruise towards the small village of Loen. From here we travel past Lovatn Lake to the beautiful Kjenndalen Valley where we will walk to the Kjenndalen Glacier, an arm of

the Jostedal Glacier, the largest glacier in continental Europe. After lunch on board you can choose to enjoy some free time in Loen, or to take a trip on the cable car which rises 1100 metres and offers wonderful views over the fjord below. Alternatively join us on a visit to Jostedalsbreen National Park, home to one of the last great ice sheets in Europe with some sections over 1200 feet deep. Our scenic drive will also take us through the mountains, past rivers and lakes before ending at Videster with wonderful views towards Lodalskapa Peak and the Buldfossen Waterfall.

**Day 9 Runde & Alesund.** Be on deck early this morning as we cruise by the bird cliffs at Runde, one of the largest nesting cliffs in Norway and home to half a million birds. More than 240 different species have been observed here including puffins, gannets, razorbills and northern fulmar. We continue to Alesund, one of the most beautiful towns in Norway. It is a great place to spend a morning exploring the streets with their Art Nouveau buildings and the more active may like to enjoy a walk up Mount Aksla taking the 418 steps for magnificent views of the town. Return to the ship for lunch as we continue our journey north.

**Day 10 Torghatten & Bronnoysund.** This morning Mount Torghatten will come into view, one of the most famous landmarks on the Norwegian coast. A fairly strenuous walk will take you to the 'hole' in the mountain which has been eroded by the sea and, for those wishing to have a more

relaxing morning, our naturalists will lead some gentler walks along the water's edge. During lunch we will sail through Bronnoysund and later this afternoon we cross the Arctic Circle by the island of Vikingen where we will see the monument and raise a glass on deck to celebrate.

**Day 11 Lofoten Islands & Trollfjorden.** Our final morning sees us in the Lofoten Archipelago, an enchanting area of picturesque villages with jagged granite mountain peaks forming a dramatic backdrop. We will have a full day tour to explore the villages and see the life of these islands. We will disembark in the small fishing village of Reine revered as one of the most beautiful in Norway before driving through the dramatic Lofoten scenery to Nusfjord. Enjoy a guided walk around this UNESCO World

Heritage Site seeing the restored fishing cabins and local stores. After lunch we will continue to the picturesque seaside village of Vikten and the Viking Museum at Borg. Our day ends in Svolvaer where the ship will have sailed to meet us. This evening we enjoy time on deck as we sail through the beautiful, narrow and steep sided Trollfjorden witnessing the birdlife, waterfalls and dramatic scenery.

**Day 12 Tromso to London.** Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for your scheduled indirect flight to London.

### SHIP TO SHORE

This cruise is not classified as an expedition cruise, however Zodiac landing craft may be integral to the operation of the voyage due to the small ports we will be visiting where we may be at anchor.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£4795
3	Classic Stateroom	£4995
4	Superior Stateroom	£5295
5	Deluxe Stateroom	SOLD OUT
6	Junior Suite	SOLD OUT
7	Owner's Suite	SOLD OUT
8	Serenissima Suite	£6595
10	Standard Single	£4795

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel from Tromso to London • 11 nights aboard the MS Serenissima on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# Norwegian Coastal Odyssey

An exploration of Norway's Islands & Fjords  
14<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June & 9<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August\* 2019

Norway is, by anyone's standards, one of Europe's most beautiful and awe-inspiring countries. The beautiful panoramas and pristine wilderness promises to delight those with a love for the natural world and time spent discovering some of the country's most impressive fjords from the deck of the MS Serenissima promises to astound even the most jaded of travellers

During our summer voyages along the western coast of this remarkable country we will discover a landscape punctuated by picturesque villages, bustling coastal towns, fjords of cinematic grandeur, majestic waterfalls, charming summer resorts and thriving fishing communities.

Our days will be spent on excursions with local guides, on walks with our naturalists and on deck of the MS Serenissima as we cruise amongst the fjords. There will also be ample time to relax and enjoy the summer days independently when in some of the delightful towns such as Lillesand and Kragero, ports which the larger cruise vessels in the region are unable to access. With less than 100 travelling companions, the atmosphere aboard the MS Serenissima is akin to a private yacht trip and, ashore with our local experts we will divide into small groups thereby enjoying a more comprehensive and peaceful experience.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Tromsø, Norway.** Fly by scheduled indirect flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Serenissima. Embark and enjoy a Welcome Drink and Dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Lofoten Islands.** Our first morning of exploration sees us in the Lofoten Archipelago, an enchanting area of picturesque villages with jagged granite mountain peaks forming a

dramatic backdrop. We will have a full day tour to explore the villages and see the life of these islands. We will disembark in Svolvær and drive to the Viking Museum at Borg. The Viking Museum has an exhibition of items found by archaeologists, as well as recreations of Viking homes. After lunch we continue the day with a scenic drive to Vikten, home to a local glassblower's studio and then to Nusfjord, where we discover why this charming

fishing hamlet is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its restored fishing cabins and quaint atmosphere. Our day ends in Reine where the MS Serenissima will have sailed to meet us.

**Day 3 Torghatten & Bronnoysund.** Over breakfast we will cross the Arctic Circle as we pass by the island of Vikingen where we will see the Arctic Circle Monument marking the location. We will continue to cruise through Bronnoysund and in the early afternoon Mount Torghatten will come into view, one of the most famous landmarks on the Norwegian coast. A fairly strenuous walk will take you to the 'hole' in the mountain which has been eroded by the sea. For those wishing to have a more relaxing afternoon our naturalists will lead some gentler walks along the water's edge.

**Day 4 Trondheim.** Founded in AD 997 by Viking King Olav Tryggvason, Trondheim is Norway's first capital city and we will discover its historical treasures today. We will drive past the old wooden buildings and visit the 11th century Nidaros Cathedral built over the grave of St Olav and richly ornamented in stone with stunning stained-glass windows. We continue to Ringve Manor, a typical manor house of the Trondelag district and home to Norway's only musical instrument museum, before enjoying a

panoramic view of the city from the Sverresli Viewpoint.

**Day 5 Alesund & Runde.** We spend the morning in Alesund, one of the most beautiful towns in Norway. It is a great place to explore the streets with their Art Nouveau buildings. The more active can take a walk-up Mount Aksla taking the 418 steps for magnificent views of the town, islands and Sunnmore Alps. Be on deck this afternoon as we cruise by the bird cliffs at Runde, one of the largest nesting cliffs in Norway and home to half a million birds. More than 240 different species have been observed here including puffins, gannets, razorbills and northern fulmar.

**Day 6 Loen.** Today we leave from the charming village of Loen and take a drive to the Kjenndal valley where we board a small boat to experience the lovely Loen Lake, passing through tall mountains covered by protruding glacier arms. We finally end up at the Kjenndalsbre Fjellstove where we enjoy a short break with homemade Norwegian waffles. We continue our visit to the Kjenndalsbre glacier view point, an arm of the mighty Jostedal Glacier, the largest in mainland Europe. After lunch on board you can choose to enjoy some free time in Loen, or to take a trip on the cable car which rises 1100 metres and offers wonderful views over the fjord below.





Puffin



Lofoten Islands



Trondheim



Alesund

**Day 7 Bergen.** We arrive this morning in the lovely fjord capital of Bergen. A guided excursion will include King Hakon's Hall, the Rosenkrantz Tower, the Bergen Theatre and St. Mary's Church which was built around 1170 and is one of the finest examples of Romanesque architecture in Norway. A funicular will take us approximately 300 metres above sea level, from where we can enjoy a panoramic view over the town centre. There will be some free time to enjoy a stroll before returning back to the MS *Serenissima*. After lunch on board enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore at your own pace. We sail late this evening for anyone who wishes to enjoy dinner ashore or an evening stroll.

**Day 8 Rosendal.** Sail this morning into Hardangerfjord, the third largest fjord in the world. We will anchor off Rosendal, from where we drive along the

fjord towards the small part of the Hardangerfjord called Maurangerfjord, experiencing the idyllic scenery and farms on the way and viewing the magnificent Langfoss waterfall. When we arrive at the small village of Sunndal we will walk to Bondhus Lake which is surrounded by a fascinating landscape of fjords and mountains. After lunch on board we have free time to explore the town, maybe visit the 12th century Kvinnherad church or see the gardens at Barony Rosendal.

**Day 9 Lysefjord & Stavanger.** This morning we will cruise Lysefjord, measuring 23 miles end to end. We will pass by Preikestolen (Priest Rock) and Kjerag Mountain, both towering above the fjord. This afternoon we arrive in Stavanger and have the chance to stroll in the small harbour with its multi-coloured traditional wood buildings. Old Stavanger is a cluster of 173 small white wooden

houses built in the 19th century which house craft shops, galleries and museums.

**Day 10 Lillesand.** Enjoy a relaxing morning cruising before we arrive at one of Norway's best kept secrets, the charming summer resort of Lillesand. Using our small ship, we navigate the small islands and skerries which dot the coastline making the approach to the town from the sea a truly memorable sight. We will enjoy a few hours ashore in Lillesand exploring the old town with its old white clapboard houses, beautiful gardens and the local shipping museum whilst enjoying the unique atmosphere of a Norwegian summer resort.

**Day 11 Kragero.** Surrounded by nearly 500 islands and skerries, Kragero is a charming town in the region of Telemark and a popular summer retreat. This morning we head inland to the Telemark

Canal. When completed in 1892, after five years of construction, it was described as the 'eighth wonder of the world'. We will join one of the local nostalgic boats as they transit the 18 locks, lifting the ship 72 metres above sea level and enjoy the changing scenery as we travel from the sea to the mountains. The afternoon is free to explore the town at your own pace. Take a walk through the narrow streets and alleyways amongst the old wooden houses.

**Day 12 Aalborg, Denmark.** Aalborg was founded by the Vikings in the late 10th century across the Limfjord and prospered from the fishing and sea trade on the fjord. On a morning excursion we will explore the ancient Viking site of Lindholm Hoje, one of the most important ancient monuments in Scandinavia which was dug out from a thick layer of sand. We will visit the burial site of 700 graves, scattered on



a hilltop with a beautiful view of the fjord. Continue to the onsite museum that contains a fascinating exhibition on the Viking settlements found close to the burial ground. Our tour will end with the chance to enjoy authentic Viking cuisine with some small dishes prepared using traditional recipes. After lunch on board choose to enjoy the afternoon at leisure or alternatively, for anyone interested in sampling the local beers there will be the opportunity to join a guided walk of the old town including a tasting of the local specialities.

**Day 13 Copenhagen to London.**

Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight to London. *\*Please note that the 9th August departure operates in the reverse direction from Copenhagen to Tromso. Full itinerary can be viewed online at [www.noble-caledonia.co.uk](http://www.noble-caledonia.co.uk)*

**SHIP TO SHORE**

This cruise is not classified as an expedition cruise; however, Zodiac landing crafts are integral to the operation of the voyage due to the small ports we will be visiting.

**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	£5195	£4995
3	Classic Stateroom	£5395	£5195
4	Superior Stateroom	£5495	£5295
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£5895	£5695
6	Junior Suite	£6295	£6095
7	Owner's Suite	£6995	£6795
8	Serenissima Suite	£7495	£7295
10	Standard Single	£6295	£6095

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 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 including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.  
**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

**Copenhagen Extension**  
26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June & 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> August 2019



If you would like to spend some time in Copenhagen, we are offering a two night extension. Our stay will include a city tour of the Danish capital, exploring its 850 years of recorded history. Our guided excursion includes passing by the City Hall, Glyptotek Art Museum and Christiansborg Palace, home of the Danish Parliament and the Queen's Reception Rooms. We also visit the colourful canal area of Nyhavn and pass by the royal winter residence of Amalienborg. The remainder of the time will be at leisure for you to explore independently.

**PRICES PER PERSON**

Based on double occupancy

Twin: £495 Single: £795

**Price Includes:** Two nights hotel accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis, city tour, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.



# Late Summer in the Cities, Islands & Fjords of Norway

A voyage from Tromso to Oban with Guest Speaker Dr Fenella Bazin  
21<sup>st</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019

A voyage along Norway's beautiful coastline offers the traveller scenery on an epic scale. The immense size of the magnificent fjords, the cascading waterfalls, the picturesque fishing villages and dramatic snow-capped mountains with farms clinging to their slopes are a sight to behold. The region is certainly one of our most popular destinations and simply perfect for exploration by small ship.

We begin our voyage in the Arctic Circle at Tromso from where we sail south to the enchanting Lofoten Islands for a full day to explore the villages and experience life on the islands. An exploration of the western coast of Norway down to Bergen follows from where we head to Scotland's east coast. Our days will be spent on guided excursions with local guides, on walks with our naturalists and on deck of the MS Serenissima as we cruise amongst the fjords. There will also be ample time to relax and enjoy the summer days independently when in some of the delightful towns.

With 25 years of experience in operating cruises in Norway, we believe we have the perfectly balanced itinerary featuring as it does a combination of dramatic fjords, small towns, cultural history and wildlife. A highlight for many will be the journey on the Flam Railway, one of the most beautiful railway lines in the world. The train journey provides us with views of some of Norway's wildest and most magnificent scenery with rivers cutting through deep ravines, cascading waterfalls, snowcapped mountains and mountain farms clinging to sheer slopes.

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Tromso, Norway.** Fly by scheduled flight via Oslo. On arrival transfer to the MS Serenissima and enjoy Welcome Dinner and Drinks as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Lofoten Islands.** Our first morning of exploration sees us in the Lofoten Archipelago, an enchanting area of picturesque villages with jagged granite mountain peaks forming a dramatic backdrop. We will have a full day tour to explore the villages and see the life of these islands. We will disembark in Svolvaer and drive to the picturesque seaside village of Vikten and the Viking Museum at Borg before driving through the dramatic Lofoten

scenery to Nusfjord. Here we will enjoy a guided walk around this UNESCO World Heritage Site, seeing the restored fishing cabins and local stores, followed by lunch. Our day ends in the small fishing village of Reine revered as one of the most beautiful in Norway, where the ship will have sailed to meet us.

**Day 3 Torghatten.** Over breakfast we will cross the Arctic Circle as we pass by the island of Vikingen where we will see the Arctic Circle Monument marking the location. We will continue to cruise through scenic Bronnoysund and in the early afternoon Mount Torghatten will come into view, one of the most famous landmarks on

the Norwegian coast. A fairly strenuous walk will take you to the 'hole' in the mountain which has been eroded by the sea. For those wishing to have a more relaxing afternoon our naturalists will lead some gentler walks along the water's edge.

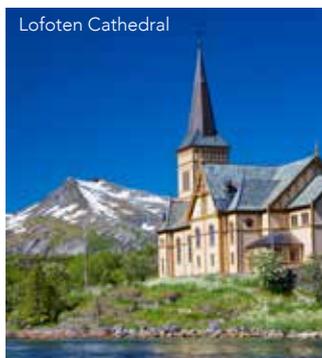
**Day 4 Trondheim.** Arrive this morning into Trondheim. Founded in 997 AD by Viking King Olav Tryggvason, Trondheim was Norway's first capital city and we will discover its historical treasures today. We will drive past the old wooden buildings and visit the 11th century Nidaros Cathedral built over the grave of St Olav and richly ornamented in stone with stunning stained-glass windows. We continue to Ringve Manor, a typical manor house of the Trondelag district and home to Norway's only musical instrument museum, before enjoying a panoramic view of the city from the Sverresli Viewpoint. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon cruising.

**Day 5 Alesund.** We have a whole day in Alesund, one of the most beautiful towns in Norway which has a wonderful setting being built on several islands stretching out into the ocean. A large part of Alesund was destroyed by fire in 1904 and rebuilt in the Art Nouveau style, typical for the first decade of the 20th century. Today, it is a bustling town which we will discover on a morning walking tour. We will visit the Art Nouveau Centre which documents the town's unique architectural history and we can stroll through the many rooms in the listed building known as "The Swan Pharmacy", with its beautiful and authentic decor. We will also wander through the Jugend (Art Nouveau) quarters of the town centre and inner harbour and the attractive park at the foot of Mount Aksla. After lunch on board the afternoon is free to explore further at your own pace and the active may which to climb and see the views from the top of Mount Aksla.



**Day 6 Nordfjord & Loen.** At dawn we will enter the spectacular scenery of Nordfjord and cruise towards the small village of Loen. From here we travel past Lovatn Lake to the beautiful Kjenndalen Valley where we will walk to the Kjenndalen Glacier, an arm of the Jostedal Glacier, the largest glacier in continental Europe. After lunch on board choose to enjoy some free time in Loen or maybe take a trip on the cable car which rises 1100 metres and offers wonderful views over the fjord below. Alternatively join us on a visit to Jostedalbreen National Park, home to one of the last great ice sheets in Europe with some sections over 1200 feet deep. Our scenic drive will take us through the mountains, past rivers and lakes before ending at Videster with wonderful views towards Lodalskapa Peak and the Buldrefossen Waterfall.

**Day 7 Dalsfjord & Bygstad.** Dalsfjord lies at the heart of Western Norway with its starkly contrasting fjord scenery, half way between Bergen and Alesund. Its little-known fjord arms and gentler landscape in harmony with powerful and diverse watercourses have left their impression on the landscape and settlement. Today's tour will take us through this beautiful environment with its magnificent waterfalls and mountains. We will visit Sunnfjord Museum, which provides an insight into how life was in Sunnfjord settlements in the mid-1800s, before taking a scenic drive to the region known as 'the



Lofoten Cathedral



Alesund



Naeroyfjord



Lofoten Islands



Trondheim

waterfall country' making various stops at waterfalls and small settlements.

**Day 8 Sognefjorden & Naerofjorden.** We spend the day enjoying spectacular fjord scenery from aboard the MS Serenissima. Sognefjorden, Norway's longest and deepest fjord extends more than 200 kilometres inland and is surrounded by three national parks. Here we will see thundering waterfalls, glacier arms stretching down into green valleys and many small farms clinging to the mountainside. We will continue to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Naerofjorden, one of the many fjord arms of Sognefjord and considered one of the most dramatic. If time and weather permits we will drop the Zodiacs to find a suitable landing to explore and enjoy a walk. This evening we will moor at the village of Flam.

**Day 9 Flam.** This morning we will embark on one of the most dramatic train rides in Europe. The Flam Railway is only 20 kilometres long but a masterpiece of engineering. The train climbs up from sea level to 867 metres during these 20 kilometres, crossing back and forth across rivers and through 20 tunnels. To allow you to view the magnificent scenery the train will proceed slowly and stop at the Kjosfossen Waterfall where you may leave the train to take a closer look or take some pictures. We will leave the train at Vatnahalsen and walk from the station to the Mountain Hotel

where there will be time to relax before re-boarding the train back to Flam. Enjoy lunch as we sail back along the scenic fjords this afternoon.

**Day 10 Bergen.** We arrive this morning in the lovely fjord capital of Bergen. A guided excursion will drive past the fish market, Nordnes peninsula and Bergen Theatre on our way to Troidhaugen, the home of Norway's most famous composer, Edvard Grieg. Here we explore the house and gardens before enjoying a private concert of his music. Before returning to the ship we will explore the Hanseatic Quarters of 'Bryggen'. After lunch on board enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore at your own pace. In the early evening we will leave Norway and begin our journey towards Scotland.

**Day 11 Lerwick, Shetland Islands.** After a morning at sea we arrive in the Shetland capital at lunchtime. This afternoon visit the remarkable archaeological site of Jarlshof. The site was uncovered by a violent storm in the winter of 1896/7, revealing an extraordinary settlement site embracing at least 5000 years of human history. The site contains a remarkable sequence of stone structures – late Neolithic houses, a Bronze-Age village, an Iron-Age broch and wheelhouses, several Norse longhouse, a Medieval farmstead, and the 16th century laird's house. Alternatively enjoy a free afternoon to explore this

historic port. Perhaps wander through its narrow stone lanes or maybe visit the excellent Shetland Museum, containing artefacts from shipwrecks and the whaling era.

**Day 12 Scrabster, Scotland.** Our final morning sees us in Scrabster, the most northerly port on the Scottish mainland. This morning choose to either visit the Castle and Gardens of Mey which was built between 1566 and 1572 by George Sinclair, 4th Earl of Caithness. The castle was purchased by Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother in 1952 who restored the castle for use as a holiday home and created the beautiful gardens we will see today. Alternatively drive along the coast to Dunnet Bay, a glorious crescent of sand and dunes

and Dunnet Head to see the lighthouse built in 1831 by Robert Stevenson and enjoy the views over to Orkney. We continue to John O'Groats the most northerly town on mainland Britain. Back on board for lunch we sail this afternoon towards Edinburgh.

**Day 13 Oban.** Disembark this morning after breakfast. Transfers will be provided to Glasgow Central Station and Glasgow International Airport at a fixed time.

### SHIP TO SHORE

This cruise is not classified as an expedition cruise, however Zodiac landing craft may be integral to the operation of the voyage due to the small ports we will be visiting where we may be at anchor.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£5195
3	Classic Stateroom	£5395
4	Superior Stateroom	£5595
5	Deluxe Stateroom	SOLD OUT
6	Junior Suite	SOLD OUT
7	Owner's Suite	SOLD OUT
8	Serenissima Suite	SOLD OUT
10	Standard Single	£5195

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

# Britain's Islands & Highlands

A voyage from Oban to Plymouth  
2<sup>nd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019

This expedition has been devised to celebrate the stunning scenery of the British Isles from the highlands of Scotland to the outlying islands off the English coast. Sailing from Oban, we have a day to explore the Nevis Range or alternatively to view the Jacobite Steam Train from Fort William as it chuggs its way across the spectacular Glenfinnan Viaduct. We continue to Canna and then to lovely Loch Scavaig on the Isle of Skye before our last call in Scotland, Colonsay where we will spend a morning exploring on foot. Travelling south, we next call into the Isle of Man for a day of exploration including the opportunity to visit Castle Rushen, one of the best examples of a Medieval castle in Europe. In Wales we spend a day on the beautiful Pembrokeshire coast followed by remote Lundy Island and finally the charming Isles of Scilly before we sail into Plymouth. Each day there will be the opportunity to explore coastal paths, see the resident wildlife, enjoy the wonderful views on offer and appreciate the ancient and Medieval history of the region. Such a voyage is only possible aboard a small ship with the ability to reach these remote ports and, with the use of our Zodiacs, we will be able to explore in small groups, ensuring the solitude we find on these isles is not disturbed.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 Oban, Scotland.** Embark the MS Serenissima this afternoon. A transfer will be available from Glasgow Central Station and Glasgow International Airport at a fixed time. Enjoy Welcome Drinks and Dinner on board as we sail along Loch Linnhe and anchor overnight at Fort William.

**Day 2 Fort William.** Awake this morning in Fort William, the biggest town in the Scottish highlands and a great base to explore the surrounding beautiful scenery of the Nevis Range. On a full day tour, we will drive to one of the best known monuments in Scotland – The Glenfinnan Viaduct, enjoying stunning views of Ben Nevis on the way. Upon arrival at Glenfinnan, we will explore the Visitor Centre and watch the famous Jacobite Steam Train chug across this famous landmark. Return to Fort William for lunch at a local hotel after which we will visit Glencoe, one of Scotland's most spectacular places. Travel south along the shores of Loch Linnhe to the scenic majesty of Glencoe. The glen provides some of Scotland's most dramatic scenery and it is, of course, the scene of the infamous 1692 massacre. Continue on our scenic drive via Pass of Brander, taking in the impressive scenery of the Scottish Highlands with mountains, sea lochs, castles and islands before travelling back up the West Coast to Fort William and returning to the MS Serenissima. Alternatively, those feeling active may prefer to join a guided hike through scenic Glen Nevis and the Nevis Gorge to Steall Falls, which

at 120 metres is the second highest waterfall in Scotland.

**Day 3 Canna & Loch Scavaig.** Strategically placed between the mountains of Rum and the Outer Hebrides, the island of Canna, and its adjoining neighbour Sanday, are bound together like some rare text that reveals over 60 million years of Hebridean geology and history. They have an amazingly rich archaeological landscape with remains dating to all periods of settled occupation in Scotland. The fertile soil and its diversity of habitats mean that the island has an incredibly rich plant life with 248 native flowering plants recorded. We will see Canna House, once the home of the previous owners, John and Margaret Fay Campbell, and wander across grassy basalt plateaus to the 600 foot cliffs on the north shore. Over lunch we sail to lovely Loch Scavaig on the island of Skye. Just beyond is the freshwater Loch Corruisk with its breathtakingly beautiful view over the Cuillins. This is great walking country and our expedition team will run a series of hikes for all interests. For those who prefer a less energetic morning our Zodiacs will explore the coast looking out for seals.

**Day 4 Colonsay.** Awake this morning off Colonsay. Lying between Mull and Islay, we will spend the morning on a choice of walks exploring this lovely island, with her craggy, heather-backed hills, picturesque beaches and sparse woodland yet with an impressive array of plant and

birdlife. Near Colonsay House, built in 1722 by Malcolm MacNeil and bought by Lord Strathcona in 1904, we will visit the attractively dilapidated wooded gardens, which protect the tiny, enigmatic 8th century St Oran's Cross. Return to the MS Serenissima for lunch and relax on board this afternoon as we sail. Maybe join a lecture in the lounge or find a spot on deck.

**Day 5 Douglas, Isle of Man.** Arrive this morning on the Isle of Man. Settlements have been here since the Mesolithic Age and the island also claims to have the longest continuous parliament which was founded in 979 AD. This morning we will travel to Tynwald Hill, located in the little village of St John's. This grass topped, tiered hill is made from the soil and stones from each of the island's 17 parishes. We continue to the west coast town of Peel, a traditional Manx fishing port where we will see the ruins of the castle as well as having some time to explore independently. Returning to the ship for lunch there will be a choice of options in the afternoon. Maybe enjoy some time at leisure to explore Douglas, the walkers can join us on the coastal trail around Scarlett Head on the south of the island where alongside the beautiful views we can see limestone outcrops, volcanic rocks, Iron Age forts and even a World War II radar station. We will return to the ship via Castletown and the magnificent Castle Rushen, one of the best examples of a Medieval castle in Europe which was the former seat of the Kings and Lords

of Mann. Alternatively take the electric mountain railway to the peak of Snaefell, the highest point on the island and where on a clear day we may be able to see the coastlines of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales.

**Day 6 Pembroke, Wales.** We spend the day on the beautiful Pembrokeshire coast. From our nearby berth we will visit the 12th century Pembroke Castle, the second largest castle in Wales and birthplace of Henry VII. Its vast walls, towers and keep were impregnable to cannon fire during the Civil War and so much of this impressive fortress remains intact today that it will be the focus of our tour. We will then enjoy a short drive to the ancient town of Tenby, a picturesque walled, Medieval town that has remained largely unchanged from when it was built 500 years ago. We will take time to stroll through this town's delightful centre before returning to the ship for lunch. This afternoon the active may wish to stretch their legs on a scenic walk along a section of the Pembrokeshire coastal path past lighthouses, cottages and Mill Bay where Henry Tudor landed in 1485. Alternatively take the scenic drive to St Davids, Britain's smallest city, and explore the magnificent 12th century cathedral and Bishop's Palace.

**Day 7 Lundy Island, England.** We have scheduled a whole day on Lundy, a remote island in the Bristol Channel. Although small, just three miles long by half a mile wide, its isolation has made it a home for a



Canna House



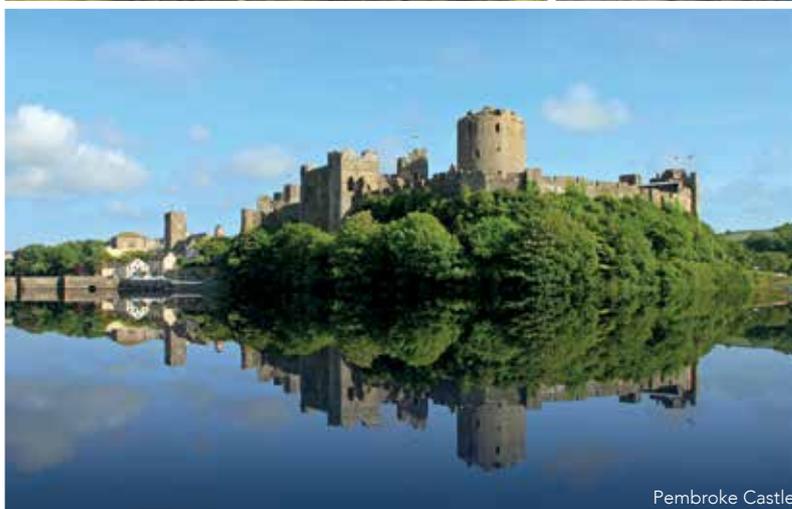
Jacobite Steam Train, Glenfinnan Viaduct



Grey seal



Loch Scavaig



Pembroke Castle

range of wildlife whilst it is home to a clutch of listed buildings and monuments. The towering cliffs and rocky shoreline are a haven for migrating seabirds, whilst Sika deer, Red deer and Soay sheep can also be seen as we walk along its traffic-free lanes and paths. Spend the day being as active as you wish, maybe explore the wide bays and coves by way of hanging valleys, see ancient burial chambers, climb the lighthouse, have a drink or lunch at the tavern or buy the islands 'puffin stamps' at the shop.

**Day 8 Isles of Scilly.** Spend the morning on 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. Sail over lunch to St Agnes, the most south westerly community in the United Kingdom. Surrounded by rocks and reefs, this delightful tiny island offers marvellous coastal walks with over one third designated as "sites of special scientific interest". 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.

**Day 9 Plymouth.** Disembark this morning. Transfers will be provided to Plymouth Station at a fixed time.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£3195
3	Classic Stateroom	£3395
4	Superior Stateroom	£3795
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£3995
6	Junior Suite	£4395
7	Owner's Suite	£4895
8	Serenissima Suite	£4895
10	Standard Single	£4295

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Eight nights aboard the MS Serenissima on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch & dinner on board • Noble Caledonia expedition team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

### Post-Cruise Dartmouth Extension 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019



Dartmouth

For those who would like to spend some time in Dartmouth after disembarking the MS Serenissima, we are offering the opportunity to join our two night extension staying at the Dart Marina Hotel & Spa. Situated a short walk from the town centre you can enjoy time to explore the historic centre or visit some of the nearby attractions including Agatha Christie's former residence at Greenways, a boat trip on the River Dart, join the steam railway along the south Devon coast or visit the nearby naval college. The hotel is in a wonderful setting by the river and offers exceptionally comfortable rooms.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Standard room with balcony & partial sea view	£325
King room with French doors & sea view	£355
King room with balcony & partial sea view	£365
Standard room for sole use	£525

**Price Includes:** Two nights accommodation at the Dart Marina Hotel & Spa on a bed and breakfast basis, transfers from the MS Serenissima to hotel and from hotel to Totnes railway station.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

# Late Summer in the Mediterranean

An island hopping voyage from Nice to Valletta  
with Guest Speakers, Dr Christopher Whitton & Dr Michael Squire  
16<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Join us aboard the MS Serenissima for this relaxing and informative voyage as we explore the Mediterranean and all its wonders. There is of course no shortage of cruise vessels plying the major ports and cities of the Mediterranean, but few are inclined to focus on just the islands and devote a complete itinerary to them as we have done with this delightful voyage. Our intention has been to design a journey as if it were to be undertaken on a small private sailing ship, staying away from the larger commercial centres and concentrating on some of the most picturesque and interesting places in the region.

Late summer is the perfect time for our voyage, when the crowds of August have dispersed but the weather is perfect for touring and sightseeing. We have created our itinerary to reach the islands of the Mediterranean combining time in Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily and Malta, all of which are easy to visit individually but difficult to combine independently in an eight night trip. Owing to the fact that our small ship can moor centrally, we have the advantage of being able to access the towns by foot in many ports of call and we have also included time at leisure for individual exploration enabling you to soak up the atmosphere at your own pace.

We have the added benefit of excellent local guides and our knowledgeable Guest Speaker who will add much to your experience and knowledge of this fascinating region. Enjoy discovering timeless islands with their aura of history, unique island lifestyles and spectacular beauty as we travel a less well-trodden path across the Mediterranean.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Nice, France.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Serenissima. Enjoy Welcome Drinks and Dinner as we sail tonight.

**Day 2 Ile Rousse, Corsica.** Arrive this morning in Corsica and the prosperous Balagne region of the island. A morning tour will take us to Calvi where our guide will lead us through the alleyways and cobbled streets before continuing to the imposing citadel. Built by the Genoese, this 15th century structure has seen off several assaults through the centuries and offers wonderful views from its five bastions. We will also see the Caserne Sampiero and

13th century Cathedral St Jean Baptiste. This afternoon, after lunch on board, there will be an opportunity to explore the flora of Corsica with a visit to the seven hectare Parc de Saleccia where you can explore the range of paths through the gardens and see the tough plants of the maquis, pines, myrtles, figs and over 100 varieties of olive trees.

**Day 3 Bonifacio.** Our second day in Corsica will be in Bonifacio's stunning natural harbour. Well known by Odysseus as the home of the savage and giant laestrygonians, today Bonifacio's breathtaking cliff-top setting and relaxed pace make it one of

the most welcoming ports in the Mediterranean. On our morning tour we will explore the narrow streets and the historical heart of the town. We will discover the Bosco quarter with the St Francis Convent, the 14th century church of St Marie Majeure and take in the views from the cliff top on which the city is built. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy the afternoon in port to explore further at your own pace. Maybe take a local boat ride to the Lavezzi Islands or a walk in the nearby Marine Park which offers some stunning views.

**Day 4 Alghero, Sardinia.** The Medieval city of Alghero was colonised by the Catalans in the 14th century and today there is still a strong Catalan identity throughout the town and it is often even referred to as "Barceloneta". We will use the attractive port as our base for a day of exploration in the region. This morning's panoramic drive takes us to Nuraghe Palmavera. The main tower of the Nuraghe, which still has its dome-shaped ceiling, dates back to 1100 years BC. The complex, which was abandoned in the 5th century BC due to fire, shows the different phases of social life and political organisation of the tribal

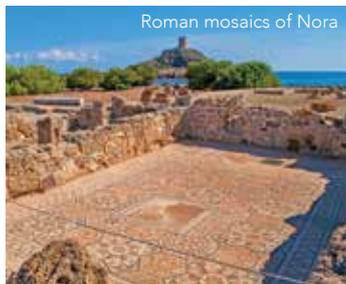
community. We return to Alghero for lunch and the afternoon is free to explore the town at your own pace before we sail in the early evening. *Please note that we will be at anchor today and will use the vessel's Zodiacs or local tender.*

**Day 5 Cagliari.** Spend the morning exploring the Sardinian capital of Cagliari, an ancient city which dates back to the Phoenicians and Romans. On a walking tour we will stroll around the old town with its narrow streets running along a steep hillside. See the terraced Piazza del Palazzo and the 14th century Cathedral of St Cecilia. Alternatively, drive along the south-western coast to reach Nora which was founded by the Phoenicians but also has Carthaginian and Roman ruins. After a period of Roman prosperity, there was a decline and in the 3rd century AD the city was engulfed by the sea. Still visible today are the remains of Carthaginian warehouse, various Roman buildings, including the baths with splendid mosaics and the theatre. Return to the ship for lunch and spend the afternoon at sea as we cruise towards Sicily.

**Day 6 Palermo, Sicily.** Arrive this morning in the Sicilian capital of



The Greek Theatre overlooking Mount Etna, Taormina



Roman mosaics of Nora



Historic houses in the Old Town, Calvi



Palermo Cathedral

Palermo. After breakfast we will explore the city, famous for its jumbled and picturesque streets punctuated with ornate Baroque churches, domed Arab mosques and the glittering Byzantine mosaics that reveal a unique and diverse heritage. We visit the impressive 12th century cathedral which houses the royal tombs of Henri VI and King Ruggiero. Return to the MS Serenissima for lunch and this afternoon either enjoy some time to explore independently or join an excursion to Monreale Cathedral, said to be the most beautiful Norman Church in Italy, designed and completed by William the Good in 1174. With its thick walls and powerful towers, the exterior looks like an austere fortress yet it is the interior of this great cathedral which is its crowning glory. Here the large nave, with its side aisles and grey granite columns set off the exquisite Byzantine mosaics on the walls above the arches.

**Day 7 Taormina.** From the nearby port of Messina we will visit Taormina, a walled town lying in the shadow of Mount Etna, Europe's highest volcano. The town has been a popular tourist destination since the 19th century and our guided tour will include walking the characteristic alleys before visiting the 15th century Palazzo Corvaja and the impressive Greek Theatre from where there are marvellous views over the town and coast. For those who wish to enjoy longer here, you will be able to take lunch independently in one of

the local restaurants and spend an afternoon exploring at leisure before our coach returns to Messina. Alternatively, return to the MS Serenissima for lunch and enjoy free time in Messina before we sail this evening.

**Day 8 Syracuse.** Syracuse was founded by the Greeks in 734 BC and by the 5th century was a political and military power throughout the Mediterranean and rivalled Athens as the largest and most beautiful city in the Greek world. On leaving the vessel we visit the Neapolis Archaeological Park where we find a well preserved Greek theatre with seats carved from limestone. Paradise Quarry, now an attractive

garden and orange grove, was the primary source of that limestone and is the site of the curious 'Dionysus' Ear', a vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. We will continue to explore the island of Ortigia where we find the Temple of Apollo, considered to be Sicily's most ancient Doric temple and the Baroque Cathedral, erected over the remains of the Temple of Minerva. The afternoon is free to explore independently and we will sail late this evening if anyone wishes to take an after dinner stroll or dine ashore.

**Day 9 Valletta, Malta to London.** Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

### 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	£3695	£3495
3	Classic Stateroom	£3895	£3695
4	Superior Stateroom	£4295	£4095
5	Deluxe Stateroom	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
6	Junior Suite	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
7	Owner's Suite	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
8	Serenissima Suite	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
10	Standard Single	£4495	£4295

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • Eight nights aboard the MS Serenissima on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

“

Our intention has been to design a journey as if it were to be undertaken on a small private sailing ship, staying away from the larger commercial centres and concentrating on some of the most picturesque and interesting places in the region.

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## Pre-Cruise Nice Extension 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild



### The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Nice, France.** Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the Westminster Hotel, our base for the next two nights. Meet for a welcome dinner in the hotel this evening.

**Day 2 Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild.** After breakfast in the hotel, we will drive to Saint Jean Cap Ferrat and visit the Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild. Built in 1900 in Italian palazzo style and surrounded by magnificent gardens it houses an unbelievable collection of works including tapestries, furniture, candelabras, terracottas, porcelains and Chinese vases. Return to Nice and enjoy a free afternoon and evening in the city.

**Day 3 Chagall Museum.** After a morning at leisure, we will check out of the hotel and take lunch in a local restaurant. After lunch we will visit the Marc Chagall Museum. Chagall was one of the great masters of the School of Paris and his work was essentially inspired by religion. During his early thirties, one night, he had a vision of angels, and from that day on, blue and angels dominated his work. The museum houses the famous series of seventeen paintings illustrating his biblical message, the books of Genesis, Exodus and the Song of Songs, and the series of ten other paintings, including the triptych named Resistance, Resurrection, Liberation. After our visit we will continue to the port to embark the MS Serenissima.

#### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£695** Single: **£895**

**Price Includes:** Two nights accommodation at the Westminster Hotel (or similar) on a bed and breakfast basis, tours as described, Tour Manager, dinner on day 1, lunch on day 3, gratuities, transfers.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

Bay of Angels, Nice



## Post-Cruise Malta Extension 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Valletta



### The Itinerary

**Day 1 Valletta, Malta.** After breakfast we will disembark and begin a city tour of Valletta, the 16th century "Fortress City" built by the Knights of St John. Our morning tour will include the highlights of Valletta with its stunning views across the harbour from the Barakka Gardens. We will explore Merchants Street containing the surviving auberges built by the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, together with the palace where Napoleon Bonaparte is believed to have stayed in 1798. Our final stop will be at St John's Cathedral. After lunch we transfer to the Intercontinental Hotel St Julian's for check in and the remainder of the afternoon and evening are free for independent exploration.

**Day 2 Mdina.** A morning tour will take us to Mdina. Originally, this city was given the name of "Citta Nobile" and is now known as the "Silent City" at the heart of the island. Mdina is Phoenician in origin and was the fortified capital of the island, before the arrival of the Knights. Return to the hotel and spend the afternoon at leisure. Meet tonight for dinner.

**Day 3 Malta to London.** Check out after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

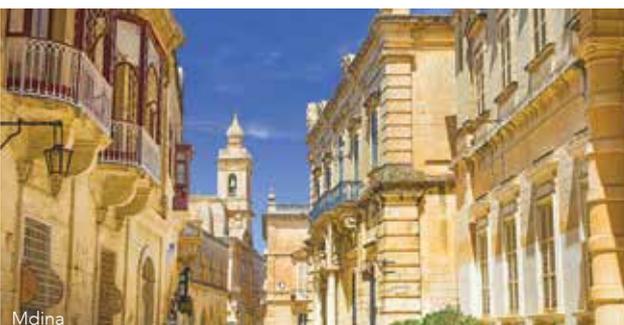
#### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

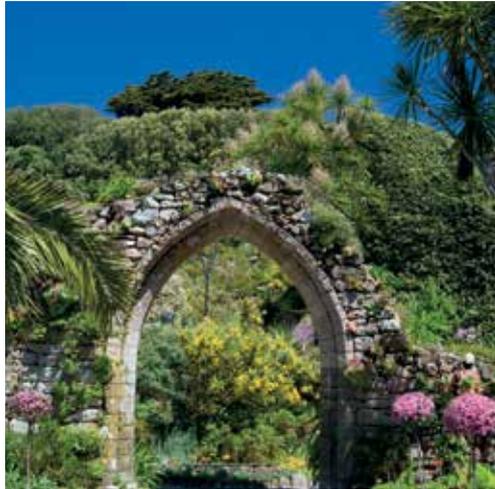
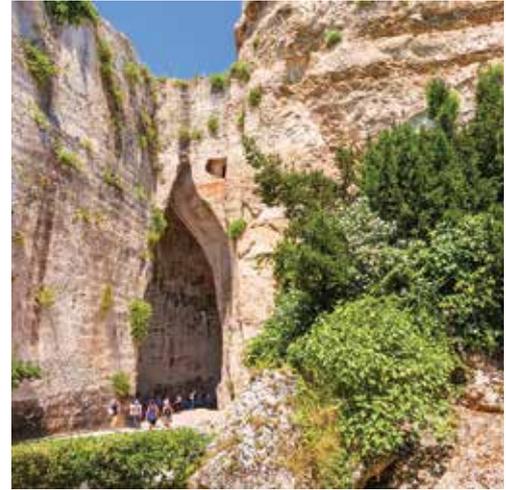
Twin: **£545** Single: **£745**

**Price Includes:** Two nights hotel accommodation at the Intercontinental Hotel St Julian's (or similar) on a bed and breakfast basis, tours as described, lunch on day 1, dinner on day 2, Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.







# NOBLE CALEDONIA

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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: MS Serenissima