

Voyages aboard
MS ISLAND SKY
MS CALEDONIAN SKY
MS HEBRIDEAN SKY

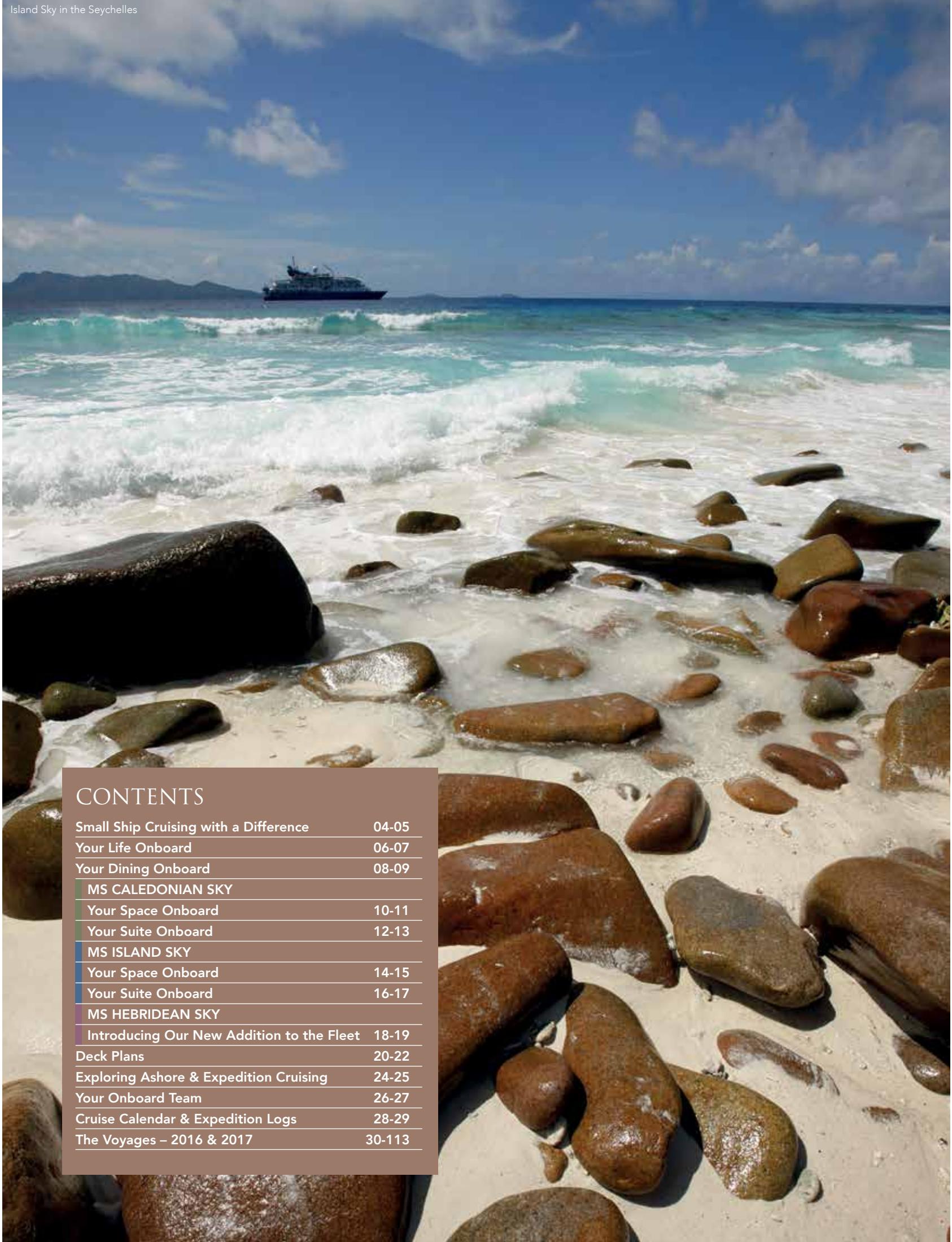
2016 - 2017



NOBLE CALEDONIA

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Dear Traveller

I trust you will enjoy looking through the pages of our first ever brochure that includes our three ships, the MS Island Sky, the MS Caledonian Sky and new for 2016, the MS Hebridean Sky which will be launched in May 2016 after a multi-million pound refurbishment. The purchase of our third vessel has been made possible due to the remarkable faithful following of our 'Sky' vessels on which it is not uncommon to have cruises with 80% of past travellers onboard. None of us in the company take this strong following for granted and each year we strive to make the experience onboard even better. We trust the MS Hebridean Sky will have the same appeal as her sisters and this new addition to our fleet has enabled us to broaden our range of itineraries even further.

All three of our ships were built in the same yard at similar times and share the same excellent attributes that make them three of the finest small ships in the world. However, equally as important as the facilities are the staff onboard whether they are the vessel's crew or our own expedition staff. Noble Caledonia's reputation has been built on providing the very best in all areas. Our crew not only offer an excellent service, they are also noted for their kindness and attention to detail. A well run ship with a warm atmosphere is what we are known for. Another hugely important factor is our expedition team and guest speakers, many of whom have been with us since our early days. They are in control of the day to day programme and shore visits, doing their utmost to make every day special. Their knowledge, enthusiasm and warmth make every trip a unique event.

Our well informed and well travelled London based staff have created a captivating and diverse collection of journeys for 2016 and 2017. No other operator in the world of small ship cruising offers such a range of travel experiences. Amongst these pages you will not find a seemingly endless series of similar itineraries, but many one-off voyages that can transport you to the most interesting and often little known places where only small ships can venture including two opportunities to visit the far Arctic and the amazing Spitsbergen archipelago aboard the MS Hebridean Sky. Each year our horizons widen and when browsing through this brochure you will find ample evidence of why Noble Caledonia is the world's leading small ship cruising expert. Whether you join one of the trips close to home in the Hebrides or in far flung Papua New Guinea you will be assured of a warm welcome onboard and a team of knowledgeable expedition staff and guest speakers that will make your journey an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

As we approach our 25th anniversary we look forward to another twenty five years of offering genuine travellers the opportunity to undertake voyages to every corner of the world aboard our unique vessels. Today, we read of even larger vessels being built that accommodate up to 6000 passengers. We are happy to be at the opposite end of the spectrum with just over 100 travellers which allows us to offer something very different and rewarding to all those interested in a real travel experience.

We are immensely proud of our three fine vessels and hope to see you soon aboard the MS Hebridean Sky or either of her sister vessels where obviously, the sky is not the limit.



Tim Cochrane
Managing Director



Small Ships – Big Experiences



There was a time, not so long ago when all cruises were much the same. However, the last twenty years or so has witnessed an immense and quick evolution and today we are all spoilt for choice. Ships of all different sizes and styles make the selection of a cruise a somewhat hit and miss affair, and whilst some companies attempt to please everybody, we prefer to place our future in the realm of small ships.

Our Fleet – Three of the finest small ships in the world

Noble Caledonia is very fortunate to have the MS Island Sky and MS Caledonian Sky as our flag ships and joining them in 2016 is the MS Hebridean Sky. These ex-Renaissance Cruises sister vessels accommodate just 114 to 118 guests and are not only three of the most comfortable and well equipped small ships in the world, but also three of the friendliest and most efficiently run. Our crews of just over 70, many of whom have been with us for many years, are dedicated to offering the best possible experience. It is this gentle, kind and efficient atmosphere onboard that makes our vessels so popular.



Small Ship Cruising – What's the Difference?

For those contemplating a cruise, there is the choice of travelling on one of the vast new 4000 plus passenger vessels which offer every conceivable facility and diversion or you can opt for a journey aboard one of our small ships which offer good food and knowledgeable staff who make your cruise not only a holiday, but an educational voyage of discovery. Unlike most passenger cruise ships, our vessels are constantly on the move from region to region and continent to continent, small ships with big hearts which travel to every corner of the world, no matter how remote or seemingly inaccessible.

In many ways the virtues of small ship cruising are best expressed by detailing what you will not find onboard. 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.

How important is the itinerary to you?

In all the development over the past couple of decades the priority that has changed most is the itinerary. This used to be the most significant element and deciding factor for many. However, the advent of the big ship has led to the downgrading of this important part of the cruise, mainly because large ships can only dock in large ports with all the supporting infrastructure necessary to service the vessel, and the onshore requirements of the passengers. For us, the itinerary is still paramount.

Avoiding commercialism in today's modern world is becoming increasingly tricky, particularly when selecting a holiday with many so-called 'off the beaten track' destinations having been discovered as mainstream tourism becomes the norm for countries around the world. However, with small ships as our base we can still seek out and visit the remote ports which are not easily accessible by any other means. Small ships have the freedom of the seas and can come alongside in small docks or drop anchor in any suitable spot. After all, you do not go on holiday to be part of the all engulfing masses which descend on a town when a number of large ships dock at the same time. Arriving at a port for the first time should be an invigorating experience and can certainly be so when the right place is chosen and your arrival is on a small ship.

Our All Inclusive Policy

Unlike many other cruise vessels, onboard the MS Island Sky, MS Caledonian Sky and the MS Hebridean Sky, you do not need to worry about tipping staff as we have included this in your holiday price. In addition we tip all our guides and drivers along the way, thereby taking away the hassle of always having to remember to have some small change with you. We also include shore excursions and drinks with meals onboard.



Your Life Onboard



If large resort-style vessels accommodating many thousands of passengers are your ideal, then our ships are not for you as you will not find endless entertainment, round the clock buffets and the people management which is so much a part of today's big ship onboard style. However, if like us you prefer a more peaceful life at sea you will find our flagships the perfect vessels.

When choosing your next voyage the choice of vessels is astounding. You can select a ship carrying in excess of 4000 passengers with impersonal service or join us aboard the MS Caledonian Sky, MS Island Sky or MS Hebridean Sky where peace, high quality service and attention to detail are the order of the day. We promise there will be no organised entertainment, fancy dress, deck games or any of the usual big ship experiences. Instead, the atmosphere is warm and convivial and

more akin to a private yacht or country hotel in which you can learn more about the wonders of nature, culture and ancient civilisations in the company of like-minded people. A little music in the lounge or bar after dinner, Guest Speakers and informative port briefings from our Expedition Leader or Cruise Director and of course good food, all contribute to make any voyage aboard these wonderful vessels a memorable and joyful experience. After a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of an exceedingly comfortable ship.

The daily programme onboard is in the capable hands of our Cruise Director or Expedition Leader and staff who coordinate with the Captain and Officers to make the most of each day. Briefings and talks will be provided throughout the voyage together with a 'Daily Programme' that is distributed every evening to your suite outlining the next day's activities. Dress onboard is casual and relaxed and there will be no 'black tie' evenings.



For your Comfort, Security & Safety

Our vessels are equipped with the latest safety, navigation and communications equipment along with roll stabilizers to minimize the ship's motion. During your voyage we hope to offer the opportunity to visit the Captain and Officers on the Bridge to check the vessel's progress by charts and learn more about your journey. There is also a dedicated channel on your television in your suite showing the routing of the vessel along with technical information and estimated times of arrival and departure from port. Onboard you will also find a clinic and doctor and a lift that serves all decks. Smoking onboard is restricted to a specific area on deck.

“ The team visits local markets to pick up fresh produce. This could be crab in Scotland, fresh sole from the White Sea or coconut for pre-dinner cocktails in the Caribbean. ”



Caledonian Sky, Lido deck



Your Dining Onboard



It is quite a task to create a dining experience as that found onboard our vessels when you are cruising in far-flung corners of the globe, indeed it takes a team of highly talented chefs to deliver fresh, varied dishes no matter where you are at sea. Fortunately, our catering teams are well adapted to the world of small ship cruising where no two days are the same and the menus are often scheduled and tailored around the days' excursions.

With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the cuisine onboard all three vessels is of a consistent superior quality that befits such vessels. Where possible and when it meets their high standards, our accomplished chefs will obtain local produce in markets. Such purchases enhance the well stocked larders and enable the chefs onboard to exhibit their culinary skills and bring a local touch to the varied menus, emphasising the international expertise of the chefs onboard. Afternoon tea and pre-dinner canapes take place every day in either the comfort of the Lounge or out on the Lido deck when the weather is favourable. Tea and coffee are also available 24 hours a day. Special diets can be catered for with sufficient notice.

In keeping with the informal atmosphere onboard, when dining you are able to choose your seating arrangements at your leisure. Whether that be joining a table of four to six other passengers outside on the Lido deck in the evening's sunshine or whether you prefer to enjoy meals in the à la carte restaurant. For those travelling alone, our onboard friendly restaurant staff will take care to ensure you are seated with other like minded travellers. In the main elegant dining room, breakfast is served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order on request. Lunch and dinner are à la carte with an excellent choice of dishes, with the menu reflecting the daily catch or local delicacies. To enhance your dining experience even further a selection of wines are included with both meals and there is also a comprehensive wine list with a wide selection of new and old world wines from which to choose.

The onboard catering and restaurant staff are experienced at sea and enthuse a passion for superb service. Whether it be ensuring you have an outdoor blanket as you enjoy the crisp sea breeze on the Lido deck or sharing their knowledge of the characteristics of the days' wine selections, you will experience a service onboard like no other. You may also enjoy sumptuous barbeques on deck whilst at times, the chef will make your dish to order at special pasta or stir fry stations.

Captain's Welcome Dinner

27 June 2015 en-route to St Kilda

Appetizers

Baby Shrimp Cocktail with Rhode Island Dressing
Oven Baked Fresh Figs wrapped in Parma Ham with Wild Rocket and Balsamic Reduction

Soups

"Crème Ninon"
Green Pea Soup topped with Champagne and Chantilly Cream
Tomato Consommé with Tomato Concasse

Salad

"Caesar Salad"
Crisp Romaine Lettuce with Croutons, Anchovies, Parmesan Cheese and Caesar Dressing

Sorbet

Citrus Sorbet on Pink Grapefruit Granite

Main Dishes

Fresh Local Catch of the Day
Whole Oven Baked Fresh Sea Bass with Caramelized Lemon and Fresh Herbs, served with Pont Neuf Potatoes and Roasted Mediterranean Vegetables

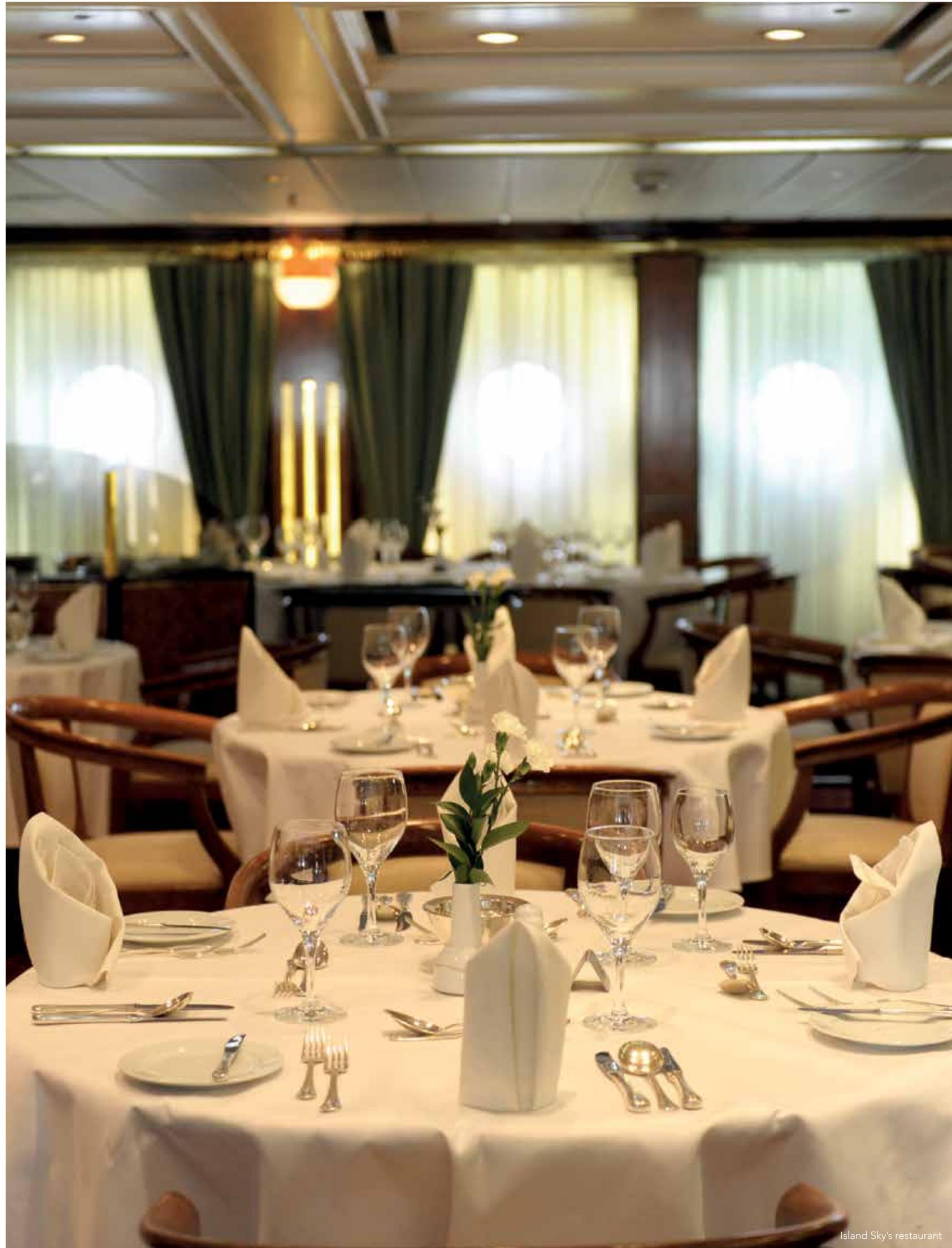
Slow Roasted Chateau Briand of Aberdeen Angus Tenderloin of Beef with a Foie Gras and Truffle Sauce served with Cocotte Potato and Asparagus Wrapped in Bacon

Roast Breast and Confit of Duck Leg with Cointreau Sauce, served with Almond Potato and Braised Red Cabbage

Goats Cheese, Spinach and Wild Mushroom Open Lasagne, served with Gruyere Cheese Sauce and Parmesan Crisp

Desserts

Grand Marnier Soufflé with Orange Flavoured Vanilla Custard Sauce
Bitter Chocolate Marquise with Pistachio Ice Cream
Seasonal Fresh Fruits
Selection of International Cheese



Island Sky's restaurant



Panorama Lounge

Your Space – MS Caledonian Sky

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms onboard the MS Caledonian Sky include a large lounge featuring comfortable seating and classic winged armchairs to enhance the modern country-style furnishings throughout. Daily briefings given by the Cruise Director and talks from Guest Speakers and Expedition staff take place in the main lounge which is fitted with the highest standard of presentation equipment including multiple screens. For your convenience it is also possible to follow the onboard lectures from the comfort of your cabin or in the Panorama Lounge where the presentations will be streamed daily. Also featured in the Lounge is an elegant bar where the onboard pianist plays periodically throughout the day. The bar also offers a 24-hour tea and coffee station.

In addition to the main Lounge on the Caledonian Deck, there is the Lounge on the Panorama Deck which has a bar, library and internet area and further spacious

seating arrangements, ideal for watching the world go by as you cruise to your next destination. The travel library is the perfect place to relax with a good book. Well stocked with reference books pertaining to the destinations the vessel is visiting and a selection of essential reads, you will not find yourself short of excellent literature onboard. A selection of games and two computers complete with internet access can also be found in the library along with newspapers and magazines which are placed there depending on local availability.

The main dining room which can seat all guests at one sitting is located on the Castle Deck. Outside there is a rear Lido Deck located on the Bridge Deck which is complete with deck tables and chairs where meals are served in warm weather under shade and often occasions such as sail away parties and barbeques are held here.



Further to this on the Panorama Deck towards the front of the vessel there is an additional observation deck, complete with bar service and comfortable cushioned deck furniture for sun bathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. On the Promenade Deck there is also a small gymnasium featuring a treadmill, bicycle and cross trainer, and a hairdressers with appointments made on request. For your wellbeing, there is also a clinic with doctor onboard and a lift which serves all decks.

As is the joy of small ship cruising, we hope to offer the opportunity to visit the Captain and Officers on the Bridge to check the progress of the vessel (subject to weather or security conditions).

“ Afternoon tea complete with scones, cupcakes and freshly baked fruit cakes always proves popular.”





Your Suite MS Caledonian Sky

Onboard there are 57 exceptionally spacious and well designed suites, 23 of which have private balconies located on the Promenade or Bridge Decks. Each cabin exudes great character and grandeur with wood panelling and brass features found throughout.

The large suites are arranged over four decks and all have outside facing views. All suites feature a sitting room area complete with coffee table, armchairs and flat screen televisions (DVD players and DVDs can be borrowed from reception for use in your suite). The beds in each cabin offer exceptionally comfortable mattresses and pillows and can be configured as large double beds or twins.

Each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring a country style wash basin, a heated towel rail, shaver outlet and vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower and/or corner bath tub. Towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Further facilities in the suites include walk-in or spacious wardrobes, dressing table with large mirror and stool or desk, mini-fridge, cabin to cabin telephone, programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown toiletries, individually controlled air-conditioning and heating, bottled water replenished daily, as well as extra blankets and pillows. Ship announcements made from the Bridge and Reception area are also broadcasted in your suite. A laundry service is also available onboard.

“ Nothing captures the adventurous but well-cushioned spirit of the cruises quite like sipping a hot chocolate and whiskey and cream liqueur while whale watching on a late summer night in the wilds. ”



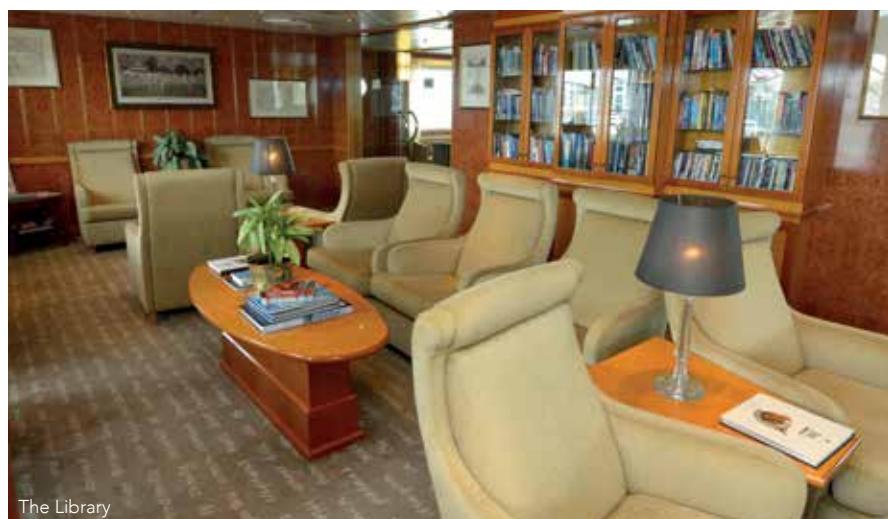
Your Space – MS Island Sky

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large lounge on the Columbus Deck featuring a selection of seating options from individual armchairs and sofas to side cushioned benches. Daily briefings given by the Cruise Director and talks from Guest Speakers and Expedition staff take place in the lounge which is fitted with the highest standard of presentation equipment including multiple screens. For your convenience, it is also possible to follow the onboard lectures from the comfort of your suite.

In addition to the main Lounge on the Columbus Deck, there is also The Club, located on the Marco Polo Deck which features the main bar where the onboard pianist plays periodically throughout the day. The Club also features a 24-hour tea and coffee station. Towards the aft of the ship on the Marco Polo Deck is the Library.

Well stocked with reference books pertaining to the destinations the vessel is visiting and a selection of essential reads, you will not find yourself short of excellent literature onboard. A selection of games and two computers complete with internet access can also be found in the Library. Daily newspapers and magazines are also placed in the library depending on local availability.

The main dining room which can seat all guests at one sitting is located on the Magellan Deck and outside there is a rear Lido deck located on the Erikson Deck, complete with deck tables and chairs where meals are served in warm weather under shade. Further to this on the top Explorer Deck the observation area complete with sun loungers ideal for sun bathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. There is also a small hairdressers onboard with appointments made



on request. For your comfort, there is also a clinic with doctor onboard and a lift which serves all decks.

As is the joy of small ship cruising, we hope to offer the opportunity to visit the Captain and Officers on the Bridge to check the progress of the vessel (subject to weather or security conditions).

A voyage aboard the MS Island Sky is as far removed from the traditional concept of big ship cruising as it's possible to get. Imagine a sleek little ship, more akin to a yacht, with a cosy bar where the bartender knows how many slices of lime you prefer in your G&T.



Your Suite MS Island Sky

Onboard there are 57 exceptionally spacious and well designed suites. All feature a sitting room area and some have private balconies. The feeling of luxury is enhanced by the wood panelling and brass, which predominates throughout the vessel conveying the atmosphere of a private yacht.



The passenger accommodation is arranged over five decks and all suites have outside views. Each affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, a large wardrobe, dressing table

with large mirror and stool and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, flat screen television with inbuilt DVD/CD player and a telephone in each suite. Bottled water, towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown toiletries, air-conditioning and heating. The suites on each deck have their own colour theme. Soft hues and blended tones enhance the traditional maritime style making the passenger accommodation an inviting and relaxing place to be.

“ ”

Not only is the MS Island Sky one of the most comfortable and well equipped small ships in the world, she is also one of the friendliest and most efficiently run. Our crew of over 70, many of whom have been with us for many years are dedicated to offering the best possible experience.

“ ”

Introducing our latest addition to the fleet – Sea Explorer becomes the MS Hebridean Sky



In October 2014 we were fortunate in obtaining the Sea Explorer, a sister ship to our MS Island Sky and MS Caledonian Sky. All three vessels were originally built for U.S based Renaissance Cruises, so we are delighted to now have the ‘Three Sisters’ in our fleet. Sea Explorer was purchased with numerous charter commitments in place that required that we continue to operate the vessel under the name of Sea Explorer until April 2016. In all, eight Renaissance vessels were built and we now have the best of the eight with the last three that were launched, Renaissance 6, 7 & 8.

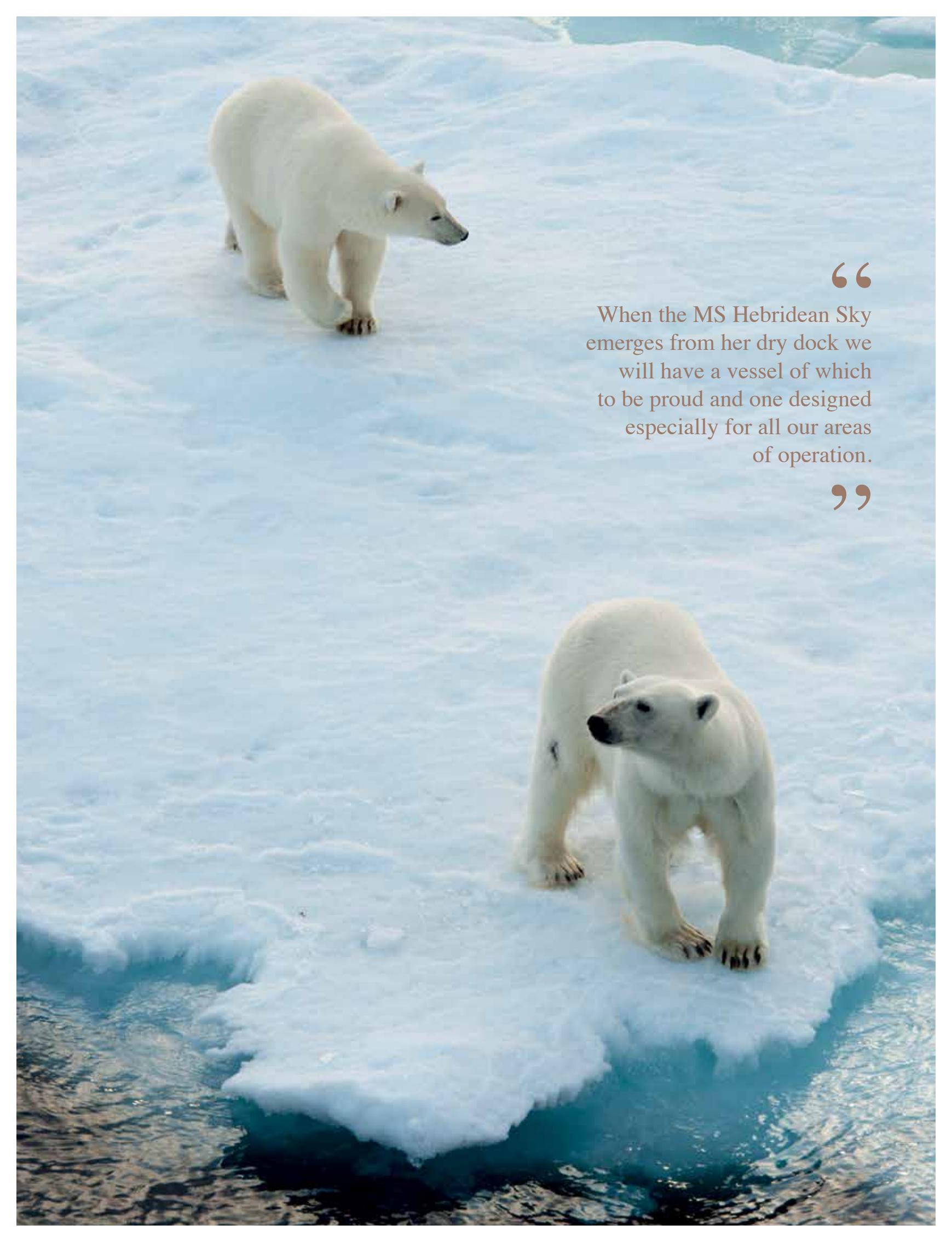
Following her season in Antarctica in March 2016, Sea Explorer will position to Sweden where a multi-million pound refit will take place. On leaving her dry-dock she will be renamed the MS Hebridean Sky and will begin her new life as a Noble Caledonia vessel operating mostly in Northern Europe, South America and Antarctica. Those familiar with our ‘Sky’ vessels know how well suited they are for both for expedition cruising and the more relaxed small ship destination cruising for which these vessels are justly famous.

Coming Home

We first became involved with the vessel some 12 years ago when we chartered her for a number of cruises in the Mediterranean when she sailed under the name of the MS Island Sun. Subsequently, New York based Travel Dynamics renamed her Corinthian II and the vessel was operated by them for almost ten years. During that time we often cooperated with Travel Dynamics marketing cruises in the Mediterranean and Antarctica. So, we are delighted to have her back in the fleet under the Noble Caledonia flag where we believe she rightly belongs.

Multi-Million Pound Refit

The MS Hebridean Sky has an almost identical deck plan to that of the MS Island Sky and a deck plan of the vessel is shown on page 20. During the three week refit we will undertake numerous works, both technical and to the passenger and crew accommodation, public rooms and decks. The most significant will be completely new bathrooms, refurbished suites, a much improved Lido and Observation area, upgraded Lounge and Club areas and a general improvement to all areas including dining, reception and outside decks. In addition we will be adding two extra suites on the top deck, one extra Owner’s Balcony suite and a new ‘Hebridean Suite’ thereby increasing the passenger accommodation to 59 suites and the maximum passenger capacity to 118. When the MS Hebridean Sky emerges from her dry dock we will have a vessel of which to be proud and designed especially for all our areas of operation. As we go to press with this brochure, work is under way with our design team who are planning for the refit next spring and we will keep our website updated with progress.



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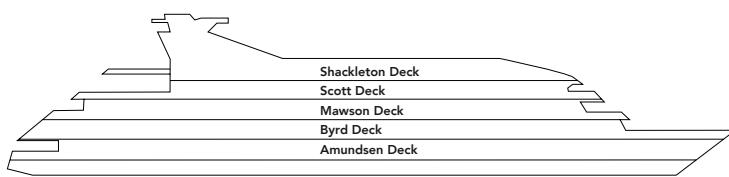
When the MS Hebridean Sky emerges from her dry dock we will have a vessel of which to be proud and one designed especially for all our areas of operation.

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Deck Plans



MS Hebridean Sky Deck Plan



Technical Information

Cruising speed: 11.5 knots
Length overall: 90.6 m
Width overall: 15.3 m
Draught maximum: 4.2m
Flag/Registry: Bahamas

Built: 1992
Tonnage: 4200
Guest capacity: 118
Classed by: BV
Upgraded: 2015

Amundsen Deck – Standard Suites

Standard Suites located on the Amundsen deck measure approximately 21 square metres and feature large portholes.

Byrd Deck – Superior Suites

Superior Suites located on the Byrd deck measure an average of 22 square metres with a large window.

Mawson Deck – Premium Suites

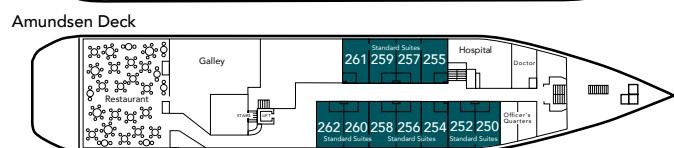
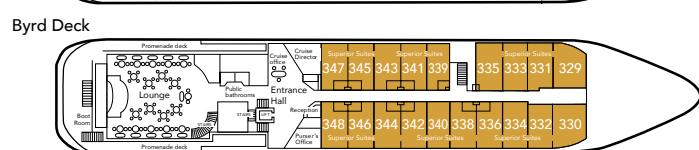
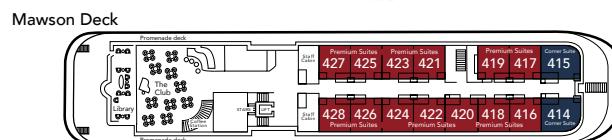
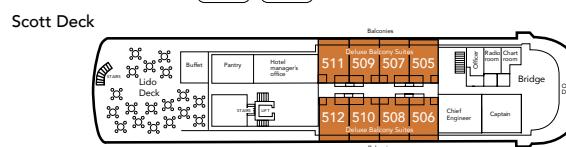
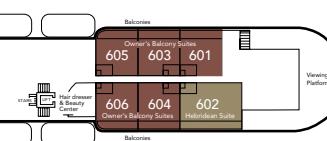
The Premium Suites located on the Mawson deck measure approximately 21 square metres and feature a large window.

Mawson Deck – Corner Suites

The two magnificent Corner Suites located on the Mawson deck feature dual aspect windows and measure 22 square metres.

Scott Deck – Deluxe Balcony Suites

The Deluxe Balcony Suites located on the Scott deck measure 20.9 square metres and boast a 4 square metre private balcony with table and chairs.



Shackleton Deck – Owner's Balcony Suites

The Owner's Balcony Suites located on the Shackleton deck measure 22 square metres and feature a large private balcony measuring 8 square metres with table, chairs and sun loungers.

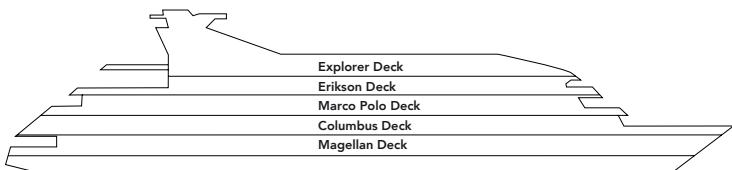
Shackleton Deck – Hebridean Suite

The spacious Hebridean Suite located on the Shackleton Deck measures 24.5 square metres and boasts an extra large balcony with table, chairs and sun loungers.



MS Island Sky

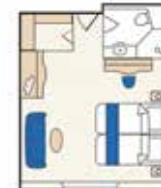
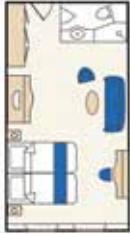
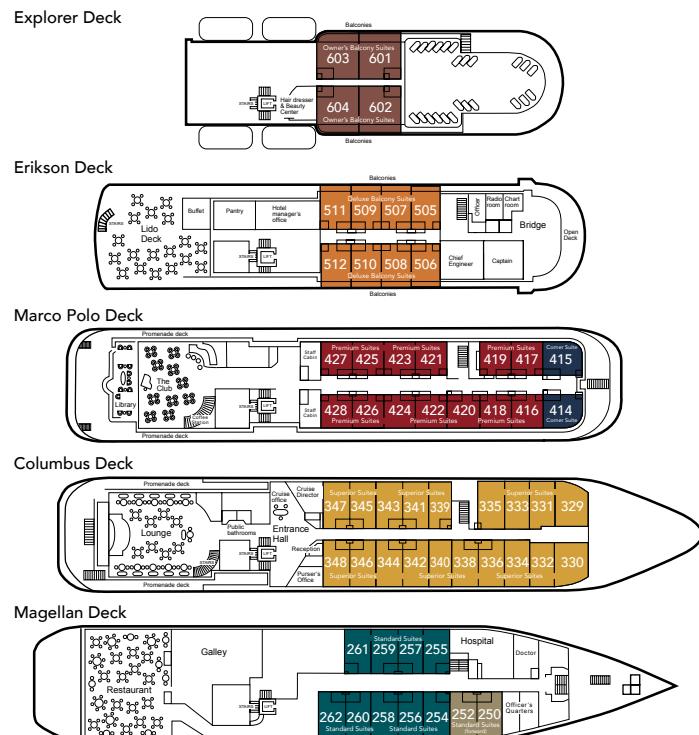
Deck and Cabin Plans



Technical Information

Cruising speed: 11.5 knots
Length overall: 90.6 m
Width overall: 15.3m
Draught maximum: 4.2m
Flag/Registry: Bahamas

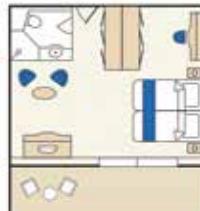
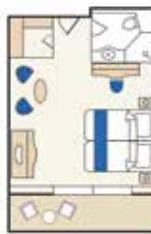
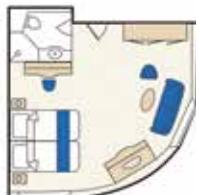
Built: 1992
Tonnage: 4200
Guest capacity: 114
Classed by: BV
Upgraded: 2013



■ ■ Magellan Deck – Standard/Forward Suites
The Standard Forward and Standard Suites located on the Magellan deck measure approximately 21 square metres and feature large portholes.

■ Columbus Deck – Superior Suites
The Superior Suites located on the Columbus deck measure an average of 22 square metres with a large window.

■ Marco Polo Deck – Premium Suites
The Premium Suites featured on the Marco Polo deck measure approximately 21 square metres and feature a large window.



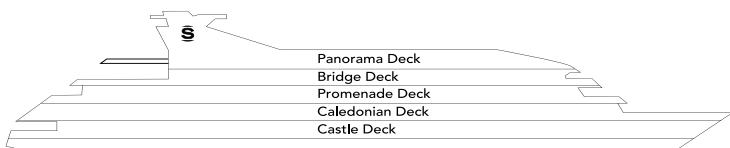
■ Marco Polo Deck – Corner Suites
The two magnificent Corner Suites located on the Marco Polo deck feature dual aspect windows and measure 22 square metres.

■ Erikson Deck – Premium Balcony Suites
The Premium Balcony Suites located on the Erikson deck measure 20.9 square metres and boast a 4 square metre private balcony with table and chairs.

■ Explorer Deck – Owner's Balcony Suites
The Owner's Balcony Suites located on the Explorer deck measure 22 square metres and feature a large private balcony measuring 8 square metres with table, chairs and sun loungers.



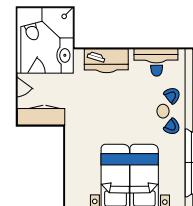
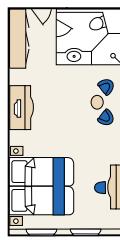
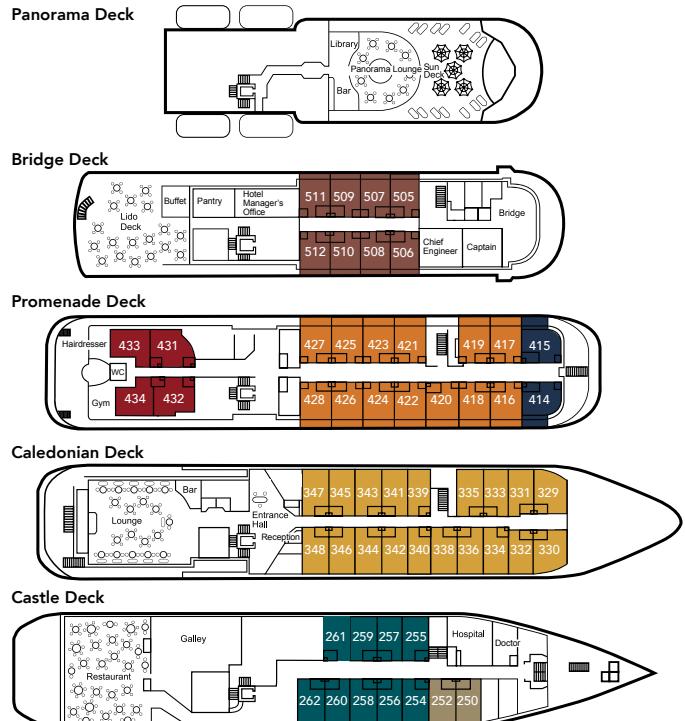
MS Caledonian Sky Deck and Cabin Plans



Technical Information

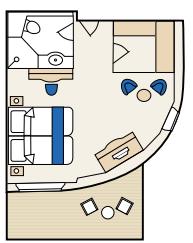
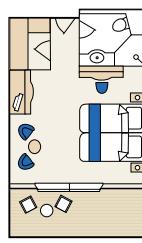
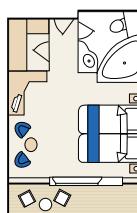
Cruising speed: 11 knots
Length overall: 90.6 m
Width overall: 15.3m
Draught maximum: 4.2m
Flag/Registry: Bahamas

Built: 1991
Tonnage: 4200
Guest capacity: 114
Classed by: BV
Upgraded: 2012



Castle Deck – Standard/Forward Suites

The Standard and Standard Forward Suites located on the Castle Deck measure 22.7 square metres and feature four port holes, an en-suite bathroom with shower and spacious wardrobes.



Bridge Deck – Deluxe Balcony Suites

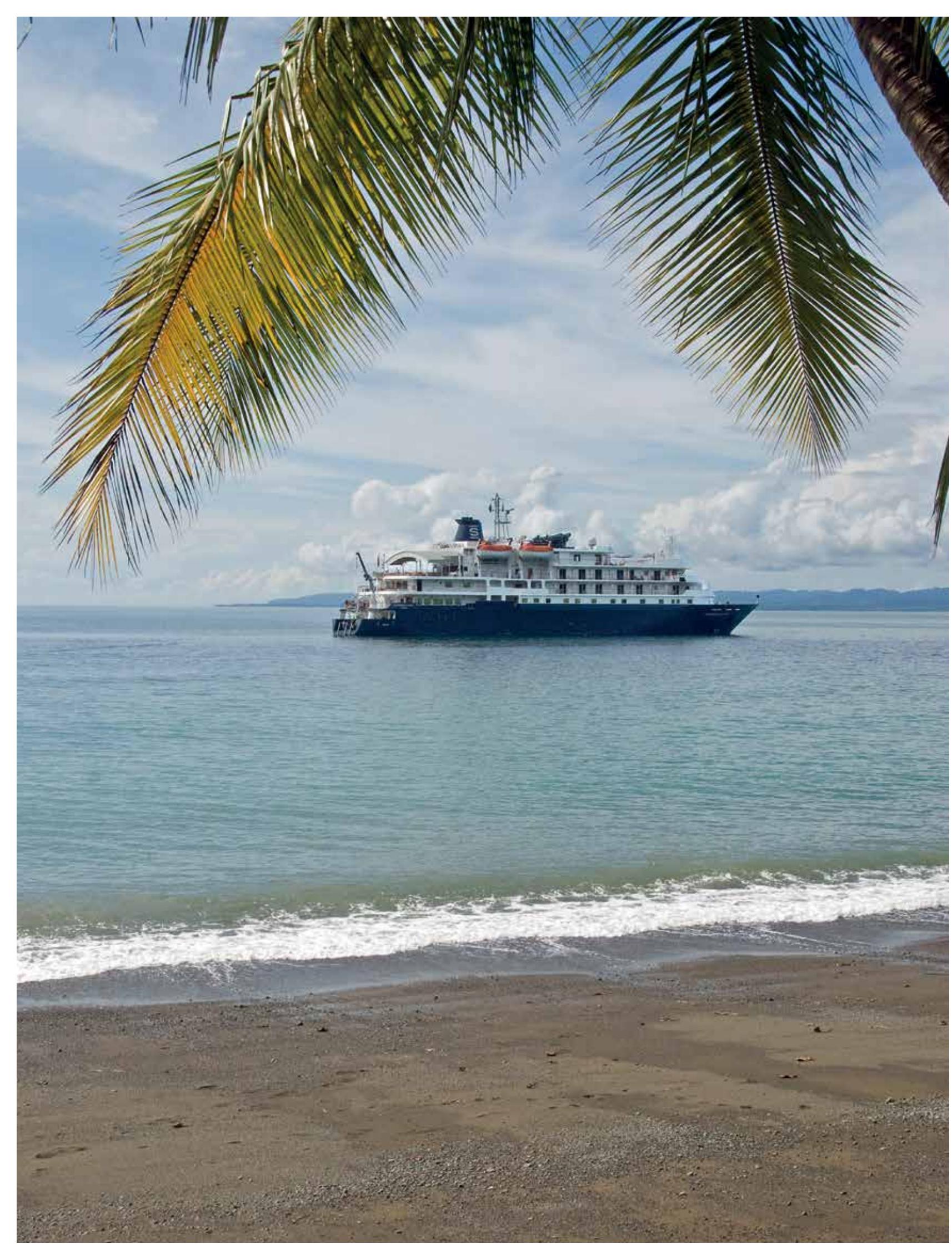
The Deluxe Balcony Suites located on the Bridge Deck measure 20 square metres and feature a walk-in wardrobe, en-suite bathroom with bath tub and shower and a private balcony measuring 4.2 square metres.

Promenade Deck – Premium Balcony Suites

The Premium Balcony Suites located on the Promenade Deck measure 20.2 square metres and feature a walk-in wardrobe, en-suite bathroom with shower and a private balcony measuring 5.6 square metres.

Promenade Deck – Owner's Corner Balcony Suites

The two Corner Suites on the Promenade Deck measure 22.6 square metres and feature a 5.6 square metres balcony and two forward facing portholes, a walk-in wardrobe and en-suite bathroom with shower.



Exploring Ashore and Expedition Cruising



Our inclusive pricing policy means that the majority of shore excursions are included in the price of your cruise. It is our belief that you do not go on holiday to be part of the all engulfing masses which descend on a town when a number of large ships dock at the same time. Arriving at a port for the first time should be an invigorating experience and can certainly be so when the right place is chosen and your arrival is on a small ship. With a maximum of only 118 passengers, there is no queuing to disembark or embark the MS Caledonian Sky, MS Island Sky or MS Hebridean Sky for an excursion and when required there will only be three coaches waiting on the quayside to transport you to the day's attraction as opposed to a whole fleet waiting for the passengers travelling on the big ships. Due to their size, the vessels have the freedom of the seas and can come alongside in small docks or drop anchor in any suitable spot.

Many of the voyages undertaken by the MS Caledonian Sky, MS Island Sky and MS Hebridean Sky are expeditionary in nature and therefore in place of the customary Cruise Director and accompanying staff, you will be joined by an Expedition Team. These hand-picked experts are naturalists, historians and ecologists who will share their knowledge and enthusiasm during forays ashore and whilst onboard. They will supervise the daily programme and hold talks and briefings throughout the cruise. The expedition teams have one aim, to make your trip as enjoyable, relaxing and informative as possible. We have over twenty years of experience in designing trips to the hidden corners of the remotest places and yet, every year we discover something new and although we set sail with a set itinerary it is sometimes the unscheduled events that become the highlight of the journey.

Zodiacs

Expedition cruising is about getting off the beaten track, out of the way of other ships, of other visitors; it is about leaving the infrastructures of civilisation behind. We may not be far from civilisation, but we will often be out of sight of it. Our fleet of onboard Zodiacs are invaluable for our expeditions. These inflatable craft offer marvellous manoeuvrability allowing us access to otherwise impossible landing places. With these we can explore inlets, fjords, bird sanctuaries, land in otherwise inaccessible places and be footloose in a way that would be totally impractical for larger groups of passengers. Zodiacs are safe, reliable and convenient boats that allow us to go from ship to shore, whether we land on a beach, on rocks, or on a concrete jetty. Zodiacs can negotiate shallows, river estuaries, coral reefs and ice floes. In many places which we visit during expedition cruises, they are the only way to go ashore. Zodiacs also enable the Expedition Team to offer Zodiac cruises during the voyage: near a seabird colony, next to a cliff, along a glacier front, or a beach where polar bears dwell. Zodiacs will also be used as platforms from where swimming and snorkelling can be conducted. Expeditions are defined by the use of Zodiacs, our versatile, inflatable boats, which provide a unique platform for observing wildlife or enjoying majestic landscapes from sea level, or a fast and safe way of going ashore in remote places.

There is snorkelling equipment onboard and when weather and location permits, the Expedition Team will set up a snorkelling platform. In addition to our onboard team of experts, local guides will meet us along the way adding much to our knowledge.

We have classified some of the voyages in this brochure as 'soft expedition' which means that although the Zodiacs will not be used as regularly as they are on our expedition cruises, they will still be used on some days to explore coastlines and transport passengers ashore. In addition, on some destination cruises, at some ports we may be at anchor and have to use the Zodiacs to get ashore. If you have any concerns or queries pertaining to expedition cruising and what it entails, please do not hesitate to contact one of our experienced travel consultants.



“

The ship is big enough to sail the seven seas and take anything that mother nature can throw at her, but small enough to make port, or drop anchor, in hideaway places, off the beaten track, avoiding the regular, crowded tourist stops whenever possible.

”



Island Sky anchored off St Kilda



Your Onboard Team

On all our voyages you will find informative staff onboard and whilst exploring ashore you will be accompanied by excellent English-speaking local guides. Working with the captain and crew, our cruise staff are responsible for the day to day organisation of the itinerary and briefings and they are in regular contact with the Noble Caledonia office. We have the very best in their field and they are also joined by guest speakers who are chosen for their in-depth knowledge of a specific subject or geographical area. Briefings by the cruise staff and informal talks by our guest speakers add an extra dimension to all we see and do. Below are just some of the excellent team we have lined up to join our voyages over the coming two years. There are many more and full details of who will be joining you onboard can be viewed at www.noble-caledonia.co.uk



George Hart – Guest Speaker

Following degrees in Classics and in Egyptian Art and Archaeology from University College London, George joined the staff of the British Museum in 1973. He was the Principal Lecturer on the British Museum's antiquities collections from Egypt, Greece, the Levant and civilisations of the Mediterranean World and ran courses on Ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphs. He was Chairman of the

Friends of the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology for the first twelve years after its foundation in 1988 and Committee Member of the Egypt Exploration Society for a number of years. Having taken early retirement from the British Museum in 2004 to devote more time to writing, he is a regular speaker on cruises in the Mediterranean and the Red Sea.



Alan Hardwick – Guest Speaker

Initially trained as a biologist Alan spent several years after university working in fish farming and learnt to dive, naturally enough, in a fish tank on the West coast of Scotland. Fascinated by the underwater world he spent much of the next 25 years exploring the seas around the Scottish Islands, leading expeditions to places such as St Kilda and further afield in the Faroe Islands. He considers himself lucky to have been able to travel to Africa and to have worked on a research project in Costa Rica studying the seasonal dynamics of a tropical dry forest. He does, however, share with many others the love of travel and exploration and has been fortunate in working as a zodiac driver on cruises to Antarctica, Spitsbergen, Norway, Ireland and, especially, the Scottish Islands.



Major JGH Corrigan – Guest Speaker

Commissioned from The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in 1962, Gordon Corrigan was an officer of the Royal Gurkha Rifles before retiring from the Army in 1998. He served mainly in the Far East but also in Berlin, Cyprus, Belize and Northern Ireland. His last appointment was Commanding Officer of the Gurkha Centre in Hampshire. He is now a military historian and author. His television appearances include The Gurkhas, Napoleon's Waterloo and Battlefield Detectives, and so far he has presented five series on various aspects of military history. He is a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society, a Member of the British Commission for Military History, a Freeman of the City of London and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Farriers.



Imogen Corrigan – Guest Speaker

Imogen Corrigan served for twenty years in the British Army retiring in the rank of Major. In 2004 she graduated from the University of Kent with a 1st in Anglo-Saxon and Medieval History and is currently studying for PhD at Birmingham University. She runs study tours and has lectured extensively on Anglo-Saxon and Medieval subjects in Britain and Europe and is a NADFAS lecturer as well as being a speaker for the Kent Federation of History and East Kent National Trust. amongst other lecturing agencies. Her first book, The Race for the Sky: the Building of the English Cathedrals, is to be published by Atlantic Books.



Pamela Le Noury – Expedition Leader

Coming from Durban, South Africa, Pam is a marine scientist, PADI dive instructor, Zodiac skipper and sailor, and has worked in and on the ocean just about every day for the past 11 years. She owns a whale watching business with a marine monitoring program in Durban, and has managed diving and boating operations for many years. She has participated in several marine research cruises, dabbling in everything from satellite tagging dolphins to coral reef transects and fisheries stock assessment, also contributing to reef fish guides, is co-author of a digital shark guide and several scientific papers. Pam started expedition cruising in 2008, and has since been around the world.



Chantal Cookson – Expedition Team

Chantal was born in Suffolk very near the sea and now lives in Northumberland where her husband farms. Chantal has been associated with Noble Caledonia since the company was founded in 1990. Though her main job over the last 25 years has been working for Sotheby's and now a consultant, she still manages to intertwine in her busy life working periodically as part of the Noble Caledonia expedition team. From the Arctic to the Antarctica, South America to Australia, Africa, India, the Seychelles, Indonesian Islands and many other destinations, her most favourite being the West Coast of Scotland, she has been able to pursue her love of the oceans, driving Zodiacs and photography.



Kristine Hannon – Expedition Team

Kristine is a true example of how it is never too late to look for the job of your life. Only a few years ago she discovered the magical world of working on cruise and expedition ships. She was born and raised in Belgium and spent most of her professional life working in the food industry as a shop owner and manager. As her first love was travelling, she spent all her holidays roaming around the globe. With

the harvest of pictures, she prepared lectures on her travels to raise money for local projects in the countries she visited. In 2008-09 she spent her first season in the ice working as Zodiac driver, log writer, lecturer and assistant expedition leader. To raise money for the 'Save the Albatross' foundation, she produced a photo CD of every cruise and was able to present the organization with almost \$10 000 of benefits. Now she is an accomplished photographer whose work has been published in magazines, newspapers, books, calendars, press literature and on post cards.



Ian Bullock – Expedition Team

Ian Bullock is a British biologist who lives in St.Davids, Pembrokeshire, on the south-western seaboard of Wales. Since 1978 he has specialised in seabird surveys, habitat management for endangered species and the conservation of remote island nature reserves. For 25 years he worked for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds as both research biologist and warden,

establishing new reserves for conservation and managing offshore islands. In spare moments since 1990 he has worked as guide and lecturer on board expedition ships in the Indian, Pacific and Atlantic oceans, as well as Arctic and Antarctic environments. He loves the sea, wildlife and wilderness and relishes any opportunity to share this enthusiasm with fellow adventurers.



Neil Horrocks – Cruise Director

Neil has been at sea since 2001, a year after he graduated in Pure Maths from the University of Manchester. His time at sea has seen him experience everywhere from the Arctic to Antarctica and over the last 14 years has developed a passion for small-ship cruising. An accomplished pianist, Neil is very much an all-rounder, with a keen sense of humour and eye

for detail. He is equally comfortable interviewing political heavyweights, driving zodiacs ashore or even writing evening quizzes. When not at sea, Neil lives on the south coast of England and tries to enjoy following the misfortunes of his local football team, Brighton & Hove Albion, and visiting steam railways up and down the country.



Damian Sanders – Expedition Team

Damien is a British national, who is now based in Dinan, Brittany, France, where he is able to pursue his interest in the rich maritime history of the region. Damien has a background in History, Biology and Maritime Archaeology. He was a member of the permanent team on the Mary Rose excavation in 1979 and 1982. In between, he spent three Antarctic summers and

two winters on bases at Signy Island, South Orkneys; and at Grytviken, South Georgia, supporting the Inshore Marine Biological Programme. He then taught in secondary schools and outdoor education for seventeen years. In 2006, Damien left full time teaching to work as a guide in Polar regions, studying and teaching Maritime History and Underwater Archaeology.



Hannah Lawson – Expedition Team

For the past twelve years Hannah has divided her time between working on expedition cruise ships as a wildlife guide, Zodiac driver and expedition leader and creating artwork from her studio in Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire. She has a bachelors degree in zoology from the University of Liverpool and gained a Masters in Natural History Illustration at the Royal College of Art, London.

She worked as an artist and mural painter for several years at Chester Zoo and also in East Africa, before joining the Noble Caledonia team for the first time in 1999. Her love of wildlife and wild places has taken her annually from Antarctic and South Georgia in the Austral summer to the high Arctic, via South America, Macaronesia, the UK and Norway.



Stuart Burmeister – Expedition Team

Stuart's home is in Durban, South Africa. He grew up literally in the wilds of Africa and has a good knowledge of the indigenous people and regions of many African countries. His maritime background has covered sea rescue search and recovery operations, sailing and power boating. His qualifications cover all power vessels from a Zodiac to a class six craft over

200 tonnes. Stuart is a trained fire fighter with over six years active service. He is also Dive Master scuba diver, first aider and 'Mr Fix it' when it comes to boating. He has been in the cruising industry since 1980 and has extensive knowledge of many Indian Ocean islands and has worked on numerous expeditions around the world. When asked how many cruises he has been on he said that he gave up counting after 600.



Craig Ward – Expedition Team

Craig is a peripatetic marine professional. Dive instructor, marine biologist & ship's captain, for over twelve years he has been involved in marine research and education throughout the Indo-pacific. Already having a background in Coral Reef Ecology, Craig studied Zoology at James Cook University, Cairns. Post studies saw him involved in coral, jellyfish and conservation research, before going on

to work for several years in the Northern Territory and the Kimberley with a number of endangered species. In 2003, he established a marine expedition services company, Sevare, which was designed to bridge the gap between tourism and conservation. Craig is based in tropical northern Australia, where he is still actively involved in conservation research.



Tony Crocker – Expedition Team

Tony has spent many years living and travelling through the length and breadth of Europe, in the course of an extensive career in travel and tourism, including over a year spent in the High Arctic. He has a lifelong interest in ornithology and, in his native New Zealand, is acknowledged as one of the best birders. He was editor of the OSNZ magazine Southern Bird for nine years

and council member for six. Tony is regularly active in various projects, especially involving research and monitoring of waders and seabirds, including a number of significant international expeditions. Tony has a MA in French and GradDipSc in History and Philosophy of Science. These days he spends most of his time at sea, as ornithologist/lecturer/zodiac driver on expedition ships.



Jannie Cloete – Cruise Director

Jannie, a native South African, grew up on a farm in the beautiful Mpumalanga Province. After obtaining a degree in Advertising and Public Relations, Jannie travelled extensively throughout Europe before returning home to pursue a career on land. During this time he met up with two cruise line entrepreneurs and joined their company as Public Relations Officer. It was during his first cruise season sailing around South Africa and the remote islands of the Indian Ocean that he found his sea legs – and his calling. Twenty years later, Jannie's career as Cruise Director has taken him to all seven continents, including participating in four expeditions on a Russian nuclear-powered ice breaker to the geographical North Pole. When not cruising, Jannie calls Johannesburg, South Africa, home.



Emmarentia Hansen – Expedition Team

Emma (Emmarentia) Hansen was born and raised in the stunning Lowveld area of Mpumalanga, South Africa, very close to Kruger National Park. Growing up on a farm, wildlife, animals and nature have always taken a special place in her heart. After a cruise in 1998, the sea cast a spell on her. She decided to move to Durban to pursue a life at sea. She completed her commercial skipper's ticket and joined the cruise ships out of Durban as a Zodiac driver. Emma made the transition to the Cruise ships in the Mediterranean and North Europe as Tour manager and Guest Relation Manager. She has worked within the industry for the past 12 years. Emma joined the MS Island Sky in 2007 and has since sailed around the world with Noble Caledonia.

The Voyages 2016-2017

MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



MS ISLAND SKY



MS CALEDONIAN SKY



VOYAGE/ VESSEL	DEPARTURE DATE	TO/FROM	CATEGORY	PAGE
Islands, Fjords & Wildlife of Norway – Hebridean Sky	29th June 2016	Tromso to Oban	Soft Expedition Cruise	32-33
To the Lands of Gods and Heroes – Island Sky	30th June 2016	Rome to Istanbul	Destination Cruise	34-35
In the Footsteps of St Paul – Island Sky	15th September 2016	Limassol to Istanbul	Destination Cruise	36-37
East of Bali – Caledonian Sky	15th September 2016	Darwin to Bali	Expedition Cruise	38-39
La Dolce Vita – Hebridean Sky	27th September 2016	Valletta to Olbia	Destination Cruise	40-41
Passage to Java & Beyond – Caledonian Sky	27th September 2016	Bali to Singapore	Expedition Cruise	42-43
Beyond the Pillars of Hercules – Hebridean Sky	4th October 2016	Olbia to Funchal	Destination Cruise	44-45
Circumnavigation of Sumatra – Caledonian Sky	8th October 2016	Singapore to Singapore	Expedition Cruise	46-49
Byzantium & Beyond – Island Sky	18th October 2016	Istanbul to Istanbul	Destination Cruise	50-51
Five Seas Odyssey – Caledonian Sky	23rd October 2016	Singapore to Manado	Expedition Cruise	52-53
Passage through an Antique Land – Island Sky	29th October 2016	Istanbul to Amman	Destination Cruise	54-55
Arabian Odyssey – Island Sky	18th November 2016	Salalah to Dubai	Destination Cruise	56-57
In the Wake of the Dhows – Island Sky	9th December 2016	Muscat to Colombo	Destination Cruise	58-61
Best of New Zealand – Caledonian Sky	17th December 2016	Auckland to Auckland	Soft Expedition Cruise	62-65
Sri Lanka to the Seychelles – Island Sky	22nd December 2016	Colombo to Mahe	Expedition Cruise	66-67
Madagascar & Beyond – Island Sky	4th January 2017	Mahe to Mauritius	Expedition Cruise	68-69
New Zealand's Natural Wonders – Caledonian Sky	5th January 2017	Auckland to Queenstown	Soft Expedition Cruise	70-71
Wonders & Wildlife of the Indian Ocean – Island Sky	14th January 2017	Mauritius to Dar es Salaam	Expedition Cruise	72-73
Aldabra – Last Sanctuary – Island Sky	27th January 2017	Dar es Salaam to Mahe	Expedition Cruise	74-77
Across the Tropic of Capricorn – Caledonian Sky	6th February 2017	Auckland to Rabaul	Expedition Cruise	78-81
Papua New Guinea to the Philippines – Caledonian Sky	21st February 2017	Rabaul to Manila	Expedition Cruise	82-83
Passage to India – Island Sky	8th March 2017	Mahe to Chennai	Expedition Cruise	84-85
Patagonia & the Chilean Fjords – Hebridean Sky	11th March 2017	Buenos Aires to Valparaiso	Expedition Cruise	86-89
Passage of the Condor – Hebridean Sky	25th March 2017	Santiago to Guayaquil	Destination Cruise	90-91
Temples & Gardens of Ancient Japan and South Korea – Caledonian Sky	23rd April 2017	Tokyo to Osaka	Destination Cruise	92-93
Sicilian Odyssey – Island Sky	3rd May 2017	Naples to Valletta	Destination Cruise	94-95
Spring in the Isles – Hebridean Sky	7th May 2017	Portsmouth to Oban	Expedition Cruise	96-97
Timeless Japan – Caledonian Sky	7th May & 16th May 2017	Tokyo to Osaka (& reverse)	Destination Cruise	98-99
Spring in the Secret Mediterranean – Island Sky	13th May 2017	Malta to Istanbul	Destination Cruise	100-101
Atlantic Island Odyssey – Hebridean Sky	17th May & 19th June 2017	Oban to Leith (& reverse)	Expedition Cruise	102-103
Voyage to the Land of the Polar Bears – Hebridean Sky	12th & 23rd July 2017	Oslo to Oslo	Expedition Cruise	104-105
Across the Top of Australia – Caledonian Sky	26th August 2017	Perth to Darwin	Expedition Cruise	106-109
In the Wake of the Bounty – Caledonian Sky	20th November 2017	Easter Island to Tahiti	Expedition Cruise	110-113



Throughout this brochure, you will see an expedition logo next to some of the cruise names which indicates the cruise is classified as an expedition cruise. During expedition cruises, 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. Expedition cruises will appeal to the more adventurous and those who enjoy the natural world. For further details on what expedition cruises entail please refer to page 24.

Please note that ports and itineraries are subject to change based on weather and local conditions. In addition, owing to the fact that flight schedules are not released until 11 months prior to departure, in some instances itineraries may change upon their release.

What To Expect on a Noble Caledonia Expedition Cruise

Flexibility is the key to an expedition cruise; sometimes the whole day's schedule may be changed to maximise your experience, something that would not be possible on a large cruise ship. Each day holds something new and below are some extracts from our vessel's logs from last season which will provide you with an idea of what to expect wherever you may choose to join an expedition:

Shiant and Inverewe – June 2014

By breakfast the ship had anchored amongst the Shiant Islands in the Minch. Once more we were viewing Tertiary basalt columns just like Staffa and Canna but this time several hundred feet tall and thronging with seabirds, many of whom sat on the calm sea as our Zodiacs cruised close off shore. We saw some grey seals hauled out ashore, or swimming around the Zodiacs while we investigated some interesting sea caves before then turning along the huge boulder scree along the east side of Garbh Eilean with its huge numbers of razorbills, puffins and shags. There were also some great skuas flying around, looking for an opportunity to rob the auks of the food they carried to feed chicks. We next crossed the Minch to Loch Ewe and anchored off Inverewe Gardens. Guides led us around some of the highlights, including the rare Wollemi pines, once thought to be extinct and only recently rediscovered in the Blue Mountains of Australia. The last Zodiac run brought everyone back to the ship in time for another talk by John, this time about St Kilda, as a primer for tomorrow's visit, possibly the climax of our cruise.



St Kilda – June 2014

The early risers were rewarded with fine views of our approach to the archipelago of St Kilda, its tops draped mysteriously in mist. It had been an unusually calm crossing and some dolphins and minke whales had been spotted on route. We breakfasted quickly so as to hear an introduction to the Islands by the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) ranger. Soon after the Zodiacs began shuttling people ashore to the pier. Although several options had been offered many people opted first to join John on a guided historical walk. Many then progressed up The Gap to find Karin and her party of longer walkers, while Wendy had led an energetic walk up the road to the summit ridge and the radar installation. On return to the ship, lunch consisted of a barbecue prepared by the galley staff and many opted to eat outside with the impressive backdrop of St Kilda's Village Bay. But we were not finished yet, for the Expedition Team then filled their Zodiacs with enthusiastic and intrepid passengers, keen to explore the rocky shores and dramatic caves of Dun, seeing seals and seabirds notably, of course, puffins. This highlight was quickly overshadowed by the final offering – the Captain taking his ship for a circumnavigation of St Kilda, around Dun, under the Lover's Stone and the Carn Mor boulder field on Hirta to Soay, and then past Glen Bay to view, Conachair, at 1400 feet the highest sheer cliff in Britain. Approaching Stac Li (564 ft) the Captain opted to take a wide sweep and circumnavigate this hugely impressive tooth of rock, smothered in 9000 pairs of nesting gannets. The noise – and the smell! – were palpable as we stared up at the sheer face in its cloud of gannets, constantly changing shape and almost close enough to touch.



Kaikoura – November 2014

We awoke to a beautiful crisp morning as we made our approach to South Bay in Kaikoura. In the previous days we had been offered the opportunity to sign up for a variety of activities including whale and albatross encounters in addition to other activities offered by our own expedition team. Our morning whale watching tours were a huge success. Without even leaving sight of the Caledonian Sky, one by one they sailed out over the trench in



search of cetaceans. Each of our three departures had fantastic wildlife encounters with their on-board crew finding between 1-3 individual sperm whales per trip as well as a juvenile humpback whale which was breaching over the trench. We also saw dusky dolphins, albatross and fur seals, who also frequent the area on account of the cold water upwelling's which brings an abundance of food to the surface. After lunch, our afternoon activities kicked off with a coastal walk led by Biologists Craig Ward and Damon Ramsey. This was a four-kilometre ramble investigating the natural history and cultural significance of the peninsula on this calm and sunny day. It was almost 1830 when we returned aboard where the team encouraged us to enjoy dinner on the outer deck of the Lido to take in the incredible scenery as we left Kaikoura behind us. Just as we were finishing our dinner, it was announced that a pod of bottlenose dolphins were approaching the portside of the ship. They porpoised towards us purposefully, jumping high into the air before reaching the bow to ride along in the wake emanating from the ship. The perfect ending to another splendid day!



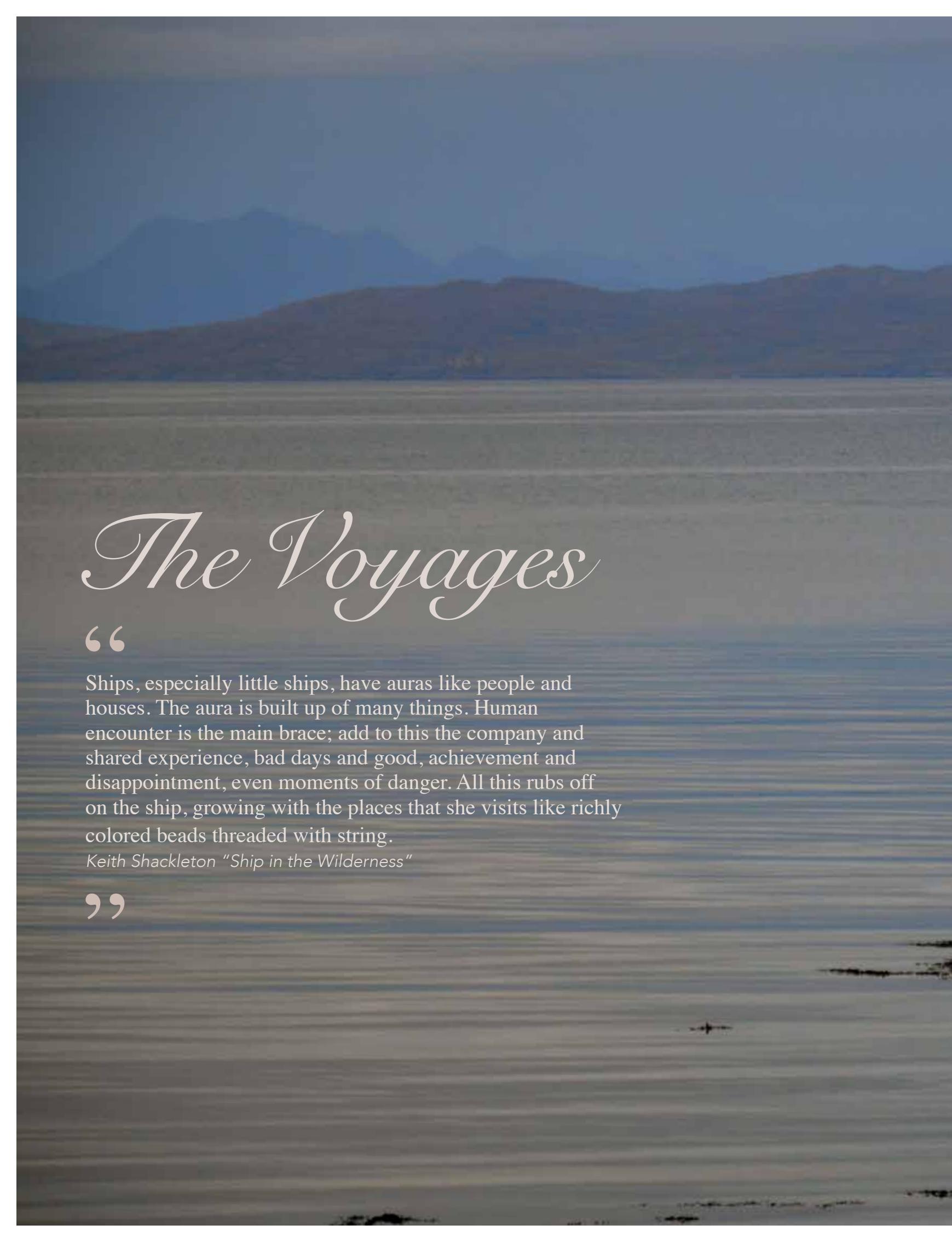
Raja Ampat – January 2014

This was a day that everybody on board ship was looking forward to, arrival in this, one of the marine hot-spots of the planet. Considered the most diverse marine environment in the world, Raja Ampat is a series of islands sitting on the convergence of the Pacific and Indian Oceans, making it utterly unique. Gathering into Zodiacs we had plenty of time and opportunity to explore the many fine passageways and magnificent rock formations of this isolated area. For the bird lovers, numerous Reef Egrets (or Reef Herons) were seen cruising the water's surface, while Brahminy Kites and one or two Sea Eagles soared high overhead. Even the non-bird lover couldn't help but be thrilled as the white flash of the local Cockatoos broke the stillness of the treetops. For those with eyes only for the marine environment, the ever-changing underwater terrain kept the views interesting and diverse. Coral mounds rose from aqua-blue depths and the multi-coloured fish and reefs were clearly visible clinging to the limestone outcroppings. After lunch we gathered back in our Zodiacs to head ashore for an afternoon of exploring the underwater environment. There were options available for everyone from absolute beginners to advanced snorkellers and the underwater world couldn't possibly disappoint. Turtles, Parrot Fish, Anemone Fish (or Clown Fish) and a myriad of corals and other fish species were seen, and some guests spent up to three hours underwater exploring this rarely seen world. An entire afternoon spent here gave everyone time to not only enjoy the water, but also get some beach time in, reading on the sand or finding a quiet corner to savour.



Tony, birder extraordinaire, was also ashore pointing out the fascinating local bird species and a highlight, even for a weathered expert like him, was the Hanging Parrots, tiny, sparrow-sized parrots that are, nonetheless, a rainbow of greens, yellows and reds. The islands were more than magnificent and there were plenty of smiles as we returned to the ship this afternoon. Back onboard we watched the sunset from the deck, while a final group of Frigate birds circling high overhead to see us off. Recap and briefing was a brief affair this evening as little needed to be said after such an extraordinary visit to New Guinea – for many, this day epitomised what had brought us here in the first place.

Read more at www.travelpost.noble-caledonia.co.uk



The Voyages

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Ships, especially little ships, have auras like people and houses. The aura is built up of many things. Human encounter is the main brace; add to this the company and shared experience, bad days and good, achievement and disappointment, even moments of danger. All this rubs off on the ship, growing with the places that she visits like richly colored beads threaded with string.

Keith Shackleton "Ship in the Wilderness"

”



Island Sky in Rum, Inner Hebrides, Scotland

The Islands, Fjords and Wildlife of Norway

An exploration of the ‘Land of the Midnight Sun’ aboard the MS Hebridean Sky
29th June to 11th July 2016

Norway offers the traveller scenery on an epic scale and there are few places in the world that compare when you consider the immense size of the fjords, the abundant wildlife and the timeless villages. All this and much more can be particularly enjoyed from the comfort of a small ship, especially one as perfectly suited as the MS Hebridean Sky. Our journey begins in the Arctic Circle at Tromso from where we cruise south to experience the wildlife of the Vesteralen Islands and explore deep sided Trollfjorden. We continue to the Lofoten Islands, with their many small fishing villages amongst a backdrop of mountainous scenery that often experiences snowfall even in the summer. Our journey then takes us across the Arctic Circle and along Norway’s fjord indented coastline. Words cannot describe the awe-inspiring scenery that follows as we take in views of mountains, glaciers, waterfalls, valleys and truly dramatic fjords. Amongst them, Naerofjorden which has been included on UNESCO’s World Heritage List.

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. Our time spent discovering some of Norway’s most impressive fjords from the deck of our small ship promises to astound even the most jaded of travellers. Leaving Norway we call into Lerwick, capital of the Shetland Islands before we explore the magnificent sea cliffs of Torridonian sandstone which rise from the Atlantic at Handa. Our final call before disembarking in Oban is to Tanera Mor in the Summer Isles, a perfectly scenic and relaxing conclusion to our journey which will have involved seeing nature at its rawest, cruising along rugged coastlines, witnessing vibrant colours and admiring prolific birdlife.



Hardangerfjord

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Tromso, Norway.

Fly by scheduled flight via Oslo. On arrival transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky.

Day 2 Vesteralen Islands & Trollfjorden.

This morning we arrive in Vesteralen, an archipelago of islands offering a diverse abundance of wildlife. The schedule this morning will be kept flexible as we use our ship to search for whales. Due to the rich nutrients in this area there is an excellent chance for us to see sperm whales and if we are lucky we also hope to see minke whales and orcas. We will also pass Bleiksoya, a small triangle-shaped island just off the village of Bleik. Here we will find the largest concentration of puffins in the whole of Norway with 80,000 pairs. We will end our day sailing through the beautiful, narrow and steep sided Trollfjorden, enjoying the birdlife, waterfalls and dramatic scenery.

Day 3 Lofoten Islands.

The Lofoten Archipelago is 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 village and life of these islands. We will disembark in the small fishing village of Aa where we will visit the local museum before continuing to the nearby village of Reine. Our next stop will be the village of Sund where we will visit the blacksmith famous for their forged cormorants. We continue to the Viking centre at Borg where we enjoy lunch before continuing to Kabelva for a visit to the Lofoten Museum and Kare Espolin Johnson gallery. Our day ends in Svolvaer where the ship will have sailed to meet us.

Day 4 Vega Island & Torghatten.

The Vega Archipelago, made up of more than 6000 islands, reefs and skerries, was inscribed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 2004 as it represented “the way generations of fishermen/farmers have, over the past 1500 years, maintained a sustainable living in an inhospitable seascape near the Arctic Circle, based on the now unique practice of eider down



harvesting.” This morning we will get an insight into the traditions of egg and down collection and can learn more at the local museum or enjoy walks around the island spotting the eider ducks and unique flora. Return to the vessel and cruise over lunch through Bronnoysund. In the early afternoon Mount Torghatten will come into view, one of the most famous landmarks on the Norwegian coast. A fairly strenuous optional 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.

Day 5 Trondheim. Founded in AD997 by Viking King Olav Tryggvason, Trondheim was Norway’s first capital city and we will discover the historical treasures today. We will drive past the old wooden buildings and visit the 11th century Nidaros Cathedral which was built over the grave of St Olav and richly ornamented in stone with stunning stained glass windows. We continue to the Sverresborg Museum which has more than 60 vintage buildings and shows the building traditions of the region before enjoying a panoramic view of the city from the Sverresli Viewpoint. Return to the ship for lunch and a relaxing afternoon at sea.

Day 6 Runde, Veststeinen and Kinn Islands. 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 south to the Bremanger region and in the early afternoon arrive at the island of Veststeinen, a true Norwegian

Puffin



Lofoten islands



"fuglefjell" which translates to "Bird Mountain". Here we find 16,000 Atlantic Puffins which breed alongside shag, black legged kittiwakes, black guillemots and razorbill. In the late afternoon there will be a chance to stretch your legs at Kinn Island where Zodiacs will bring us ashore to explore this stunning green island on foot.



Day 7 Dalsfjord & Bygstad. Dalsfjord lies at the heart of Western Norway with its starkly contrasting fjord scenery. Today's tour will take us through this beautiful environment and over to Sunnfjord with its magnificent waterfalls and mountains. We will visit Sunnfjord Museum, which provides an insight into how life was in local settlements in the mid-1800s, before taking a scenic drive to the region known as 'the waterfall country' stopping at the Huldefossen and Likholefossen waterfalls and returning via the Hestadfjord where we find the 19th century Hestad church located in idyllic surroundings.

Day 8 Sognefjorden & Naerofjorden. We spend the day enjoying spectacular fjord scenery from aboard the MS Hebridean Sky. 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.

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. At Vatnahalsen we will leave the train and walk from the station to the Mountain Hotel where there will be time to relax and take a walk before re-boarding the train back to Flam. After lunch, enjoy a little free time in Flam before we sail back along the scenic fjords.

Day 10 Hardangerfjord & Rosendal. Arrive this morning in Hardangerfjord, the third largest fjord in the world, where we dock at Rosendal. We will 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 onboard we have free time to explore the town.

Day 11 Lerwick, Scotland. After a morning at sea we arrive in the Shetland Islands and the port of Lerwick. This afternoon we can discover the historic port with the chance to wander through its narrow stone lanes.

Day 12 Handa & Tanera Mor. This morning we arrive at Handa where we will use our Zodiacs to explore the magnificent sea cliffs of Torridonian sandstone which rise from the Atlantic. The island comes alive each summer when nearly 100,000 seabirds gather to breed, including internationally important numbers of guillemot, razorbill, puffins and great skua. Over lunch we sail down the coast to Loch Broom and the Summer Isles where we hope to land on the only inhabited island of Tanera Mor.

Day 13 Oban. Disembark after breakfast. A transfer will be provided to Glasgow International Airport and Central Station to arrive in the late morning.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £350 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Amundsen	Standard	£5795	£5445
Byrd	Superior	£6295	£5945
Mawson	Premium	£6495	£6145
Mawson	Corner	£6995	£6645
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£7395	£7045
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£7795	£7445
Shackleton	Hebridean	£8995	£8645
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£7595	£7245
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£7795	£7445

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel from London to Tromso, 12 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team, transfers, port taxes, all gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance.

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 where we will be at anchor. In addition to transporting passengers ashore on many days, Zodiacs will also be used on some days to explore coastlines and fjords.

“

Our time spent discovering some of Norway's most impressive fjords from the deck of our small ship promises to astound even the most jaded of travellers.

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To the Lands of Gods & Heroes

A voyage of discovery through the Mediterranean and Aegean aboard the MS Island Sky
30th June to 10th July 2016

Crossing the Ionian Sea, dipping into the Mediterranean and island hopping through the turquoise waters of the Aegean, our small ship will take us on a voyage through the playground of the Greek Gods learning of the myths and legends that surround these enchanted islands. To be on deck before breakfast as the ship approaches landfall, with the sun burning off the early mist is to experience one of the true delights of sea travel. To look forward to a day of exploration in good company, with knowledgeable leaders and lecturers, is still as enjoyable as ever it was, even in the days of the grand tour.

This journey has been planned to reveal the history and legacy of the Greeks, from the emergence of the great Minoan and Mycenaean civilisations to the magnificent artistic and architectural achievements of the Byzantines. We will sail through turquoise waters, call into whitewashed villages, discover ancient sites and admire rugged landscapes with the added benefit of traversing the Corinth Canal. Our journey will conclude in one of the world's most captivating cities, Istanbul, a fitting end for our voyage of discovery.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Rome, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Island Sky. Sail in the early evening.

Day 2 Agropoli. After a morning at sea we arrive in Campania, a green and fertile area famous for the production of Buffalo Mozzarella. The small port of Agropoli is a convenient location for our afternoon excursion to Paestum. Founded by Greeks in 600 BC this well preserved and fascinating site was rediscovered in 1752. On our half day guided tour we will see the impressive Poseidon Temple, the

Basilica, Amphitheatre and Aethenian before spending some time in the museum, adjacent to the site. *Please note that we may be at anchor today and therefore use the vessel's Zodiacs or local tenders.*

Day 3 Giardini Naxos for Taormina. We anchor this morning in Giardini Naxos, the oldest Greek settlement in Sicily dating from 735 BC and our base for our visit to Taormina, a walled town lying in the shadow of Mount Etna. Popular since the 19th century as a holiday resort it nevertheless has some impressive sites including



the Greek Theatre from where there are marvellous views over the town and coast. Also enjoy a walk into the Medieval quarter where we will see the 13th century cathedral and the 15th century Palazzo Corvaja. After our tour you can choose to either return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and enjoy an afternoon in Giardini Naxos exploring the small town, relax on the local beach, or stay in Taormina before joining our shuttle bus back to the ship in the afternoon. *Please note that we may be at anchor today and therefore use the vessel's Zodiacs or local tenders.*

Day 4 Syracuse. Syracuse once rivalled Athens as the largest and most beautiful city in the Greek world. Our guided tour will visit the Archaeological Zone and include the well preserved spectacular 15 000 seat Greek theatre. Paradise quarry is now an attractive garden and orange grove but was the primary source of limestone and the site is famous for the curious 'Dionysus Ear', a vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. Alternatively, wander through the old town independently where you can see the remains of the Temple of Apollo, the Fountain of Arethusa and the Temple of Athena which is located in the cathedral. Return to the vessel for lunch and enjoy a relaxing afternoon at sea. Maybe join one of the onboard lectures or enjoy a book in the library as we sail to Greece.

Day 5 Olympia, Greece. After a morning at sea we arrive in Katakolon our base for our afternoon excursion to Olympia. Pastoral and lush, Olympia's plentiful ruins are shaded by Aleppo pines and olive trees. The fame of Olympia rests upon the Olympic Games. During the celebrations that accompanied the Games, competitors, while not forgetting that they were Athenians, Spartans or from other city states,

remembered that they were Greeks and regarded an Olympic victory as the highest honour. We will see the gymnasium, the stadium and the palestra or wrestling school. We will also explore the Altis, or sacred precinct of Zeus, which houses structures including the Temple of Zeus, one of the largest temples on the Greek mainland. We will end at the Archaeological Museum that houses some fine sculptures and artefacts from the site.

Day 6 Delphi & Corinth Canal. After breakfast we arrive in Itea from where we will depart on an excursion to the sacred site of Delphi, one of Greece's most important sites of antiquity. The ruins here are exceptional. We will explore the Sanctuary of Apollo, site of the sacred Delphic Oracle and walk along Delphi's Sacred Way, visiting the Treasury of the Athenians and the 5000 seat theatre dating from the fourth century BC. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and an afternoon cruising before we transit the Corinth Canal in the early evening. Completed in 1893 and only 6.4 kilometres long and 21.5 metres wide, it is only small ships like ours which can now make this journey. Be on deck during the transit before dinner onboard this evening.

Day 7 Nafplio. Looking out across the translucent water of the bay towards the Arcadian Mountains, Nafplio's sheltered location below a rocky headland and large natural fortress crowned by a Venetian castle is perhaps unrivalled in Greece. We will enjoy a scenic drive through the Argos Plain, once ruled by Agamemnon, conqueror of Troy, to the famous citadel of Mycenae. High above the confluence of two boulder-strewn ravines, Mycenae is entered by way of the Lion Gate. Once inside the gate, we will explore the Royal Palace, the shaft graves and the remains of the city walls. An archaeological briefing

within the Treasury of Artreus (also known as the Tomb of Agamemnon) will add to our understanding and appreciation of the sights. After lunch onboard, the afternoon will be at leisure.



Syracuse

Day 8 Delos & Paros. This morning we will visit Delos, which though the smallest of the Cyclades, was once the political and religious centre for the whole of the Aegean. Birthplace of Apollo and Artemis, it boasted an oracle second only to that of Delphi. Explore the magnificent archaeological site including the marble sanctuary of Apollo before sailing over lunch to Paros, famed for the marble that is drawn from the islands interior and used in the Venus de Milo statue. We will spend the afternoon in Parikia, a beautiful village of whitewashed houses and labyrinthine streets. Explore the 4th century Panagia Ekatondapyliani, one of the finest churches in the Cyclades, the fine Byzantine Museum and the Archaeological Museum including part of the Parian Chronicle, which lists the most outstanding artistic achievements of ancient Greece. Please note that we may be at anchor in Delos and therefore will use the vessel's Zodiacs or local tenders.

Day 9 Patmos. One of the smaller islands in the Dodecanese, Patmos is the most sacred Greek Island for Christians as it was here St John received his revelation. This morning we will visit St John's cave, now converted to a beautiful chapel and see where he lived and wrote the "Book of the Apocalypse". We continue to Chora where we walk up the ancient pilgrim's path to the town of Patmos which is clustered round the great fortified monastery of St John the Divine. The Library houses rare manuscripts and the Treasury displays one of the finest collections of Byzantine liturgical art in Greece, representing a period of more than 1000 years. After lunch onboard the afternoon will be at leisure.

Day 10 Dikili for Pergamum. From the port of Dikili we will drive inland to Pergamum with its splendid Acropolis towering above the valley of the Caicus River. This city, built by Alexander's warring generals became one of the cultural capitals of antiquity. Today Pergamum is one of Turkey's finest archaeological sites. Take a cable car up to the Acropolis to see the remains of the citadel and the city walls, the foundations of the Zeus Altar and the Royal Palace. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and enjoy a final afternoon at sea as we sail to Istanbul.

Day 11 Istanbul to London.
Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Post-Cruise Extension Istanbul



We are offering a two night post-cruise extension in-conjunction with this voyage. For itinerary and pricing please refer to page 101.

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
Magellan	Standard Forward	£4395	£4095
Magellan	Standard	£4695	£4395
Columbus	Superior	£4995	£4695
Marco Polo	Premium	£5295	£4995
Marco Polo	Corner	£5795	£5495
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£6295	£5995
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£6795	£6495
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£6995	£6695
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£7295	£6995

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, ten nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, transfers, all gratuities, port taxes.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, Turkish visa.



Paestum

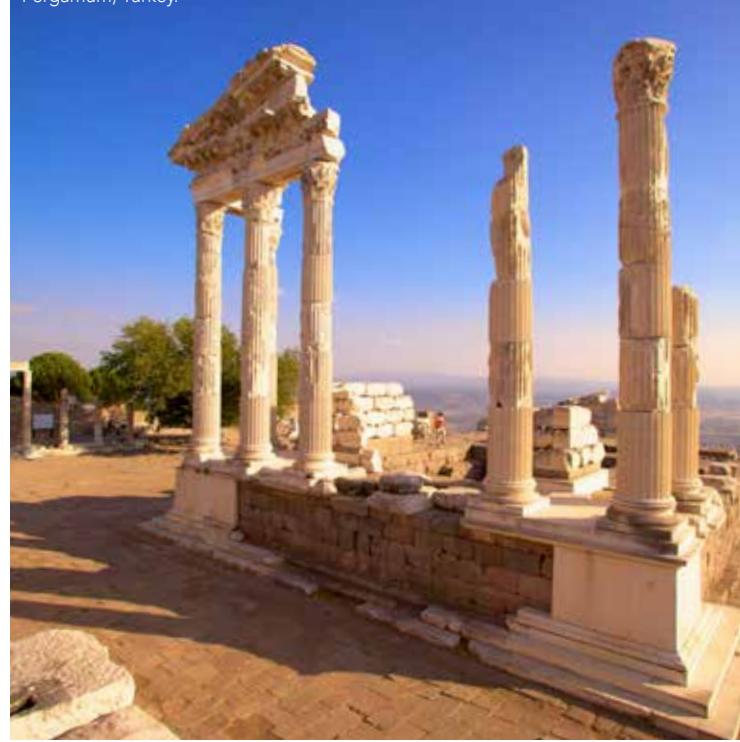


Delos



Paros

Pergamum, Turkey.



In the Footsteps of St Paul

A voyage through the Mediterranean and Aegean from Limassol to Istanbul aboard the MS Island Sky with Dr Richard Chartres

15th to 26th September 2016

It is sometimes said that if it was not for St Paul there would have been no Christianity. It was through his missionary journeys, from about 44 AD to 60 AD that the Christian message was spread to the gentile world. St Paul made three journeys from Antioch across the Eastern Mediterranean and Anatolia, now modern day Turkey, to Thrace and finally onto Rome. In the process he founded some of the earliest Christian churches. St Paul was born in Tarsus, around 5 AD, a time when the Eastern Mediterranean was under Roman Rule. In 33 AD, on his way to Damascus in Syria he had a religious experience, or revelation, which he believed to be of the resurrected Christ. From this moment on he became a Christian and was later known as Paul rather than Saul, his Hebrew name. As a Jew, Paul was familiar with the Jewish Diaspora across the Eastern Mediterranean and while on his travels he visited and preached to these Jewish communities. As a Roman citizen he was also able to make use of the excellent communication links of the Roman Empire, so enabling him to travel inland to such places as Cappadocia.

During this cruise and from the comfort of the all-suite MS Island Sky we will have an opportunity to follow in the footsteps of St Paul, visiting Tarsus, Perge, Patmos and Alexandria-Troas. We will also visit Ephesus, which at the time of St Paul was second only to Rome in size and importance. During St Paul's three-year stay in Ephesus he frequently preached on the steps of the Library, and whilst in Ephesus he wrote four letters, or Epistles; to the Galatians, Corinthians, Philemon and Philippians. It is also believed that St John the Apostle, author of the Fourth Gospel, possibly brought Mary the Mother of Jesus to Ephesus towards the end of her life. We also visit the island of Patmos where St John the Divine wrote the Book of Revelation to the Seven Churches of Asia, some of which we will be visiting.

The life of St Paul and the early Church was set within the context of the Roman Empire, which in turn succeeded the ancient Greek Empire. During our visits to the ancient sites we will see evidence of Greek, Roman and also Byzantium history and culture. The Ottomans followed the Byzantines and ever since the region has been predominantly Muslim. Our journey takes us through an area steeped in history; a history of great empires of conquest and in conflict, a history rich in cultural and religious diversity. It is an area that can lay claim to the foundation of the early Christian Church; a place where not only churches were built but where Christian doctrine was first formulated at the great Ecumenical Councils of Nicaea, Constantinople and Ephesus. While many of these early churches no longer exist, the sense of place remains and the legacy of St Paul lives on.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Limassol, Cyprus.

Fly by scheduled flight to Larnaca. On arrival transfer to the MS Island Sky moored in Limassol and sail.

Day 2 Mersin & Tarsus, Turkey. Mersin, the capital of Icel province borrows its name from Myrtle, the evergreen vegetation which grows in the area. From here it is a short drive to Tarsus, the birth place of St Paul which was an important part of the trade route to the interiors of Asia Minor. See the well dedicated to St Paul and the church built in 1862 to his name. Walk through

the narrow streets of old Tarsus with typical stone and wooden built houses, see the Roman road in the north of the city and visit the Tarsus Museum where we see the relics from Gozukule excavations. We end at the Ulu Mosque and Makami-sherif Mosque both converted from ancient churches. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and this afternoon enjoy some free time in Mersin before we sail this evening.

Day 3 Tasucu. Drive up into the Taurus mountains to Uzuncaberc, a typical village built amongst the ruins of the

ancient temple city of Olba, its main temple dedicated to Zeus. After lunch onboard drive to Silifke, once ancient Seleucia founded between 296 and 280 B.C by one of Alexander the Great's generals. Visit the Silifke Museum and the underground church of Aya Tekla, founded by Thecla, a disciple of St Paul's teaching. Continue along the shore to Corycos where, in 191 B.C, the fleet of Antiochus the Great was defeated by the Romans. See the ancient tombs and view the castle of Kiz Kalesi from the shore.



Day 4 Alanya & Side. On a morning excursion, drive through the town, with views of the Taurus Mountains in the east, then towards Incekum along the Turkish Riviera to the west, where we pass citrus and banana plantations and visit Damlatas Cave which is a masterpiece of nature, known for its curative effect on asthma. Drive along the beautiful Turkish Riviera towards the ancient city of Side which was one of the leading Pamphylian cities on the south coast of Anatolia. Visit the Grand Theatre, a perfect example of a Roman theatre built on vaults on flat land. Walk through the town, view the old harbour and see the remains of the Apollo Temple. From the MS Island Sky's central berth, you can enjoy a free afternoon and evening to explore the town of Alanya.

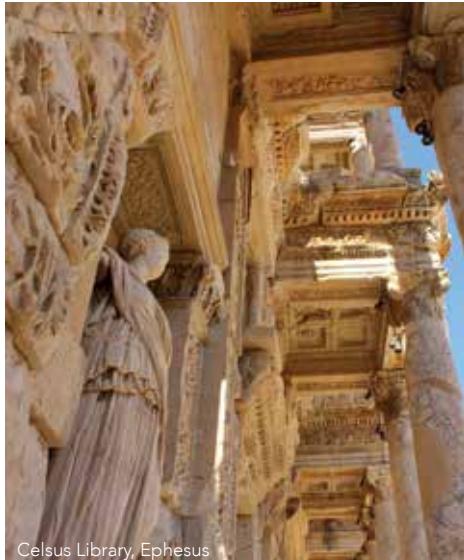
Day 5 Aspendos & Perge. Over breakfast we arrive in Antalya from where we explore the principal Roman ruins along Turkey's southern coast. We pass the modern city of Antalya en-route to the ancient city of Aspendos, whose amphitheatre, built in the 2nd century A.D., is considered the best preserved in the Mediterranean. Dating from 1000 B.C., the city of Aspendos was a major port and the most important centre in the region during the 5th century B.C.



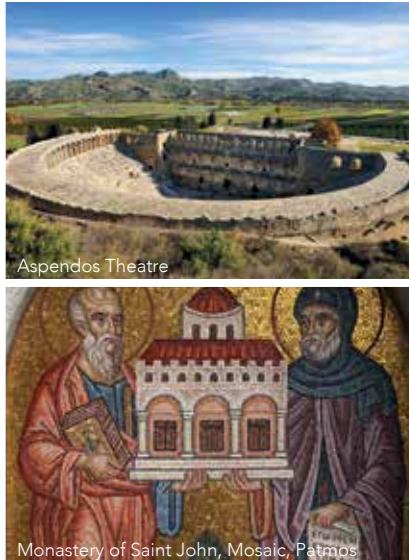
We will also visit Perge which dates back to 1000 B.C. and was founded by Mopsus and Calchas after their retreat from Troy. St Paul visited here on at least two occasions mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles. After a local lunch continue to Antalya to visit the excellent Archaeological Museum.

Day 6 Xanthos & Patara. From our berth at Fethiye we travel to the south east to discover the rich Lycian towns of the past. Drive along Esme River to the ancient city of Xanthos which was Lycia's prominent capital city built on a great cliff overlooking the river. Xanthos boasts several significant ruins, including the Nereid Monument, an exquisite Ionic building who's figured friezes are in the British Museum. Continue to Letoon, a city named after Leto, mother Goddess of Licians. See the ruins of the temples dedicated to Leto, Artemis and Apollo and the amphitheatre. Enjoy a local lunch before visiting Patara located amidst sand dunes and by a long sandy beach. The city was conquered by Alexander the Great and St Paul stopped here on his way to Rome in A.D 60. Please note that we may be at anchor today in which instance the vessel's Zodiacs will be used to access the shore.

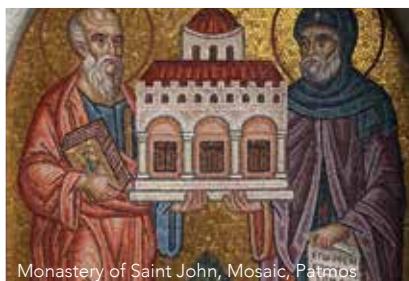
Day 7 Didim, Miletus & Priene. From the port of Didim we will drive to Priene an ancient Greek holy city and the home of an important temple of Athena. Priene's picturesque ruins include several columns of the Temple of Athena, much of the city wall, a well-preserved theatre and a council chamber. We will continue to Miletus one of the most important cities in ancient Greek world and visited by St Paul on his third missionary journey. Here is a fine theatre, well laid out chessboard street plans, two agoras (market places), baths, a council chamber, fortifications, a stadium and harbour workings. After lunch onboard



Celsus Library, Ephesus



Aspendos Theatre



Monastery of Saint John, Mosaic, Patmos



Patmos

we will have time to explore the colossal temple and oracle to Apollo in Didim. Please note that we may be at anchor today in which instance the vessel's Zodiacs will be used to access the shore.

Day 8 Patmos, Greece. Of all the Greek islands, Patmos, is the most sacred to Christians both Orthodox and Western; it was here that St John received his revelation. This morning we will make our way to the grotto of St John. This small cave, now converted into the beautiful chapel, is where the Saint lived, had his revelation and wrote 'Book of the Apocalypse'. From here continue to the village of Chora, with its simple houses and Byzantine churches and climb to the Monastery of St John the Theologian. Upon entering into the courtyard, admire the intricate pebbled laid floor, decorated arches and frescoes adorning the entrance to the chapel of Christodoulos. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch.

Day 9 Kusadasi & Ephesus, Turkey. Arriving at Kusadasi at breakfast time we drive to the nearby ancient city of Ephesus, a stunning and partially excavated site where digging has been taking place for over a century. Broad streets are lined by impressive buildings including the library of Celsus and the temples of Serapis and Hadrian. Once the capital of Ionia, St Paul preached here on his second missionary journey and we will see the Church of the Virgin Mary, the most important Christian monument in Ephesus. We will see the spectacular Grand Theatre, originally built in the third century BC by the Greeks, and later expanded by the Romans to its present capacity of 24,000. From this theatre, which has a row of seats 30 metres above the orchestra, St Paul used to give his sermons. Enjoy a free afternoon strolling in Kusadasi or take an excursion to Seljuk to see the site of the Temple of Artemis, one of the

Seven Wonders of the Ancient World and see ruined Basilica of St John.

Day 10 Pergamum. On a full day tour, drive inland, past fertile fields and olive trees, to the present day modern town of Bergama, once known as Pergamum, a great centre of culture. Today Pergamum is one of Turkey's finest archaeological sites. We will visit the Asclepion, a healing centre from the 4th century B.C. and one of the most important sites of Pergamum. Discover the Temple of Asclepios, the amphitheatre, and walk through the sacred corridor and down the ancient, arcaded, marble-paved boulevard. Continue into the town of Bergama and visit the Archaeological Museum which houses relics discovered during the excavations of Pergamum. En-route we will see the Basilica which was one of the earliest of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor. Take a cable car up to the Acropolis to explore the remains of the citadel and the city walls.

Day 11 Canakkale. After breakfast join a full day tour to Troy which is associated with the sagas of Trojan War and its description by Homer (750 B.C.) in his two epic poems "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey." Archaeological digs have revealed nine cities and various ruins of the city walls, typical house foundations, a temple and a theatre. En-route we will visit the Archaeological museum. After a local lunch, drive to Ezine town, through pine forests towards Alexandria Troas which has a large unexcavated ancient site. It was founded by Antigonos, one of the commanders of Alexander the Great, in 310 B.C. During the time of St. Paul it was known as Alexandeia-Troas and Paul stayed and sailed from here with Barnabas to Neapolis.

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

Post-Cruise Cappadocia & Istanbul Extension - 26th to 30th September 2016



After disembarking the MS Island Sky in Istanbul we are offering the opportunity to extend your time in Turkey with our optional extension which includes two nights in Cappadocia with its otherworldly beauty and fascinating history and two nights in magnificent Istanbul.

The Itinerary

Days 1 & 2 Capadoccia. Disembark the MS Island Sky and transfer to the airport for our domestic flight to Cappadocia. Whilst in Cappadocia, our guided sightseeing will include the underground city of Kaymakli, the lunar landscape of the Derent Valley and the now deserted cave town of the Zelve Valley. At Goreme discover the rock cut churches with their fine Byzantine frescoes. We will spend two nights at the Alfinia Hotel (or similar).

Day 3 Cappadocia to Istanbul. Transfer to the airport for the return flight to Istanbul. Check into the centrally located Levni Hotel (or similar) for a two night stay.

Day 4 Istanbul. On our morning tour we will enjoy the sights of old Constantinople with visits to the Hippodrome, the Blue Mosque and the great Byzantine Church of Santa Sophia.

Day 5 Istanbul to London. After breakfast, we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £975 Single: £1125

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Cappadocia with breakfast, lunch, and dinner, two nights hotel accommodation in Istanbul on bed and breakfast basis. Excursions and entrance fees as described, services of a local guide and Noble Caledonia tour escort, internal round trip economy flights.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, Turkish Visa.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

LIMITED AVAILABILITY REMAINING		
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price
Magellan	Standard Forward	£4895
Magellan	Standard	£5095
Columbus	Superior	£5495
Marco Polo	Premium	£5795
Marco Polo	Corner	£5995
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£6495
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£6895
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£6895
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£7495

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 11 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, all shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, transfers, port taxes, all gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, Turkish Visa.

East of Bali

A voyage from Darwin to Bali aboard the MS Caledonian Sky
15th to 30th September 2016



To many seasoned travellers the chain of islands to the East of Bali are the most fascinating in all the Indonesian archipelago. Certainly they are not on the mass tourism circuit and their beauty and customs are relatively unscathed by the modern world. Our adventure explores the Nusa Tenggara islands which cover a relatively small geographical area of the country but deliver a rich experience where neighbouring islands embrace different cultures, lifestyles and languages. As we sail from one island to another aboard the MS Caledonian Sky we will enter a timeless world that is blessed with pure white sandy deserted beaches that in turn give way to stunning, beautiful coral reefs in dazzlingly clear water.

As we island hop we will encounter many diverse and splendid sights. The awesome Komodo dragons, vast crater lakes with surrealistic hues, lush spice growing islands contrasting with lunar like landscapes and extraordinary islanders. On some of the islands, villagers harpoon sperm whales from tiny boats by jumping on the whales back and at the Pasola festival, a biannual event, many hundreds of horsemen gather to throw spears at each other in a way that would result in apoplexy for our health and safety experts. In contrast, these islands are well known for their gentleness and friendly inhabitants and for their love of music and dance. Come with us and be rewarded with the rich experiences that these most beautiful and unusual islands offer to all those who visit their faraway shores.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Perth, Australia. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Perth. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to a centrally located hotel for a two night stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure to relax.

Day 3 Perth. After breakfast in the hotel we enjoy a tour of Perth which will include a guided walk of Kings Park, perched on Mount Eliza. Enjoy a free afternoon to explore at your own pace. We will meet tonight for a Welcome Dinner.

Day 4 Perth to Darwin. After breakfast in the hotel we will transfer to Perth airport for our scheduled flight to Darwin. On arrival transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky.

Day 5 At sea. Enjoy a day at sea as we cross the Timor Sea.

Day 6 Dili, East Timor. Today we arrive on East Timor and have a day to explore the city of Dili and surroundings areas. A morning drive will take us through coffee plantations, white eucalypts, and fertile valleys as we drop into the village of Laulara, a peaceful little village perched on hilltops surrounded by tropical secondary forest and offering a magnificent view looking

down to Dili city and its bay. Here we will enjoy a cultural experience before meeting the villagers and seeing their way of life. Afterward continue to Taibessi Traditional Market where we find a range of local products from its main crops around the island to the famous Ikat's fabric before we end at the Timorese Resistance Archive and Museum which showcases the 24-year struggle for independence against the Indonesians.

Day 7 Alor, Indonesia. Arrive this morning in the Solor and Alor archipelago and the island of Alor, home to indigenous tribal groups renowned for their Moko drum culture. This is a stunningly beautiful island with its smouldering volcanoes reaching down into crystal clear waters fringed with pristine coral reefs, coconut palm beaches of pure white sand and traditional villages built half way up mountainsides. From our berth in Kalabahi we will explore the rugged interior of the island where we find the indigenous Melanesian people living a very traditional life. In the village of Takpala, we will meet the Abui Tribe', see demonstrations of local handicrafts made of wood and bamboo and observe their daily life. On our return to Kalabahi we will visit the colourful Kadelang traditional



market and the local museum with its unique collection of ikats textiles, ceramics, traditional music and a bronze Dongson drum (Moko). After lunch onboard we will find a spot for swimming and snorkelling in the crystal clear waters.

Day 8 Lamalera, Lembata. Well off the tourist path, the island of Lembata is a perfect destination for us to explore with our small ship. Here we find traditional whaling villages, mentioned in Portuguese documents dating back to 1643 who hunt large sea animals, like whales and manta rays to provide food and a living for the entire village. Using simple sailboats and following ancient beliefs and traditions they are exempt from the ban on whaling due to the small numbers of whales taken and the traditional hunting methods they use. We will have the chance to walk around the fascinating village. Return to the ship for lunch as we will find a location to snorkel and swim this afternoon.

Day 9 Ende, Flores. Arriving in Flores at dawn we embark on a full day excursion to the remarkable Kelimutu National Park with its unique three coloured crater lakes. These three lakes change colours from time to time, and nobody can explain why, but stories vary from a changing mineral content of the water to angry ancestor spirits. Kelimutu is sacred to the local population and they believe the souls of the dead go to the lakes. We will make our way to "Inspiration

Point" with views over all three lakes. We enjoy lunch in the picturesque village of Moni, ringed by volcanoes and dotted with rice fields before our scenic drive back to the ship.

Day 10 Pulau Savu & Pulau Raijua. Arrive this morning at the remote Savu Islands situated between Sumba and West Timor in the Savu Sea. Whilst the Dutch East India Company made contact on the island in the 17th century and Captain Cook visited on his 1770 voyage, these coral fringed islands are rarely visited by tourists. We will be welcomed to the island by colourful ikat clad tribesmen and a traditional "Pe Oke" dance before exploring the traditional village of the Sawunese Tribe. We will see the village of Namata and Seba visiting the local markets and seeing the traditional and ancestral houses as we drive across the island. Over lunch we cross to the small island of Raijua where we will use our Zodiacs to land on the beach and embark on walks with our naturalists and snorkelling excursions.

Day 11 Waikelo, Sumba. Enjoy a relaxing morning at sea arriving into northern Sumba at lunchtime. From the port of Waikelo we head into the Kodi region where we will learn of the Pasola horseback fighting. Here rival Sumba tribes in traditional costume



Rice terraces, Flores



Perth



Exploring by Zodiac



Rinca



Komodo dragon

battle bareback on horses using hand carved spears (Pasola). This activity is a ceremonial part of the Marapu religion and is run during the harvest months. We will also visit Rotenggaro village and see the traditional Sumba houses, which are as high as coconut trees. Upon arriving at Rotenggaro village you will be welcomed by Merapu traditional dance, then browse around the village, see the high roof houses with backdrops of the Indian Ocean and the large decorated tombs carved from stone.

Day 12 Rinca Island, Komodo. The highlight for many will be our visit to Komodo to see the distant cousins of the dinosaurs, the Komodo dragons. These rare, huge lizards grow up to twelve feet in length and were only known to the western world in 1910 when a Dutch lieutenant first laid eyes on them. Escorted by the island's wardens in the national park we will walk to the dragon's old feeding station, seeing dragons in the wild. Today fewer than 300 of this protected species remains and its continuing existence hangs in the balance. During our walk we also hope to see frigate birds, white buffalo and long tailed monkeys. Over lunch we sail to Pink Beach where we can relax, enjoy a nature walk or swim or snorkel from the beach.

Day 13 Satonda Island. We have a full day to explore diminutive Satonda Island, located between the large island of Sumbawa and smaller Pulau Moyo. The island is wooded and uninhabited, with a fringing reef and a small but swimmable crater lake where the trees are decorated with 'wishing' stones, shells and pieces of coral. This

is a snorkeller's paradise with pristine reefs, colourful coral and abundant fish whilst guided walks inland will search for the local birdlife including the endemic Island Monarch and Rufous Chested Flycatcher.

Day 14 Sumbawa & Moyo Island. Overnight we sail the short distance to Sumbawa Island and the small port of Badas. Here we will see the local traditions of rice pounding and weaving before we continue to the local buffalo racing ground. Buffalo from the local village are dressed up in their finery and raced, two at a time, through a muddy rice field. Continue to the former Sultan's Palace of Dalam Loka, located in the centre of town, formerly the courthouse of The Sumbawa King Muhammad Kaharuddin II and his family. To this day, the king's daughter lives in the house, and preserves many historical remnants from years gone by, such as traditional daggers, the king's crown, spears & gold plated clothing which belonged to the King. This afternoon finds us anchored off the lovely island of Moyo. Moyo is a nature reserve with wild oxen deer, wild boars and a great variety of bird species which we will explore on nature walks with our naturalists. If conditions allow there will be the opportunity to snorkel and explore by Zodiac.

Day 15 Bali to London. Disembark this morning in the port of Benoa and transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight to London via Singapore. Alternatively extend your stay in Bali with our two night extension.

Day 16 London. Arrive in London.

Pre & Post-Cruise Extensions



Pre-Cruise Journey to the Red Centre Extension

Before embarking the MS Caledonian Sky we are offering the opportunity to explore Kakadu National Park, the largest park in Australia covering more than 111 000 square kilometres and home to more than one third of Australia's bird species. During this optional tour you will also travel aboard The Ghan train from Darwin to Alice Springs where we will visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service and spend a night in Uluru to witness sunset and sunrise at Ayers Rock. Full details can be viewed online at www.noble-caledonia.co.uk



Post-Cruise Bali Extension

For those who would like to extend their stay in Bali, we are offering a two night extension to Ubud – the cultural heart of the island. Our two night extension offers you the chance to immerse yourself in Balinese culture, visit ancient caves and temples, interact with local villages and stroll through the stunning rice terraces, with the chance to learn how to plant and harvest rice. Full details can be viewed online at www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY			
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£6995	£6495
Castle	Standard	£7195	£6695
Caledonian	Superior	£7495	£6995
Promenade	Premium	£7795	£7295
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£8095	£7595
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£8395	£7895
Promenade	Owner's Corner Suite with balcony	£8995	£8495
Castle	Standard for sole use	£9495	£8995
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£9695	£9195

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, two nights hotel accommodation in Perth on a bed and breakfast basis, half day Perth city tour and welcome dinner on day 3, 11 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

La Dolce Vita - 25th Anniversary Cruise

A celebratory cruise from Malta to Sardinia aboard the MS Hebridean Sky with London Festival Opera
27th September to 4th October 2016

Join us aboard the MS Hebridean Sky as we mark 25 years since Noble Caledonia was established and our very first cruise aboard the much loved, MS Caledonian Star. Since that time well over one quarter of a million people have travelled with us on a myriad of trips to every corner of the world, and by every means of transport known to man.

We hope to see many familiar faces onboard in order that we can express our thanks for such marvellous continued support, that has allowed the company to progress to where we are today. There will be interesting talks by our eminent guest speaker and London Festival Opera's Artistic Director, Philip Blake-Jones as well as wonderful recitals by London Festival Opera and keeping good order will be our popular cruise director Neil Horrocks, ably assisted by Chantal Cookson who was onboard our very first cruise twenty-five years ago, then travelling as Chantal Langley. There will of course also be some added surprises along the way as we celebrate in style whilst cruising from Malta, around Sicily to Sardinia.

Our cruise will include visits to some of the most prominent archaeological sites in Sicily, tastings of the local wines in Sardinia and concerts by London Festival Opera in private palazzos of Palermo and Syracuse as well as a gala concert onboard. We have tried to ensure that our cruise is educational but also relaxing with the chance to explore independently as well as on included excursions. After setting sail from Valletta's Grand Harbour we will appreciate Sicily's rich artistic legacy of so many invading civilisations from the comfort of the MS Hebridean Sky with the help of knowledgeable local guides before spending a day in Sardinia's ancient city of Cagliari.

London Festival Opera



We have long been associated with London Festival Opera and each year our music themed cruises grow in popularity. London Festival Opera have achieved a considerable reputation for presenting opera in palaces, castles, country houses, theatres, concert halls, embassies and private homes and gardens. Recent engagements have been throughout the UK, Europe and as far afield as Barbados, Marrakech and Moscow. Particular attention is given to the design and quality of their costumes which are as authentic as possible. Whether it is a period evening dress, such as Regency or Victorian to enhance a gala performance or a full production, the costumes are always of the highest quality and style. Bringing together artists from the major British opera companies including the Royal Opera, English National Opera and Glyndebourne Festival Opera, the company has a considerable reputation and has appeared in some of the world's leading venues including as a guest company in one of Italy's greatest opera houses, La Fenice in Venice.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London Gatwick to Malta.

Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky moored in the grand harbour of Valletta. Enjoy a Welcome Drink and Dinner as we set sail this evening to Sicily.



Day 2 Licata, Sicily.

Founded in 280 B.C by the Phintias, Licata has grown into an important commercial centre on the island of Sicily. It is our base today from where we begin our journey inland to what is regarded as the finest Roman site on Sicily, the Imperial Roman Villa of Casale, which is located close to Piazza Armerina amidst wooded rolling countryside. This huge villa was built in the 3rd century and features some stunning floor mosaics. We will also explore the Medieval centre of Piazza Armerina with its Aragonese Castle and the Romanesque Church of Sant' Andrea. Our return drive to the MS Hebridean Sky in Licata takes us through the province of Caltanissetta, which is recognised today as one of the best wine making regions in Italy thanks above all to its production of high quality, prestigious red wines including Nero D'Avalo. We will break our journey at one of these vineyards and enjoy a chance to sample wine over a Sicilian lunch. Return to the ship in the late afternoon and we will sail tonight.

ashore exploring independently from our central berth. This evening we will transfer to the beautiful Palazzo Beneventano, a stunning private 18th century palace, located in the central square near the cathedral where we will enjoy a concert by the London Festival Opera.



Trapani

Day 3 Syracuse.

Syracuse was founded by the Greeks in 734 B.C and by the 5th century was a political and military power throughout the Mediterranean which rivalled Athens as the largest and most beautiful city in the Greek world. We will visit the Neapolis Archaeological Park to discover the 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. Our guided tour will continue with an orientation walk in the old quarter of the town on the island of Ortigia where we will see the Temple of Apollo, considered to be Sicily's most ancient Doric temple and the Baroque cathedral which was erected over the remains of the Temple of Minerva. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon

Day 4 Taormina. We drop anchor this morning off Giardini Naxos, the oldest Greek settlement in Sicily which dates from 735 B.C and which will be our base for our visit to Taormina, a walled town lying in the shadow of Mount Etna. Popular since the 19th century as a holiday resort it nevertheless has some truly impressive sites including the Greek Theatre from where there are marvellous views over the town and coast. After our guided tour you can choose to either return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch followed by an afternoon at leisure in Giardini Naxos to explore the small town independently or remain in Taormina before joining our shuttle bus back to the vessel later in the afternoon. Please note that the vessel will be at anchor today and Zodiacs or local tenders will be used.

Day 5 Palermo. Arrive this morning in the Sicilian capital of 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 Ruggiero as well as the recently restored Matorana Church with its stunning mosaics. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and this afternoon you can explore Palermo independently or join the guided excursion to see the remarkable Medieval mosaics in the cathedral at Monreale on the outskirts of the city. This evening we will enjoy a private concert with London Festival Opera in one of the city's beautiful palaces.

Day 6 Trapani. Trapani was the landing point for Peter of Aragon in 1282 to start the Spanish occupation of Sicily and is our base for a morning of exploration today. Choose to either travel inland to Segesta which was one of the most important towns of western Sicily and one of the island's most magical ancient sites. Here we can see one of the grandest Doric monuments to survive, the unfinished temple dating from 424 B.C. which sits atop a hill with excellent views of the countryside and distant coastline. Alternatively, travel to the nearby town of Erice, famed in antiquity for its temple dedicated to the goddess

of love, the Phoenician Astarte, Greek Aphrodite or Roman Venus. Our guided tour will take us to this stunning site high above the sea and to the beautifully preserved Medieval town. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at sea as we sail to Sardinia.

Day 7 Cagliari, Sardinia. This morning there will be a guided walking tour of Cagliari, an ancient city which dates back to the Phoenicians and Romans. Rome left its mark in the grandiose amphitheatre, with its auditorium hewn out of the rock, Pisa left the splendid 13th century Elephant Tower and the Tower of San Pancrazio and the Aragonese and the Spaniards gave the town. After lunch, either relax onboard, return for free time in Cagliari or join an excursion which will take us inland to Serdiana where we enjoy a wine tasting at one of the local vineyards accompanied by traditional Sardinian bread, meats and cheeses. Tonight after dinner enjoy an onboard concert with London Festival Opera as we set sail.

Day 8 Olbia, Sardinia to London Gatwick. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight to London.



Cagliari



Mosaic



Doric Temple, Segesta



Syracuse



Taormina

Pre-cruise Music in Malta extension - 21st to 27th September 2016



Our sailing aboard the MS Hebridean Sky coincides with our 'Music in Malta' itinerary, a six night escorted tour staying at the wonderful Phoenicia Hotel in Valletta with guided tours and private concerts with London Festival Opera. We have chosen some very special venues for London Festival Opera to perform in such as the Relais & Chateaux property, the 17th century Xara Palace in the heart of the 'Silent City' of Mdina. The final opera gala in the magnificent setting of the Palazzo Parisio will be in period costume for an added visual impact. These stunning locations make truly magical settings for our week of music and this combined with a stay at one of the finest hotels in Malta makes for a very special week.

Full details of the itinerary can be viewed online at www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Amundsen	Standard	£4995	£4495
Byrd	Superior	£5395	£4895
Mawson	Premium	£5595	£5095
Mawson	Corner	£5995	£5495
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£6495	£5995
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£6695	£6195
Shackleton	Hebridean	£7795	£7295
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£7495	£6995
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£8095	£7595

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, seven nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, all shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, transfers, port taxes, gratuities, private concerts and performances by London Festival Opera.

Not Included: Travel Insurance.

Combination Cruise: It is possible to combine this voyage with our 'Beyond the Pillars of Hercules' voyage from Olbia to Madeira shown on pages 44 & 45. Prices available on request.

Passage to Java & Beyond



Discover historical and natural wonders of Indonesia's islands aboard the MS Caledonian Sky
27th September to 11th October 2016

This unusual journey between the beautiful island of Bali and the cosmopolitan city of Singapore represents a fascinating itinerary which focuses on the island of Java, the heart of Indonesia and the most culturally compelling of her islands. From encounters with endemic wildlife and some of the best snorkelling in the world to volcanic landscapes, iridescent rice paddies, places of deep spiritual significance and areas of outstanding natural beauty, we have planned the itinerary to make the most of our time in this unique part of the world. On the remote front we shall visit the Belitung Islands where we will make good use of our Zodiacs to explore.

However, the undisputed highlight for many will be our visit to Borobudur, the great Buddhist stupa, built and decorated perhaps before 800AD. This should be on anybody's list of the ten greatest art-complexes in the world for its size, quality, sophistication and excellent state of preservation. Our in-depth exploration of Java's wonders also includes the far east of the island and the national park that encompasses the still active volcano, Mount Bromo where the landscapes are simply magnificent. With our perfectly suited small ship, we can access islands and bays that the big ships simply cannot get close to and with our fleet of ten Zodiac landing craft, an expert expedition team, a friendly crew of 74 and just 100 fellow passengers, our voyage promises to be an adventure shared with like-minded travellers.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London Heathrow to Bali, Indonesia. Fly by scheduled flight via Singapore.

Day 2 Bali. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the Komaneka Rasa Sayang Hotel (or similar) in Ubud for an overnight stay.

Day 3 Bali. After breakfast enjoy a leisurely morning. In the early afternoon there will be a brief tour of Ubud. In the late afternoon we will transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky.

Day 4 Alas Purwo National Park, Java. Our first call on the island of Java is the rarely visited Alas Purwo National Park on the Blambangan Peninsula located on the south eastern tip of the island. The park covers 43 000 hectares of land consisting of savanna, mangrove

forest, beach forest and lowland tropical forest. Thousands of migrating birds visit its pristine forests each year and the beaches of the park provide nesting ground for Leatherback Turtles, Hawksbill Turtles, Green Turtles, and Olive Ridley Turtles. We will use Zodiacs to land and arrange jungle treks to see the wildlife and turtle conservation projects and use boats to view the birdlife in the mangrove forests.

Day 5 Taman Nasional Bali Barat or Munduk Highlands, Bali. We have a choice of full day excursions today. You may wish to visit the West Bali National Park which comprises of 19,000 hectares on land with an additional 7,000 hectares of coral reefs and coastal waters. Here we can enjoy a gentle trek to the protected mangrove

and monsoon forest and hope to see grey monkeys, black monkeys, giant lizard and some of the 160 species of birds that live here. Afterwards we take a short boat ride to Menjangan Island, considered one of the best snorkelling areas in the world. Here we will explore beautiful coral reef gardens. Alternatively drive inland to the Munduk Highlands. Passing through Singaraja for a brief tour the former capital city of Bali before continuing to the mountainous area of Bedugul to see the three lakes, Bratan, Buyan and Tamblingan. Alongside Lake Bratan is Pura Ulun Danu, an important Hindu-Buddhist temple dedicated to the water goddess and a site of pilgrimage. The scenery is stunning and we will have time to take in the surroundings before continuing to the appealing town of Munduk.

Day 6 Probolinggo for Mount Bromo, Java. We return to Java today and from the port of Probolinggo head inland to Mount Bromo National Park. We will leave the ship early to make our way towards the active volcano, Mount Bromo, driving through the awe inspiring surrounding landscapes. At 7641 feet, Mount Bromo is not the highest peak in the Tengger Massif Range but is the most famous. The more active will have a chance to climb to the lip of the crater. We will enjoy a lunch in a local restaurant before returning to the ship and sailing in the late afternoon.

Day 7 Sumanep, Madura. The island of Madura is now connected to Java by Indonesia's longest bridge however, the islanders maintain their own culture and customs. The town of Sumanep has played an important role in the long history of Madura Island from the Majapahit Kingdom, the colonial era until the time of independence. We will see the Royal Palace and the attached museum, where we will be greeted by a special welcome dance. Continue to the Great Mosque, built in 1763 and influenced by Chinese and European styles. We return to the ship for lunch before heading off this afternoon for a bull race, the most famous attraction

on Madura. The tradition began long ago when plough teams raced each other across fields but today, with bull breeding big business, it has become an important part of the culture. Accompanied by traditional Maduranese music and cheering crowds the bulls pull the drivers on wooden sleds along a 100 metre course with the winning bulls being used as studs for the next 12 months.

Day 8 Karimunjawa Islands. After a busy few days we enjoy a relaxing morning onboard as we sail towards these 27 coral fringed islands situated off the north coast of Java. Arriving in the afternoon we will use our Zodiacs to find a suitable location to land on a local beach. Here we can soak up the sun, enjoy a walk or enjoy time swimming or snorkelling.

Day 9 Semarang for Borobudur, Java. Returning to the main island we reach Semarang our base for our day-long excursion to the UNESCO site of Borobudur and our drive to the site will take us through the highlands and past the imposing Gunung Merapi Volcano. Borobudur is one of world's greatest ancient monuments and the single largest Buddhist structure anywhere on earth. Built in the 9th century, possibly to enhance the image of Buddhism when Hinduism was growing in strength across the Indonesian archipelago, it was deserted almost immediately when the Buddhist Sailendra dynasty was overthrown by the Hindu Majapahit Empire. It lay for 1000 years under heavy jungle before its re-discovery by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1814 from when it was slowly restored. The site consists of six square platforms topped by three circular platforms, and is decorated with no less than 2672 relief panels and 504 Buddha statues of various types.



Belitung Islands



Exploring by Zodiac



Java Sparrows

“

With our perfectly suited small ship, we can access islands and bays that the big ships simply cannot get close to and with our fleet of ten Zodiac landing craft, an expert expedition team and a friendly crew, this voyage promises to be an adventure shared with like-minded travellers.

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Day 10 Cirebon. Continuing along the north coast of Java we arrive at Cirebon. Here we will use pedicabs to take us to the Kasepuhan Palace, built in the 16th century, it is a blend of Sundanese, Javanese, Islamic, Chinese and Dutch styles. We will see local dance performances before touring the palace museum with royal carriages, weaponry, masks, clothes and artwork and the mosque. We continue to the bustling local market before returning to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at sea.

Day 11 Pulau Krakatoa. This morning we sail into the Suna strait and the island of Krakatoa. The volcano famously exploded in 1883, killing 36 417 people. The explosion is considered to be the loudest sound ever heard in modern history, with reports of it being heard nearly 3000 miles from its point of origin. We will use the Zodiacs to land on the island and have the chance to either join a guided walk on the volcano, join our birder for a hike in the forest or take the chance to swim.

Day 12 Belitung Islands. Arrive this morning in the idyllic Belitung Islands, a group of islands off the coast of Sumatra famed for their long beaches and crystal clear sea water. We have the whole day to enjoy the fine white sandy beaches and the wonderful coral reefs. Snorkelling platforms will allow us to swim with a multitude of colourful fish. Meanwhile nature walks will explore the forest for birdlife or you may prefer to simply stay on the beach.

Day 13 At sea. Enjoy a day at sea as we cruise towards Singapore.

Day 14 Singapore to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Day 15 London. Arrive this morning.

Pre & Post-Cruise Extensions



Pre-Cruise Extension - Bali

For those who would like to extend their stay in Bali, we are offering a two night extension to Ubud - the cultural heart of the island. Our two night extension offers you the chance to immerse yourself in Balinese culture, visit ancient caves and temples, interact with local villages and stroll through the stunning rice terraces, with the chance to learn how to plant and harvest rice.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £445 Single: £595

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Ubud on a bed and breakfast basis, airport to hotel and hotel to ship transfers.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.



Post-Cruise Extension - Singapore

After your cruise you may wish to extend your time with our two night extension in Singapore. Enjoy two nights accommodation at a centrally located hotel on a bed and breakfast basis with time at leisure to explore independently. Maybe visit the botanical gardens, Raffles Hotel, the shopping malls of Orchard Road or Sentosa Island.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £395 Single: £525

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis, transfers.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£6495	£5995
Castle	Standard	£6795	£6295
Caledonian	Superior	£7095	£6595
Promenade	Premium	£7395	£6895
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£7695	£7195
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£7995	£7495
Promenade	Owner's Corner Suite with balcony	£8495	£7995
Castle	Standard for sole use	£9295	£8795
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£9595	£9095

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Bali on a bed and breakfast basis, half-day Bali tour, 11 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, all gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

Beyond the Pillars of Hercules

A passage from the island of Sardinia to the island of Madeira aboard the MS Hebridean Sky
4th to 14th October 2016

One of the many advantages of small ship cruising is our ability to start and end a cruise in attractive places. Beginning a cruise in Sardinia and ending in Madeira would be an enormous logistical challenge for most large cruise vessels which have to stick with major ports and airports. Join us aboard the MS Hebridean Sky in Olbia by the stunning Costa Smeralda for a ten night journey that will take us along the Iberian and Moroccan coastlines and out into the Atlantic island of Madeira.

The timing of the voyage in early October is ideal both for the weather and the lack of crowds. As we sail this ancient maritime route we will encounter monuments and ruins of an extraordinary broad sweep of time: Neolithic Nuraghi on Sardinia, the megalithic stone monuments of Menorca, the Roman remains of coastal Iberia, the flowering of Islamic architecture in Spain together with Medieval delights including the Cistercian monastery of Poblet. Leaving Spain we call into Gibraltar and the more recent 18th century challenges of defending the rock from the Spanish and French attacks.

Turning left at the 'Pillar of Hercules' we will follow the Moroccan coast down to Casablanca. From here there is the opportunity to join a two day overland excursion to the incomparable desert city of Marrakech, re-joining the vessel further along the coast in Safi. The old walled city of Marrakech is an intoxicating mix of architecture, colour and aromas, a timeless gem that leaves a lasting impression. Leaving the coast of Morocco we head out into the ocean enjoying a relaxing day at sea on course for Madeira. From here you can fly directly back to the UK, or stay on for a few days at one of the world's most justifiably famous hotels, the magnificently sited Reid's Palace Hotel. From its lofty position above the island's capital you can enjoy the splendid gardens and old world charm and relax in its five star comfort.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London Gatwick to Olbia, Sardinia. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival in Olbia transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky. Sail this evening.

Day 2 Alghero. The Medieval city of Alghero was colonised by the Catalans in the 14th century and even today there is a strong Catalan identity throughout the town and it is often even referred to as "Barceloneta". This attractive port will be 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 B.C. The complex, which was abandoned in the 5th century B.C., due to fire shows the different phases of social life and political organisation of the tribal community. We return to Alghero for lunch onboard and this afternoon is free to explore the town independently. Enjoy a walk through the Medieval streets or along the city walls, visit the archaeological museum or simply relax in a café.

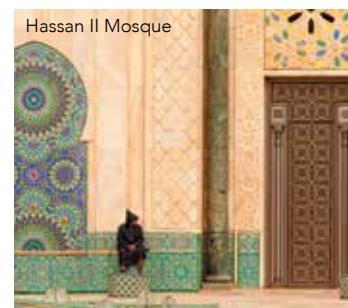
Day 3 Port Mahon, Menorca. After a leisurely morning at sea we arrive into

Menorca, the most northerly of the Balearics and the least dedicated to tourism. The island of Menorca offers pastoral countryside, historic towns and superb beaches. On our afternoon tour we will see the mysterious rock mounds (talayots) and megalithic stone monuments which were erected some 4000 years ago before making our way to aristocratic Ciutadella, the architectural showpiece of Menorca. Situated at the head of a long channel from the sea, the city has had its share of disputes over sovereignty, and its character reflects the influence of Moorish, Turkish and Spanish rule. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky and sail during dinner.

Day 4 Tarragona, Spain. During the second Punic War in 218AD Tarraco was established as a garrison which developed into the main military base for the Roman army in Spain. Today we can still see remnants of the Roman period as we explore the city by foot. See the impressive walls that once surrounded the city, the 2nd century amphitheatre and the Roman Circus where chariot races would be held.



Meanwhile on the outskirts of the town we will see the Pont de les Ferreres, a Roman bridge that formed part of the aqueduct that brought water to the city from the Francoli River. After lunch onboard enjoy an afternoon to explore independently, wander the Medieval streets see the cathedral and the Chapel of St Paul or maybe visit one of the many museums. Alternatively join the excursion to visit the Moestir de Poblet, a UNESCO World Heritage site on the road to Lleida. We will enjoy a guided tour of the monastery and also spend some time in the museum which features artefacts from the region's past.



Day 5 Valencia. Spend the day in Spain's third largest city. The Valencia of today owes much to the early Moors who occupied the region. It is their irrigation system that insures Valencia's fertility and also began the cultivation of oranges which has remained the mainstay of the region's agriculture. Valencia is a vibrant, somewhat chaotic and typically Spanish city. This morning we will take a walking tour to see some of the fine Baroque buildings including the cathedral, the 15th century Gothic Silk Exchange and the old 'La Carmen' quarter. This afternoon you can join the shuttle buses to explore the city further at your own pace, you may wish to visit the Fine Arts Museum or maybe the Colegio del Patriarca with its wonderful Renaissance courtyard and church and a museum with works including a

"Last Supper" by Ribalta. Alternatively this region is renowned as the home of paella and we will take a journey to Albufera, situated 10 kilometres south of Valencia. We will enjoy a boat tour on the lake before visiting a local restaurant to learn about cooking paella and enjoying a tasting.

Day 6 Cartagena. Arrive this morning in Spain's main naval port of Cartagena. Enter the deep natural harbour through two fortified rocky headlands for a morning of exploration in a historic city that dates back to the Phoenicians. The city walls remained intact until the 20th century, creating a dense historic centre. Take the lift or walk up to Concepcio Castle for amazing views of the city and harbour, view the Roman amphitheatre and the archaeological site of Molinete where work continues to uncover the Roman city. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at sea.

Day 7 Gibraltar. Arrive during breakfast into Gibraltar where we have the day to explore this strategic British outpost of the Mediterranean. We will use the cable car to climb the 426 metre Rock of Gibraltar offering breath-taking views of the Costa del Sol, the city below and out towards the African coastline. At the top we enjoy a private lecture which will bring the history of Gibraltar to life. We will visit the Great Siege Tunnels, a labyrinth of tunnels built to defend Gibraltar from Spanish and French attacks between 1779 and 1783 and revered as one of the finest defensive systems. Also visit the Gibraltar Museum where we will learn more about the Great Seige, the geological origins of the rock and also the natural history including bird migrations and the marine life along the shore. Our day will conclude with a private concert at St Michael's Cave, situated within the rock itself and providing wonderful acoustics.

Day 8 Casablanca, Morocco. This morning we arrive in North Africa and will offer a choice of options. Choose from a day in Casablanca where a morning drive takes in the cities most important sights, including the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Olive Market. The highlight of our tour, however, is a visit to the Hassan II Mosque, the largest religious monument in the world after Mecca. It took the work of 3300 traditional Moroccan artisans to create the beautiful mosaics, marble floors and the splendid wood ceilings. The mosque also features the world's tallest minaret, soaring 200 metres above the city. Return to the ship for lunch and a free afternoon to explore further before the ship sails this evening. Alternatively join an overnight trip to Marrakech. Leaving the MS Hebridean Sky after breakfast we will drive inland to the 'red city' and during our time there we will see the rich monuments of this second imperial city including the Koutoubia minaret, a symbol of the city for 800 years, the Bahia palace with its lovely courtyards, late Moorish architecture and the Saadian Tombs including the royal pavilion. We will also have time to wander in the souks, visit the Jemaa El Fna square and the Marjorelle Gardens and enjoy some meals in

local restaurants before returning to the vessel in Safi on day nine.

Day 9 Safi for Essaouira. From the port of Safi we head along the coast to Essaouira. Founded in the 18th century, Essaouira was built to be a rival city to Agadir. On our full day tour we will see the amazing mixture of Portuguese and Berber architecture, the 16th century sea bastions built to protect the city, the 18th century Medina and in the Mellah we find the souks dedicated to gold, spices and fish. We will then enjoy a seafood lunch near the beach before returning to the MS Hebridean Sky. Those who chose to join the overnight excursion to Marrakech will return to the ship this evening.

Day 10 At sea. Enjoy a day to relax as we cruise over to Madeira.

Day 11 Funchal, Madeira to London Gatwick. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight to London. Alternatively extend your stay with three nights at the Reid's Palace Hotel in Madeira.



Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca



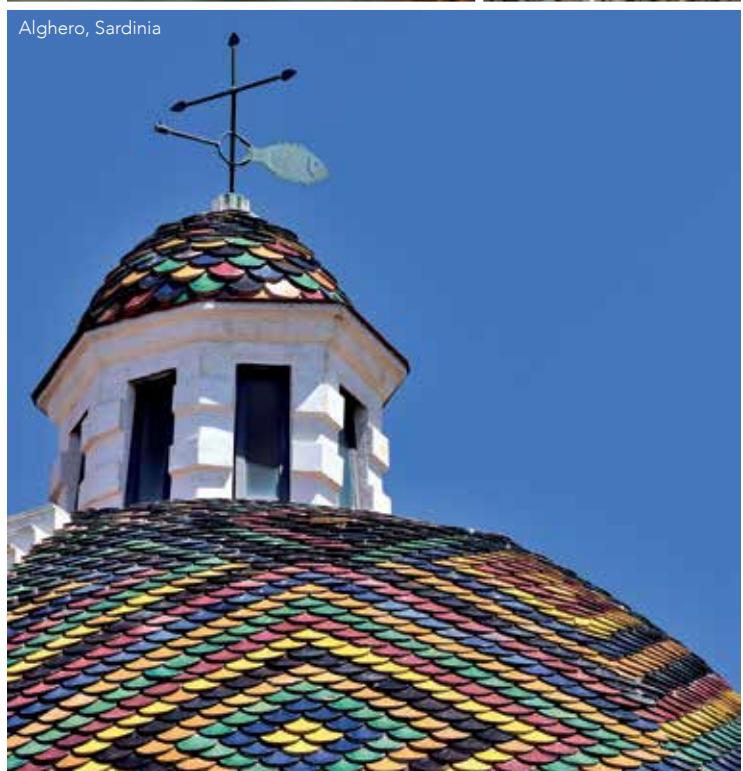
Roman Amphitheatre, Tarragona



Essaouira Fortress



Valencia Cathedral Tower



Alghero, Sardinia

Post-Cruise Madeira Extension - 14th to 17th October 2016



Extend your time on the beautiful island of Madeira staying at one of the iconic hotels, Reid's Palace. Our three night extension will include time to relax at leisure, make use of the hotel's wonderful facilities and gardens as well as included tours to Monte and the Monte Palace Tropical Gardens and a vineyard visit to enjoy the local wine.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £645 Single: £995

Price Includes: Three nights accommodation at Reid's Palace Hotel on a bed and breakfast basis, transfers from ship to hotel and hotel to airport, all taxes, half day tours to Monte and local vineyard.

Not Included: Travel Insurance.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £400 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Amundsen	Standard	£4795	£4395
Byrd	Superior	£5095	£4695
Mawson	Premium	£5295	£4895
Mawson	Corner	£5595	£5195
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£5995	£5595
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£6295	£5895
Shackleton	Hebridean	£7495	£7095
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£5795	£5395
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£6095	£5695

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, ten nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, all shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

Combination Cruise: It is possible to combine this voyage with our 'La Dolce Vita' voyage from Malta to Olbia shown on pages 40 & 41. Prices available on request.

Circumnavigation of Sumatra



An in-depth exploration of the wonders of Sumatra aboard the MS Caledonian Sky
8th to 24th October 2016

Join us for a rare event, a circumnavigation of the world's sixth largest island. Opportunities to visit Sumatra, a land of history and mystery are scarce and are usually limited to one region of the island. Our visit in the autumn of 2016 will be all encompassing and include opportunities to see orangutans in their natural habitat, to snorkel over coral reefs, to visit remote islands where native indigenous people still live in isolation, free to practice their timeless tribal lore and to explore where few have been before. Our voyage will be one of contrasts, from lush rainforests to diverse cultures, spectacular wildlife and an intriguing history, all of which will be made all the more captivating by our onboard expedition team who are experts in the natural world.

Known in ancient times as the 'Island of Gold', Sumatra was an early arrival point for trade and new religions. Gold and other natural resources made it a land of wealthy chiefs and princes between the 7th and 13th centuries. Today, the island is home to twelve ethnic groups speaking more than 25 languages and the cross cultural exchanges of past centuries have created a unique and diverse land. However, for many the greatest draw is the island's incomparable natural history and stunning mountain and jungle landscapes. Larger than life in all respects, it is one of the world's last untouched frontiers. The privilege of exploring this remarkable land from a small ship and in the company of knowledgeable expedition team members and local guides is an opportunity not to be missed.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London/Manchester to Singapore. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Singapore. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the Shangri La Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay.

Day 3 Singapore. Enjoy a leisurely morning to either explore independently or relax at the hotel. In the early afternoon there will be a guided tour of Singapore before we continue to the MS Caledonian Sky for embarkation. Welcome drinks and dinner will be served as we sail the Malacca Strait.

Day 4 Malacca, Malaysia. Before setting off for Sumatra we spend the morning in the historic port of Malacca. With more than its fair share of colonisers from Malaysian princes, the Portuguese, Dutch, British and Japanese this strategically placed city has a fascinating history brought vividly to life in the excellent Ethnographical Museum. Other places will include the

16th century Portuguese fortress, the former Dutch Governors house and the impressive Christ Church. We return to our vessel for lunch and continue up the Strait of Malacca.

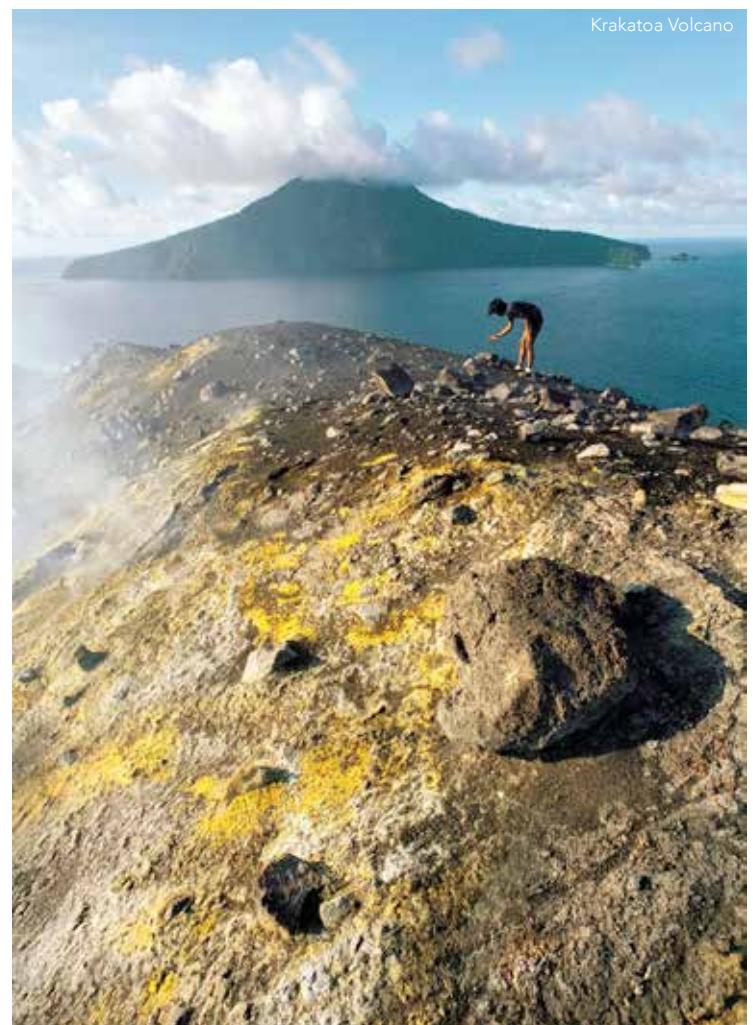
Day 5 Lake Toba, Sumatra. Our first call in Sumatra is the iconic Lake Toba. At over 1145 square kilometres it is the largest lake in South East Asia found in the volcanic peaks of the island. After an early breakfast we will start our journey inland passing through the palm oil, rubber and cocoa plantation en-route to Parapat, the gateway town located in the beautiful and fertile volcanic basin at the northern end of Bukit Barisan mountains' range. The scenery is stunning and after lunch in a local restaurant we will board our boat to cruise across the Lake to the central island of Samosir, passing lovely coves with white sandy beaches to where colourful Toba Batak villages cling to the shore. We visit the traditional beautiful houses and ancient tombs of Laga Siallagan, the first raja

of Ambarita. In front of the traditional houses we find the Banyan tree with the stone chair of King Siallagan, the location where all important judicial and village matters were traditionally administered.

Day 6 Belawan. There will be a choice of excursions today, either choose from a long but rewarding day as we leave the vessel at sunrise and drive inland to the eastern side of the Gunung Leuser National Park and visit the Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre at Bukit Lawang. This is now one of the world's most important conservation projects as orphaned orangutans are brought here to learn how to live in the wild again. We can watch them at play and feeding and learn how the six month rehabilitation programme works. We will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before returning to the ship



in the late afternoon. Alternatively explore the highlights of Medan, the nearby capital of North Sumatra. Here we visit the 19th century Maimoon Palace, a 30 room palace featuring Malay, Mogul and Italian influences before continuing to the Mesjid Raya (Grand Mosque). We will explore the collections at the Musuem of Northern Sumatra including stone carvings from Nias Island and items from the Hindu,



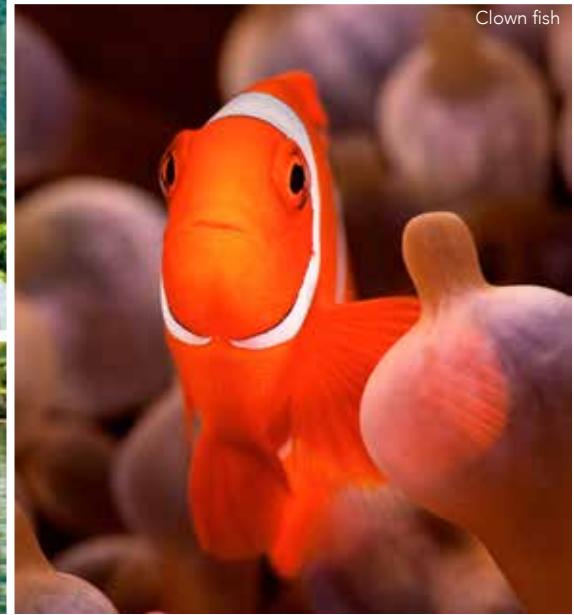
Lake Toba



Malacca



Clown fish



Buddhist, and Islamic periods as well as colonial and military history. Our guided tour will end at the Chinese pagoda before returning to the ship.

Day 7 At sea.

Day 8 Pulau Weh & Banda Aceh.

This morning we anchor off Pulau Weh where our Zodiacs will take us to Gapang Beach. Here we have a chance to snorkel in the clear waters considered some of the best in Indonesia. Alternatively relax on the beach or take a walk through the small town. We will sail over lunch to Banda Aceh. Many will recall the destruction caused to this port on the northern tip of Sumatra by the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami. Enormous effort has been made to rebuild since the fateful day and we will visit the Tsunami Museum, memorial and educational centre that document the impact. We will also visit the State Museum and the Baiturrahman Mosque, one of the dominant landmarks in downtown Banda Aceh with seven domes and four towers with one main tower.

Day 9 Simeulue Islands. After a morning at sea we arrive in the archipelago of the Simeulue Islands at lunchtime. Located 100 miles from the Sumatran coast and with white sand beaches, vast coral reefs and a pristine

blue sea dotted with a multitude of seamounts, atolls and small islets, Simeulue Island is well off the traditional tourist route. We will use our Zodiacs to land on one of the local beaches for swimming, snorkelling and nature walks.



Monkey

Day 10 Nias Island. We continue south and land on the island of Nias some 70 miles from the west coast of Sumatra. Its very isolation has protected its cultural heritage. We will see some wonderful examples of tribal art and unique architecture. After an island drive we will witness a stone jumping demonstration in a traditional village. Here, talented local villagers leap over six foot tall stone megaliths in a rite

of passage. The higher they jump, the better chance they have of acquiring a wife. However, the tradition originated to train them for warfare and defence. This colourful culture developed separately to Sumatra and the island has a history of head hunting, warfare, slaves and gold.

Day 11 Siberut Island. This morning we will anchor off the Mentawai archipelago. Like Nias, these islands have a unique culture, flora and fauna due to their isolation from the rest of the country. On arrival local boats will take us upriver through the tropical forest to a small village. On arrival we will be invited to the meeting house to enjoy a cultural performance before spending time walking through the village. The island is rich in wildlife and as we return along the river we will keep an eye out for some of the 140 bird species and monkeys which frequent the forest. Over lunch we sail to the islands off the coast and will find a suitable landing site to enjoy a beach walk or snorkel over the island's fringing coral reefs.

Day 12 Padang for Bukittinggi. We return to the Sumatran mainland today at the port of Padang, our base for a choice of excursions. This part of Western Sumatra is home to the Minangkabau culture which

despite their Islamic faith has the largest matrilineal society where the woman is the head of the house and controls family affairs. We will head inland passing the magnificent Anai valley, visit the breath taking Ngari Sianok Canyon where we see the tunnels built by the Japanese during the second world war before ending in Bukittinggi. We will witness the cultural performances of Minangkabau and try some local delicacies. The region is also home to the world's largest flower, the Rafflesia Arnoldii which can grow to nearly one metre across and weigh up to 11 kilograms. These typically bloom between August and November so on an alternative full day excursion you can visit the Batang Paluh Nature Reserve where we will enjoy a series of walks in search of the flower.

Day 13 Bengkulu. After a morning at sea we reach the southern half of the island and the city of Bengkulu. The British East India Company established a garrison here in 1685 but with little success until Sir Stamford Raffles arrived in 1818 and established a market in pepper, coffee and nutmeg. The British remained until 1824 when the city was traded with the Dutch for Melacca. On a city drive we will view Fort Marlborough, the British cemetery and the local market.

“

The privilege of exploring this remarkable land from a small ship and in the company of knowledgeable expedition team members and local guides is an opportunity not to be missed.

”



Mentawai archipelago

Day 14 Pulau Krakatoa. This afternoon we sail into the Suna strait and the island of Krakatoa. The volcano famously exploded in 1883, killing 36 417 people. The explosion is considered to be the loudest sound ever heard in modern history, with reports of it being heard nearly 3000 miles (4800 kilometres) from its point of origin. We will use our Zodiacs to land on the island where you can choose to join a nature walk at the base, climb up the lower slopes of the volcano or swim in the surrounding waters.

Day 15 Belitung Islands. Arrive at lunchtime in the idyllic Belitung Islands, a group of islands off the coast of Sumatra famed for their long clean beaches and crystal clear sea water. We have the afternoon to enjoy the fine white sandy beaches and the wonderful coral reefs. Snorkelling platforms will allow us to swim with a multitude of colourful fish. Meanwhile nature walks will explore the forest for birdlife or you may prefer to simply stay on the beach.

Day 16 At sea. Enjoy a relaxing day as we cruise towards Singapore. Maybe join a lecture, relax with a book or find a spot on deck.

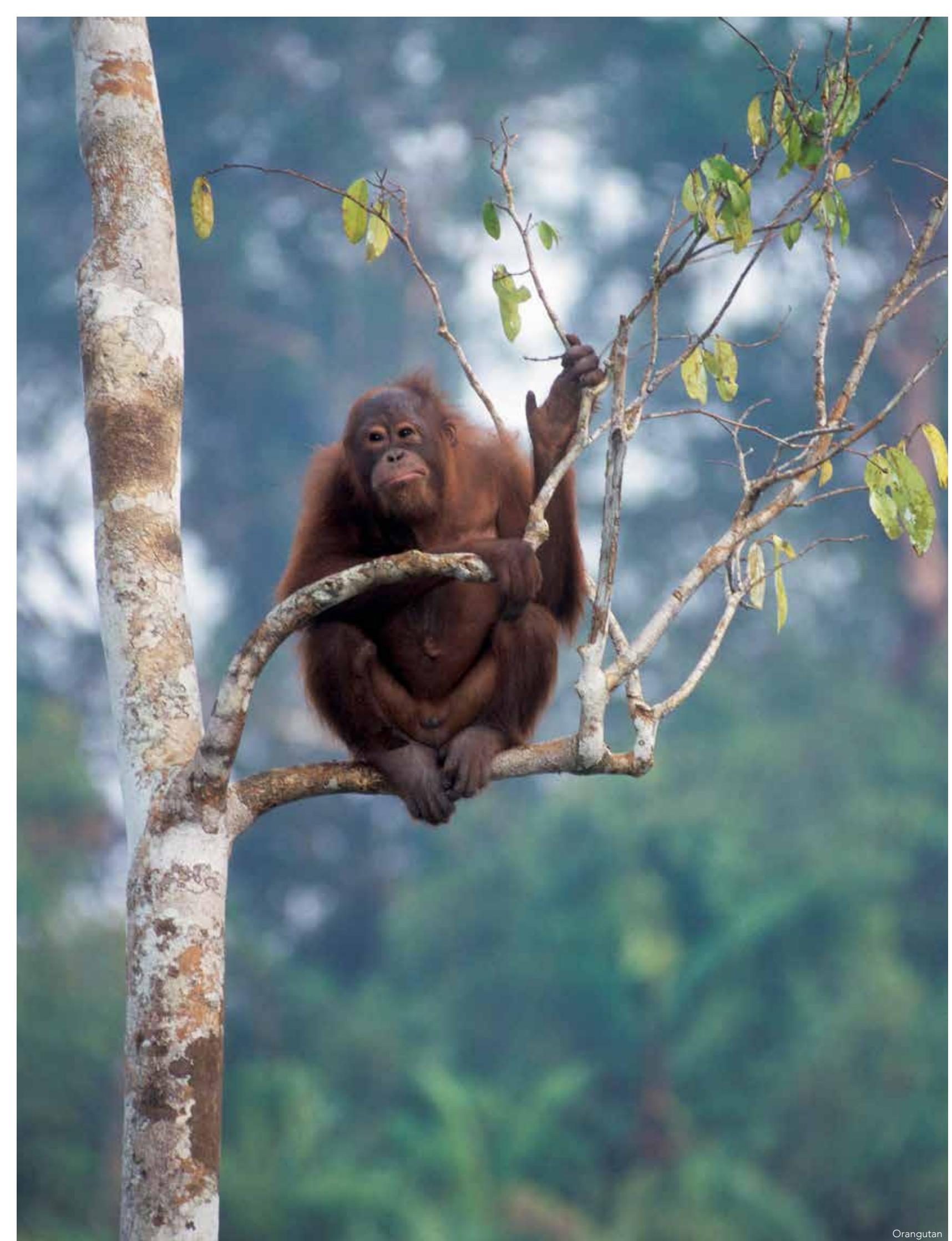
Day 17 Singapore to London/Manchester. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for the scheduled flight to London or Manchester. Arrive this evening.

PRICES PER PERSON Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY			
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£7995	£7495
Castle	Standard	£8295	£7795
Caledonian	Superior	£8595	£8095
Promenade	Premium	£8995	£8495
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£9495	£8995
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£9695	£9195
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£10495	£9995
Castle	Standard for sole use	£9995	£9495
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£10295	£9795

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Singapore on a bed and breakfast basis, half day Singapore city tour, 14 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, all gratuities, transfers, port taxes, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.



Orangutan

Byzantium & Beyond

Circumnavigate the Black Sea aboard the MS Island Sky with Imogen Corrigan & Major JGH Corrigan
18th to 29th October 2016

The great salt-water Black Sea has seen settlements on its shores for nearly 3000 years which along with the wars of the 19th and 20th centuries have all greatly influenced the surrounding lands, making the Black Sea one of the most fascinating and historically rich regions in the world.

Join us aboard the MS Island Sky as we explore these unique shores. We begin our voyage in Istanbul and from the Golden Horn follow the Turkish coast to Trabzon (Trebizond) before crossing to Georgia where the richness of its culture reflects the influence of Greeks, Byzantines, Persians, Turks and Mongols. Georgia's 'Golden Age' reached its height between the reigns of David the Builder and his granddaughter Queen Tamara in the 11th and 12th centuries.

From Georgia we follow the coastline to Russia's premier resort and spa, Sochi. Here the microclimate produces wonderful year round weather and a lush countryside. After a day at sea which will be filled with fascinating lectures by our two onboard guest speakers, we reach Odessa, the historic city founded by Catherine the Great at the mouth of the great River Dnieper, following which we arrive in Constanta, Romania, an ancient metropolis and Romania's largest sea port. Finally we reach Nessebur, a delightful Bulgarian town with a fascinating history before our cruise ends where it all began, in the captivating city of Istanbul.

Such a journey as this would be totally impractical by any means other than a cruise. Whether your interest lies in ancient or military history, architecture, literature, contemporary politics or just in visiting some of the most atmospheric and fascinating places on earth, the Black Sea has a lot to offer. Local guides and our onboard guest speakers will contribute greatly to our enjoyment and understanding of this intriguing corner of the world where East meets West.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London or Manchester to Istanbul, Turkey. Fly by scheduled flight. Transfer to the MS Island Sky and embark in the late afternoon.

Day 2 Bartin, Turkey. From the port of Bartin in ancient Paphlagonia, we have a choice of excursions today. The morning tour will include a drive along the coast to nearby Amasra (ancient Sesamus) which is located on a headland in between two bays. We will explore the attractive old town which was founded by the Milesians in the 6th century B.C. and later became an important possession of both Byzantium and Genoa. See the Genoese citadel and learn more about its Greek and Roman past. Alternatively join a full day tour to the UNESCO site of Safranbolu, a preserved Ottoman style town named for its prominence in saffron production. On a walking tour we will visit the market place, the streets where copper makers, iron makers and Turkish delight makers work, the Mosque and a Turkish Hammam all from the time of Suleiman the Magnificent. Our tour will end at a typical Safranbolu house which is now

an ethnographical museum. Enjoy lunch in an Ottoman caravanserai before returning to the MS Island Sky.

Day 3 Sinop. Founded by the Greeks in the 7th century B.C. Sinop flourished as a Black Sea port on the caravan route. On a walking tour we will discover this walled city including the 13th century Alaaddin Mosque, constructed after the Seljuk conquest of the Sinop Province. The architecture is typical of the Seljuk period consisting of a rectangular plan featuring five domes. A fountain adorns the courtyard, which also contains ancient tombs. In the same period the town saw the construction of Sinop prison to honour the memory of Sultan Keykavus, who conquered Sinop in 1214. On our tour of the old jail, which stands behind the ruins of the town's inner castle, we will learn about the types of crimes committed by the inmates and the conditions they endured here. We will then enjoy some free time to explore. You may wish to visit the Archaeological Museum of Sinop with a collection of objects dating from the Hittite, Hellenistic, Phrygian, Roman and



Byzantine periods or the Ethnography Museum. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and enjoy an afternoon cruising.

Day 4 Trabzon. Trabzon is a gateway to Eastern Turkey and Iran which was founded in the 7th century BC. On a morning excursion we drive through the picturesque mountain scenery to Sumela to see the dramatic Byzantine monastery carved out of a sheer rock face in the Pontic Alps. After lunch on board we discover the church of Aya Sofia (1200) and the old town of Trabzon, then travel to the outskirts to visit Ataturk's lovely villa.

Day 5 Batumi, Georgia. Enjoy a day amongst the sights and sounds of charming Batumi. This morning enjoy a choice of excursions either to the ancient Gonio fortress dating back to the first century AD and the Ethnographic Museum that highlights the varied and fascinating history of the country. Alternatively spend time at the impressive botanical garden "Dendarium", and see the golden statue of Medea before heading to the bustling farmers market. In the afternoon enjoy a truly exhilarating

private performance of Georgian song and dance by the Adjara State Assembly of Music and Dance.

Day 6 Sochi, Russia. We have a day to explore delightful Sochi, framed by the Caucasus Mountains and famous for its marvellous climate and health spas. On a morning tour we will visit the visit Dagomys's tea plantation, the most northerly in the world where we learn about the cultivation processes and challenges before having the chance to enjoy a local brew. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we visit Stalin's Dacha, built in 1937 as his summer residence it remains intact as it was in Stalin's time.

Day 7 At sea.

Day 8 Odessa, Ukraine. Founded by Catherine the Great in 1794 following the Russian victory over the Turks, Odessa today is a busy port and popular resort. On our tour we will see the famous Promenade Pimorskaya Boulevard and the Potemkin Steps. This afternoon is free to explore at leisure before we hope to enjoy a concert this evening at the acoustically perfect Opera House (schedules not confirmed)



Sunset on the Bosphorus, Istanbul

until summer 2016 when more details will be available).

Day 9 Odessa. Recall the city's former splendour this morning by visiting two of Odessa's many mansions. Visit the mansion built for Count Pototsky between 1824-1828 which now houses the Odessa Fine Arts Museum with a fine collection of Russian and Ukrainian Art. After a short drive you will reach the Gagarin Mansion, designed by Ottom in the middle of the 19th century for the nobleman, Prince Gagarin. This now houses the Museum for Russian & Ukraine Literature. Tour the museum before enjoying a superb violin recital in the Golden Hall. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a relaxing afternoon at sea.

Day 10 Constanta, Romania. At breakfast we arrive in Constanta, known as Tomis to the Greeks but named Constanta by the Romans. Choose this morning to stay in

Constanta and enjoy a tour to include the excellent Archaeological Museum including a visit to the Treasury to see the gigantic 3rd century Roman Mosaic. Later, stretch your legs with a walk along the Black Sea waterfront promenade. Alternatively join a full day tour to Bucharest. We will explore the main sights of the city and see the boulevards with their decidedly French style.

Day 11 Nessebur, Bulgaria. After a morning at sea we will arrive in the ancient town of Nessebur, a delightful place to spend an afternoon. A guided tour of the town will include the 5th century Bishopric, the 12th century St Stephen's church and some of the traditional-style houses.

Day 12 Istanbul, Turkey to London or Manchester. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London or Manchester.

Pre-Cruise Istanbul Extension - 16th to 18th October 2016



For those who wish to spend more time in Istanbul you can join our extension which includes two nights accommodation at a four star hotel on a bed and breakfast basis, a half day tour including Hagia Sofia and the Basilica Cistern, transfers from airport to hotel and hotel to MS Island Sky.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Istanbul. Fly by scheduled flight and arrive this afternoon. Transfer to a centrally located hotel for a two night stay.
Day 2 Istanbul. After breakfast in the hotel we will embark on a guided city tour enjoying the sights of old Constantinople with visits to the Hippodrome and the great Byzantine church of Santa Sophia. Return to the hotel in the late morning and this afternoon is free to explore at your own pace. We will meet this evening for dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 3 Istanbul. Our morning tour will include a visit to Chora church and the great Theodosian walls which protected the city for 1000 years. After lunch we continue to the Topkapi Palace before transferring to the MS Island Sky.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £545 Single: £695

Price Includes: Two nights accommodation at a centrally located hotel in Istanbul on a bed and breakfast basis, excursions and meals as per the itinerary, transfers from the airport to the hotel and from the hotel to the MS Island Sky. **Not Included:** Travel Insurance, Turkish visa.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £750 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Magellan	Standard Forward	£5495	£4745
Magellan	Standard	£5695	£4945
Columbus	Superior	£5995	£5245
Marco Polo	Premium	£6395	£5645
Marco Polo	Corner	£6595	£5845
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£7495	£6745
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£7795	£7045
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£7995	£7245
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£8395	£7645

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel from either London Heathrow or Manchester, 11 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, transfers, port taxes, gratuities, Russian Group Visa.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, Turkish visa.

Amasra



Church, Sumela Monastery



Golden Statue of Medea, Batumi

Opera House, Odessa



Sumela Monastery, Trabzon



Five Seas Odyssey

Discover the islands of the Java, Bali, Flores, Banda and Molucca Seas aboard the MS Caledonian Sky
23rd October to 7th November 2016

This unique expedition will introduce you to an underwater paradise of pristine reefs, colourful coral and abundant and diverse marine life visiting islands which are well off the usual cruise routes. The only comfortable way to explore this region is by sea and we are fortunate in having one of the finest and best equipped expedition vessels in the world for our explorations and an expert expedition team who will enhance your experience in so many ways through a series of onboard lectures and whilst guiding you ashore.

The first opportunity to enjoy the crystal clear waters of the region will be our call into the Belitung Islands located off the coast of Sumatra. We then continue to the Karimunjawa Islands, a group of 27 islands designated as a marine park followed by a visit to Bali's only national park, Taman Nasional Bali Barat. Here you can choose to trek to the protected mangrove looking out for the wildlife and prolific birdlife, followed by a trip to Menjangan Island which offers some of the best snorkelling in the world. Alternatively, you may wish to travel inland to the Munduk Highlands. Sailing eastwards, more national parks await including the Taka Bonerate National Park in the Flores Sea, the Wakatobi National Park which Jacques Cousteau referred to as an 'Underwater Nirvana' and finally Bunaken National Park which is treasure trove of biodiversity situated near the centre of the Coral Triangle. Afloat and ashore, our exploration will be filled with unforgettable images and of course the highlight for many will be the opportunity to snorkel in coral wonderlands considered some of the finest on the planet.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Singapore. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Singapore. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky for embarkation.

Day 3 At sea. Enjoy a day at sea as we cruise into Indonesia.

Day 4 Belitung Islands. Arrive this morning in the idyllic Belitung Islands, a group of islands off the coast of Sumatra famed for their long clean beaches and crystal clear sea water. We have the morning to enjoy the fine white sandy beaches and the wonderful coral reefs. Snorkelling platforms will allow us to swim with a multitude



Coral reef



of colourful fish and nature walks will explore the forest for birdlife or you may prefer to simply stay on the beach.

Day 5 Karimunjawa Islands. Enjoy a relaxing morning onboard as we sail towards these 27 coral fringed islands situated off the north coast of Java and well off the standard cruise routes. Arriving in the early afternoon we will use our Zodiacs to find a suitable location to land on a local beach. Here we can soak up the sun, enjoy a walk or enjoy some time swimming or snorkelling in the clear waters.

Day 6 At sea.

Day 7 Taman Nasional Bali Barat or Munduk Highlands. At breakfast we arrive on Bali but are well away from the main tourist hubs as we land on the north eastern coastline. We have a choice of full day excursions today. You may wish to visit the West Bali National Park which comprises of 19,000 hectares on land with an additional 7,000 hectares of coral reefs and coastal waters. Here we can enjoy a gentle trek to the protected mangrove and monsoon forest and hope to see grey monkeys, black monkeys, giant lizard and some of the 160 species of birds that live here. Afterwards we take a short boat ride to Menjangan Island, considered one of the best snorkelling areas in the world. Alternatively drive inland to the Munduk Highlands. Passing through Singaraja, you will briefly tour the former capital city of Bali; then continue to the mountainous area of Bedugul to see the three lakes, Bratan, Buyan and Tamblingan. Alongside Lake Bratan is Pura Ulun Danu, an important Hindu-Buddhist temple dedicated to the water goddess and a site of pilgrimage. The scenery is stunning and we will have time to take in the surroundings before continuing to the appealing town of Munduk.

Day 8 Satonda Island. We have a full day to explore diminutive Satonda Island, located between the large island of Sumbawa and smaller Pulau

Moyo. The island is wooded and uninhabited, with a fringing reef and a small but swimmable crater lake where the trees are decorated with 'wishing' stones, shells and pieces of coral. This is a snorkeller's paradise with pristine reefs whilst guided walks inland will search for the local birdlife.

Day 9 Taka Bonerate National Park.

Stretching south from the main island of Sulawesi into the Flores Sea is the Taka Bonerate National Park. Spread out over 220,000 hectares this is the largest coral reef in Indonesia and is rich in marine life and also a variety of bird species. Using our small ship to navigate and our Zodiacs to land we will find a suitable spot amongst the 21 islands of the park to spend the day. The crystal clear waters offers snorkellers a chance to explore the reefs where we find 242 species of coral and 295 species of colourful reef fish as well as dolphins and turtles. Alternatively enjoy a walk in the sand dunes where we find many land, coastal and sea birds.

Day 10 Wakatobi National Marine Park. Legendary underwater explorer and conservationist, Jacques Cousteau is said to have called the Wakatobi islands, then known as the Tukangbesi islands, an "Underwater Nirvana". Now a National Marine Park it comprises a total of 1.4 million hectares, of which 900,000 hectares are decorated with different, colourful species of tropical coral reefs. Wakatobi is widely recognised as having the highest number of reef and fish species in the world. The islands are also famous as the largest barrier reef in Indonesia. Meanwhile on land we will meet the local Bajo sea nomads, explore mangrove forests and see the historical ruins, cannons and fortresses that spread out over the main islands.

Day 11 Pulau Padea Besar. As we continue our journey around the island of Sulawesi we will make a call this morning at Kokoila. Here we will have the chance to talk with the local



Togean Islands



Knobbed Hornbill

fisherman or alternatively enjoy a snorkel over the soft corals amongst angelfish, parrotfish and anemone fish. Return to the ship for lunch as we continue our journey north.



Day 12 Togean Islands. This morning we arrive at the Togean Islands. This remote and picturesque archipelago of 56 islands has white sandy beaches surrounded by an ancient coral reef, whilst on land the tropical rain forests of these volcanic islands harbour a variety of endangered wildlife. You may wish to join one of our naturalists on a guided walk looking for Togean macaques, babirusa, turtles and parrots or snorkellers can enjoy a swim over spectacular corals teeming with colourful fish and for the less active time can be spent relaxing on the wonderful beaches.

Day 13 Tangkoko Nature Reserve. From our berth at Bitung we travel inland for an afternoon at the Tangkoko Nature Reserve. This 8800 hectare park ranges from beaches at sea level to the top of Tangkoko Mountain and is a haven for endemic flora and fauna. On a guided walk we will search for black macaque monkey and the tarsiers, the smallest primates in the world and for whom the Tangkoko Reserve is their last refuge, whilst for the birders we will hope to see hornbills and cuscus.

Day 14 Bunaken National Park.

Our last day finds us at the Bunaken National Park, which is a treasure trove of biodiversity situated near the centre of the Coral Triangle. Here we will find nearly 400 species of coral, over 90 species of fish including Bluestripe Snapper and Emperor Angelfish, whilst seven of the eight species of giant clams are also found here. Meanwhile on land we can find macaque and deer whilst mangrove forests are home to crabs. We will use our Zodiacs to land on a local beach and set up snorkelling platforms to explore the remarkable underwater world whilst our naturalists lead walks ashore.

Day 15 Manado to London.

Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 16 London.

Arrive this morning.

Pre-Cruise Extension Singapore



Before embarking the MS Caledonian Sky you may wish to extend your time in Singapore with our two night extension. Enjoy two nights at the Shangri La Hotel (or similar) on a bed and breakfast basis with time at leisure to explore at your own pace. Maybe visit the botanical gardens, Raffles Hotel, the shopping malls of Orchard Road or Sentosa Island.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £395 Single: £525

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis, ship to hotel and hotel to airport transfers.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £750 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£7495	£6745
Castle	Standard	£7795	£7045
Caledonian	Superior	£8095	£7345
Promenade	Premium	£8395	£7645
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£8795	£8045
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£8995	£8245
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£9495	£8745
Castle	Standard for sole use	£9795	£9045
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£9995	£9245

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 13 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

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Afloat and ashore, our exploration will be filled with unforgettable images and of course the highlight for many will be the opportunity to snorkel in coral wonderlands considered some of the finest on the planet.

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Passage Through an Antique Land

A voyage from the Golden Horn to the Red Sea aboard the MS Island Sky
29th October to 15th November 2016

October sees the MS Island Sky weighing anchor in the Bosphorus and heading for the Aegean on an odyssey that includes Troy, Ephesus, Rhodes, some of the most magnificent ancient sites in Lycia and then crosses the Eastern Mediterranean to Cyprus. Here our European journey ends as we head for Egypt and Jordan for a week of exploration in the most endlessly fascinating places on our planet.

From Alexandria, famous for the site of the Pharos Lighthouse, one of the World's Seven Ancient Wonders, we will continue on to the Suez Canal. After our transit of the canal, we visit Cairo before the MS Island Sky follows the Egyptian Red Sea coastline to Safaga and from here we will travel through the desert to the temple at Luxor and the Valley of the Kings. Due to the wealth of ancient wonders there are in Luxor, we will overnight in a hotel allowing for an evening visit to the magnificent Karnak Temple. Leaving Egypt we sail to Jordan where we disembark for our three night overland exploration which includes the iconic scenery of Wadi Rum and Petra, surely one of the most interesting and visually exciting places in the Near East.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Istanbul, Turkey. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Island Sky.

Day 2 Troy. Today we call at Canakkale, our gateway for Troy, where ongoing archaeological excavations have revealed nine different layers of cities superimposed in rings on a massive mound rising above the Plain of Ilium. It was to one of these cities, as legend has it, that the Greeks fought the Trojans as told by Homer in the Iliad. Our tour follows the excavations made by Heinrich Schliemann, the archaeologist who discovered Troy and "Priam's Treasure", the jewels that, Schliemann claimed, were worn by Helen of Troy.

Day 3 Kusadasi. Arriving at Kusadasi at breakfast time we drive to the nearby ancient city of Ephesus, a stunning and partially excavated site where digging has been taking place for over a century.

Day 4 Bodrum & Kos. Arrive at breakfast time in Bodrum where our morning excursion will explore the Crusader Castle of St Peter which now houses the fascinating Museum of Underwater Archaeology and the site of the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, one of the Seven

Wonders of the World. Sail over lunch to Kos. The island has given to the world Hippocrates, father of medicine, Pythagoras, and the 4th century painter Apelles. We will drive the short distance to the Asklepieion, the infirmary of Antiquity, which was constructed in the 4th century BC. Among the ruins are part of the Doric Temple of Aesculapius, the altar and the Stoa which housed the famous Hippocrates Medical School.

Day 5 Rhodes, Greece. This historic island was known in antiquity for its schools of philosophy, rhetoric and sculpture. On a guided tour explore the Old Town, one of the great medieval towns of the Mediterranean, whose labyrinthine streets give way to airy and bright plazas. Learn more about the Crusader Knights of St John and walk the Street of the Knights with their mosaics, elaborate doorways, balconies and coats of arms. This afternoon is at leisure.

Day 6 Kastellorizo & Kas. The tiny island of Kastellorizo is a gem of a place. Spend a few hours exploring the delightful harbour, a Crusader Castle and the monastery of St George on the Mountain. Enjoy the absolute peace and beauty of the island. Sail during lunch to the nearby

Turkish port of Kas, a delightful fishing town on a beautiful bay at the foot of the Taurus Mountains where the Aegean meets the Mediterranean. Kas is largely unspoilt and as you walk up from the port you will see narrow streets lined with beautiful Ottoman houses with flowered balconies and traditional painted doors. See the rock-cut tombs that date to the 4th century BC and the impressive Lycian Tomb also dating back to the 4th century B.C. *Please note we will be at anchor off Kas and will use the vessel's Zodiacs.*

Day 7 Aspendos & Perge. From our berth in Alanya our tour will take us to the principal Roman ruins along Turkey's southern coastal region. We visit the ancient city of Aspendos, whose amphitheatre, built in the 2nd century A.D. is considered the best preserved in the Mediterranean. Dating from 1000 B.C. the city of Aspendos was a major port and the most important centre in the region during the 5th century BC. After lunch ashore we continue to Perge which also dates back to 1000 BC. See the Basilica of Perge, which played an important role in the spread of Christianity, the 2nd century A.D. stadium.

Day 8 Limassol, Cyprus. This morning we arrive in Cyprus where, after breakfast, we join an excursion to Paphos. On the way we will visit the Temple of Aphrodite, which was an important pilgrimage place of the ancient Greek world with some remains dating back to the 12th



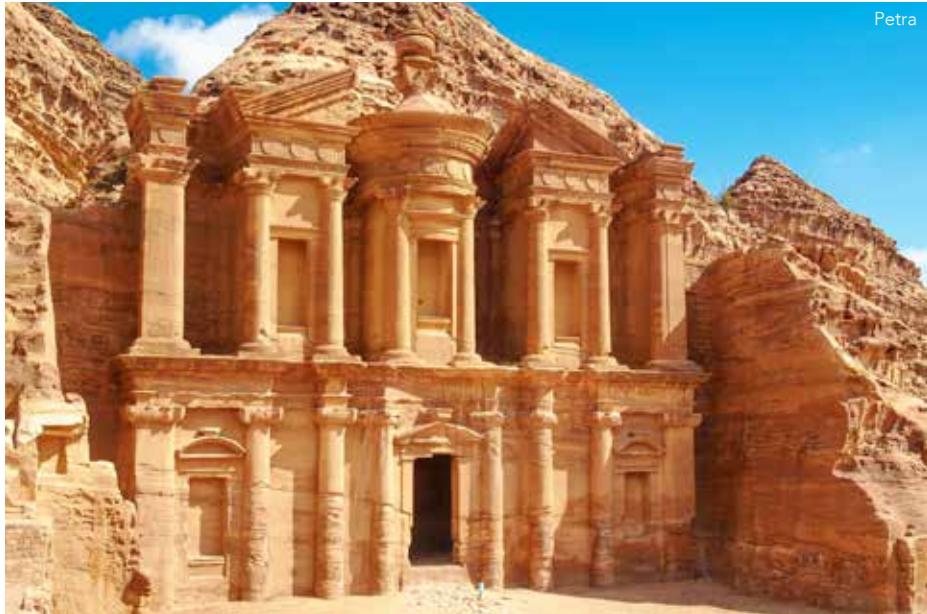
century BC, before continuing to see the well preserved Roman mosaics at the House of Dionysus in Paphos. Return to the vessel for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

Day 9 At sea. We have a full day at sea as we sail to Egypt.

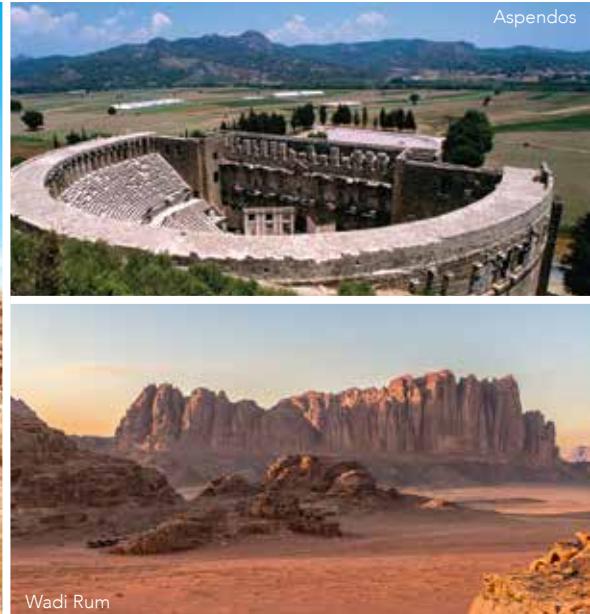
Day 10 Alexandria, Egypt. Alexandria, founded in 331 BC by Alexander the Great and known as the "Pearl of the Mediterranean", is our base for a choice of excursions today. Staying in the city we will visit the Library of Alexandria. The original library, one of the largest and most significant libraries and a major centre of learning in the ancient world, was destroyed by fire in the 1st century AD with some historians believing up to 500,000 scrolls and books were lost. The library has been rebuilt on the same site and houses four museums including those dedicated to antiquities, manuscripts



Pyramid and Sphinx at Giza



Petra



Aspendos



Wadi Rum

and scientific discoveries. Alternatively there will be an early start for our excursion into the desert to El Alamein and to the site of one of World War Two's most significant battles. View the battlefield, the CWGC Cemetery and Alamein station, which is little changed since 1942.



Day 11 Suez Canal. Leave Port Said at breakfast time and begin the day long transit of the Suez Canal and the Great Bitter Lake to the port of Sokhna where we moor overnight.

Day 12 Cairo. Today will be a long but rewarding day as we make an early start for Cairo. Our first call will be at Giza, where the pyramids of Chephren and Cheops rise from the desert alongside the Great Sphinx. We will have time to walk around the site as our local guides bring the history to life. After lunch in a local restaurant we continue to the famous Egyptian Museum of Antiquities.

Day 13 Luxor. Enjoy a relaxing morning at sea before we arrive in the Red Sea port of Safaga at lunchtime. In the early afternoon we will disembark and drive through the desert to Luxor often described as the world's greatest open air museum. On arrival we transfer to the Steinberger Hotel (or similar) where we will stay overnight. Enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant before we transfer to

Karnak Temple and enjoy the "sound and light show" which highlights the dramatic history of ancient Thebes. We will learn about the construction of the temple, the largest religious building ever built.

Day 14 Luxor. After breakfast in the hotel we enjoy a morning on the West Bank. We will use motor boats to cross the Nile before driving to the tombs of the Pharaohs in the Valley of the Kings. This remote valley was chosen as a burial place by pharaohs between 1550 and 1069 BC and contains 63 royal tombs. In the visitors centre we can see models of the site and learn about the Carter expedition that discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun before we visit the tombs themselves. After our visit we continue to the impressive mortuary temple of Queen Hatshepsut, the first known female monarch. In the early afternoon we return to the ship in Safaga.

Day 15 Aqaba, Wadi Rum & Petra, Jordan. Disembark the MS Island Sky this morning and drive to Wadi Rum forever linked with Lawrence of Arabia. We will visit the small museum where we will learn of the Bedouin culture and wildlife of the region before embarking our 4x4 wheel drive vehicles for our excursion into the desert. We will see the Seven Pillars of Wisdom, Alamelah inscriptions, ancient rock drawings and Siq um Al Tawaqi. We will enjoy a Bedouin lunch before we continue our journey to Petra where we transfer to our hotel for a two night stay.

Day 16 Petra. This morning we will explore the breath-taking Nabatean City of Petra which was carved out of the rose-red sandstone about 2000 years ago. We will walk past the Obelisk Tomb before walking through the Siq, a narrow 1.2 kilometre gorge

that leads to Petra's most impressive monument, the Treasury, which was carved out of the pale reddish sandstone in the 1st century BC. We will then return to the hotel for a free afternoon or alternatively for the more active you can remain at the site and climb the 900 steps to the 1st century AD Monastery with its remarkable views over Wadi Araba.

Day 17 Madaba. After breakfast drive to Madaba, home of the famous Byzantine mosaics. We will see the most significant of the city's treasures, the wonderful mosaic map of Palestine on the floor of the Church of St George. We continue to Mt Nebo which is believed to be the burial site of Moses and the point from where he viewed the Holy Land. We will see the stunning mosaic floors built by Christians in the 4th century. After a local lunch we will transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 18 Amman to London. After breakfast in our hotel we will transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London. Arrive this afternoon.

Pre-Cruise Extension Istanbul

 For those who wish to spend more time in Istanbul you can join our extension which includes two nights accommodation at a four star hotel on a bed and breakfast basis, a half day tour including Hagia Sofia and the Basilica Cistern, transfers from airport to hotel and hotel to MS Island Sky.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £395 Single: £595

Not Included: Travel Insurance, Turkish visas.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £750 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY			
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Magellan	Standard Forward	£7595	£6845
Magellan	Standard	£7795	£7045
Columbus	Superior	£7995	£7245
Marco Polo	Premium	£8295	£7545
Marco Polo	Corner	£8695	£7945
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£8995	£8245
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£9495	£8745
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£11095	£10345
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£11795	£11045

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled flights, 13 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, onboard team including tour manager and guest speaker, overnight hotel accommodation in Luxor, two nights hotel accommodation in Petra and overnight hotel accommodation at the Dead Sea on breakfast only basis, lunch and dinner on days 15 to 17, transfers, port taxes, gratuities to crew and whilst on excursions, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

Arabian Odyssey

A cruise along the Arabian Peninsula aboard the MS Island Sky
18th to 30th November 2016

Come with us to a corner of the world that has fascinated travellers for centuries. Our cruise aboard the all-suite MS Island Sky offers a comprehensive look at an area richly influenced by its ancient history and recent wealth. The diverse nature of the people, customs and the landscapes they inhabit, make for an enthralling experience as we venture through the mosaic of lands bordered by vast deserts, through green wadis and pass in the shadow of spectacular mountains. The contrast of old and new is staggering, from the ancient villages and souks of the old towns to the magnificent cities of glass and steel, which include some of the world's most impressive, modern buildings.

All this will be achieved with great ease aboard the MS Island Sky, an ideal vessel for serious exploration. With just 100 or so like-minded souls, we are able to explore in a way that is impossible from aboard a large cruise vessel. The shimmering waters of the Gulf should make for a comfortable journey with pleasant temperatures and the obvious bonus of having a ship for our base, rather than a sequence of hotels, leaves us free to relax and enjoy all the marvellous sights that surround us.

The itinerary has been planned in great detail and the cruise includes all shore excursions. Joining you onboard will be our Guest Speaker who will add much to your experience and knowledge of the region. We will combine visits to old mosques, archaeological sites, timeless forts and citadels with modern city centres such as Abu Dhabi and Dubai. An overnight call to Muscat gives plenty of time to explore fascinating Oman. For those looking for something a little different this trip offers a wonderful opportunity to explore in some depth an area which in the main has been thankfully neglected by the world of mass tourism.



Muscat

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Salalah, Oman.
Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Salalah. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Island Sky. The remainder of the day will be at leisure. Moor overnight.

Day 3 Salalah. Benefiting from the Indian summer monsoon, Salalah, Oman's second city in the Southern Omani region of Dhofar is a surprisingly lush corner of the Arabian Peninsula which has long been associated with frankincense. Ancient cities such as Samahran were trading throughout Arabia over 3000 years ago from the ports of the region. Today as we explore the region we will see the trees which grow in the wadis around Salalah and we will drive out of Salalah towards the north and the isolated Nabi Ayoub, Prophet Job's tomb, which is located high in the mountains offering wonderful views towards the plains below. Returning to the coast to the west of Salalah we will see the blowholes at Mughsail Beach and drive the Sarfait Road, a wonderfulfeat of engineering which climbs 1000 metres with a series of hairpin turns. From the wadi at the top we will have views over the coast and into the interior. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and this afternoon spend time in Salalah. See the Shanfari Mosque with its exquisite artwork and stained tiles and the Al Husn Souq where we can purchase frankincense crystals and typical Dhofari frankincense burners. We will also visit the Al Baleed museum which showcases the cities prosperous past before sailing in the evening.

Day 4 At sea. Enjoy a relaxing day at sea as we continue our journey around the Omani coast.

Day 5 Masirah Island. Spend the morning on Masirah Island located 15 kilometres from the Omani coast. Whilst close to the mainland, it still offers a desert island experience with little development and limited on shore facilities. The main draw to the island is the resident wildlife with four species of turtle laying eggs on the island over the course of the year. Meanwhile over 300 species of birds are found in the mudflats, beaches and offshore islets including flamingos whilst gazelles graze in the interior and



the surrounding waters are home to dolphins and whales. After landing by ship's Zodiac, we will enjoy an island drive before returning to the ship for lunch and an afternoon cruising.

Days 6 & 7 Muscat, Oman. We will enjoy two days in and around the capital city of Muscat during which time there will be a number of guided excursions. The city tour of Muscat will include the Grand Mosque, Muttrah Souk and the fascinating Bait al Zubair Museum situated in a converted townhouse which exhibits Omani Heritage with photos and traditional handicrafts and furniture. We also pass the Sultans Palace "Al Alam" which is flanked by two 16th century Portuguese forts. On a full day excursion we will drive inland through fascinating scenery to see some of the most impressive forts in Oman starting at the sultanate of Nizwa, Oman's ancient capital where we find the 17th century fort which has a unique 40 metre tall round tower. We will continue to Jabrin Castle built in 1675 as a centre of learning for astrology, medicine and Islamic Law before continuing to Bahla. Bahla is renowned for being one of the most comprehensive walled cities in the world and part of these battlements include the impressive 12th century fort. Alternatively, for the more adventurous there will be an optional overnight excursion to the Wahiba Sands. We take the coastal route visiting the fishing village of Quriyat and picturesque Wadi Arabayeen before heading to the vast mass of undulating red and white sands with dunes rising up to 200 metres. Home to the nomadic Bedou people we will be welcomed into their homes and learn about their way of life. We will

Abu Dhabi



Al Bidyah Mosque, Fujairah



Musandam Peninsula



Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Muscat

then spend the night in a camp in the desert enjoying a typical dinner. On our return journey to Muscat we will drive through Wadi Bani Khalid, a collection of plantations and villages embedded in the mountains and fed by a natural spring which feeds the abundant vegetation.

Day 8 Khor Fakkan & Fujairah, UAE.

After a morning at sea we arrive into Khor Fakkan at lunchtime. This afternoon we will drive north from the port of Khor Fakkan to see the Al Badiya Mosque. This modest structure dates back to 1446 and is believed to be the oldest mosque in the UAE. We will continue to Fujairah, the largest town on the east coast and a business and commercial hub. We will visit the museum containing archaeological finds from Bidya, Bithnah and Qidfa including vessels and arrowheads proving life has been here for over 3500 years. Meanwhile the 16th century fort is draped on a rocky outcrop overlooking Fujairah's old village. After a chance to explore the local fruit, fish and vegetable market we will return to the ship.

Day 9 Musandam Peninsula, Oman.

Awake this morning in Khasab, our base for our day in the beautiful Musandam Peninsula, often referred to as the "Norway of Arabia". This is without doubt the most dramatic of all mountainous locations in the Gulf and a difficult region to visit other than by sea. Here, Bedouin boatmen will take us upon their dhow to explore the spectacular arid, fjord-like landscapes. Here we hope to see cormorants and terns that inhabit the cliffs, whilst if we are lucky dolphins may accompany us on the journey.

Day 10 Sharjah, UAE. Sharjah is renowned for its elegant mosques

and museums and tagged as the cultural capital of the UAE. On a morning excursion we will pass by the University of Sharjah before exploring the Museum of Islamic civilisation. Here in a converted souk we will explore 1400 years of Islamic art and artefacts with ceramics, armour, woodwork and jewellery on display. Meanwhile the galleries display different aspects of the Five Pillars of Islam. We will return to the MS Island Sky via the Blue Souk. This afternoon is free to either relax onboard or return to Sharjah where you may wish to visit the Maritime or Archaeological Museums, the souks or walk in the Heritage area with its historic buildings.

Day 11 Abu Dhabi, UAE. Arrive this morning for a full day in the capital of the United Arab Emirates. Choose from a morning tour where we will discover the remarkable Sheik Zayed Grand mosque. With 80 marble domes held aloft with 1000 pillars and punctuated by four 107 metre high minarets, this snow white mosque is an impressive site. We continue to the Heritage Village where we can have a glimpse of life in the pre-oil days, see craftsmen at work and displays of Bedouin jewellery and clothing. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a free afternoon to explore further. Alternatively join a full day excursion to the Oasis city of Al Ain, the birthplace of Sheik Zayed with its markets, forts, museums and a famous date palm oasis. We will see the Al Ain Palace Museum which was Sheik Zayed's residence from 1937 to 1966, explore the courtyards and see the rooms where he received guests. Also discover the archaeological park, the ancient irrigation systems and walk in the water green oasis. We end at the chaotic camel market, an immersion into traditional Arabic culture before returning to our ship.

Day 12 Dubai, UAE. Today we arrive in bustling modern Dubai. However on a morning tour we will explore the historical districts with time in the Al Fahidi Historical neighbourhood where we walk the labyrinthine lanes lined with century old buildings built by textile and pearl merchants. Today the area is a haven for artists with small galleries and shops. We will then take a local abra water taxi across the creek to Beira where we will explore the lanes of the spice and gold souqs selling everything from frankincense and chillies to all kinds of jewellery imaginable. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon is at leisure for you to explore at your own pace. Maybe visit the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building, the Jumeirah Mosque or one of the cities excellent museums.

Day 13 Dubai to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport

for our scheduled flight to London. Arrive this evening.

Post Cruise Extension Dubai

 30th November to 2nd December 2016
If you would like to spend some time in Dubai after disembarking the MS Island Sky we are offering a two night post cruise extension staying at a five star hotel on a bed and breakfast basis. The extension includes transfers from the MS Island Sky to the hotel and from the hotel to airport.

Price per person based on double occupancy
Twin: £425 Single: £695

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE UP TO £1000 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Magellan	Standard Forward	£5595	£5195
Magellan	Standard	£5995	£5495
Columbus	Superior	£6295	£5695
Marco Polo	Premium	£6595	£5895
Marco Polo	Corner	£7295	£6495
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£7995	£7095
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£8495	£7495
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£8995	£8495
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£9495	£8895

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 11 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas, optional overnight excursion to Wahiba Sands.

In the Wake of the Dhows

A voyage from Oman to Sri Lanka aboard the MS Island Sky
9th to 23rd December 2016

For those looking for something a little different, our voyage from Muscat to Colombo offers a wonderful opportunity to escape to warmer climes over the winter and explore in some depth a region which has fascinated travellers for centuries and some places which have thankfully been mostly neglected by the tourism world.

After two days of exploration in the Arabian Gulf, we enjoy a relaxing day at sea as we head for Indian shores, our journey mirroring countless past voyages of Arab dhows that have sailed from all points of Arabia to India, trading spices, materials and all manner of luxurious and exotic goods. We explore some fascinating places in the state of Gujarat, places which are off the well-trodden tourist path and difficult to explore independently including Porbandar from where you can choose to visit the Gir National Park with its diverse wildlife and the former Portuguese island of Diu. Continuing along the Indian coast we call into Mumbai where we have allowed for an overnight stay given all there is to see and experience in the energetic city. In contrast to bustling Mumbai we will moor overnight for a two day visit in Cochin, an ancient city of islands which has for centuries attracted traders and adventurers from Europe and the Orient and where we will spend time in the serene backwaters of Kerala. Our penultimate port of call is Trivandrum before a final relaxing afternoon is spent onboard crossing to Sri Lanka from where you can return to London or join our extension which explores some of the island's many wonders.

All this will be achieved with great ease aboard the MS Island Sky, an ideal vessel for serious exploration. With just 100 or so like-minded souls we are able to explore in a way that is impossible from aboard a large cruise vessel. Joining you onboard will be guest speakers who will add much to your experience and knowledge of this fascinating region.



Traditional Dhows, Indian Ocean



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Muscat, Oman. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this evening and transfer to the MS Island Sky. Enjoy a welcome drink before settling into your cabin. Moor overnight.

Day 2 Muscat. We have a choice of excursions today in Muscat. Choose to spend time exploring the city including the Grand Mosque, Mutrah Souk and the fascinating Bait al Zubair Museum situated in a converted townhouse and which exhibits Omani Heritage with photos, traditional handicrafts and furniture. We also pass the Sultan's Palace "Al Alam" which is flanked by two 16th century Portuguese forts. Alternatively on a full day excursion we will drive inland past Omani landscapes to see some of the most impressive forts in Oman. We will start in the sultanate of Nizwa, Oman's ancient capital where we find the 17th century fort which has a unique 40 metre tall round tower. We will continue to Jabrin Castle built in 1675 as a centre of learning for astrology, medicine and Islamic Law.

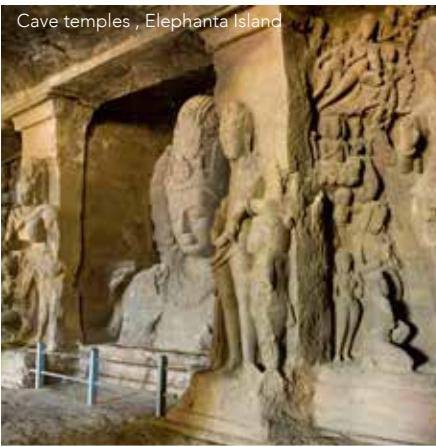
Day 3 Sur. The port of Sur has been on seafarers' maps for centuries, as both an important port and historic shipbuilding centre. Dhows built here traded and plundered the East African coastline and islands of the Indian Ocean. Today, it is a quiet and picturesque town with a peaceful air. All along the coast fishermen land their catches of swordfish and tuna. Our tour will take us to a dhow yard where vessels are still made without a plan or blueprint as well as the fish market and the impressive restored Sineslah Fort where you can enjoy views over the town and coastline. Please note we will be at anchor today and will use the vessel's Zodiacs.

Day 4 At sea. A relaxing day spent onboard as we sail to India.

Day 5 Porbandar, India. After a morning at sea we arrive in India in the

state of Gujarat which is well off the usual tourist route. Porbandar was a thriving port during the Mughal period before being taken by the Portuguese in the 16th century. Today it is better known as the birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi in 1869. After clearing through Indian immigration we will explore this vibrant bustling town. Discover Kirti Mandir, the family house where Gandhi was born and enjoy a tuk tuk ride to visit the Hindu temple dedicated to Sudama, a friend of Lord Krishna. Return to the ship in the late afternoon and moor overnight.

Day 6 Porbandar. For our second day in Porbandar we have a choice of excursions. The keen birders can enjoy time at the Gosabara Wetlands Bird Sanctuary on the city's outskirts which offers a breath taking view of large flocks of flamingos, Dalmatian and Demoiselle pelicans, cranes, pintails and various other duck varieties. Gosabara has recorded 225 different varieties of birds in the area, a large number of them migrating during the winter months and attracted to the flooded marshlands in the region. You may prefer a full day tour to Junagadh, an ancient fortified city at the base of the holy Girnar Hill. We will explore the stronghold of Uparkot Fort which contains the Jama Masjid Mosque and offers wonderful views to the hill behind. The fort area dates back to the Gupta and Mauryan empires but rose to prominence in the Rajput and Sultanate eras of the 9th-15th centuries AD. Discover the Buddhist caves dating back to Ashoka's era, see the exterior of the resplendent Mahabat Maqbara Mausoleum and visit Durbar Hall of the 19th century Junagadh rulers.



Alternatively choose an optional overnight excursion to Gir National Park, home to the Asiatic Lion and one of the oldest protected areas in India. As well as the lions which in the 2015 census numbered 523, the park is home to diverse animal and bird life. The sambar, the largest Indian deer, as well as the Nilgai antelope can be seen along with langur monkeys and 250 different bird species, look out for the Asian Paradise flycatcher and black hooded Oriol. A selected area of the park is open to visitors on organised safaris and your tracker will try to spot well camouflaged birds and mammals as well as the Asiatic Lion. Those joining the overnight excursion will disembark in Porbandar on day 6 and drive four hours inland to Gir. Enjoy a late afternoon and morning safari before returning to the vessel in the afternoon of day 7 in Diu (three hour drive).

Day 7 Diu. Our final call in Gujarat is the former Portuguese island colony of Diu, the first landing point of the Parsis who fled from Persia. The island, just 13 kilometres long by 3 kilometres wide was an important trading post from the 14th to 16th centuries when the Ottoman Turks controlled the shipping routes in the Arabian Sea and before being ceded to the Portuguese in 1535. Diu was a Portuguese colony

from 1531-1961 and is now part of the Union Territories. The relaxed atmosphere and tranquil streets reflect its colonial history and contrast with other Indian towns. Enjoy a morning exploring the impressive coastal Portuguese fort, the Baroque church of St Paul and the colourful morning market. After lunch onboard maybe return out to one of the local beaches or wander the quiet streets of Diu old town. Those who have taken the excursion to Gir National Park will return to Diu this afternoon. Sail this evening. *Please note we will be at anchor today and will use the vessel's Zodiacs.*

Days 8 & 9 Mumbai. Awake this morning in Mumbai, a cluster of seven islands which were first home to the 'Koli' fisherman, who still occupy parts of the city shoreline today. Mumbai was derived from 'Mumba' the name of the Hindu goddess 'Mumbadevi' and 'Aai' – Mother in the local Marathi language. First ceded to Portuguese, the British Government took possession of the islands in 1665 before leasing them to the English East India Company who founded the port and saw the city grow in size and importance. Over the next day and a half we will explore the city and surroundings. On a city tour we will drive past the prominent

landmarks of the city visiting the Gateway of India, Mani Bhavan, the former residence of Mahatma Gandhi when he stayed in Mumbai from 1917 to 1934, Iskon Krishna Temple and Dhobi Ghat where we can observe the vast open air Indian laundry. We will travel to Gharapuri Island, better known as Elephanta Island and view the remarkable caves designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This labyrinth of cave temples feature courtyards, shrines, remarkable statues and vibrant sculptures that date from the 5th to 7th century AD. Finally we experience the sights and sounds of everyday Mumbai life as we head to Churchgate station and watch the famous Dabbawalas known for their accurate delivery of lunch boxes to thousands of people residing in the suburbs of Mumbai and coming to work in the city. It is a highly specialised trade that is over a century old and which has become integral to Mumbai's culture. We will sail on the afternoon of day 9 and enjoy an afternoon cruising to Goa.

Day 10 Goa. In the 15th century Goa was the largest trading centre on India's west coast and when the Portuguese arrived in the early 16th century it was their plan to set up a colony to seize the control of the spice trade. Goa remained a Portuguese

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Escape to warmer climes over the winter and explore in some depth a region which has fascinated travellers for centuries.

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colony until 1961 when she became the 25th state of the Indian Republic. Whilst famous for her beautiful beaches Goa offers wonderful architecture with a mixture of Hindu and Catholic styles, unique history, rich culture and pretty natural scenery. On our tour we will explore Old Goa with its fine Basilica of Bom Jesus and the neo classical Church of St Cajetan before continuing to a spice plantation where the cultivation of cardamom, chilli, cloves and coriander can be seen. We will enjoy the smells and tastes whilst we learn about their uses in Indian life.

Day 11 Mangalore. In the 14th and 15th centuries Mangalore traded with Persian and Arab merchants and was fought over by the Nayaka princes and the Portuguese. In the 18th century its control was contested by Haidar Ali and his son Tipu Sultan on the one hand, and the British on the other. The influences of its turbulent history are still apparent in the cosmopolitan attitude and diverse religions that exist here. Today it is a business and commercial centre and is India's ninth largest cargo handling port exporting 75% of the country's coffee and the bulk of its cashew nuts and spices. We will learn about the cashew processing industry, visit Gokarnath Temple and the remarkable St. Aloysius Chapel,

with a fascinating series of intricate paintings that cover virtually every square inch of the interior ceiling and walls. Created over a period of two years by Brother Antonio Moscheni, an Italian artist, the chapel with its magnificent art work is one of the city's hidden gems.

Days 12 & 13 Cochin. Cochin is an extraordinary city with strong influences of Portuguese, Chinese, Arab, Dutch and British cultures still much in evidence today. We have two full days to enjoy this intriguing Malabar port. Visits will include the serene Kerala backwaters at Alleppey where we will board a local boat for a cruise past colonial warehouses and coconut thatched houses. We will have time in Cochin to explore the curious mix of cultures and religions that together, with its strong trading past in spices and silks, make a fascinating city. Discover Mattancherry Palace with its ornately decorated rooms including some marvellous ancient murals. We see the oldest European church in India, St Francis and the ruins of the fort. We will also spend time in a local village discovering traditional crafts and enjoy a short tuk tuk ride. On our first evening as we moor overnight also enjoy a Kathakali performance onboard after dinner. Based on the subject from the Ramayana,

Mahabharata and stories from Saiva literature, Kathakali is one of the main forms of classical dance drama of India and indigenous to Kerala.

Day 14 Trivandrum. Our last call in India is the Keralan port of Trivandrum. Built over seven hills, the 'city of the sacred serpents' retains some of old Kerala's ambience, with its pagoda shaped buildings, red-tiled roofs and narrow winding lanes. There is much to see here and on our morning

excursion we will include the old fort area around the 260 year old Sri Padmanabhaswamy Temple. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon cruising to Sri Lanka.

Day 15 Colombo, Sri Lanka to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our return scheduled flight to London. Arrive this evening.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Magellan	Standard Forward	£6795	£6295
Magellan	Standard	£6995	£6495
Columbus	Superior	£7195	£6695
Marco Polo	Premium	£7395	£6895
Marco Polo	Corner	£7695	£7195
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£8195	£7695
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£8695	£8195
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£9795	£9295
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£9995	£9495

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 14 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas, optional overnight visit to Gir National Park (limited places available. Twin price per person £325; Single price £395).

Colombo



Temple of the Sacred Tooth, Kandy

Marco Polo described Sri Lanka as the finest island of its size in the world when he arrived there in 1265 and we are delighted to be offering the opportunity to discover the many wonders of the island during our cruise extension which discovers both ancient and natural sites.



The Itinerary

Day 1 Colombo, Pinnawala & Kandy. Disembark the Island Sky after breakfast and drive to Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage which was opened in 1975 with a handful of orphaned elephants. The orphanage was the first of its kind in the world to feed, nurse and house young elephants that have lost or been abandoned by their mothers. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before continuing to Kandy where we transfer to the Earl's Regency Hotel for a two night stay.

Day 2 Kandy. This morning we drive to Peradeniya to visit the Royal Botanical Gardens which were first started by King Kirthi Sri Rajasingha in the 1700s and span a total area of 150 acres. We explore the well-tended landscaped lawns, pavilions, palms, the orchid house and the impressive giant Javan fig tree. After lunch we explore Kandy. We visit the marketplace and the famed Temple of

the Tooth, a UNESCO World Heritage Site which is commonly known as Sri Dalada Maligawa and is the most sacred temple in Sri Lanka. It is an important shrine for Buddhists as it houses the tooth relic of Lord Buddha and is famous for its carvings and the beautiful art that is unique to Sri Lanka. We end with a cultural show of traditional drumming and music. We return to the hotel for a special Christmas eve dinner at the hotel.

Day 3 Kandy to Kandalama. Enjoy breakfast in the hotel before we transfer to Matale situated in the agricultural zone of the Central Province. This has been an important region for the island's crops from tea and rubber to spices. You may wish to visit one of the spice farms and learn their therapeutic values over a refreshing cup of herbal tea. Alternatively spend some time in the town's market. We will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before continuing to Kandalama our base for the next two nights. The hotel is situated in the forest on the lake surrounded by wildlife and nature. This afternoon you may choose to relax by the pool or join one of the hotel naturalists on a walk through the jungle to the Aligala Caves or Kandalama Rock with views over to Dambulla and Sigiriya. Dinner is included at the hotel this evening.

Day 4 Polonawurra and Minneriya. After breakfast we head out to the

ancient city of Polonnaruwa. This Medieval city was declared the capital of the island in 1070 and made a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1982. Highlights are the Royal Palace complex including the King's Palace and Audience Hall, the Quadrangle with its concentration of ancient heritage and the spectacular Gal Vihare complex of four massive images of the Buddha. We enjoy lunch nearby before continuing to Minneriya. The park spread over 8800 hectares is a sanctuary for elephants and also home to herds of deer and birdlife. Watch carefully as herds of elephants, one by one, roll on to the grass-covered banks, to feed on tender shoots. Return to Kandalama and enjoy dinner in the hotel.

Day 5 Sigiriya & Colombo. Drive this morning to Sigiriya Rock easily the most iconic UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sri Lanka. Atop this epic stone lies a citadel built by King Kashyapa who fearing his brother ruled from above. Accompanied by a harem of women, King Kashyapa spent his days in various different sections of the citadel including a large bath pool and meditation areas. Legend states that his harem threw themselves off the rock when King Kashyapa fell, but live forever in the form of frescos found in the inner cave walls. Enjoy lunch before driving back to Colombo this afternoon. On arrival transfer to the Taj Samudra Hotel for our two night stay and meet for dinner tonight.

Day 6 Colombo. After breakfast in the hotel we drive to Kelaniya an active Buddhist temple, built on a site believed to have been visited by

the Buddha himself, over 2000 years ago. Artistic highlights of the temple are the very fine carvings and lovely frescoes, fascinating geometrically patterned ceiling paintings, and three important images of Buddha - two in a sitting position and one in a reclining pose. After lunch we return to Colombo and enjoy a city tour including the floating market at Pettah, Independence Square and the Gangarama Temple.

Day 7 Colombo to London. This morning transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight to London. Arrive this afternoon.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £1495 Single: £1995

Price includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Colombo, Kandy and Kandalama on a bed and breakfast basis, lunch and dinner daily, all excursions with English speaking guides, all gratuities, airport and hotel taxes, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visa.

Sri Lanka to the Seychelles pre-cruise extension - 16th to 23rd December 2016

Please note it is also possible to combine this extension pre-cruise with our Sri Lanka to the Seychelles voyage shown on pages 66 and 67. The order of the itinerary varies slightly and full details can be viewed at www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

The Best of New Zealand

A circumnavigation of New Zealand aboard the MS Caledonian Sky
17th December 2016 to 10th January 2017

If you are going to travel half way around the world, you need a good reason and what better reason could you have than the desire to visit one of the most beautiful places on earth? New Zealand's scenery, people and their lifestyle all have enormous appeal which is why it is always high on travellers' wish lists. With vast open spaces filled with stunning rugged landscapes and a temperate climate, New Zealand is a land of rare natural beauty and breathtaking contrasts. There are steep-sided glacial fjords, geysers and boiling mud, coastal rainforests, snow-capped mountains, rolling green pasture lands, often spectacular geothermal and volcanic activity, enchanting sandy bays and coves, fast-flowing rivers and a variety of birdlife. By contrast, in the cities, towns and villages you will experience that unique combination of New World and British heritage.

Due to this diversity New Zealand deserves more than a fleeting visit. We believe our itinerary offers the best of all worlds and has been devised on the basis that most travellers from the UK will only tour New Zealand once. Therefore the trip should be as comprehensive and as full of contrasts as possible. Certainly, this itinerary qualifies on all these important demands. We will circumnavigate the islands of New Zealand, drop anchor in the remote bays, navigate channels, fjords and rivers and call into harbours both large and small. With the added advantage of our Zodiac landing craft we will be able to land in otherwise inaccessible places making the most of New Zealand's extraordinary natural attractions.



Gannets

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Hong Kong. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Hong Kong. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to our central hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 3 Hong Kong. Enjoy a relaxing morning before meeting in the early afternoon for a tour of Hong Kong. After the tour we will continue to the airport for our scheduled overnight flight to Auckland.

Day 4 Auckland, New Zealand. Arrive and transfer to the Crowne Plaza Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is free for individual exploration. Enjoy a welcome dinner tonight at the hotel.

Day 5 Auckland. A morning tour will include the city's highlights including the Domain and the Auckland Museum, which overlooks Waitemata Harbour which houses the world's largest collection of Polynesian artefacts. We will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before being transferred to the MS Caledonian Sky.

Day 6 Tauranga for Rotorua. From our berth in Tauranga we will drive to the famous thermal springs at Rotorua. We will visit Wai-O-Tapu, which means Sacred Waters in Maori, an active geothermal area with colourful hot springs, steaming ground and boiling mud pools. Marvel at the incredible palette of vibrant hues displayed in the pools, lakes and craters, and enjoy the melodic sounds of birds singing in the native forest. From here we visit a local Maori Marae where we will enjoy a traditional Maori welcome and lunch before returning to the ship.

Day 7 White Island. Arrive this morning at White Island. Weather permitting there will be an excursion to explore the active volcano on White Island, identifiable by the plume of steam continually spouting from its crater. The sights are surreal: the main crater with towering walls, steaming vents, and hissing fumaroles, glittering yellow sulphur crystals, bubbling mud pots and a spectacular steaming lake. This call is well off the usual cruise routes and we will use the Zodiacs to reach the island and then take a guided walk to the crater.



Day 8 Napier. Arrive this morning in Napier and join a tour of the beautiful city which will include its charming art deco buildings. Totally rebuilt after the 1931 Hawkes Bay earthquake, it has enormous style. Napier's Art Deco is unique, with Maori motifs and the buildings of Louis Hay, admirer of the great Frank Lloyd Wright. Walk along Marine Parade before visiting a local vineyard for a guided tour and a chance to sample the local wines. This afternoon is free for independent exploration of the town or alternatively join the excursion to the gannetry at Cape Kidnappers where you are able to get amazingly close to the birds.

Day 9 Ship Cove. We spend Christmas morning at sea as we sail towards the Marlborough Sounds which divide the North and South Islands of New Zealand. After lunch onboard we will arrive around Ship Cove where Captain James Cook spent much of his time in New Zealand. Keen walkers will have the chance to leave the ship at Resolution Bay and hike over to Ship Cove along the Queen Charlotte Track enjoying fantastic views over the archipelago of islands. Alternatively disembark in Ship Cove and take a stroll to the Cook Memorial. We will also look out for playful dolphins and a variety of seabirds. Return to the vessel and enjoy Christmas Dinner onboard.

Day 10 Wellington. Enjoy a full day in the nation's capital. From our central berth we will explore Wellington this morning seeing St Paul's Cathedral,

Abel Tasman National Park



the parliament buildings and spend time in the Te Papa National Museum of New Zealand followed by a stroll through the Botanical Gardens. Return to the vessel for lunch and enjoy a free afternoon to explore the city.

Day 11 Kaikoura. Today we are in Kaikoura, a famous whale watching area due to its nutrient rich waters. The combination of very deep waters and the mixing of cold and warm waters brings the nutrients to the top. After breakfast, there will be opportunities to join a whale watching cruise looking out for sperm whales, pods of dusky and common seals and the wandering albatross. Spend the afternoon exploring the town independently, join one of the nature walks or maybe take a trip on one of the bird watching cruises.

Day 12 Christchurch. At breakfast we arrive in the port city of Lyttelton our base for our day in Christchurch. Choose either to spend time in this most English of cities where we have an overview of the city showing how it is recovering from the devastating earthquake of February 2011. We will view the Southern Alps from the Port Hills and a tour of the Canterbury Museum with its acclaimed Antarctic collection. Also enjoy morning tea at a private home and garden. Alternatively, join an optional full day tour on the Tranz Alpine Express Train to Arthurs Pass in the heart of the Southern Alps, one of the world's most famous train journeys. Wonderful views are revealed from train's huge

windows as we pass snow-capped mountains and mountain beech forests. On the return journey by coach, we enjoy lunch at a farm before returning to the ship late afternoon.



Day 13 Akaroa. Akaroa meaning, 'Long Harbour', in Maori, was founded by French whaling Captain Jean Langlois on his ship Cachetot in 1838. He returned in 1840 with 60 settlers on the Comte de Paris to create a French colony. This morning we enjoy a dolphin watching trip using local boats to explore the scenic coastline and searching for the rare hectors dolphin. After lunch onboard we have the chance to visit a working farm in the countryside outside the town. We will hear about the history of the farm, have demonstrations of sheep shearing and see the working dogs in action as well as enjoying tea in the farm grounds. If you prefer

can simply wander in the town, take a coastal walk with one of our naturalists or enjoy the local cafes and shops.

Day 14 Dunedin. Arrive this morning in Dunedin and enjoy a guided tour to the Otago Peninsula to visit Penguin Place where we learn about the history of the reserve their breeding programme for the rare yellow eyed penguins. As we return to Dunedin we will see the gracious 19th century buildings and the magnificent railway station. After the tour you have the chance to stay in the city for lunch or return to the ship. This afternoon is free for independent exploration or maybe choose to join the optional excursion on the Taieri Gorge Railway.

Day 15 Ulva and Stewart Island. New Zealand's third island is well off the usual beaten tourist track. It is a wonderfully tranquil place, the scenery of untouched bushland is stunning. We will have a morning on Ulva Island where we will use Zodiacs to go ashore for a choice of walks with our local guides. We will explore the dense vegetation and keep an eye out for the amazing birdlife. This afternoon we land at Oban and have the chance to wander amongst the shops and see the visitor centre or join a drive along some of the 15 miles of sealed road to some of the beauty spots including Observation Rock with views over Iona and Ulva Island and the beaches lining the East coast. Tonight after dinner we will enjoy a New Year celebration as we cruise back towards the South Island.

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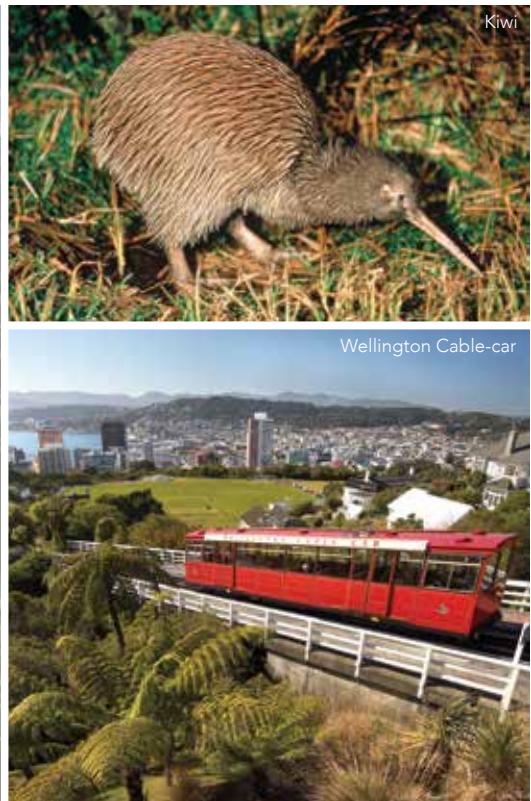
During our comprehensive exploration of New Zealand we will see some of the most splendid gardens in the Southern Hemisphere, visit some world famous vineyards, encounter fascinating marine and bird life and meet the people, renowned for their warmth and openness.

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Bay of Islands



Kiwi



Wellington Cable-car

Days 16 to 18 Fiordland. We have three days to explore the incredible wilderness of fjords in the South West corner of the South Island. This is an area history, as Captain Cook landed here on HMS Resolution in 1773, majestic scenery and is rich in wildlife. It is only accessible by sea, making it the most remote region of New Zealand. Our schedule may include Resolution Bay, Dusky Sound, Astronomers Point and Milford Sound but final itinerary decisions will be made by the Captain and Expedition Leader based on weather conditions. Zodiacs will be used daily either to shuttle from the ship to a landing site or as our transport to explore the fjords.

Day 19 At sea.

Day 20 Golden Bay for Abel Tasman National Park. Over breakfast we will arrive into a remote harbour in Golden Bay. Golden Bay is well off the usual cruise ship route nestled into the South Island's north-west corner with golden beaches, alpine valleys and tranquil fishing rivers. There will be a choice of options today. Either choose to disembark after breakfast to visit Abel Tasman which is New Zealand's smallest national park, protecting over 23 000 hectares of the most easily accessible coastline in the country. This marine reserve offers some marvellously scenic coastal walks and cruises with excellent wildlife opportunities including seal colonies and numerous aquatic birds including penguins. The tour will end in Nelson where you will re-embark the ship which has sailed during the day. Alternatively enjoy a morning

at sea sailing to Nelson and arriving at lunchtime. Nelson has for many years attracted resident artists. There are more than 350 working artists and craftspeople living in Nelson and their work is often inspired by the region's exceptionally beautiful geography – coastal, forest and valley landscapes. Join the excursion of the area's highlights which includes popular Tahunui Beach.

Day 21 New Plymouth. Today we return to the North Island and the western port of New Plymouth. We have the whole day in this pretty city sandwiched between the sea and Mt Taranaki. A tour will visit the highlights of the town including the lookout point, Te Rewa Rewa Bridge and Pukekura Park one of the premier botanical gardens in New Zealand. We will have a chance to explore the diverse landscape of formal gardens, bushwalks and lakes. Alternatively drive to Mount Egmont and join one of the walking trails ranging in difficulty for all levels of fitness. You will be joined by our naturalists who will keep you informed on the flora seen en-route.

Day 22 Cruising. We spend the day cruising this remote area of New Zealand while our lecture programme continues.

Day 23 Bay of Islands. Spend your last day in the Bay of Islands, one of the finest maritime parks in New Zealand with its 144 islands, secluded bays and an abundance of marine life. Discovered by Captain Cook in 1769, it is the cradle of European civilisation

in New Zealand and has important historical significance for both Maori and Europeans. On an morning tour we will visit the Waitangi Treaty house where in 1840 the treaty was signed between the Maori and the British crown. We then continue to enjoy a short walk in the Puketi Kauri Forest.

Day 24 Auckland to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for your scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 25 London. Arrive this morning.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £1000 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£11795	£10795
Castle	Standard	£12095	£11095
Caledonian	Superior	£12695	£11695
Promenade	Premium	£13295	£12295
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£13695	£12695
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£14395	£13395
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£15495	£14495
Castle	Standard for sole use	£13995	£12995
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£14495	£13495

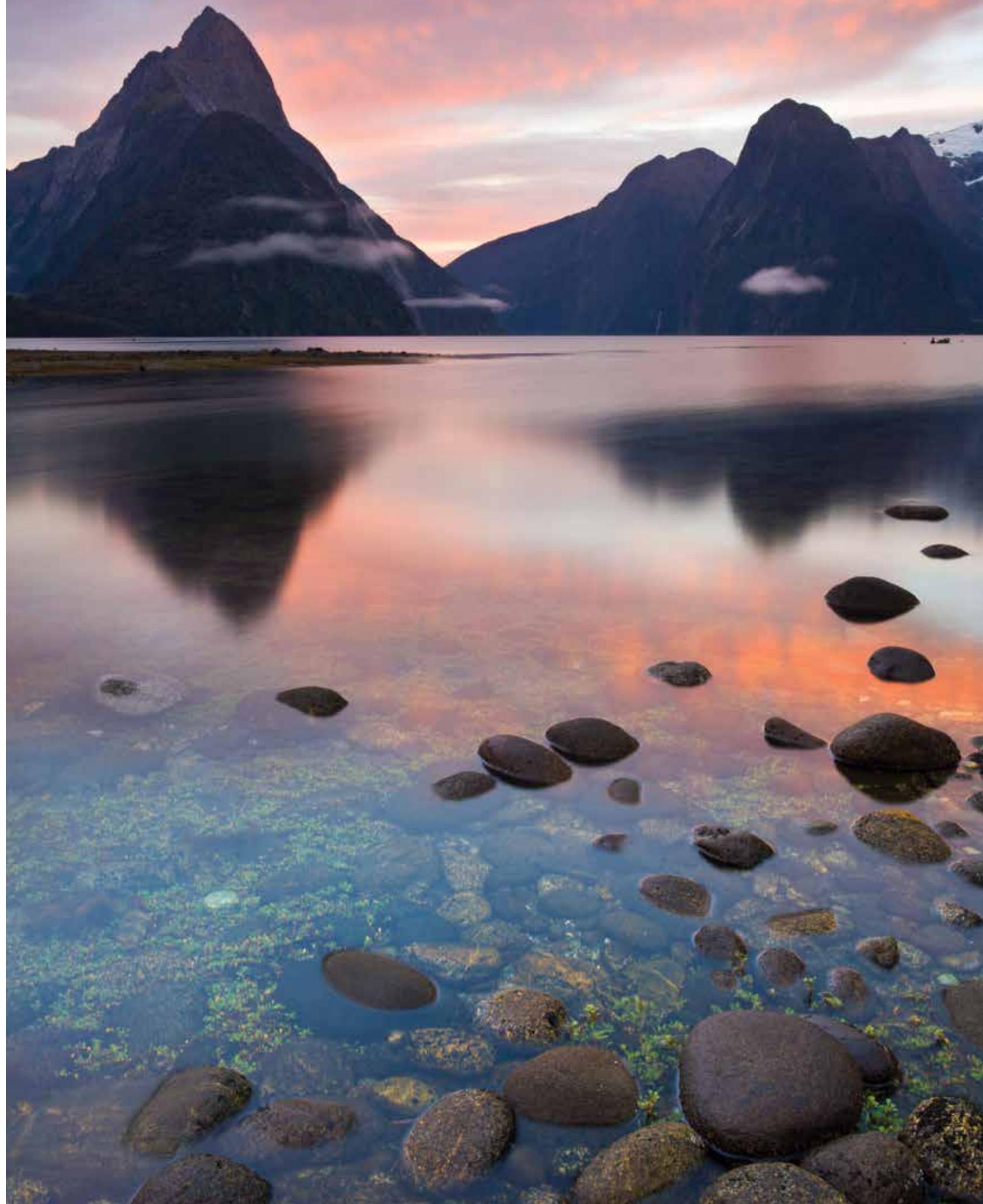
Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Hong Kong and Auckland on a bed and breakfast basis, city tours in both Hong Kong and Auckland, Welcome Dinner in Auckland, 19 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, optional Tranz Alpine Express and Taieri Gorge excursions, visas.

Cruise Only Option: For guests that wish to arrange their own flights, we are offering a discount of £1690 per person for non-use of the roundtrip Auckland flights and Hong Kong arrangements. Your holiday will therefore start on Day 4 of the itinerary in Auckland.

Ship to Shore: This voyage is a combination of both expedition style cruising and small ship destination cruising. Whilst we will be alongside in some ports, on many days we will be at anchor and the vessel's Zodiacs will be utilised to transport passengers ashore and for Zodiac cruising to explore the more remote regions we will be visiting. The use of the Zodiacs will be key to the operation of the itinerary as shown. If you have any queries pertaining to the use of Zodiacs or the level of fitness required for this voyage please do not hesitate to ask one of our experienced travel consultants.

Milford Sound



Sri Lanka to the Seychelles

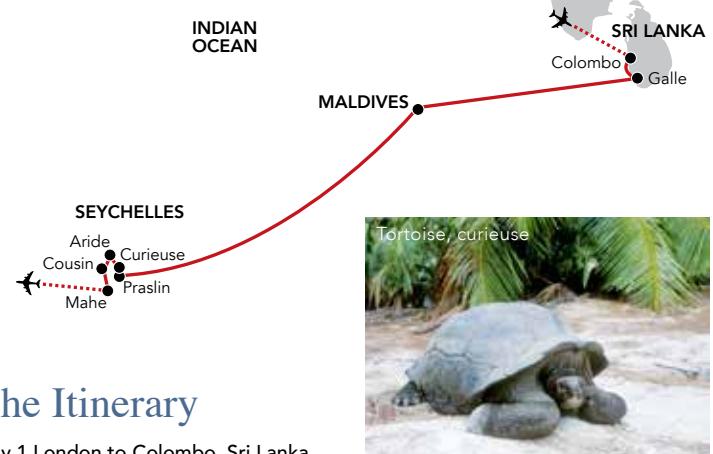


A voyage over Christmas and New Year from Colombo to Mahe aboard the MS Island Sky
22nd December 2016 to 5th January 2017

We find it difficult to imagine a more perfect way to escape the British winter than to enjoy the warmth and beauty of the Indian Ocean aboard the wonderfully comfortable MS Island Sky as she undertakes exactly the type of itinerary that suits her best. Join us in the tropics and celebrate Christmas and New Year onboard as we journey between the islands and atolls of the Indian Ocean.

Our journey first allows us to explore colonial Galle in Sri Lanka before continuing to the Maldives and then on to the Seychelles, two of the world's most pristine and picturesque archipelagos. With our purpose built Zodiacs we will land on otherwise inaccessible beaches, explore vast lagoons and coral reefs and encounter some extraordinarily beautiful tropical scenery.

Our small ship is ideal for such a region, allowing us to enjoy the peace and tranquility of this paradise. After all, it would be disappointing to find yourself in the company of hundreds on what was a deserted beach. From the luxury of the MS Island Sky, we can enjoy great food, good company and an expert team which makes travellers cruise on her time and time again.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Colombo, Sri Lanka.
Fly by scheduled flight.

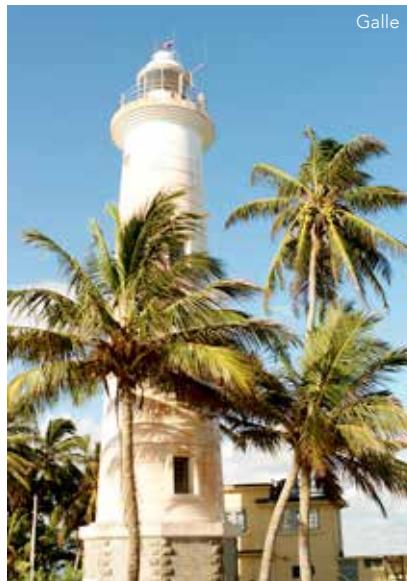
Day 2 Colombo. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Island Sky moored in the city. Sail this evening.

Day 3 Galle. Awake this morning in colonial Galle. On a morning tour we will visit the 17th century Dutch Fort, the museum which is housed in an old Dutch house depicting life in the Dutch colony, wander the ramparts, see the lighthouse and enjoy some free time to walk the narrow streets lined with traditional houses and browse for lace and local handicrafts. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a free afternoon. Shuttle buses will take you back to Galle or you may prefer to visit a local beach.

Day 4 At sea. Enjoy Christmas Day onboard as we sail across the Laccadive Sea towards the Maldives.

Days 5 to 9 Maldives. We have scheduled four days to explore the whole archipelago. This vast area of ocean is scattered with staggeringly beautiful dots of land surrounded by a cerulean sea. It offers some of the finest lagoons, beaches and coral reefs in the world. With nearly 1200 islands spread over 90,000 square kilometres we have plenty of choice and our day to day schedule will be left in the capable hands of the captain and expedition leader. We hope to include visits to Meenu Atoll, Baa Atoll and Haaalifu Atoll. Our Expedition staff will be on hand to take guided walking tours to explore the birds and wildlife on land whilst our snorkel master will take us to reefs to find coral and marine life. On our last day after a morning at Addu Atol we will clear customs and start our journey towards the Seychelles.





Galle



Turtle



Praslin



Hermit Crab

Days 10 to 12 At sea. Relax and enjoy our days at sea. Watch the bird and marine life and listen to the intriguing talks by our expedition team. We are assured of warm weather so make the most of the fresh air, get lost in a novel from your deck chair and enjoy all the comforts of the MS Island Sky. We will also enjoy a New Year's Eve celebration during our time cruising.

Day 13 Praslin & Curieuse, Seychelles. Our first call in the Seychelles will be Praslin where we will explore the 'Vallee de Mai', the last remnant of the original high-canopied Seychelles palm forest and home to the coco de mer. We will walk its paths looking out for the rare black parrot and enjoying its natural beauty which so overpowered General Gordon. Sail over lunch to Curieuse a rugged island which was once home to a leper colony and now houses an eco-museum and visitors centre. The island is an important nesting site for Hawksbill turtles and boasts endemic vine and mangroves which we explore on an island walk.

Day 14 Aride & Cousin. Enjoy breakfast as we arrive in Aride, one of the finest and most important seabird islands in the Indian Ocean. Over one million seabirds breed on the island including tropical shearwater and roseate tern and also five species unique to the Seychelles such as the Seychelles warbler and Seychelles

magpie robin. We will enjoy a guided walk on the island amongst the native woodland. Return to the ship for lunch and the short cruise to Cousin Island, situated off the coast of Praslin and since 1974 designated as a Special Reserve to protect her endemic land birds, including the Seychelles Fody and sunbird, and encourage breeding sea birds. Cousin is also one of the most important nesting sites in the Indian Ocean for hawksbill turtles. We have the afternoon to explore the island on a series of guided walks. Sail over dinner to Mahe where we moor overnight.

Day 15 Mahe to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London. Arrive this evening.

Pre-Cruise Extension Sri Lanka



For details of our comprehensive pre-cruise extension in Sri Lanka please refer to pages 60 and 61.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £750 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Magellan	Standard Forward	£7395	£6645
Magellan	Standard	£7695	£6945
Columbus	Superior	£7995	£7245
Marco Polo	Premium	£8195	£7445
Marco Polo	Corner	£8495	£7745
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£8995	£8245
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£9495	£8745
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£9995	£9245
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£10295	£9545

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 13 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas.

“

With our Zodiacs we will land on otherwise inaccessible beaches, explore vast lagoons and coral reefs and encounter some extraordinarily beautiful tropical scenery.

”



Madagascar & Beyond



An expedition from the Seychelles to Mauritius including an exploration of the wonders of the Madagascar aboard the MS Island Sky

4th to 17th January 2017

Start the New Year with a voyage aboard the MS Island Sky, escaping the British winter and discovering some of the most beautiful tropical islands on earth. This two week journey combines some stunning tiny islands, some of which are a mere dot in the Indian Ocean with the natural wonders of Madagascar.

Our expedition begins with five days in the Seychelles which are some of the most captivating tropical islands in the world. Spread out over a vast swathe of the Indian Ocean they offer everything from quiet sophistication and enchanting scenery to wild, remote and uninhabited nature reserves. To many travellers they are without equal, having remained largely free from the ravages of mass tourism. Obviously, such beauty and serenity is best enjoyed with a small number of travelling companions. After all, it would be disappointing to find yourself in the company of hundreds on what was a deserted beach. The MS Island Sky is an ideal vessel, and with a maximum of 114 passengers she offers all the comforts of a larger vessel, but with the added luxury of a small number of passengers.

We then sail to Madagascar which is simply unique; the animals, plants, landscapes and people that make up this thousand mile long island are unlike anywhere else. This extraordinary country has long remained obscure as a destination and is relatively little known even amongst the most serious of travellers. The long separation from the African mainland has given rise to its amazing number of unique species of flora and fauna. Its people are also unique, having descended from Malay-Polynesian mariners who sailed from South East Asia between 1500 to 2000 years ago. Later arrivals included slaves from Africa and traders from Arabia, India and Portugal and more latterly French colonials. Our experienced expedition team and local guides will provide commentary on all that we see and will reveal the wonders of the world's 'eighth continent'.

The Itinerary

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

Day 2 Mahe. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Island Sky moored in Victoria.

Day 3 Praslin & Aride. Sail to the islands to the north of Mahe. Our first call will be to Praslin where we explore the 'Vallee de Mai', the last remnant of the original high-canopied Seychelles palm forest and home to the coco de mer. We will walk its paths

looking out for the rare black parrot and enjoying its natural beauty which so overpowered General Gordon. Sail over lunch to Aride, one of the finest and most important seabird islands in the Indian Ocean. Over one million seabirds breed on the island including the tropical shearwater and roseate tern as well as five species unique to the Seychelles such as the Seychelles warbler and Seychelles magpie robin. We will enjoy a walk on the island with our onboard naturalists amongst the native woodland.



Chameleon

Day 4 Desroches, Amirante Islands.

The 28 islands in the Amirante Group of islands were discovered by Vasco de Gama in 1501 and are considered to be some of the most pristine and untouched islands in the world. We have a day on Desroches, the largest of the islands, although still only measuring six kilometres by 1.5 kilometres. Enjoy nature walks with our onboard naturalists and the island's conservation team observing the flora and fauna and in particular the giant tortoises and nesting turtles. Whilst keen snorkellers will have the chance to swim over the outlying coral.



Day 5 Alphonse. There are three islands in the Alphonse group which is located directly south of the Amirautes. As we approach the islands at dawn you will understand why they are regarded by many to be the most beautiful of the 115 islands in the Seychelles archipelago. On the main island, the circular lagoon offers good snorkelling and there are a number of tracks across the island to enjoy island walks where we may see giant tortoises. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at sea.

Day 6 Farquhar. This morning we will anchor off Farquhar where we will use our Zodiacs to explore the sparkling lagoon of this remote atoll ringed island of coconut and casuarina trees. We have a full day to enjoy here either bird watching, beachcombing or swimming. Our onboard team will lead an expedition to South Island to see boobies, frigate birds, terns as well as robber and hermit crabs. We will spend some time in the local settlement before enjoying time on the beach to swim or snorkel. We sail this evening, leaving the Seychelles and bound for Madagascar.

Day 7 Diego Suarez, Madagascar. This morning we will enter dramatic Diego Suarez, a stunning natural harbour with a cosmopolitan mix of inhabitants including Creoles, Indians, Chinese, Comorans and Arabs. After a brief tour of the town we will use 4x4 vehicles to make our way to the Malagasy Rain Forest at the Mount Amber National Park. Dividing into short and long walk parties we will go in search of lemurs and chameleons as we explore the rain forest. In the towering vegetation we may spot several

species of lemurs and chameleons as well as endemic birds, including parrots. If this is not possible based on weather conditions, we will instead visit the Domaine de Fontenay where we will explore the reserve rich with flora, fauna and several waterfalls. On our return to the MS Island Sky we will take a detour to the bay of Diego with its impressive views of the sugar loaf and also home to the indigenous baobab suarensis tree. Enjoy lunch onboard whilst our lecture programme continues during a relaxing afternoon at sea.

Day 8 Nosy Mangabe. After a morning at sea we arrive at Nosy Mangabe, a 520 hectare island reserve in Antongil Bay. Here we find one of the most diverse areas of virgin rain forest in Madagascar which has also been an important research centre since the mid-1960s when several aye-ayes and lemurs were released into the forest. We will use our Zodiacs to land on the beach next to the forest and organise a series of nature walks looking at the varied trees, plants and ferns and also hope to spot chameleon, lizards and black and white ruffed lemur. For the birders we will keep an eye out for Madagascar buzzard, kingfisher and paradise flycatchers.

Day 9 Masoala National Park. We remain in Antongil Bay overnight and enjoy a full day visit to Madagascar's largest protected area, the Masoala National Park which comprises coastal rainforest, flooded forests and marsh and mangroves. Mammal species encountered include the red-ruffed lemur, the red-fronted brown lemur, the aye-aye, the greater hedgehog



Exploring by Zodiac



Fairy Tern



Black and white ruffed Lemur



Diego Suarez

tenrec and the ring tailed mongoose. The park is also home to various species of brightly coloured Mantella frogs and all manner of extraordinary chameleons. Masoala is also a refuge of the endangered Madagascar red owl and Madagascar serpent eagle and many endemic bird species. We will run a series of walks for all levels during the day whilst you also have the option to swim off the beach or perhaps visit the local village.

Day 10 Ile Sainte Marie & Nosy Nato. Our final call in Madagascar is at Ile Sainte Marie, also known as Nosy Bohara, a lush tropical island offering sandy beaches, coral reefs and natural beauty. This morning we will explore the capital of Ambodifotatra including the oldest church in Madagascar built in 1837 and the vibrant market. We will then head over to neighbouring Nosy Nato where you can choose to join a nature walk keeping an eye out for the wildlife or simply enjoy an afternoon of swimming and snorkelling.

Day 11 At sea. Enjoy a relaxing day at sea keeping an eye out for marine and bird life as we continue enroute to Reunion.

Day 12 Reunion. We arrive at breakfast in Reunion where we have

a choice of excursions. On a full day tour we will visit the central highlands where spectacularly rugged peaks of dormant or extinct volcanoes cradle huge amphitheatres known as cirques, where mountains tower to over 10,000 feet and beautiful waterfalls plummet hundreds of feet. The rich soil and mellow climate produce a lush and verdant landscape which is dotted with villages and towns with a uniquely French atmosphere. Fields of sugar cane and plantations of tropical fruits, vanilla and all manner of spices perfume the air. We will enjoy views from the Nez des Bouefs and see the Piton de la Fournaise crater. After enjoying a creole lunch in a local restaurant we will visit the "Cite du Volcan" museum. Alternatively enjoy a morning tour to a vanilla plantation in St Andre where we learn about the history and culture of this integral part of Reunion's heritage. We will also enjoy some free time in St Denis before returning to the MS Island Sky for lunch. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure before we set sail this evening.

Day 13 Mauritius to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Day 14 London. Arrive this morning.

Post-Cruise Mauritius Extension - 16th to 19th January 2017



For those who would like to spend some extra time relaxing in Mauritius before returning to London we are offering the opportunity to join a two night extension once you have disembarked the MS Island Sky. Our extension will be based at the Westin Turtle Bay Resort (or similar) and will be on an all-inclusive basis. Enjoy a half day tour of the island which will include the wonderful botanical gardens.

Prices per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £395 Single: £495

Price Includes: Two nights at the Westin Turtle Bay Resort on an all-inclusive basis, half day island tour, transfers from the MS Island Sky to the hotel and from the hotel to airport.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

LIMITED AVAILABILITY REMAINING		
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price
Magellan	Standard Forward	£6795
Magellan	Standard	£7195
Columbus	Superior	£7395
Marco Polo	Premium	£7595
Marco Polo	Corner	£7995
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£8495
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£8995
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£10795
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£11195

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 11 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, all gratuities.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas.

New Zealand's Natural Wonders

Explore New Zealand's magical landscapes aboard the MS Caledonian Sky
5th to 24th January 2017

New Zealand may be about as far away as it is possible to be from the UK, but in many ways it is the most similar to our own country being comparable in size, climate and culture. Another similarity with the UK is that like our own islands the two major islands of New Zealand are purpose made for coastal cruising with the vast majority of the 'must see' places being either on the coast or close by in the hinterland. Of course there are some major differences, the most significant being a population of just 4 million to our 60 million. It is these similarities and differences that make a trip to New Zealand such a special experience and why anyone considering a trip should look at a minimum of two weeks but preferably longer. The pristine landscapes and awe inspiring natural features of fjords, glaciers, geysers, thermal pools and snow capped mountains contrast with stunning white sandy beaches, rolling farmlands, lush forests, amazing gardens and varied wildlife.

A journey by sea around New Zealand allows you to explore the dramatic southern fjords and visit White Island in the north, hop across to Stewart Island in the far south, enjoy whale watching off Kaikoura and cruise the picturesque waters of the Marlborough Sound. All of this is best achieved by travelling around New Zealand on a small ship in preference to some of the larger resort style vessels which can only visit the larger places.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Hong Kong. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Hong Kong. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to our central hotel for an overnight stay. Remainder of day and evening is at leisure.

Day 3 Hong Kong. Enjoy a relaxing morning before meeting in the early afternoon for a tour of Hong Kong. After the tour we will continue to the airport for our scheduled overnight flight to Auckland.

Day 4 Auckland, New Zealand. Arrive this morning and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is free for individual exploration. Enjoy a welcome dinner tonight.

Day 5 Auckland. A morning tour will include the city's highlights including the Domain and the Auckland Museum, which overlooks Waitemata Harbour and houses the world's largest collection of Polynesian artefacts. We will enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before being transferred to the MS Caledonian Sky.

Day 6 Tauranga for Rotorua. From our berth in Tauranga we will drive to the famous thermal springs at Rotorua. We will visit Wai-O-Tapu, which means Sacred Waters in Maori, an active geothermal area with colourful hot springs, steaming ground and boiling mud pools. Marvel at the incredible palette of vibrant hues displayed in the pools, lakes and craters, and enjoy the melodic sounds of birds singing in the native forest. From here we visit a local Maori Marae where we will enjoy a traditional Maori welcome and a hangi lunch before returning to the ship.

Day 7 White Island. Arrive this morning at White Island. Weather permitting there will be an excursion to explore the active volcano, identifiable by the plume of steam continually spouting from its crater. The sights are surreal: the main crater with towering walls, steaming vents, and hissing fumaroles, glittering yellow sulphur crystals, bubbling mud pots and a spectacular steaming lake. This call is well off the usual cruise routes and we will use the Zodiacs to reach the island and then take a guided walk

to the crater. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at sea.

Day 8 Napier. Arrive this morning in Napier and join a tour of the beautiful city which will include its charming art deco buildings. Totally rebuilt after the 1931 Hawkes Bay earthquake, it has enormous style. Nowhere else can you see such a variety of buildings in the styles of the 1930s - Stripped Classical, Spanish Mission, and above all Art Deco, the style of the 20th century. Napier's Art Deco is unique, with Maori motifs and the buildings of Louis Hay, admirer of the great Frank Lloyd Wright. Walk along Marine Parade before visiting a local vineyard for a guided tour and a chance to sample the local wines. This afternoon is free for independent exploration of the town. Alternatively join the excursion to the gannetry at Cape Kidnappers where you are able to get amazingly close to the birds.

Day 9 Wellington. We spend a morning at sea as we sail towards the nation's capital. From our central berth we will explore Wellington this afternoon. Here we will see St Paul's Cathedral, enjoy time at Te Papa, the outstanding National Museum of New Zealand, before we enjoy a stroll through the Botanical Gardens.



Day 10 Nelson. Over breakfast we will arrive into the small harbour of Nelson. There will be a choice of options today. Either choose to spend a full day at Abel Tasman which is New Zealand's smallest national park, protecting over 23 000 hectares of the most easily accessible coastline in the country. This marine reserve offers some marvellously scenic coastal walks and cruises with excellent wildlife opportunities including seal colonies and numerous aquatic birds including penguins. Alternatively enjoy a morning tour of Nelson which has for many



years attracted resident artists. There are more than 350 working artists and craftspeople living in Nelson, including traditional and contemporary Maori artists. Join the excursion of the area's highlights which includes popular Tahunui Beach. In the afternoon enjoy a free afternoon to explore further.

Day 11 Ship Cove & Picton, Marlborough Sounds. This morning we will use our small ship to explore Ship Cove where Captain James Cook spent much of his time in New Zealand. Keen walkers will have the chance to leave the ship at Resolution Bay and hike over to Ship Cove along the Queen Charlotte Track enjoying fantastic views over the archipelago of islands. Alternatively disembark in Ship Cove and take a stroll to the Cook memorial. We will also look out for playful dolphins and a variety of seabirds. Return to the ship for lunch as we sail to the South Island. From Picton you can choose to enjoy further walking on the Southern end of the Queen Charlotte track where you will pass towering rima trees, nikau palms, a multitude of ferns and delicate flowering orchids. Bellbirds and tui, can be heard and seen during the walk. Alternatively visit the famous Marlborough wine producing region. See some of the 3000 hectares of vineyards and taste some of the Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling, Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvignon for which the area is justly famous.

Day 12 Kaikoura. Today we are in Kaikoura, a famous whale watching area due to its nutrient rich waters. The combination of very deep waters and the mixing of cold and warm waters brings the nutrients to the top. After breakfast, there will be



opportunities to join a whale watching cruise looking out for sperm whales, pods of dusky dolphins and common seals and the wandering albatross. Spend the afternoon exploring the town independently, join one of the nature walks or maybe take a trip on one of the bird watching cruises.

Day 13 Akaroa. Akaroa meaning, 'Long Harbour', in Maori, was founded by French whaling Captain Jean Langlois on his ship Cachet in 1838. He returned in 1840 with 60 settlers on the Comte de Paris to create a French colony. This morning we enjoy a dolphin watching trip using local boats to explore the scenic coastline and searching for the rare Hector's dolphin. After lunch onboard we have the chance to visit a working farm in the countryside outside the town. We will hear about the history of the farm, have demonstrations of sheep shearing and see the working dogs in action and enjoy tea in the farm grounds.

Day 14 Dunedin. Arrive this morning in Dunedin and enjoy a guided tour to the Taiaroa Head Penguin Place where we learn about the history of the reserve their breeding programme for the rare yellow eyed penguins. As we return to Dunedin we will see the gracious 19th century buildings, the magnificent railway station and the beautiful botanical gardens, the oldest in New Zealand and containing over 6800 plant species. After the tour you have the chance to stay in the city for lunch or return to the ship. This afternoon is free for independent exploration, or maybe choose to join the optional excursion on the Taieri Gorge Railway, one of the great railway journeys of the world.

Day 15 Ulva and Stewart Island. New Zealand's third island is well off the usual beaten tourist track. It is a wonderfully tranquil place the scenery of untouched bushland is stunning. We will have a morning on Ulva Island and will use Zodiacs to go ashore for a choice of walks with our local guides.

We will explore the dense vegetation and keep an eye out for the amazing birdlife. This afternoon we land at Oban and have the chance to wander amongst the shops and see the visitor centre or join a drive along some of the 15 miles of sealed road to some of the beauty spots.

Day 16 Fiordland. Today we explore the incredible wilderness of fiords in the south west corner of the South Island. This is an area of history, as Captain Cook landed here on HMS Resolution in 1770, majestic scenery and is rich in wildlife. It is only accessible by sea, making it the most remote region of New Zealand. Our schedule may include Resolution Bay, Dusky Sound, Astronomers Point and Pickersgill Harbour but final itinerary decisions will be made by the Captain and Expedition Leader based on weather conditions. Zodiacs will

be used daily either to shuttle from the ship to a landing site or as our transport to explore the fiords beyond the ships anchorage position.

Day 17 Milford Sound to Queenstown. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to Queenstown for a two night stay at the Novotel Queenstown (or similar). On arrival check into the hotel and enjoy the remainder of the day and evening at leisure to explore independently.

Day 18 Queenstown. Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore Queenstown.

Day 19 Queenstown to London. After breakfast in the hotel, transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Auckland and onward scheduled flight to London via Hong Kong.

Day 20 London. Arrive this afternoon.

PRICES PER PERSON

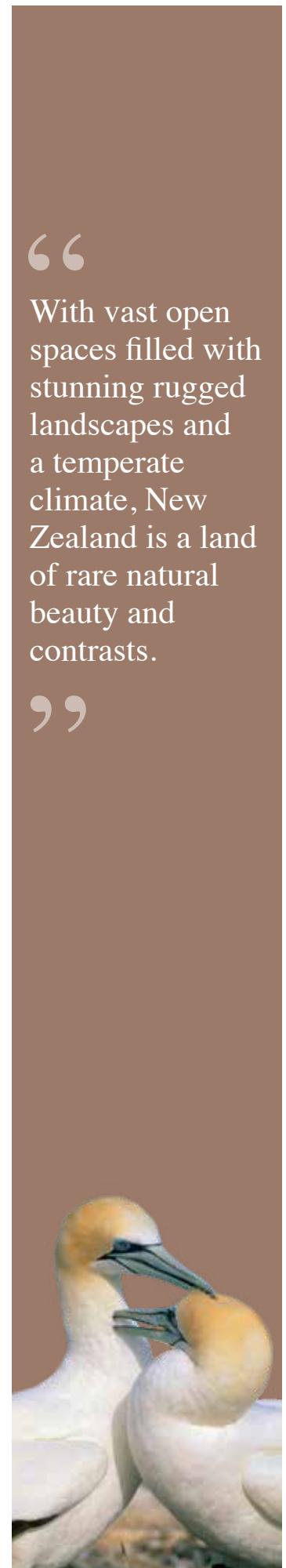
Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER - SAVE UP TO £1000 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME			
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£7995	£7495
Castle	Standard	£8295	£7795
Caledonian	Superior	£8695	£8195
Promenade	Premium	£9195	£8695
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£9895	£8895
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£10695	£9695
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£11495	£10495
Castle	Standard for sole use	£9995	£9495
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£10395	£9895

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight accommodation in Hong Kong and Auckland on a bed and breakfast basis, city tours in both Hong Kong and Auckland, welcome dinner in Auckland, 12 nights aboard MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities, two nights accommodation in Queenstown on a bed and breakfast basis.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, optional excursions, visas.

Ship to Shore: This voyage is a combination of both expedition style cruising and small ship destination cruising. Whilst we will be alongside in some ports, on many days we will be at anchor and the vessel's Zodiacs will be utilised to transport passengers ashore and for Zodiac cruising to explore the more remote regions we will be visiting. The use of the Zodiacs will be key to the operation of the itinerary as shown. If you have any queries pertaining to the use of Zodiacs or the level of fitness required for this voyage please do not hesitate to ask one of our experienced travel consultants.



Wonders & Wildlife of the Indian Ocean



An island hopping adventure from Mauritius to Tanzania aboard the MS Island Sky

14th to 29th January 2017

Here is an extraordinary cruise for those who enjoy the natural world and all its wonders and are looking for the opportunity to escape the British winter. Join us aboard the all-suite MS Island Sky and enjoy the warmth and beauty of the Indian Ocean as she undertakes exactly the type of itinerary that suits her many talents best. With the vessel's purpose built Zodiacs we will land on otherwise inaccessible beaches, explore vast lagoons and coral reefs and encounter some of the most extraordinarily beautiful tropical scenery to be found anywhere in the world.

Sailing from Mauritius we will land on its nearest neighbour, Reunion, a little bit of France in the Indian Ocean and a truly stunning place. We will spend the day exploring its truly awesome and dramatic scenery including the Central Highlands with their spectacularly rugged peaks of dormant volcanoes which cradle huge natural amphitheatres known as cirques. We then continue to Madagascar where we will have three days exploring the incredible verdant and beautiful island. Madagascar is unique; the animals, plants, landscapes and people that make up this thousand mile long island are unlike anywhere else.

For many the highlight of our voyage will be our time spent on the island of Aldabra. Being one of the most difficult places in the world to access and having a lack of freshwater has saved Aldabra from any tourism development and there is no landing strip so the only viable means of reaching this untouched region is by ship. Aldabra is the last breeding ground of the giant tortoise and in addition to seeing some of these endearing creatures you should also encounter dolphins, turtles and whales as well as countless birds including the flightless rail, the last flightless bird in the Indian Ocean.

The last island on our odyssey will be Zanzibar. This spice island certainly lives up to its 'Arabian Nights' reputation for exotic charm. We will explore Stone Town's labyrinth of serpentine alleyways lined with charming Arabic dwellings and filled with the treasures of the East that established its fame; cloves, cinnamon and vanilla.

This really is a veritable feast of beauty, the natural world and island culture. You will witness the bounty of the islands, the wildlife from the giant tortoises of Aldabra to the lemurs of Madagascar and an amazingly prolific birdlife.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Mauritius. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Mauritius. Arrive today and transfer to Le Meridien Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Day 3 Mauritius. After a morning at leisure, enjoy a short tour to discover Pamplemousse Botanical Gardens which are home to over 500 species of plants. After the tour we will embark the MS Island Sky.

Day 4 Reunion. This morning we arrive in Reunion where we have a choice of excursions. On a full day tour we will visit the central highlands where spectacularly rugged peaks of dormant or extinct volcanoes cradle huge amphitheatres known as cirques, where mountains tower to over 10,000 feet and beautiful waterfalls plummet hundreds of feet. The rich soil and mellow climate produce a lush and verdant landscape which is dotted with villages and towns with a uniquely French atmosphere. We will enjoy views from the Nez des Bouefs and see the Piton de la Fournaise crater. After enjoying a creole lunch in a local restaurant we will visit the "Cite du Volcan" Museum before returning to the MS Island Sky. Alternatively enjoy a morning tour to a vanilla plantation in St Andre and free time in St Denis before returning to the MS Island Sky for lunch.

Day 5 At sea. Enjoy a relaxing day onboard as we cruise to Madagascar.

Day 6 Ile Sainte Marie & Nosy Nato, Madagascar. Our first call in Madagascar is at Ile Sainte Marie, also

known as Nosy Bohara, a lush tropical island offering us sandy beaches, coral reefs and natural beauty. This morning we will explore the capital of Ambodifotatra including the oldest church in Madagascar built in 1837 and the vibrant market. We will then head over to neighbouring Nosy Nato where you can choose to join a nature walk or simply enjoy an afternoon of swimming and snorkelling from the beach.

Days 7 & 8 Nosy Mangabe & Masoala National Park. This morning we arrive at Nosy Mangabe, a 520 hectare island reserve in Antongil Bay. Here we find one of the most diverse areas of virgin rain forest in Madagascar which has also been an important research centre since the mid-1960s when several aye-ayes and lemurs were released into the forest. We will use our Zodiacs to land on the beach next to the forest and organise a series of nature walks looking at the varied trees, plants and ferns and also hope to spot chameleon, lizards and black and white ruffed lemur. For the birders we will keep an eye out for Madagascar buzzard, kingfisher and paradise flycatchers. Over lunch we cross Antongil Bay and enjoy the afternoon and next morning at Madagascar's largest protected area, the Masoala National Park which comprises coastal rainforest, flooded forests and marsh and mangroves. Mammal species encountered include the red-ruffed lemur, the red-fronted brown lemur, the aye-aye, the greater hedgehog, tenrec and the ring tailed mongoose. The park is also home to various species of brightly coloured Mantella frogs and all manner of extraordinary chameleons. We will run a series of walks for all levels whilst you also have the option to swim off the beach or perhaps visit the local

village. Sail at lunchtime on day eight and enjoy an afternoon cruising.

Day 9 Diego Suarez. After a morning at sea we will enter dramatic Diego Suarez, a stunning natural harbour with a cosmopolitan mix of inhabitants. After a brief tour of the town we will use 4x4 vehicles to make our way to the Malagasy Rain Forest at the Mount Amber National Park. Dividing into short and long walk parties we will go in search of lemurs and chameleons as we explore the rain forest. In the towering vegetation we may spot several species of lemurs, as well as endemic birds, including parrots. If this is not possible due to weather conditions we will instead visit the Domaine de Fontenay where we will explore the reserve rich with flora, fauna and several waterfalls.

Day 10 Assumption, Seychelles. In the late-afternoon we arrive at Assumption Island where we will clear immigration into the Seychelles. We will enjoy time here to beachcomb, join a nature walk or snorkel.

Days 11 & 12 Aldabra, Seychelles. At sunrise we will arrive at Aldabra where we have planned for a day and a half to explore the island referred to by Sir Julian Huxley as "One of nature's treasures and should belong to the whole world". Aldabra is unique and every time we call at what is believed to be the world's largest atoll we find something new of interest. Sightings have been made of the extremely rare white throated rail and the atoll is also home to the world's second largest colony of frigate birds and to the largest crab, the coconut crab. Whilst exploring by Zodiac it is difficult to know in which direction to look. The clear blue seas abound with colourful life, the skies are alive with varied birdlife and ashore giant land tortoises forage as they have done for millions of years. We will include as much as

possible with our time on Aldabra making landings on South Island and trips into the lagoon, a vast 17 mile stretch of shallow clear water. From our Zodiacs we can watch the ever-changing undersea world and snorkel in colourful coral waters teeming with marine life. Our programme ashore will be flexible and in the hands of our Expedition Leader based on sea and weather conditions. One thing is for sure, you will not be disappointed by these extraordinary islands and atolls. We return to Assumption in the afternoon to clear Seychelles immigration before continuing to Zanzibar.

Day 13 At sea.

Day 14 Zanzibar, Tanzania. Here the colourful harbour will be crowded with dhows, very much setting the scene for our visit to the Arab style city with its long narrow streets, bazaars, houses with overhanging balconies and intricately carved doorways. On a morning tour, soak up the timeless atmosphere of Stone Town including Livingstone House, Sultan's Palace, the slave market and the old Fort. The afternoon is free to relax and explore independently or join a tour to a spice farm.

Day 15 Dar es Salaam to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 16 London. Arrive this morning.

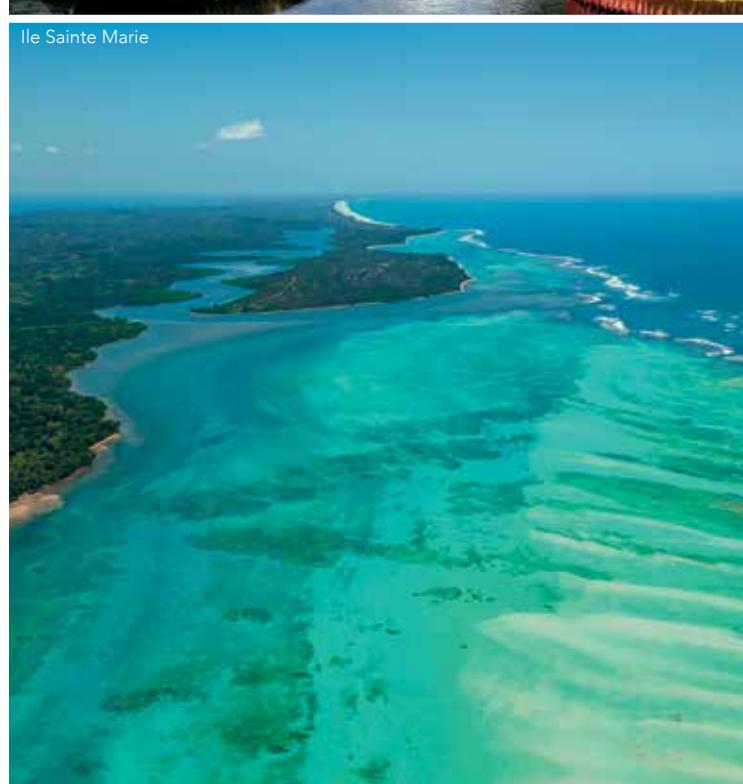
Post-Cruise Extension Tanzania Safari



For details of our safari extension to the Selous Reserve in Tanzania please see refer to pages 76 and 77.



Sunset, Diego Suarez



PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Magellan	Standard Forward	£7395	£6895
Magellan	Standard	£7495	£6995
Columbus	Superior	£7795	£7295
Marco Polo	Premium	£7995	£7495
Marco Polo	Corner	£8295	£7795
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£8695	£8195
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£8995	£8495
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£10995	£10495
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£11295	£10795

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Mauritius on breakfast only basis, 12 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, all gratuities.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas.

Aldabra - Last Sanctuary



An expedition exploring the hidden islands of the Indian Ocean aboard the MS Island Sky
27th January to 9th February 2017

Join us on an expedition voyage through the bountiful islands of the Indian Ocean to Aldabra, the world's largest coral atoll and a World Heritage site. Totally untouched by the modern world, Aldabra has been described by Jacques Cousteau as 'the last unprofaned sanctuary on this planet'. Being one of the most difficult places in the world to access and a lack of freshwater has saved Aldabra from any development. There is no landing strip and the only viable means of reaching this untouched region is by ship. Aldabra is the last breeding ground of the giant tortoise and in addition to seeing some of these endearing creatures you should encounter dolphins, turtles and whales as well as countless birds including the flightless rail, the last flightless bird in the Indian Ocean. Join us aboard the MS Island Sky and be one of the few who have explored this 'Galapagos of the Indian Ocean'.

After our first port of call, the exotic island of Zanzibar just off the East African coast, our stepping stone voyage across the Indian ocean begins, firstly to Aldabra and then to the Alphonse and Amirantes archipelago. A journey to some of the most wonderful and isolated tropical islands in the world. Enjoy walks with our onboard naturalists, spend time relaxing on pristine beaches or viewing the bountiful underwater world whilst snorkelling.

The Itinerary

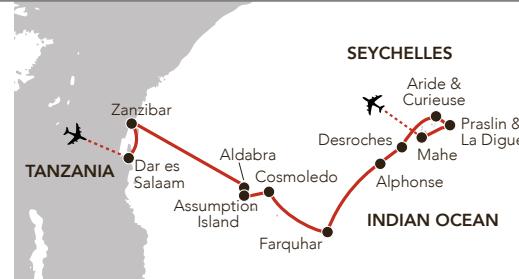
Day 1 London to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Dar es Salaam. Arrive today and transfer to the MS Island Sky in the afternoon.

Day 3 Zanzibar. Here the colourful harbour will be crowded with dhows, very much setting the scene for our visit to the Arab style city with its long narrow streets, bazaars, houses with overhanging balconies and intricately carved doorways. Out of town there are magnificent brilliant white sandy beaches and lush vegetation with plantations of cloves, cinnamon, vanilla and nutmeg which fill the air with heady aromas. On a morning tour, soak up the timeless atmosphere of Stone Town including Livingstone House, Sultan's Palace, the slave market and the old Fort. The afternoon is free to relax and explore independently or join a tour to a spice farm to experience the various fruits and spices cultivated on the island where you will find everything from jackfruit to coconuts, turmeric and vanilla to lipstick trees.

Day 4 At sea. Enjoy a relaxing day at sea. Maybe join one of the lectures or spend time on deck as we cruise to the Seychelles.

Days 5 to 7 Aldabra & Assumption Island, Seychelles. We have two and a half days to enjoy the Aldabra group of islands. We will clear immigration on the island of Assumption which was ruthlessly plundered for its vast deposits of guano in the early 20th century. Happily, peace has returned and the wildlife of rare birds and green turtles are once again in abundance. Our time here will be spent beachcombing, on a nature walk or snorkelling before we sail the short distance to Aldabra where we have two full days to explore the island referred to by Sir Julian Huxley as "One of nature's treasures and should belong to the whole world". Aldabra is unique and every time we call at what is believed to be the world's largest atoll we find something new of interest. Sightings have been made of the extremely rare white throated rail and the atoll is also home to the world's second largest colony of frigate birds and to the



largest crab, the coconut crab. Whilst exploring by Zodiac it is difficult to know in which direction to look. The clear blue seas abound with colourful life, the skies are alive with varied birdlife and ashore giant land tortoises forage as they have done for millions of years. We will explore Picard Island with a short walk to see some of the thousands of tortoises and numerous robber crabs. We will include as much as possible with our time on Aldabra making landings on South Island and trips into the lagoon, a vast 17 mile stretch of shallow clear water. From our Zodiacs we can watch the ever-changing undersea world and snorkel in colourful coral waters teeming with marine life. Our programme ashore will be flexible and in the hands of our expedition leader based on sea and weather conditions. One thing is for sure, you will not be disappointed by these extraordinary islands and atolls.

Day 8 Cosmoledo. Spend the day on Cosmoledo where a huge ring of twelve islands circle a lagoon. Many of the atolls are still to be surveyed and we will explore some of them by

Zodiac. This is an important bird area with all three species of booby found in the Seychelles including the last breeding site for the Brown Booby. Also spot sooty terns and great frigate birds. We may also spot the green turtles, skinks and the Madagascar banded lizard.

Day 9 Farquhar. After a morning at sea we will anchor off Farquhar where we will use our Zodiacs to explore the sparkling lagoon of this remote atoll ringed island of coconut and casuarina trees. The island is a haven for many species of migratory birds providing us with a delightful afternoon of bird watching or snorkelling. Here we will also find the single administrator of the island who is kept busy by also being the boat master, storekeeper, accountant, postmaster, doctor, policeman and sometimes priest.

Day 10 Alphonse Islands. There are three islands in the Alphonse group which is located directly south of the Amirantes. As we approach the islands over lunch you will understand why they are regarded by many to be the





most beautiful of the 115 islands in the Seychelles archipelago. On the main island the circular lagoon offers good snorkelling and there are a number of tracks across the island to enjoy island walks.



Day 11 Desroches, Amirante Islands.

The 28 islands in the Amirante Group of islands were discovered by Vasco de Gama in 1501 and are considered to be some of the most pristine and untouched islands in the world. We have a day on Desroches, the largest of the islands, although still only measuring six kilometres by 1.5 kilometres. Enjoy nature walks with our onboard naturalists and the island's conservation team observing the flora and fauna and in particular the giant tortoises and nesting turtles. Whilst keen snorkellers will have the chance to swim over the outlying coral.

Day 12 Aride & Curieuse. Arrive this morning at the islands to the north of Mahe. Our first call will be at Aride one of the finest and most important seabird islands in the Indian Ocean. Over one million seabirds

breed on the island including tropical shearwater and roseate tern and also five species unique to the Seychelles such as the Seychelles warbler and Seychelles magpie robin. We will enjoy a walk on the island amongst the native woodland. Sail over lunch to Curieuse a rugged island which was once home to a leper colony and now houses an eco-museum and visitors centre. The island is an important nesting site for Hawksbill turtles and boasts endemic vine and mangroves which we explore on an island walk.

Day 13 Praslin & La Digue. This morning we will explore Praslin's 'Vallee de Mai', the last remnant of the original high-canopied Seychelles palm forest and home to the coco de mer. We will walk its paths looking

out for the rare black parrot and enjoying its natural beauty which so overpowered General Gordon. Sail during lunch to nearby La Digue where there is a hint of Henry Moore in the huge granite boulders that lie like giant sculptures on the brilliant white beaches of the island. Tour the forested nature reserve and the L'Union Estate, a superbly restored 19th century colonial house. Rent a bicycle, relax or swim and snorkel from one of the beaches. During dinner we sail across to the island of Mahe and the Seychelles capital of Victoria where we moor overnight.

Day 14 Mahe to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London. Arrive this evening.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

LIMITED AVAILABILITY REMAINING

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price
Magellan	Standard Forward	£6795
Magellan	Standard	£6995
Columbus	Superior	£7295
Marco Polo	Premium	£7495
Marco Polo	Corner	NOT AVAILABLE
Eriksen	Deluxe Balcony	NOT AVAILABLE
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	NOT AVAILABLE
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£10395
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£10695

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 12 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, all gratuities.
Not Included: Travel insurance, visas.

“

Being one of the most difficult places in the world to access and having a lack of freshwater has saved Aldabra from any tourism development and the only viable means of reaching this untouched region is by small ship.

”



We are delighted to offer an extension in conjunction with two of our Indian Ocean expeditions to the Selous Game Reserve in Tanzania.



Selous Reserve

Only 200 kilometres west of Dar es Salaam lies the mighty Selous Game Reserve, one of Africa's least known yet wildest conservation areas. At 55,000 square kilometres, Selous is four times larger than the famous Serengeti in the north. Fed by the mighty Rufiji River, the largest river in East Africa which drains most of South Western Tanzania's water, this reserve is home to over 1,000,000 large animals and over half of Tanzania's elephant population. However, one of the major attractions has to be the mighty river itself, home to one of the largest crocodile and hippo populations in Africa, swarming with fish which in turn bring about some of the world's best water birding. The river has also formed several large lakes on its northern bank, navigable by boat and Siwandu Camp is situated on one of these lakes, sheltered in a grove of one of Selous' many beautiful palm forests.

This wonderfully diverse, vast and well watered habitat has the right ingredients to enable the land to hold an unusually high number of animals as well as support an extraordinary array of different vegetation types. Selous has over 2,100 species of plants, 350 species of birds, 60,000 elephant, 108,000 buffalos and an estimated 1,300 of the worlds' approximately 4,000 remaining rare wild dogs providing guests with the opportunity to glimpse all of these exotic animals in true unspoilt wilderness. Our stay coincides with the perfect season for bird and plant lovers, flowers will be in abundance and the deciduous trees are starting new growth. It is also the main reproductive time of year so a good time for seeing young animals.

Siwandu Camp

For our exploration of the Selous Game Reserve, we will be staying at Siwandu Camp which is situated on the banks of Lake Nzerakera and designed to blend in with the spectacular natural scenery in what is one of the most photogenic areas of the Selous Game Reserve. All safari tents are widely spaced along the lake shore ensuring maximum privacy and wonderful views. Each tent sits atop its own raised timber platform with two large verandas on either side where one can sit with a cup of tea in the morning watching the bush come to life at sunrise, or nursing a gin and tonic as the bush gets ready for the night at sunset.

The camp has the prime position at the centre of the unique riverine and lake complex, with the highest concentration of African wildlife and myriad birdlife. There are no fences and no artificial modifications to the natural fauna and so animals wander freely through the camp. The spacious tents are luxuriously appointed, with en-suite bathrooms and open air hot-water showers. Ceiling fans are present in all the rooms situated above the king sizes beds where guests can rest away the exertions of the morning activity and cool down during the heat of the day before heading out again later. The camp has its own swimming pool, enabling guests to cool off in the heat of the day. There is a well-stocked bar and dining area, and chefs produce the finest cuisine. Table d'hôte dining makes the most of African influences and local fresh fruit, vegetables and spices. All meals are complimented by a good wine selection. The dining area and bar areas are raised on viewing platforms, with large comfortable sofas and a wildlife reference library.





Post-Cruise Extension for Wonders & Wildlife of the Indian Ocean

28th January to 1st February 2017

The Itinerary

Day 1 Dar es Salaam to Selous Game Reserve.

Disembark the MS Island Sky after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our 45 minute scheduled flight to Mtemere Airstrip in Selous Game Reserve. On arrival transfer to the Siwandu Camp and this afternoon enjoy your first game experience with a boat safari on the Rufiji River or on a nearby lake looking for hippos, crocodiles and birdlife. This evening enjoy dinner at the camp.

Days 2 & 3 Siwandu Camp, Selous Game Reserve.

Enjoy two full days in the Reserve with included game drives each day. Maybe enjoy a full day game viewing in Selous Game Reserve with

a picnic lunch or a half day walking safari through the bush with a ranger. Alternatively join another boat safari or simply relax in your tent. In the evening enjoy a delicious dinner at the camp.

before transferring to the airstrip for your flight to Dar es Salaam. On arrival connect with your international scheduled flight to London.

Day 4 Selous to London. Enjoy breakfast and a final safari option

Day 5 London. Arrive this morning.



Prices per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £2325; Single: £2995

Price includes: Economy class scheduled air travel between Dar es Salaam and Selous Game reserve, three nights accommodation at Siwandu Camp on a full board basis including all soft drinks, tea and coffee and non-premium alcoholic drinks, Selous National Park entry fees and permit fees, excursions at the camp, taxes, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas, gratuities.

Pre-Cruise Extension for Aldabra – Last Sanctuary

23rd to 28th January 2017

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Dar es Salaam.

Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Dar es Salaam.

Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the Dar es Salaam Serena Hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 3 Dar es Salaam to Selous Game Reserve.

After breakfast enjoy a morning at leisure before we transfer to the airport for our 45 minute scheduled flight to Mtemere Airstrip in the Selous Game Reserve. On arrival transfer to the Siwandu Camp and this afternoon enjoy your first game experience with a boat safari on the Rufiji River or on a nearby lake looking for hippos, crocodiles and birdlife. This evening enjoy dinner at the camp.

Days 4 & 5 Siwandu Camp, Selous Game Reserve.

Enjoy two full days in the Reserve with included game drives each day. Maybe enjoy a full day game viewing in Selous Game Reserve with a picnic lunch or a half day walking safari through the bush with a ranger. Alternatively join another boat safari or simply relax in your tent. In the evening enjoy a delicious dinner at the camp.



Prices per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £2495; Single: £3245

Price includes: Economy class scheduled air travel between Dar es Salaam and Selous Game reserve, three nights accommodation at Siwandu Camp on a full board basis including all soft drinks, tea and coffee and non-premium alcoholic drinks, Selous National Park entry fees and permit fees, excursions at the camp, taxes, transfers.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas, gratuities.

Across the Tropic of Capricorn



A voyage from New Zealand to Papua New Guinea aboard the MS Caledonian
6th to 27th February 2017

If you were the owner of a large yacht based in the Pacific, this is exactly the type of itinerary you would plan. A fascinating mix of islands all the way from the northernmost reaches of New Zealand to Melanesia, taking in remote, but splendidly sophisticated Norfolk Island and Iles des Pins in the French Collectivity of New Caledonia. From here we follow the chain of Melanesian islands through Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and finally to the northern islands of Papua New Guinea.

All are beautiful in their different ways and all have unique features and cultures. This region is ideal for exploring by small ship and particularly one as suitable as our MS Caledonian Sky. Her fleet of Zodiac craft will allow us to explore some magnificent places, especially tiny coral islets and lagoons. At New Georgia on the outer reaches of the Solomons we will explore the majestic Marovo Lagoon, the world's largest double barrier lagoon, a truly awe-inspiring place. These islands form one of the most culturally complex regions of the entire world, with 1293 languages spoken across the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia and the island of New Guinea. It is also a region of great antiquity; New Guinea has been settled for around 45,000 years, the Solomon Islands for 35,000 years, and Vanuatu and New Caledonia for about 4,000.

There will be much of the natural world to occupy us as we sail in a northerly direction through the South Pacific along much of the same route as Captain James Cook. The maritime history of the region is a constant wonder from the early explorers and native migrations to the fierce battles of the Second World War. Join us in this faraway haven, where there still exists a savage beauty, which cannot fail to stir the most jaded of travellers. Many of the islands still possess a pristine beauty, much the same as they were when first discovered by the great explorers.

Our View

"This epic journey takes us nearly 3000 nautical miles from the northern tip of New Zealand to Papua New Guinea. Along the way we have the rare opportunity to follow in the footsteps of explorers like Captain Cook, who traversed these waters in 1770, and experience the beauty of these islands and the natural wonders they hold. We will snorkel in clear waters with numerous fish, have the chance to climb the volcanoes that entranced the explorers and visit small islands which have managed to keep western influences at bay. Our onboard experts will bring history to life and join us as we search for wildlife ashore or set up snorkelling platforms so we get the best from our time in the water."

What To Expect...

Flexibility is the key to an expedition cruise; sometimes the whole day's schedule will be changed to maximise your experience, something that would not be possible on a large cruise ship. Each day holds something new and below are some extracts from the ship's log from last season which will provide you with an idea of what to expect.

Vanikoro – 3rd January 2014

After another delightful breakfast in the warmth of the sun on the Lido deck it was back into the air-conditioning of the ship to hear the continuing instalments of our guest speaker, Peter Warwick's historical tour de force of exploration in the Pacific. This morning's offering concentrated more on Cook and his rise up through the naval ranks joining as a cadet in his twenties. Later in the morning Louis continued the final sorry chapter in the French explorer La Perouse when his two ships La Boussole and La Recherche were wrecked on the coral reef just off our landing spot on the west-facing beach at Vanikoro. It was too deep to anchor and so the MS Caledonian Sky drifted during the afternoon just outside the reef. A slight swell allowed the breaking waves over the shallowest parts on each side of the channel

to be marked and as each Zodiac in turn arrived in the very shallow water adjacent to the beach a horde of vegetation-clad warriors came bounding over the surf to greet us. Once ashore everyone was presented with a flower or vegetation lei by a pretty girl and then asked to assemble for a speech of welcome by the chief. Immediately a display of dancers with the drummer sitting cross-legged in the middle beating a "back" – a sliver of tree trunk provided a rhythm for the dancing display. A few locally-made artifacts, food preparation and house repair examples were on display. Further down the coast a simple monument to the great French explorer La Perouse was on display outside a simple museum and rare artifacts. There was also a guided birding walk into the jungle and a few people made it over the river in a dug-out canoe to view another group of settlements. The snorkelling in clear waters with visibility in excess of 30 metres and fantastic corals made a great end to the day but more was to come in the form of a sighting of dwarf sperm whales and followed shortly by a superb double rainbow over the island as the sun was setting. The Lido deck had been transformed into a tropical island with palm fronds which made an interesting dining experience.



Morovo Lagoon – 7th January 2014

With anchor down and the ship secure a number of scouting vessels were sent out, firstly to the village to determine that they were expecting us and also to scout out suitable swimming and snorkelling sites for the afternoons activities. Disembarkation followed the usual scheme and all Zodiacs followed through the reef and towards the village. Landing at Telina Islet was on a small wooden jetty and virtually at its head was the welcoming area where seats and stall had been constructed. A greeting was extended by a member of the community, he introduced the band, the singers and the dancers who performed for us as a welcome display. All around behind our guests who were largely seated were the local population and some who had come from other surrounding villages to welcome us. After the official welcome we had time to walk round the village but most people concentrated on the dazzling display of mostly wooden craft items on display by various vendors. In general they were of very high quality and several purchases were made in a variety of woods labelled king ebony, rosewood and kerosene wood, some with inlay etc. An early lunch was scheduled but no sooner was that finished than we were off again to either a sandy beach for a swim or to a snorkel site which had been established not far from the ship. Both locations proved popular in the sun. Everything was completed by 1500 with the Zodiacs being lifted and everything made ready for sea and the MS Caledonian Sky was under way by 1510 towards Rabaul on New Britain. Peter gave a comprehensive lecture on the Second World War as it applied to the Pacific and it put into perspective many of the sights and places we have seen on this voyage.



Paihia, New Zealand



Exploring by Zodiac



Iles des Pins, New Caledonia



Auckland

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Hong Kong. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Hong Kong. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to our centrally located hotel for a two night stay. Remainder of day and evening is at leisure to acclimatise and enjoy the hotel's facilities.

Day 3 Hong Kong. Enjoy breakfast in the hotel before embarking on a city tour of Hong Kong which will include a tram ride up to Victoria Peak and Stanley Market. After the tour we return to the hotel and enjoy a free afternoon before meeting for dinner tonight.

Day 4 Hong Kong to Auckland, New Zealand. This morning will be at leisure to relax or explore independently before an early afternoon transfer to the airport to join our scheduled flight to Auckland.

Day 5 Auckland. Arrive and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is free for individual exploration of this city famous for its wonderful diversity of landscape, two sparkling harbours and the attractions associated with a sophisticated, cosmopolitan city. Auckland's unique blend of European and Polynesian themes will add a special flavour to your stay. Perhaps take a harbour cruise, travel on the ferry to Devonport, experience the Sky Tower or visit the Auckland Art Gallery. Meet this evening for a welcome dinner.

Day 6 Auckland. On a morning tour we explore the Auckland Domain and Auckland Museum which overlooks picturesque Waitemata Harbour and has an outstanding collection featuring exhibits on the New Zealand

and the Pacific Islands cultures and showcases an extensive collection of Polynesian artefacts. After lunch we will take a scenic drive to the MS Caledonian Sky for embarkation this afternoon.

Day 7 Paihia. The Bay of Islands is one of the finest maritime park in New Zealand with its 144 islands, secluded bays and an abundance of marine life. Discovered by Captain Cook in 1769, it is the cradle of European civilisation in New Zealand and has important historical significance for both Maori and Europeans. We will visit the Waitangi Treaty House where on February 6th, 1840, that the Treaty of Waitangi was first signed between Maori and the British Crown. After lunch onboard the afternoon is free to explore the town of Paihia or maybe join a Zodiac transfer to Russell where you may choose to explore the Pompallier Mission or visit the local shops.

Day 8 At sea. We have a full day at sea as we follow the wake of past navigators sailing north. Maybe learn more about the explorations of Captain Cook at one of our lectures or find a spot on deck to relax.

Day 9 Norfolk Island. This morning we awake at Norfolk Island which Captain Cook encountered in 1770 and named after the Duchess of Norfolk. We have the full day to explore and will have the opportunity to visit the historical Georgian settlement of Kingston with its convict settlements and the beautiful St Barnabas Chapel. Visit the Botanical Gardens with its 40 endemic, or unique species, including 15 plant species considered to be critically endangered. For the more active you may wish to walk in the National Park towards Mount Pitt. The tracks wind

through lush palm forests and stands of Norfolk Island Pine leading to remarkable views of the island and the surrounding ocean. Keen birders may spot noddies, tropic birds and parrots during our walk.

Day 10 At sea. Our lecture programme will continue onboard as we sail towards Melanesia.

Day 11 Iles des Pins, New Caledonia. Arrive at first light in New Caledonia at the islands named by Captain Cook in 1770 when on his second voyage to New Zealand. These remote islands are close to paradise and we will use our Zodiacs to land at one on the remote beaches. From here we will have the option to join a nature walk climbing the 262m Nga peak from where you will be rewarded with fantastic views over the whole island. Alternatively join one of the snorkelling trips or simply find a spot on one of the beaches before we sail in the late afternoon.

Day 12 Tanna, Vanuatu. After a morning at sea we arrive in Vanuatu at the island of Tanna, meaning earth in the local Kwamer language. Captain Cook was the first European to visit the island in 1770, landing at Port Resolution, having been attracted by the glowing light of Mount Yasur. This 361 metre active volcano is situated in the South East of the island and dominates the landscape. The adventurous may wish to join a journey to the crater on an excursion which will use local trucks to drive through the rainforest that covers the mountain before walking to the rim.

Day 13 Port Havannah. Awake this morning in Port Havannah, situated on the north coast of Efate Island and our

base for today's activities. There are a number of outer islands that we hope to explore depending on weather and sea conditions. We may visit Lelepa Island a 160 acres of un-spoilt tropical rainforest and palm fringed beaches. On a nature walk we will see the herbs used in local medicines before exploring Feles Cave which is thought to be the resting place of the legendary Polynesian Chief, Roi Mata. Meanwhile on Moso Island we can meet the volunteers at the Tasiriki Turtle Sanctuary who will teach us about the rehabilitation of the Hawksbill Turtles and the attempts to increase their numbers. If time and weather permit we will also set up a snorkelling platform or offer a chance to swim from the beach.

Day 14 Espiritu Santo Island. Espiritu Santo is the largest of Vanuatu's islands with beautiful white sand beaches, amazing blue holes, caves and renowned snorkelling. It was also a huge military base during World War II. There will be a choice of visits for our morning call. Choose to snorkel amongst the corals and fish of the region at Million Dollar Point named after the value of the military equipment dumped into the sea. Alternatively join an island tour including the Nekar Custom Village where we will learn about local traditions and customs, including their unique water music, before enjoying time to swim in one of the nearby blue holes. Return to the MS Caledonian Sky for lunch and an afternoon at sea.

Day 15 Vanikoro, Solomon Islands. After breakfast we land on Vanikoro Island in the Temotu Province of the Solomon Islands, where French Explorer Jean-Francois de la Perouse became stranded after

both his vessels, La Boussole and the Astrolabe, hit the then unknown reefs of the island in 1788. Learn more about the island's history and the mystery of the lost La Perouse expedition that captured the imagination of the European public. We will be welcomed ashore by the local villagers before choosing to explore the village further, join nature walks during which we can look out for the endemic birds, the Vanikoro Monarch and Vanikoro White-eye, or alternatively enjoy a swim or snorkel from the beach. Return to the MS Caledonian Sky for lunch and an afternoon cruising.

Day 16 Santa Ana. Arrive at lunchtime at Port Mary on Santa Ana Island. We are welcomed by a stunning dance by the villagers with spears and mud face masks. Soak in the culture as we set foot on the shores of this lovely island. After the performance we have the opportunity to explore the town further with its plethora of local handicrafts, join a nature walk through the forests, meet the students at the village school or swim from the local beach.

Day 17 Honiara. This morning we cruise through Iron Bottom Sound, the site of intense naval battles during the Second World War, and so named for the large numbers of Japanese and American ships and aircraft that sank beneath the sea, before arriving into Honiara. During World War Two, the British founded Honiara as a military base and the town and the Mataniko River, which runs through it, were the front for many months during the battle of Guadalcanal. Today, this is a bustling town with lovely hibiscus and palm-tree-lined avenues. Enjoy a morning tour of Honiara including the bustling central market, parliament building and National Museum where we get an insight into Solomon Islands History. After lunch onboard an afternoon

tour will discover the World War Two sites including Henderson Field, the Japanese Peace Park and the US Memorial at Skyline Ridge. Alternatively you may prefer to relax onboard or return to the city for some free time.

Day 18 Marovo Lagoon, New Georgia. Marovo Lagoon is the largest double barrier lagoon in the world. Thousands of islands scatter the lagoon, from tiny coral islets on the fringing reef to massive volcanic islands. Inside the lagoon, the islands are surrounded by spectacular coral formations and white sand beach, the lagoon waters shimmering in every shade of blue, turquoise and jade green. We will have a full day here to explore the villages which produce some of the finest wood carvings in the region and will also find a suitable spot to snorkel and swim from the beaches as well as Zodiac cruises to look for local wildlife.

Day 19 At sea. Enjoy a final relaxing sea day as we cruise to Papua New Guinea.

Day 20 Rabaul, Papua New Guinea to Cairns, Australia. Arrive this morning at Rabaul's dramatic harbour which is ringed by six cone-shaped volcanoes. After breakfast onboard we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Cairns via Port Moresby. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. Alternatively leave the flight in Port Moresby and join our extension to the Papua New Guinea Highlands.

Day 21 Cairns to London. After breakfast in the hotel return to the airport for our scheduled flight to London via Hong Kong. Alternatively stay for longer with our three night Cairns extension package.

Day 22 London. Arrive this morning.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE UP TO £1200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME			
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£8295	£7995
Castle	Standard	£8795	£8345
Caledonian	Superior	£9295	£8695
Promenade	Premium	£9595	£8845
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£10195	£9295
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£10595	£9545
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£11195	£9995
Castle	Standard for sole use	£11995	£11545
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£12495	£11895

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, two nights hotel accommodation in Hong Kong and one night in Auckland on breakfast only basis, lunch on day 6, dinner on days 3 and 5, 14 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities, overnight hotel accommodation in Cairns on breakfast only basis.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

Post-Cruise Extensions

Post-Cruise Papua New Guinea Highlands Extension 25th February to 2nd March 2017

After our expedition aboard the MS Caledonian Sky, you can join a three night stay in the Western Highlands where you will have the opportunity to discover local tribes and learn more of their traditions. We will stay at Rondon Ridge which is located 7100 feet above sea level, near the town of Mount Hagen, on the outer fringes of the Kubor Range. Over 180 species of birds have been recorded in the rainforests around Rondon Ridge including ten species of Birds of Paradise. The lodge has hours of walking trails providing ample opportunity to explore the unique ecology of this area and during your time at the lodge there will be nature and birding walks accompanied by experienced and knowledgeable nature guides. While staying at Rondon Ridge Lodge, there will be excursions which will take you on a journey through the traditions and customs of the local Melpa People. First contact with the Melpa was made in the mid-1930s when the Leahy brothers were prospecting for gold. The Melpa are said by anthropologists, to be 'predisposed to capitalism' because of their complex traditional society in which 'big men' earn status by accruing wealth and then giving it all away in a ceremonial exchange called "Moka".



Melpa Tribesman



Rondon Ridge

The Itinerary

Day 1 Rabaul to Rondon Ridge. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Port Moresby. Connect here with our short flight to Mount Hagen, where upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to Rondon Ridge for a three night stay. Spend the rest of the day at leisure or join a nature walk, before dinner at the lodge this evening. **Days 2 & 3 Rondon Ridge.** We have two full days to explore the Highlands and learn of the unique culture and traditions of the tribes in the region. We will visit villages with our knowledgeable local guides and learn more about the fascinating birdlife of the Highlands. **Day 4 Rondon Ridge to Port Moresby.** After breakfast, check out of your lodge and transfer to the airport for your flight to Port Moresby. On arrival, transfer to the Airways Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay. Enjoy dinner tonight in the hotel. **Day 5 Port Moresby to London.** Transfer this morning to the airport for your scheduled indirect flight to London. **Day 6 London.** Arrive this morning.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1895** Single: **£2145**

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, three nights' accommodation at Rondon Ridge on full board basis, overnight accommodation in Port Moresby on a bed and breakfast basis, dinner on day 4, transfers, excursions, port taxes, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas.

N.B. This highlands itinerary is dependent on the internal flight schedules which are not released until mid-2016. Only then can the final itinerary be confirmed and the dates and itinerary may change to fit around these flights.



Post-Cruise Cairns Extension

26th February to 2nd March 2017

Extend your stay in Cairns by three nights and enjoy time to explore this area of Queensland famed for its natural wonders. To ensure you get the most of your time we will include an excursion to either enjoy the underwater world on the Great Barrier Reef or the wildlife at the Daintree Rainforest. You will also have plenty of free time to relax at the hotel or make day trips to areas of interest.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: **£495** Single: **£625**

Price Includes: Three nights accommodation in Cairns on a bed and breakfast basis, full day tour to either the Great Barrier Reef or Daintree Rainforest, return airport transfers. **Not Included:** Travel insurance, Australian visa.



Rainbow lorikeet

From Papua New Guinea to the Philippines



An expedition from Rabaul to Manila aboard the MS Caledonian Sky

21st February to 14th March 2017

For the well-travelled, our voyage from Papua New Guinea to the Philippines offers a unique opportunity to visit little known and remote regions that are well away from the usual cruise routes. The privilege of exploring these remarkable lands from a small ship and in the company of knowledgeable speakers, expedition team members and local guides is an opportunity not to be missed. Marvellous experiences are to be had as we snorkel among multi-coloured corals, land on pristine beaches, witness traditional ways of life in remote communities and explore jungle looking out for endemic flora and fauna and each evening returning to the considerable comforts of our vessel the MS Caledonian Sky as we then sail on to our next adventure.

Birders will delight in the opportunity to see the red bird of paradise, red footed boobies, brown noddies, hornbills and kingfishers to name but a few whilst there will also be ample opportunity to snorkel in what are some of the most bio-diverse waters in the world. Perhaps most of all though, our voyage will provide the opportunity to interact with local villagers who always offer such a warm welcome and experience their local culture and traditions such as communal net fishing.

The only comfortable way to explore this vast and intriguing land is by sea and we are fortunate in having one of the finest and best equipped expedition vessels in the world for our explorations. We hope you will join us for this unparalleled opportunity to explore, one of the most intriguing places on the map.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Singapore. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Singapore. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the Shangri La Hotel (or similar) for a two night stay.

Day 3 Singapore. Enjoy a morning at leisure before our city tour this afternoon.

Day 4 Singapore to Rabaul, Papua New Guinea. Enjoy a leisurely morning. This afternoon we will visit the 53 hectare botanical garden and National Orchid Garden before transferring to the airport for our scheduled flight to Rabaul via Port Moresby.

Day 5 Rabaul. Arrive and transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky.

Day 6 Garove Island. After a relaxing morning at sea we arrive at the Witu Islands, a small group of volcanic reef-ringed islands situated within the archipelago of Bismarck. We spend the afternoon on the largest of these, Garove Island. The fringing reef surrounding the island offers fine swimming or enjoy the first snorkelling opportunity amongst the corals.

Day 7 Alim Island, Admiralty Islands. The Admiralty Islands are an archipelago of 18 islands in the Bismarck Sea. We plan to use our Zodiacs to land on one of the pristine beaches on Alim Island, an uninhabited island and paradise for birds. Here we can find up to 2000 pairs of breeding red footed boobies, kingfishers and brown noddies. There will be the option to swim or snorkel from the beach, join a Zodiac cruise to the mangroves or join our expedition staff as they lead nature walks.

Day 8 Sepik River & Wewak. At dawn we anchor at the mouth of the Sepik River. We will rise early and use our Zodiacs to explore the river system surrounded by lush forest and birdsong. Later we will visit a local village where we will receive a traditional welcome. This afternoon we sail to Wewak where we will clear immigration only before continuing our journey along the Papuan coast.

Day 9 Jayapura. Over breakfast we arrive in Jayapura, the capital and largest city in Papua. We will drive inland to Lake Sentani, one



of the largest lakes which is still virtually untouched by tourism. The people, who call the shores of this magnificent lake home, still live in a traditional manner and are renowned for their woodworking and pottery. We will drive up to Gunung Ifar to view the World War II monument of General McArthur with its spectacular view of Sentani Lake and Cyclope Mountain.

Day 10 Padaido Islands. Today we will cruise along the coastline and we will take advantage of our small ship and fleet of Zodiacs to explore the islands off the coast. Our itinerary will be flexible and be guided by our Captain, Expedition Leader and local weather conditions. In the late afternoon we hope to visit the Padaido Islands, a chain of 31 mainly uninhabited islands and the site of some of the world's most intact and biologically diverse coral reef systems. Padaido is a local word, meaning indescribable beauty and we will snorkel in the reefs which harbour 95 coral and 155 fish species.

Days 11 & 12 Raja Ampat. We spend the next two days exploring the 1500 karst limestone islands which make up the archipelago of Raja Ampat, also known as "Four Kings," after its four main islands. Watch from on deck as our ship sails through the narrow channels between the islands off New Guinea's north-western tip known as Bird's Head. The waters off Bird's Head are heralded as the most bio-diverse on earth and include 600 species of hard coral and 1200 types of reef fish whilst ashore on the islands we can enjoy beachcombing and nature walks

looking for flora and fauna. On Gam Island a strenuous hike will search for the red bird of paradise whilst further walks may find kingfisher, lorikeets and parrots whilst on Kri Island we can swim amongst the colourful reef fish.

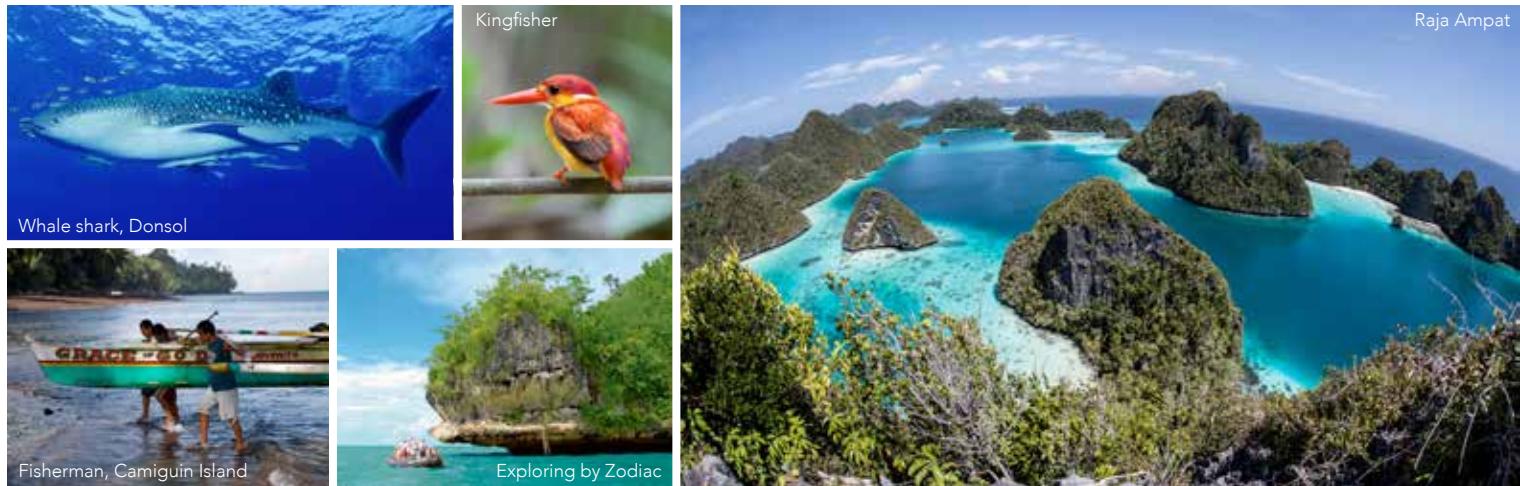
Day 13 At sea.

Day 14 Bitung. From our berth at Bitung we travel inland for a morning at the Tangkoko Nature Reserve.

This 8800 hectare park ranges from beaches at sea level to the top of Tangkoko Mountain and is a haven for endemic flora and fauna. On a guided walk we will search for black macaque monkey and the tarsiers, the smallest primates in the world and for whom the Tangkoko Reserve is their last refuge, whilst for the birders we will hope to see hornbills. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we discover more about the Minahasa people of the region. On a village tour we will see the traditional fishing boats, visit the local markets and see the "waruga" traditional tombs unique to this part of Sulawesi.

Day 15 Bunaken Marine Park.

Bunaken National Park is a treasure trove of biodiversity situated near the centre of the Coral Triangle. Here we will find nearly 400 species of coral and over 90 species of fish, whilst seven of the eight species of giant clams are also found here. Meanwhile on land we can find macaque and deer whilst mangrove forests are home to crabs. We will use our Zodiacs to land on a local beach and set up snorkelling platforms whilst our naturalists lead walks ashore.



Day 16 At sea.

Day 17 Surigao City, Philippines.

During lunch we will arrive at Surigao on the north of Mindanao Island. Here we will clear customs and immigration before using our Zodiacs to explore the Asan Village. We will explore the many channels, see the local fisherman and spend time ashore in the village.

Day 18 Camiguin Island. Camiguin Island is a small island formed through a series of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. We will see an example of this when the eruption of Mount Vulcan in the late 19th century submerged the old town of Catarman leaving behind the ruins of a church and its bell tower whilst a white cross marks the sunken cemetery. We also visit the Philippine Volcanology Observation Station. For the keen birders we will leave early for Mount Timpoong looking for the endemic loricis camiguinensis whilst we may also see kingfishers, egrets and whiskered owl. Enjoy an afternoon at sea.

Day 19 Donsol & Ticao Island.

Between November and June the waters in Donsol Bay are home to many whale sharks, the largest fish

in the ocean which are often found just below the surface. This morning we will use local boats to head into the bay in search of these beautiful creatures and the hardy have the opportunity to swim and snorkel. Over lunch we cross over to Ticao Island where the Zodiacs take us to the impressive Katadayagan Falls. Enjoy a swim at the base and visit the small Torogon village.

Day 20 Sibuyan Island. Our last morning finds us at Sibuyan Island, known as the "Galapagos of Asia" due to the rich range of wildlife. We have a choice of options this morning, the keen birders will disembark early for a strenuous walk in the Cantigas Mountain offering fantastic views of Mount Guiting-guiting National Park and over the Sibuyan Sea. Alternatively we immerse ourselves in the island culture, see communal net-fishing, visit the local market and the paddy fields to see the traditional methods of growing this staple crop.

Day 21 Manila to London. Disembark and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 22 London. Arrive this morning.

Pre-Cruise Highlands Extension - 20th to 25th February 2017



Rondon Ridge Lodge



Bird of paradise

Before our expedition aboard the MS Caledonian Sky begins, you can join a three night stay in Papua New Guinea's Western Highlands where you will have the opportunity to discover local tribes and learn more of their traditions. We will stay at Rondon Ridge which is located 7100 feet above sea level, near the town of Mount Hagen, on the outer fringes of the Kubor Range. Over 180 species of birds have been recorded in the rainforests around Rondon Ridge including ten species of Birds of Paradise. The lodge has hours of walking trails providing ample opportunity to explore the unique ecology of this area and during your time at the lodge there will be nature and birding walks accompanied by experienced and knowledgeable nature guides. While staying at Rondon Ridge Lodge, there will be excursions which will take you on a journey through the traditions and customs of the local Melpa People.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Singapore. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Singapore. Arrive this morning and transfer to the Shangri-La Singapore (or similar) for an overnight stay.

Day 3 Singapore to Mount Hagen. Enjoy a leisurely morning to either explore independently or relax at the hotel. In the afternoon enjoy a city tour with a visit to the Botanical Garden before we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Mount Hagen via Port Moresby. On arrival in Mount Hagen you will be met and transferred to your lodge for a three-night stay. Spend the rest of the day at leisure or join a nature walk.

Days 4 & 5 Rondon Ridge, Western Highlands. We have two full days to explore the Highlands and learn of the unique culture and traditions of the tribes in the region. We will visit villages with our knowledgeable local guides and learn more about the fascinating birdlife of the Highlands.

Day 6 Mount Hagen to Rabaul. After breakfast, check out and transfer to Mount Hagen airport for your flight to Rabaul via Port Moresby. On arrival transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £1895 Single: £2145

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Singapore with breakfast, three nights accommodation at Rondon Ridge on full board basis, transfers, excursions, port taxes, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE UP TO £700 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£8295	£7945
Castle	Standard	£8595	£8245
Caledonian	Superior	£9095	£8745
Promenade	Premium	£9495	£9145
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£10195	£9495
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£10695	£9995
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£11295	£10595
Castle	Standard for sole use	£11495	£11145
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£11995	£11645

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled flights, two nights hotel accommodation in Singapore on a bed and breakfast basis, 16 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

Passage to India

An epic voyage from the Seychelles to India & Sri Lanka aboard the MS Island Sky
8th to 27th March 2017



We find it difficult to imagine a more perfect way to escape the British winter than to enjoy the warmth and beauty of the Indian Ocean aboard the wonderfully comfortable MS Island Sky as she undertakes exactly the type of itinerary that suits her best. Join us in the tropics as we journey from the islands and atolls of the Indian Ocean to India's beautiful southern coast and a voyage around Sri Lanka.

Our journey to the Indian continent first allows us to explore the Seychelles and Maldives, two of the world's most pristine and picturesque archipelagos. With our purpose built Zodiacs we will land on otherwise inaccessible beaches, explore vast lagoons and coral reefs and encounter some extraordinarily beautiful tropical scenery. Our small ship is ideal for such a region, allowing us to enjoy the peace and tranquility of this paradise. After all, it would be disappointing to find yourself in the company of hundreds on what was a deserted beach.

Contrasting well with this natural world exploration, our itinerary then takes a more cultural focus as we reach the Indian state of Kerala. Our first port of call is Cochin, an ancient city of islands which has for centuries attracted traders and adventurers from Europe and the far Orient. Hugging the Kerala coast, we move on to Trivandrum, then across to Sri Lanka. Here we explore the interior and the old capital of Kandy, and we then move around the southern coast of the island to take in the Dutch colonial town of Galle and Bundala National Park. This unusual itinerary will appeal to those looking for something different, incorporating explorations of the natural world with a more expedition focus, followed by a fascinating look at southern India, visiting a number of ports which are off the usual cruise route.

The Itinerary

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

Day 2 Mahe. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Island Sky for embarkation.

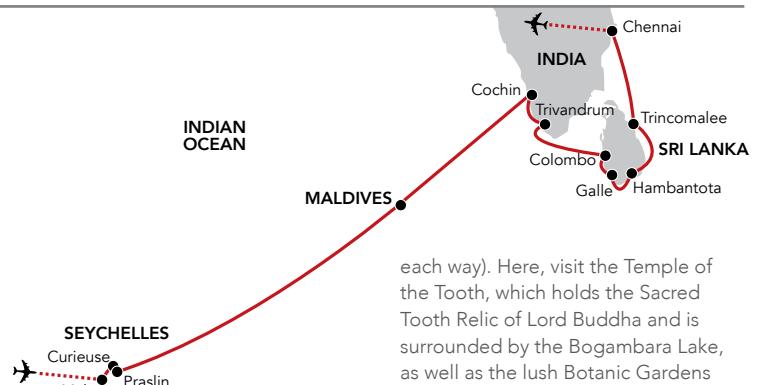
Day 3 Curieuse & Praslin. Sail to the islands to the north of Mahe and spend the morning on Curieuse a rugged island which was once home to a leper colony and now houses an eco-museum and visitors centre. The island is an important nesting site for Hawksbill turtles and boasts endemic vine and mangroves which we explore on an island walk. Over lunch we sail to Praslin where we explore the 'Vallee de Mai', the last remnant of the original high-canopied Seychelles palm forest and home to the coco de mer. We will walk its paths looking out for the rare black parrot and enjoying its natural beauty which so overpowered General Gordon.

Days 4 to 6 At sea. Relax and enjoy our days at sea. Watch the bird and marine life and listen to the intriguing talks by our expedition team. We are assured of warm weather so make the most of the fresh air, get lost in a novel

from your deck chair and enjoy all the comforts of the MS Island Sky.

Days 7 to 10 Maldives. We spend three days exploring the Maldives archipelago. This vast area of ocean is scattered with staggeringly beautiful dots of land surrounded by a cerulean sea. It offers some of the finest lagoons, beaches and coral reefs in the world. Our day to day schedule will be left in the capable hands of the captain and expedition leader, but we hope to include visits to Hithadhoo, Meenu Atoll, Baa Atoll and Haaalifu Atoll. Our expedition staff will be on hand to take guided walking tours to explore the birds and wildlife on land whilst our snorkel master will take us to some exceptional reefs to find coral and marine life. On our last day we will clear customs at Uligamu Island and enjoy an afternoon at sea as we sail to India.

Days 11 & 12 Cochin, India. After a morning at sea we arrive in India at the port of Cochin. This is an extraordinary city with strong influences of Portuguese, Chinese, Arab, Dutch and of course British still much in evidence today. We have a day and a



half to enjoy this intriguing Malabar Port. Activities will include the Keralan backwaters at Allepy where we will board a local boat for a cruise sailing past colonial warehouses and coconut thatched houses on traditional rice barges. We will have time in Cochin to explore the curious mix of cultures and religions that together, with its strong trading past in spices and silks, make a fascinating city. We will visit Mattancherry Palace with its ornately decorated rooms including some marvellous ancient murals. We see the oldest European church in India, St Francis, the ruins of Fort Cochin and time permitting, the Pardesi Synagogue. On our first evening as we moor overnight we will enjoy a Kathakali performance onboard after dinner. Kathakali is one of the main forms of classical dance drama of India and indigenous to Kerala and based on the subject from the Ramayana, Mahabharata and stories from Saiva literature.

Day 13 Trivandrum. Be on deck as we sail into the Keralan fishing port of Trivandrum, a magical sight. Built over seven hills, the 'city of the sacred serpents' retains some of old Kerala's ambience, with its pagoda shaped buildings, red-tiled roofs and narrow winding lanes. There is much to see here and on our morning excursion we will include the old fort area around the 260 year old Sri Padmanabhaswamy Temple. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon cruising.

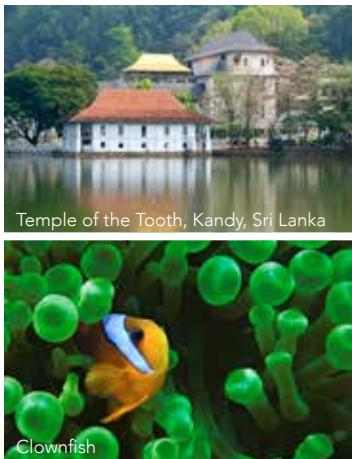
Day 14 Colombo. Over breakfast we arrive in Sri Lanka's capital city where there is a choice of activities today. You have the choice to join a full day tour to Kandy. We will drive through Sri Lanka's hill country, to arrive at the picturesque, naturally fortified hill town of Kandy (journey time 3-4 hours

each way). Here, visit the Temple of the Tooth, which holds the Sacred Tooth Relic of Lord Buddha and is surrounded by the Bogambara Lake, as well as the lush Botanic Gardens and the National Museum. We enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before returning to the ship this evening. Alternatively remain in Colombo and enjoy a morning tour including the Gangarama Buddhist Temple, Colombo National and Dutch period museums and the Pettah area where the local market is a great place to find a bargain. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and enjoy a free afternoon to explore independently.



Day 15 Galle. Awake this morning in Galle where on a morning tour we visit the old Dutch Fort, the museum which is housed in an old Dutch house depicting life in the Dutch colony, the lighthouse, mosque and church. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a free afternoon. Shuttle buses will take you back to Galle where you may visit the Maritime Museum or browse for lace and local handicrafts.

Day 16 Hambantota. From our berth in Hambantota we drive inland to Kataragama, one of the three most important religious sites in Sri Lanka and a popular place of pilgrimage to Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim and the indigenous Vedda communities of Sri Lanka and South India. According to the Buddhists this was one of the 16 places



visited by Buddha during his visits to Sri Lanka. We will explore the religious complex built across the Menik Ganga which contains buildings from all three religions including the mosque, temple, the small archaeological museum and the principal shrine of the god Kataragama. Return to the ship for lunch and in the late afternoon we will drive the short distance to Bundala National Park designated as a biosphere reserve by UNESCO in 2005. Bundala National Park is an internationally important wintering ground in Sri Lanka for migratory water birds, the highlight being the Greater Flamingo, which migrate in large flocks. Elephants, deer, wild boar and crocodiles are also present. Alternatively you can choose a full day option and visit Udawalawe National Park, home to around 400 elephants as well as water buffalo, sambar deer and the occasional leopard. En-route you can discover the Elephant Transit Home set up to rehabilitate orphaned elephants for release back into the wild.

Day 17 Trincomalee. Today, after a morning cruising we arrive on the north east coast on Sri Lanka in one of the finest deep water harbours of the

world. This afternoon you can choose to join an excursion of Trincomalee where we visit Fort Frederick built in 1676 by the Dutch, walk to Swami Rock and see the Koneswarum Kovil, one of the five most holy Shaivite temples in the country. Alternatively join our shuttle service to one of the local beaches renowned as some of the best in Sri Lanka.

Day 18 At sea/Chennai. After a day at sea we return to India arriving at the city of Chennai late this evening when we will clear immigration formalities.

Day 19 Chennai. Disembark this morning and drive to Mahabalipuram, a remarkable temple complex on the shores of the Coromandel Coast. After a local lunch we will transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. The rest of the afternoon and evening are at leisure. Alternatively, after disembarking, join our six night extension exploring India's Golden Triangle.

Day 20 Chennai to London. After breakfast in the hotel transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London. Arrive this evening.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE UP TO £1000 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Magellan	Standard Forward	£8795	£8295
Magellan	Standard	£8995	£8495
Columbus	Superior	£9395	£8895
Marco Polo	Premium	£9695	£9195
Marco Polo	Corner	£9995	£9495
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£10795	£9795
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£10995	£9995
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£10995	£10495
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£11795	£11295

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 17 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, overnight hotel accommodation in Chennai on a bed and breakfast basis, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

Post-Cruise Golden Triangle Extension - 26th March to 1st April 2017



The Itinerary

Day 1 (Day 19 of cruise itinerary) Chennai to Delhi. Disembark the MS Island Sky and transfer to the airport for your internal flight to Dehli arriving later in the afternoon. Settle into our hotel (Sheraton or similar) for a two night stay.

Day 2 Delhi. Enjoy a morning sightseeing tour to discover Old Delhi, the former Mughal capital, and New Delhi, a colonial city designed in the 1920's by Lutyens. See the magnificent Red Fort and visit Raj Ghat, the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi as well as the Qutub Minar a majestic, sandstone tower built in 1192. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

Day 3 Delhi to Samode. Drive to Rajasthan province arriving at lunchtime for a two night stay at splendid Samode Palace set in the hills of Aravalli. Discover the local village in the afternoon and this evening enjoy a gala evening at the Palace.

Day 4 Jaipur. Explore the sights of Jaipur. Visit the imposing Amber Fort blending Hindu and Rajput influences. After lunch, a sightseeing tour of Jaipur, the pink city, reveals the Palace of the Winds with its delicate honeycomb screens from behind which the ladies once viewed the world outside.

Day 5 Samode to Agra. A full day to travel to Agra, visiting Fatehpur Sikri en route. Built by Emperor Akbar in the 16th century, this former palace city on top of a ridge, was only destined to be the capital of the Mughal Empire for 10 years before the water supply dried up. Admire the architectural splendour of the Royal Hall, Mosque and palace buildings. Check into the ITC Mughal (or similar) for a one night stay.

Day 6 Taj Mahal, Delhi. The legendary beauty of the white marble domes of the elegant Taj Mahal awaits discovery this morning. Built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan as an exquisite mausoleum for his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal, Rudyard Kipling described the building as "the embodiment of all things pure". Return drive to Delhi in the afternoon.

Day 7 Delhi to London. Transfer to the airport for your return scheduled flight to London.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1545** Single: **£2095**

Price Includes: Six nights accommodation listed above, economy internal flight Chennai to Delhi, breakfast and dinner at hotels, five lunches, meals served with water, snack pack on internal flight, transfers, excursions, Noble Caledonia escort.

Not Included: Indian visa, soft and alcoholic drinks.

N.B. Please note that there are some long drives (3-5 hours) between cities on this tour.

Patagonia & the Chilean Fjords



An exploration of the land of fire & ice from Ushuaia to Valparaiso aboard the MS Hebridean Sky
11th to 29th March 2017

Those who have a passion for the wilder places on our planet usually have Patagonia on their must do list. Shaped by fire and ice, this rugged, yet hauntingly beautiful land of windswept pampas, hanging glaciers and cloud piercing peaks, remains today as enticing and fascinating as it did to Magellan, Drake and more latterly Darwin.

Chile is made for cruising. Its shape and geographic location is just perfect; thousands of miles of coastline that you can of course explore aboard one of the many huge cruise vessels calling at the major cities of South America, or alternatively join us aboard the MS Hebridean Sky and enjoy the wonders of this magical country, some of which only small ships have access to.

Wildlife abounds here and the skies are filled with the cries of seabirds. Albatross' and petrels wheel overhead and sea lions bark from their rocky outcrops. Helping us understand all the wonders we shall encounter will be our experts and expedition staff who will accompany us ashore and our highly adaptable Zodiac craft will allow us to enter tiny inlets and explore fjords and stretches of magnificent coastline.



Beagle Channel

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Buenos Aires, Argentina. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Buenos Aires. Arrive this morning and transfer to the Melia Hotel (or similar) for a two night stay. Rooms will be available on arrival and the remainder of the day and evening are free to relax and explore independently.

Day 3 Buenos Aires. During our guided morning tour we will visit the Plaza de Mayo, the Cathedral and the Cabildo (Old City Hall) before we continue towards the most traditional neighborhood of Buenos Aires, San Telmo which is characterised by its old colonial houses and the cobblestoned streets. We will continue to the neighbourhood of La Boca to look around the colourful zinc houses that make up this area of Buenos Aires which used to be the refuge and home for the first immigrants and popular artists. We will see the woods of Palermo with 741 acres of gardens and artificial ponds surrounded by elegant buildings. This afternoon is free to relax before we meet this evening for a tango show and dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 4 Buenos Aires to Ushuaia. Enjoy breakfast in the hotel before we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Ushuaia. On arrival, transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky and sail this evening. Enjoy the scenery as we enter the Beagle Channel, named after the HMS Beagle which Robert Fitzroy piloted through this extraordinarily beautiful channel with naturalist Charles Darwin in the 1830s.

Day 5 Cape Horn, Chile. We will make our way around Cape Horn, one of the best known maritime landmarks in the world. Magellan was the first European visitor here in 1530 and prior to the opening of the Panama Canal it was an important staging post. Weather permitting we hope to use our Zodiacs to land and enjoy a walk to the monument. This afternoon we return to the Beagle Channel. Here the mountains, still partly unmapped, drop as sheer, densely wooded cliffs into the channel and six glaciers flow from the 8000 foot Mount Darwin into the sea. Penguins, dolphins and South American sea lions abound in the channel.



Days 6 to 12 Chilean Fjords, Punta Arenas & Torres del Paine National Park. During the next seven days we will enjoy some of the most stunning scenery imaginable. This vast area of mountains, glaciers, islands, lakes and waterfalls is untouched by man except for a few fishing villages which perch at 'the end of the world'. We will make good use of our time exploring the beautiful protected waters, enjoying the renowned fjords of southern Chile which rival those of southeast Alaska in their raw beauty and prolific wildlife. Crystal clear reflections of vertical walls and hanging glaciers are broken only by the ripples of dolphins and whales, whilst overhead, the sky is alive with



seabirds. See how quickly you run out of suitable adjectives to describe all you are witnessing. Our route will be managed by our experienced Captain and Expedition Leader alongside the local pilots. As well as stunning scenic cruising, the area is ideal for Zodiac forays. From Punta Arenas we will travel to Otway Bay to see the large groups of Magellan penguins that return each year to mate and live in large groups on the beach. This is now a protected area and the colony numbers up to 10,000. As we continue our journey we hope to navigate the Kirke Narrows, a remarkable channel leading between lush, forested shores,

Chilean Fjords



so narrow it can only be sailed at low tide. Dropping anchor at Puerto Natales, we enjoy a full day in South America's largest national park, the Torres del Paine. This is one of the most spectacular places on earth, a vast uninhabited wilderness of glacier-draped mountains, windswept pampas, turquoise glacial lakes and verdant valleys. Look out for herds of guanacos (a smaller version of the llama), rheas, Patagonian hares, foxes and rich birdlife and see the stunning rock formations of the Horns of Paine. We also hope to operate Zodiac excursions ashore in some of the remote fjords we pass on our journey.

Day 13 Chiloe Island. Chile's second largest island, Chiloe Island was one of the first Spanish strongholds in the Pacific Southern South America. Once the island had been conquered, it was hard for indigenous uprisings to reconquer and as a result it became a major link in the Spanish trade route around Cape Horn. The island was also visited by Darwin aboard the HMS Beagle in 1831. Our visit ashore on

this mainly forested island will include Castro, one of the oldest towns in the Americas, known for its unique wooden architecture and stilted houses. Either join a nature walk with our onboard naturalists to explore the flora and fauna of the island or join an island drive including the wooden cathedral of St Francis and the historic old quarter.



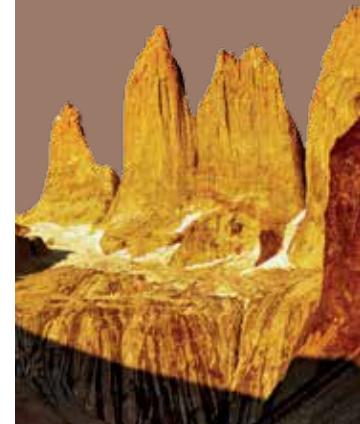
Day 14 Puerto Montt. Just when you thought you had seen the best Chile has to offer, we land at picturesque Puerto Montt, a resort town in the Lake District. Settled by German colonists in the mid-19th century, much of its early Middle-European styled architecture remains, rendering a slightly bizarre feel in such an obviously un-European setting. Leaving the ship we will head to the Vincente Perez Rosales National Park which is the oldest in Chile and contains three commanding volcanoes in Osorno, Calbuco and Puntiagudo. We will see the mighty Petrohue River and the rapids that crash through lava channels creating a series of magnificent waterfalls. We will return to the ship via Puerto Varas situated in a stunning location on Lago Llanquihue with a backdrop of the Osorno volcano.

Day 15 Valdivia. After a morning at sea we arrive in Niebla, the sheltered bay that serves the nearby colonial city of Valdivia, one of the oldest European settlements in Chile. An afternoon excursion will include time at the Canelos Tower, built in 1774 and

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We will enjoy a day in Torres del Paine national park, one of the most spectacular places on earth, a vast uninhabited wilderness of glacier-draped mountains, windswept pampas, turquoise glacial lakes and verdant valleys.

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Magellanic Penguin



at the time of its construction it was one of only two land entrances to the city, equipped with a wide portcullis and drawbridge. We will see the San Francisco Church before spending some time exploring the historical and anthropological museum and the bustling Mercado Fluvial. Our tour will finish with a short visit to one of the traditional breweries.

Day 16 At sea. Enjoy a relaxing final day onboard as we continue our journey north along the Chilean coast.

Day 17 Valparaiso to Santiago. After breakfast we will enjoy a brief tour of Valparaiso before continuing our journey to Santiago. We will enjoy a scenic drive to Alegre Hill where we observe the colourful

houses before enjoying the views from the Yugoslavian Terrace over the bay. We will then take the funicular to Plaza Sotomayor where we re-join our coach and make our way to the Casablanca Valley which is now one of the country's premier wine areas. Here we will enjoy a tasting and lunch at one of the vineyards. We continue to Santiago and on arrival transfer to the Intercontinental Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay and the rest of the day is free for independent exploration.

Day 18 Santiago to London. After breakfast in the hotel transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 19 London. Arrive this morning.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

LIMITED AVAILABILITY REMAINING		
Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price
Amundsen	Standard	£7795
Byrd	Superior	£8095
Mawson	Premium	£8495
Mawson	Corner	£8995
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£9995
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£10495
Shackleton	Hebridean	£11795
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£10915
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£11335

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, two nights' accommodation in Buenos Aires on a bed and breakfast basis, half day Buenos Aires tour, tango show and dinner in Buenos Aires, 13 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities, use of rubber boots and expedition parka onboard, overnight hotel accommodation in Santiago on a bed and breakfast basis.

Not Included: Travel Insurance.

Combination Cruise: It is possible to combine this voyage with our 'Passage of the Condor' voyage from Valparaiso to Guayaquil shown on pages 90 & 91. Prices on request.

Pre-Cruise Iguazu Falls Extension - 8th to 12th March 2017

Before joining our group in Buenos Aires, we are offering the opportunity to visit the Iguazu Falls, often considered the most dramatic waterfalls in the world.



Iguazu Falls

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Buenos Aires. Fly by scheduled flight.

Day 2 Buenos Aires. Arrive this morning and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. Remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 3 Buenos Aires to Iguazu Falls. After breakfast in the hotel transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Iguazu Falls. On arrival transfer to the hotel and this afternoon enjoy a guided tour of the falls.

Day 4 Iguazu Falls. Enjoy a full day at the Iguazu Falls on a series of guided walks seeing the upper and lower circuits and also the Triple frontier the meeting point of Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay.

Day 5 Iguazu Falls to Buenos Aires. Return to the airport this morning and join our scheduled flight to Buenos Aires. On arrival transfer to the Melia Hotel and join our fellow travellers (follow main itinerary from day 2).

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: **£695** Single: **£945**

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Buenos Aires and two nights' hotel accommodation in Iguazu Falls on a bed and breakfast basis, lunch on days 2, 3 & 4 and dinner on days 2 & 3, guided tours at the Iguazu Falls, transfers, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel Insurance.



Passage of the Condor

A Pacific coastal odyssey of Chile & Peru aboard the MS Hebridean Sky
25th March to 10th April 2017

Our coastal cruise along the Pacific shores of South America will be dominated by the ever present Andes as we make our way from central Chile to Peru. This is one of the world's great expedition cruises. Few regions in the world offer the diversity and ecosystems of those found in this intriguing part of South America. From the towering snow-capped Andes to barren coastal desert, the landscapes are unparalleled.

Our voyage takes us along the nutrient-rich Humboldt Current that is a haven for an amazing concentration of seabirds, marine mammals and wildlife. To highlight the wildlife, we will be visiting the Islas Ballestas National Reserve, the Humboldt Penguin Nature Reserve and many other remote coastal sites and islands. This trip is as equally rich in geological, archaeological and cultural interest as well with visits included to the Pintados Geoglyphs, the Peruvian capital of Lima and the ruins of Chan Chan. There will also be the opportunity to join optional excursions to both the Atacama Desert and the Nazca Lines.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Santiago, Chile. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Santiago. Arrive this morning and transfer to the Hyatt Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay. This afternoon join a city tour with the remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 3 Valparaiso. After breakfast in the hotel we will make our way to the port of Valparaiso. Our route will take us through the Casablanca Valley, one of the country's premier wine areas and we will enjoy a tasting and lunch at one of the vineyards. We continue to Valparaiso, a city built on 42 hills, where we will enjoy a scenic drive to the Alegre Hill to see the colourful houses before enjoying the views from the Yugoslavian Terrace over the bay. We will then take the funicular to Plaza

Sotomayor to re-join our coach and transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky.

Day 4 Coquimbo. This morning we enjoy a glimpse of the important port city of Coquimbo, with its strong British influence, and the regional capital of La Serena. One of Coquimbo's highlights is the picturesque Barrio Ingles. This historical quarter opposite the port stands as a testament to the strong British influence in this port city. Rising impressively above the city is the 91 metre Cross of the Third Millennium. Return to the Hebridean Sky for lunch and this afternoon we head inland where the landscape transforms itself into a lush array of plantations and vineyards set amongst rolling hills. We will stop at the Gabriela Mistral Museum in the village of

Montegrande, enjoy a pisco tasting in the Elqui Valley and have a stroll through the Main Square.

Day 5 Isla Pajaros & Isla Chanaral.

Today we enjoy the benefits of small ship cruising as we use our Zodiacs to view the islands off the Chilean coast. Spend the morning at Isla Pajaros to view the colonies of cormorants, boobies and Humboldt penguins that reside here. Over lunch we continue our journey north to Isla Chanaral, the largest in a series of islands once known as an important site for guano, a valuable agricultural fertilizer. The islands are protected today as a nature reserve home to sea lion colonies, nesting boobies, pelicans, cormorants as well as Marine Otters.

Day 6 At sea. Enjoy a day at sea as we continue our journey north.

Day 7 Antofagasta. Originally part of Bolivia and captured by Chile in the war of the Pacific in the late 19th century, Antofagasta is today a hub for the Chilean mining industry and handles most of the minerals from the Atacama. There will be the opportunity to join an optional overnight tour to the Atacama Desert to enjoy the sites of pre-Colombian, colonial and contemporary culture, the unique geology, volcanoes and lagoons and stay overnight in one of the desert hotels. We return to the ship in the evening of day 8 in Iquique. For those remaining onboard we will take a walking tour around Plaza Colon and continue to the Huanchaca Ruins where we see the striking remains of a Bolivian silver refinery built in 1868 and see La Portada, a natural erosion-carved arch-like rock formation.

Day 8 Iquique. Arrive this morning in Iquique which grew in the 19th century due to the large deposits of sodium nitrate found in the area. On a morning excursion we will discover the desert and pampa region inland from Iquique and see the remains of a once flourishing nitrate town in Humberstone. Founded in 1872 at the junction of the Pan-American Highway and the road to Iquique, it is today a ghost town after it stopped operations in 1960. We continue to the Pintados Geoglyphs where over 60,000 square yards of hill slopes are decorated by more than 400 figures depicting humans, animals, birds or



Day 9 Arica. Enjoy a choice of excursions today from the port of Arica. A morning tour will provide an introduction to Arica's monuments and historic buildings including the Customs House and Church of San Marcos, constructed by Gustave Eiffel in 1876. Afterwards continue outside of the city to see the geoglyph art on the nearby hillsides. A visit to the San Miguel Archaeological Museum reveals its fascinating display of Chinchorro Mummies, the oldest known mummies in the world dating back 7,000 years. We return to Arica via the Morro where the history and arms museum offers an insight into the battles of the War of the Pacific and also wonderful views over the city. Return to the ship for lunch and a free afternoon. Alternatively have an early start and choose a full day tour to the Lauca National Park which straddles the Chilean / Bolivian border and offers a wealth of flora and fauna, interesting culture and history, and outstanding natural beauty. This journey features the region's unique Altiplanic scenery, from green agricultural oasis to desert hills, pre-Inca archaeological sites to snow-capped peaks, magnificent volcanoes and one of the highest altitude lakes in the world at Lake Chungara home to pink flamingos. (Please note that this tour will reach altitudes around 4,500m).

Day 10 Matarani, Peru. Here in the far south of Peru we call into the port of Matarani. Drive to the 'White City', as Arequipa is known. Our tour includes



The Morro de Arica



Plaza de Armas, Lima



Santa Catalina Convent

bustling Plaza de Armas dominated by the stunning neo-Renaissance Cathedral, set amidst colonial buildings. Later, visit Santa Catalina Convent, a beautiful walled citadel, which for four centuries housed a closed order of nuns. We will also take in the colonial district of Yanahuara, a short distance from the heart of the city. It is a charming area of narrow cobblestone streets and old, white, volcanic stone houses. From here, there are magnificent views of the three volcanoes which overlook the city: Misti, Chachani and Pichu Pichu.

Day 11 At sea. Relax onboard.

Day 12 Isla Ballestas & Tambo Colorado. Influenced by the cold Humboldt Current, Isla Ballestas marine preserve area serves as a breeding refuge for birds, resting areas for mammals and spawning grounds for many marine organisms. We take local boats from the port of Pisco to explore these unparalleled, fascinating islands where we should see a variety of seabirds, such as the very localised Peruvian booby, and mammals such as the southern sea lion. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon we travel to the Tambo Colorado, one of the best preserved Inca archaeological sites in Peru. Named after the abundant use of colour on the walls it was one of the administrative and military centres controlling the Pisco valley from its base on the main road between the coast and mountains. Alternatively, there will be an opportunity to join an optional tour aboard a small aircraft for a bird's eye view of the famed Nazca Lines. These enormous geoglyphs etched in the desert floor date back to 2000 B.C. and can really only be truly appreciated from the air.

Day 13 Callao for Lima. This morning we arrive in Callao the port for Lima. After breakfast we enjoy a tour of

Lima city, which was founded by the conquistador Francisco Pizarro in 1535, and then named the 'City of Kings' by the Spaniards who took the city in name of the Spanish Crown.

Day 14 Salaverry. After a morning at sea we arrive in Salaverry at lunchtime and enjoy a choice of activities this afternoon. Either visit Huaca de la Luna to see the Huaca del Sol pyramids from the Moche culture, a remarkable pre-Inca civilisation. Continue on to the ruins of Chan Chan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the imperial capital of the Chimu, where we explore the ruins of the largest adobe city in the world, marvelling at their skillful irrigation and engineering projects. Alternatively choose to drive a few miles inland to the intriguing desert city of Trujillo. This oasis city was founded by Pizarro in 1536 and still exudes much Spanish colonial charm.

Day 15 At sea.

Day 16 Guayaquil, Ecuador to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 17 London. Arrive this afternoon.

Post-Cruise Extensions

We hope to be able to offer the choice of post cruise extensions in conjunction with this cruise to the Galapagos Islands or to an Amazon Lodge. If you would be interested in combining your cruise with one of our extensions, please register your interest with us at the time of booking and we will contact you with details when available.

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Few regions in the world offer the diversity and ecosystems of those found in this intriguing part of South America. From the towering snow-capped Andes to barren coastal desert, the landscapes are unparalleled.

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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
Amundsen	Standard	£6995	£6695
Byrd	Superior	£7345	£7045
Mawson	Premium	£7700	£7400
Mawson	Corner	£8145	£7845
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£9045	£8745
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£9495	£9195
Shackleton	Hebridean	£10695	£10395
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£9795	£9495
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£10285	£9985

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight accommodation in Santiago on a bed and breakfast basis, half day Santiago tour, 13 nights' aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities, use of rubber boots and expedition parkas onboard.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, excursions shown as optional.

Combination Cruise: It is possible to combine this voyage with our 'Patagonia & the Chilean Fjords' from Ushuaia to Santiago shown on pages 86-88. Prices on request.



Temples & Gardens of Ancient Japan and South Korea

A voyage from Niigata to Osaka including South Korea aboard the MS Caledonian Sky
23rd April to 8th May 2017

Immerse yourself in the mythology of Japan and the serene beauty of South Korea on this incredible voyage. Embark the MS Caledonian Sky in Niigata and set sail to discover Japan's cultural legacy in its castles, gardens and shrines. Along the way we visit the historic and serene castle town of Matsue; the ancient feudal town of Hagi; Nagasaki, where we visit the famed Peace Memorial Park and Glover Gardens and experience the tranquility of sacred Miyajima.

Due to its wealth of ancient wonders, beguiling landscapes and 5000 years of culture and history, we will spend three days in South Korea. Discover Kyongju, the 'museum without walls', where history comes alive among tombs, temples, shrines and pleasure gardens. We also visit Haeinsa Temple, considered one of the three great temples in Korea and before returning to Japan's shores, make a call to the volcanic Jeju Island, Korea's largest island and UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

Our unique itinerary is a marvellous balance of ancient castles, serenely beautiful gardens, opulent temples and shrines combined with lovely natural landscapes. Like all well-planned itineraries we will include some of the country's best known highlights, but equally we will also take you to some places that relatively few foreign tourists set foot in. The MS Caledonian Sky allows us to visit out of the way islands and remote stretches of coast which would not be practical on a regular land tour. It is in such places that we find timeless villages, rural landscapes and a rich cultural heritage. Such places invoke the strongest of memories and allow you to immerse yourself in the myth and mystique of these ancient lands whilst returning each evening to the peace and comfort of our vessel.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Tokyo, Japan. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Tokyo. Arrive this morning and transfer to the New Otani Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay. Remainder of day at leisure.

Day 3 Tokyo to Niigata. After breakfast in the hotel we will enjoy a city tour of Tokyo including the Meiji Shrine, Sensoji Temple and the Imperial Palace Plaza. We will then transfer to the train station to join our shinkansen service to Niigata enjoying lunch along the way. On arrival in Niigata we transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky.

Day 4 Sado Island. Sado is Japan's sixth largest island, made up of two parallel mountain chains, between which lies an extensive plain with small rice farms. In its early history, the island was a place of exile for intellectuals and political dissidents whilst in the Edo Period a rich gold mine was found. Sado Island is now famous for its premium quality rice and sake (rice wine), and is also the home base for the taiko drumming group, Kodo

("heartbeat"). During our full day call we will visit the Taiko centre to learn more about the history of the drums and visit the picturesque fishing village of Shukunegi, where over one hundred traditional Edo-period houses line the narrow streets. You may wish to take a ride aboard one of the unique local boats called tarai-bune.

Day 5 Kanazawa. Kanazawa is a thriving centre of the arts, long known for its lacquer ware, outstanding collectible pottery of the Kutani style, gold-leaf workmanship, delicate hand-painting of silk for kimonos and Noh theatre dramas. The narrow and winding cobblestone streets have a quaint photogenic charm with old-fashioned streetlamps and wooden-lattice windows hiding elegant restaurants and craft galleries. Around each bend is a traditional house, museum, art gallery, craft shop, historic samurai residence and even a geisha house to explore. The fascinating open-air market displays a vast variety of items from flowers to fish and local handicrafts. Next to the Kanazawa Castle ruins is one of



Castle, Shizuki Park and Tokoji Temple. Return to the vessel for lunch and this afternoon is free to relax or travel to the outskirts of the city and the Yoshika Taibi Memorial Museum which is dedicated to a large collection of Hagi-yaki pottery.

Day 8 Ulsan for Kyongju, South Korea. Today we embark on a full-day excursion to magnificent Kyongju, a World Heritage Site, which is often described as the world's finest open-air museum embracing ancient Korean history and Buddhist culture. As the ancient capital of the Shilla Dynasty, Kyongju's cultural heritage dates back to the first millennium. Today, as we stroll through some of the hundreds of excavated monuments, temples, tombs and pagodas, there will be time to explore the National Museum with its exceptional collection of finely worked gold jewellery, metal weapons and distinctive pottery. At lunchtime, we will sample Korean delicacies and enjoy a cultural performance of traditional dance.

Day 9 Masan for Haeinsa. From our berth in Masan we head inland to the Haeinsa Temple. Regarded as one of the three great temples in Korea it was first settled in 802 A.D. and its name derives from a verse in a Buddhist Sutra as "reflections on a smooth sea". In the 13th century when Korea was at war with the Mongols, the government commissioned the Tripitaka Koreana, a complete copy of Buddhist scriptures, in the hope of Buddha's intervention in the war. They were carved onto 81,258 double sided wooden blocks and stored on floor to ceiling shelves in the Janggyeong Panjeon building. We also visit the Daejokkwangjeon, the main worship hall of the temple. After lunch in a nearby restaurant we will return to Masan this afternoon, here you may want to visit the vibrant fish market selling the daily catch.



Day 7 Hagi. Hagi was a minor fishing port until Mori Terumoto fortified it in 1604 and it was Mori Samurai that helped spark off the anti-Tokugawa revolt in the mid-19th century. Today it is better known for its traditional pottery making traditions. On our morning tour we will explore the Teramachi district with its temples and shrines, the Jokamachi District, where we find the old samurai houses and also take time to explore Hagi

Day 10 Jeju Island. Korea's largest island is situated forty miles off the south coast and was designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 2002. We have the day to explore this island of volcanoes, lush countryside

Old Merchant Quarter, Kurashiki.



Japanese Lantern



Yakushima



Kanazawa

and ancient traditions. The active may choose to climb the 182 metre Seongsan Ilchulbong tuff volcano which rose out of the sea over 100,000 years ago. Alternatively walk one of the 'olle routes' referring to the lanes which run through villages and through forests and which provide an insight into daily life and natural beauty of the island. See the Haenyeo, woman divers who, since the 17th century, have collected shellfish and seaweed from the waters around Jeju without using any diving equipment and visit the museum dedicated to their methods. This evening over dinner we will begin our journey back to Japan.

Day 11 Nagasaki & Dejima, Japan.

Arrive this morning in Nagasaki, the second city destroyed by an A-bomb in World War Two. We will tour the Peace Memorial Park, Atomic Bomb Museum and Dejima Island which was built during the Edo Period to accommodate Portuguese Christian missionaries and prevent the propagation of their religion. It was also the residential quarters of the Dutch, the only foreigners allowed to trade in Japan during the Sakoku (Isolation) Period. For 200 years, until Japan reopened the country in the 19th century, Dejima was its only window to the world. With the reopening of the port to Westerners in the latter half of the 19th century, Nagasaki flowered as a prosperous and sophisticated international city. Suitable housing was required for the sudden influx of foreigners who made their homes here. Many of the comfortable stone and clapboard residences that were built during this period survive today and are preserved in Glover Garden which we will visit this afternoon. The best-known European-style residence here is Glover House. Built in 1863, it was the setting for Puccini's opera Madame Butterfly.

Day 12 Yakushima. After a morning at sea we arrive on the island of Yakushima which became Japan's first UNESCO World Heritage site in 1993 and has a particularly diverse flora. We will spend our time here on a choice of nature walks in Yakusugi Land, a nature park populated by a number of the island's ancient cedar trees.

Day 13 Uwajima. This morning we land on Shikoku Island and the port of Uwajima situated deep inside the saw-toothed coast of Uwajima Bay. The city of Uwajima is emerging as the nation's largest pearl cultivation centre. Learn the process of implanting, harvesting, extracting and sorting pearls on a visit to a pearl farm. We will also see Uwajima Castle, which is built on top of the hill with panoramic views over the town and harbour, Tensha-en Garden, built in the Samurai era and the Date Museum which exhibits items dedicated to the Date family, who ruled Uwajima from the castle for 250 years during the Tokugawa period.

Day 14 Hiroshima & Miyajima. Arrive in Hiroshima for our visit to the compelling Peace Memorial Park. The park is dotted with memorials, including the cenotaph which contains the names of all the known victims of the A-bomb and the permanently lit "Flame of Peace". Just outside the park, the A-Bomb Dome is a haunting reminder of the destructive forces that were unleashed on the city being one of the few original buildings to survive. In the museum we will see photos, videos and victim's personal effects relating to the bomb. Return to the MS Caledonian Sky for lunch as we sail to Miyajima. Considered one of Japan's top scenic wonders, Miyajima provides a picture-postcard vista of the scarlet Torii gate, the giant camphor wood gates at the entrance to the Shinto Shrine. We will use the vessel's Zodiacs to go ashore and explore the Itsukushima Jinja Shrine,

founded in the 6th century and dedicated to three sea goddesses.

Day 15 Koraku-en & Kurashiki. From the port of Uno-Ko we will visit one of Japan's most famed gardens, Koraku-en, which translates as "Garden of pleasure after". This 17th-century formal garden has 28 acres of walking trails, ponds, plum and cherry trees, and a classic teahouse where we will experience a traditional tea ceremony. After a Japanese lunch in a local restaurant we will continue to Kurashiki where we explore the old merchant

quarter and its fine 17th century wooden warehouses, along a canal framed with weeping willows and filled with koi. There is also a chance to visit the Ohara Museum of Art which includes rare works by Matisse, Picasso and Renoir.

Day 16 Osaka to London. Disembark this morning in Osaka and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled, indirect flight to London. Arrive this evening.

Kyoto Post-Cruise Extension - 8th to 10th May 2017



For those wishing to spend some time in Kyoto, we are offering a two night post-cruise extension. Our stay includes visits to the Kasuga shrine and Todai-ji Temple in Nara as well as the Kinkakuji Temple, Golden Pavilion and Kiyomizu Temple in Kyoto.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £695 Single: £945

Price Includes: Two nights accommodation at the Hotel Granvia Kyoto (or similar) on a bed and breakfast basis, tours in Nara and Kyoto and ship to hotel and hotel to airport transfers. **Not Included:** Travel Insurance, visas.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER - SAVE £600 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£8295	£7695
Castle	Standard	£8595	£7995
Caledonian	Superior	£9095	£8495
Promenade	Premium	£9495	£8895
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£10295	£9695
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£10795	£10195
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£11295	£10695
Castle	Standard for sole use	£11495	£10895
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£11995	£11395

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Tokyo on a breakfast only basis, 13 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis with house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, shore excursions, gratuities, transfers, port taxes, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

Please note that whilst we expect to be berthed alongside on most days, we will on occasion use the vessel's Zodiacs.

Sicilian Odyssey

From the Bay of Naples to Malta including a circumnavigation of Sicily aboard the MS Island Sky
3rd to 13th May 2017

We have the perfect vessel and time of year for our exploration of the wonderful island of Sicily and her archaeological treasures. Sicily is a land that has seen more than its fair share of invasions, resulting in some lofty and noble architecture from magnificent Doric temples to great Byzantine cathedrals and Norman palaces. With its benevolent climate and superb strategic position, the island has been coveted, fought over and colonised. The Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Normans, Byzantines and Bourbons have all made their mark on this astonishing island.

Sicily is endlessly fascinating and if you have promised yourself that one day you will visit, this is the time to go and what better way to explore her treasures than from aboard a small ship. The geography of the island lends itself beautifully to exploration by sea, as most points of interest are close to the coast. Appreciate in comfort Sicily's rich artistic legacy of so many invading civilisations. The island is a celebration of the greatest achievements of Mediterranean cultures and with such a wealth of ancient sites, it is certainly not somewhere which should be visited in a hurry. With seven days spent circumnavigating the island, we have the luxury of time and are able to visit the stunning Greek theatre at Taormina, the superbly well-preserved Greek temples of Segesta and the Valle dei Templi, the Norman Royal Palace and Palatine Chapel in Palermo, Byzantine Monreale Cathedral, the Roman mosaics of Villa Romana di Casale as well as the beautiful Baroque villages of Noto and Ragusa. Local guides and our onboard guest speaker will contribute greatly to our enjoyment and understanding of Sicily and once visited it is a place you will never forget and will wish to return to time and time again.

Our View

"The ancient wonders of Sicily have appealed to travellers for hundreds of years and with many of them surrounding the coastline a cruise is the perfect way to see them. We can travel from Paestum to Taormina, Segesta and onto the Valley of the Temples without the need to change hotel rooms, join long coach journeys or the other hassles often associated with land travel. Our small ship can access the closest ports to the great sites and with short distances to cover we can spend longer in port each day allowing time for both an included guided tour and independent exploration. We will ensure we hear the music, taste the wines and enjoy the local foods during our time ashore whilst not missing any of the archaeological sites or charming towns. May is also a fine time to be in this part of the Mediterranean with pleasant temperatures and less crowded sites."



Paestum

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Naples. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Island Sky and sail tonight.

Day 2 Paestum. The small port of Agropoli is a convenient location for our morning excursion to Paestum. Founded by Greeks in 600 BC, this well preserved and fascinating site was rediscovered in 1752. On our half day tour we will see the impressive Temple Poseidon, the Basilica, Amphitheatre and Aethenian before spending some time in the museum, adjacent to the site. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at sea. Please note we will use vessel's Zodiacs to land ashore at Agropoli.

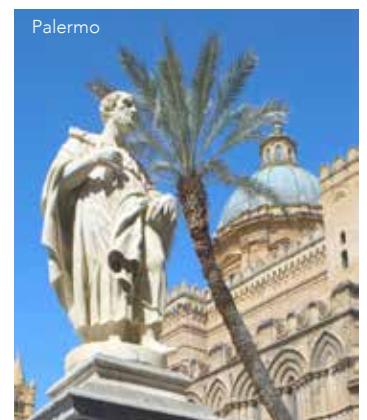
Day 3 Taormina. From the nearby port of Messina we will visit Taormina, a walled town lying in the shadow of Mount Etna, Europe's highest volcano. The town has been a popular tourist destination since the 19th century and our guided tour will include walking the characteristic alleys before visiting the 15th century Palazzo Corvaja and the impressive Greek Theatre, from where there are marvellous views over the town and coast. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy some free time in Messina.

Day 4 Palermo. Arrive this morning in the Sicilian capital of 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 Island Sky for lunch and enjoy a free afternoon to either explore Palermo independently or join an excursion to see the remarkable Medieval mosaics in the cathedral at Monreale.

Day 5 Trapani. Trapani was the landing point for Peter of Aragon in 1282 to start the Spanish occupation of Sicily and is our base for the day. From the port we travel to the nearby town of Erice, famed in antiquity for its temple dedicated to the goddess of love, the Phoenician Astarte, Greek Aphrodite or Roman Venus. A tour will take us to this stunning site high above the



sea and to the beautifully preserved Medieval town characterized by its winding cobbled stone streets and beautiful court-yards. After our visit we travel to an olive oil farm, which dates from 1700, and is built around a beautiful Sicilian family house. We will learn about the history and techniques of the farm's extra virgin oil production before enjoying a tasting. Also enjoy traditional Sicilian foods including cheeses, olives and breads whilst accompanied local musicians before returning to the ship this afternoon and sailing late this evening.



Day 6 Valley of Temples & Agrigento. Although handsome in its own right and awash with medieval atmosphere, Agrigento is not our main reason for calling at this southern coast port. Close by, is the Valle dei Templi, a series of Doric temples and the most captivating of Sicilian Greek remains, and a grouping unique outside Greece. Surrounded in greenery of olive and almond trees, admire the Temple of Hera, the Temple of Concord, the Dioscuri Temple, the Temple of Olympic Jove and the Temple of Hercules. After lunch onboard enjoy an afternoon to explore Agrigento,



shuttles will run from the port to the town and the excellent archaeological museum where you can explore at your leisure.

Day 7 Licata for Piazza Armerina.

Founded in 280 B.C by Phintias, Licata has grown into an important commercial centre on Sicily. However our main reason for this stop is to drive inland to what is regarded as the finest Roman site on Sicily. The Imperial Roman Villa of Casale is located close to Piazza Armerina amidst wooded rolling countryside. This huge villa was built in the 3rd century and has some stunning floor mosaics. Later, explore the medieval centre of Piazza Armerina, see the Aragonese Castle and the Romanesque Church of Sant'Andrea. After our tour will enjoy a Sicilian lunch in a local farmhouse complemented by local wines. We sail in the late evening.

Day 8 Noto & Ragusa. From our berth in Pozzallo we will explore the Baroque villages of Noto and Ragusa. Built in 1703 Noto is a picturesque city located on the terraced slopes of Mount Iblei, among Olive groves and Almond trees. Here we find Sicilian Baroque style palaces and monuments. A quiet walk along the central streets will reveal the 18th century Palazzo Ducezio and some baroque churches: San Francesco Immacolata, The Cathedral, San Carlo, Santa Chiara and the imposing Palazzo Nicolaci di Villadorata, built in 1737. We return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and this afternoon continue to charming Ragusa. It has been included in the UNESCO World Heritage list, for its artistic-architectural heritage, with its Baroque palaces, churches, squares, stairways and winding narrow streets, all of which create an evocative and ancient atmosphere. We will discover the wonderful Ragusa Ibla: the "Pearl of the Baroque" the gardens, the magnificent palaces,

the splendid church of San Giuseppe and the Dome of San Giorgio built in the 18th century on the site where an older church stood before the earthquake of 1693.

Day 9 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. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon you can choose to either relax onboard, return to Valletta or join a tour to Mdina. Originally, this city, was given the name of "Città Nobile" and 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.

Day 10 Valletta, Malta. Arrive this morning in the grand harbour of Valletta, the 16th century "Fortress City" built by the Knights of St John. Our morning tour which 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. Return to the ship for lunch and this afternoon you can choose to either relax onboard, return to Valletta or join a tour to Mdina. Originally, this city, was given the name of "Città Nobile" and 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.

Day 11 Malta to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight to London.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £200 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Magellan	Standard Forward	£4695	£4495
Magellan	Standard	£5195	£4995
Columbus	Superior	£5495	£5295
Marco Polo	Premium	£5695	£5495
Marco Polo	Corner	£5895	£5695
Eriksen	Deluxe Balcony	£6495	£6295
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£6995	£6795
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£6695	£6495
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£7195	£6995

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 10 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance.

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Sicily is endlessly fascinating. If you have promised yourself that one day you will visit, this is the time to go and what better way to explore her treasures than from aboard a small ship.

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Spring in the Isles

Explore the islands of England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland aboard the MS Hebridean Sky
7th to 17th May 2017

You can travel the world visiting all manner of exotic and wonderful places, but we sometimes forget that some of the finest scenery, fascinating history and most endearing people may be found close to home. Nowhere is this more true than along our own magnificent Atlantic coastline, an indented landscape of enormous natural splendour with offshore islands forming stepping stones into the horizon. This unusual journey will take us along the edges of the United Kingdom and offer a unique portrait of life in our islands. This is a wonderful opportunity to see some of our most beautiful places, meet some interesting inhabitants, witness some prolific birdlife and learn more about both the past and present of Britain. The sheer diversity of the landscape and lifestyles will amaze you, as will the spirit and warmth of the small communities we will encounter.

Local experts will meet us along the way adding much to our knowledge and making for a more comprehensive and peaceful experience. Learn something of their history, see the abundant bird and marine life, but above all revel in the timeless enchantment that these islands exude to all those who appreciate the natural world. Being spring, we have also included a number of gardens in the itinerary, from the Isles of Scilly to the Hebrides. The endlessly fascinating west coast gardens of Tresco are a marvellous sight at this time of year. This unique voyage will appeal to those who wish to visit some of the United Kingdom's most remote and least accessible islands and coastal regions. In an age of rapid centralisation and common identity, it is fortifying to know that life with its unique traditions and values can still be found on the edges of our islands. Whether you be an avid gardener, birdwatcher, amateur historian, or simply enjoy sailing past and visiting some of the most enchanting places in the world, this trip has it all.

Our View

"Each spring we find our ships returning to the UK after spending the winters in far flung corners of the world and we still feel, after 25 years, that we find some of the best expedition cruising opportunities around the British Isles. This unique itinerary concentrates on the islands and communities that live off the shores of England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. Using our small ship and our fleet of Zodiacs we are able to make calls to some remote islands well off the usual cruise route. We have timed our cruise to visit islands when they will be rich in birdlife, flowers will be blooming and the seas will hopefully be home to whales and dolphins. We also see impressive castles and have a chance for a dram in a small distillery. From the Channel Islands to the Hebrides we will experience life in these island communities and understand what it is like to live on the islands on the edge."

The Itinerary

Day 1 Portsmouth. Embark the MS Hebridean Sky this afternoon in Portsmouth. Transfers will be provided from Portsmouth Harbour railway station at a fixed time.

Day 2 Guernsey & Herm, Channel Islands. Our first island call is in Guernsey, the 'Island of Flowers'. There will be the option of a walking tour of St Peter Port including a visit to Castle Cornet, a 12th century battlement which guards the entrance to St Peter Port Harbour. Alternatively enjoy a panoramic drive which will see

the beautiful coastline and beaches and also visit the Little Chapel, built in 1914 as a miniature version of the famous basilica at Lourdes. This afternoon we make the short crossing over to Herm which at just one and a half miles long and half a mile wide, is perfect for exploring on foot. There will be some free time to explore.

Day 3 St Agnes & Bryher, Isles of Scilly. This morning we arrive at St Agnes in the Isles of Scilly and the most south westerly community in the UK. Surrounded by rocks and

reefs, this delightful tiny island is a birdwatcher's paradise and offers marvellous coastal walks. Meanwhile 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. Over lunch we reposition to Bryher the smallest of the inhabited Isles of Scilly. Our naturalists will lead a number of guided walks along the tracks that cross the island amongst hedgerows and fields bursting with wildflowers. The 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

Day 4 Tresco & St Martins, Isles of Scilly. Spend the morning on traffic free Tresco, walking its idyllic lanes from the beach to the famous sub-tropical 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 cafe. Our final afternoon in the islands will be on St Martins, a small island community of just 120 residents. Enjoy time to explore independently or maybe join one of our birders on a guided walk or the braver among us may wish to swim from one of the stunning beaches.

Day 5 Lundy Island. We have scheduled a morning on Lundy, a remote island in the Bristol Channel. Walk along its traffic-free lanes and paths, explore the wide bays and coves by way of hanging valleys, observe the puffins nesting in abandon rabbit warrens, have a drink at the inn and buy the island's 'puffin stamps' at the island's shop. In the afternoon we will continue our journey around Wales and will pass Skomer Island, one of the most important wildlife sites in Northern Europe. It is a marvellously peaceful and scenic island with fantastic birdlife including 6000 pairs of puffins, countless numbers of guillemots, fulmar, kittiwakes and the elusive Manx shearwater and storm petrel. Later we pass Grassholm where we find one of the world's largest ganneries with over 34,000 breeding pairs.



Day 6 Beaumaris, Isle of Anglesey.

Translated from "beau marais" meaning fair marsh, it was here that Edward I chose as a garrison town building one of his "iron ring" of castles aiming to stamp his authority on the Welsh. Today the impressive 13th century castle is a wonderful example of architectural and ingenious design of fortifications. We will anchor in the bay at Beaumaris and use our Zodiacs to land for a range of excursions today. Keen birders will be able to visit South Stack RSPB site, an important nesting site for seabirds including guillemots, razorbills and puffins and if we are lucky choughs. For the gardeners we will visit Bodnant Gardens situated above the River Conwy, with stunning views across Snowdonia. We return to the MS Hebridean Sky via the magnificent landscape of the Snowdonia National Park. Alternatively you can enjoy time to explore the castle, the 19th century jail or the shops of the town of Beaumaris at your own pace.

Day 7 Peel, Isle of Man. Arrive this morning on the Isle of Man and the main fishing port of Peel. Settlements have been here since the Mesolithic Age and the island also claims to have the longest continuous parliament which was founded in 979AD. 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 and is the point from which, each July 5th, all the laws enacted in the year preceding are promulgated to the gathered government officials and the public at large, both in Manx and English languages. This process has

been a continuous procedure for well over a thousand years. We continue to 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, with the castle's oldest part dating back to the time of Magnus, the last Norse King of Mann, who died here in 1266. We end our tour at Castletown station and board the vintage steam train for a delightful and traditional journey to Douglas. Dating from 1874, the Isle of Man Steam Railway is the island's oldest Victorian rail system and this narrow gauge railway still runs with its original locomotives and carriages. Return to the vessel for lunch and enjoy a free afternoon to explore Peel or join members of the expedition team on a guided cliff walk.

Day 8 Rathlin Island & Jura Island. Located just a few miles from the North Antrim coast, Rathlin has been settled for more than 6000 years. Today, there are only 80 or so souls, whereas before the Famine there were 1200 inhabitants. This morning we will enjoy a guided walk which will take in the historic buildings and also the prolific sea bird life with astonishing numbers of auks, kittiwakes and grey seals. Return to the ship for lunch as we sail to the Hebrides and the small island of Jura. Dominating the views of Jura are the three hills called "The Paps of Jura", the highest being Beinn an Oir at 785 metres. We will go ashore at Craighouse and will be welcomed in the cooperage where we will be given an introduction to the Jura Distillery and an opportunity to taste the local product. Alternatively enjoy some free time to explore Craighouse or join an island drive.

Day 9 Colonsay & Iona, Hebrides. We will have anchored over night off the Island of Colonsay, which lies between Mull and Islay. After breakfast we will disembark on Zodiacs and spend the morning on the island amongst the impressive array of plants and birdlife.

We will visit Colonsay House, built in 1722 by Malcolm MacNeil and bought by Lord Strathcona in 1904. We will have the opportunity to explore the attractive dilapidated walled garden, which protects the tiny, enigmatic 8th century St Oran's Cross. Sail over lunch to Iona which has been occupied for thousands of years, but has also been a place of pilgrimage and Christian worship for several centuries. Visit the abbey or perhaps walk along the white sandy beaches or go in search of the corncrake amongst the irises.

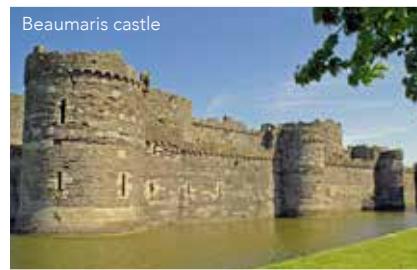
Day 10 Canna & Muck, Hebrides.

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. Canna is run as a single farm and bird sanctuary by The National Trust for Scotland and enjoys the best harbour in the Small Isles, a horn-shaped haven. Canna and Sanday 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. During lunch, it is but a short sail past the rugged cliffs of Rum to the smallest of the Small Isles, Muck. A peaceful low-lying island, we will land in the southeast corner at the small settlement of Port Mor. From here it is a gentle wander across the island before returning to the ship.

Day 11 Oban. Disembark this morning. Transfers will be provided to Glasgow Central Station and Glasgow International Airport at a fixed time.



Iona



Beaumaris castle



Puffins



Canna



Tresco, Isles of Scilly

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price
Amundsen	Standard	£4450
Byrd	Superior	£4650
Mawson	Premium	£4975
Mawson	Corner	£5145
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£5540
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£5710
Shackleton	Hebridean	£6990
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£6450
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£6770

Price Includes: 10 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities, use of rubber boots onboard.

Not Included: Travel Insurance.

Timeless Japan

A voyage of cultural discovery around Japan including South Korea aboard the MS Caledonian Sky
7th to 19th May* & 16th to 28th May 2017

Japan is a fascinating balance of unique heritage and culture contrasting with the sprawling metropolises of the world's most advanced technological civilisation. Made up of 6,852 islands, the perfect way to explore the Land of the Rising Sun is by sea. On our journey we will voyage around the stunning coastline and offshore islands of the archipelago, and discover ancient castles, serenely beautiful gardens and opulent temples and shrines. Although we will visit the awe-inspiring contemporary landscape of Tokyo, what makes our itinerary truly unique is our visits to parts of Japan where relatively few tourists set foot.

Our vessel, the 114 passenger MS Caledonian Sky, allows us to visit out of the way destinations and remote stretches of coast that would not be practical on a land tour. In addition to our partial circumnavigation of Japan, our course takes us past the south eastern tip of Korea, where we will spend a day in Kyongju, the 'Museum Without Walls'. Here, history comes vividly to life among the tombs, temples, shrines and pleasure gardens. Join us on this voyage of discovery and venture along the historic shores and off the well beaten tourist paths. May is the ideal time to see the countryside at its most verdant and whilst temperatures are still pleasant.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Tokyo, Japan. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Tokyo. Arrive this morning and transfer to the New Otani Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay. Remainder of the day at leisure to explore the vibrant metropolis independently.

Day 3 Tokyo to Kanazawa. After breakfast in the hotel we will enjoy a city tour of Tokyo including Meiji Shrine, Sensoji Temple and the Imperial Palace Plaza. We will then transfer to the train station to join our shinkansen service to Kanazawa enjoying lunch along the way. On arrival in Kanazawa we transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky. Enjoy a welcome dinner and drinks onboard as we moor overnight.

Day 4 Kanazawa. Kanazawa is a thriving centre of the arts, long known for its lacquer ware, outstanding collectible pottery of the Kutani style, gold-leaf workmanship, and delicate hand-painting of silk for kimonos and Noh theatre dramas. The narrow and winding cobblestone streets have a quaint photogenic charm. Around each bend is a traditional house, museum, art gallery, crafts

shop, historic samurai residence and even a geisha house to explore. The fascinating open-air market displays a vast variety of items from flowers to fish to local handicrafts. Next to the Kanazawa Castle ruins is one of Japan's premier highlights – the famed Kenroku-en Garden, ranked among the country's top gardens.

Day 5 Matsue. Matsue, called the 'town of water,' nestles between a scenic lake and a large lagoon. We will visit the cultural attractions of the town including Matsue Castle. This afternoon is free to relax or explore the town at leisure. Alternatively join the excursion to the Adachi Museum. Set in a beautiful natural environment, Adachi Museum of Art is well known for both its superb Japanese gardens and its collection of contemporary Japanese paintings, comprising approximately 1,500 of the country's most highly regarded paintings produced after the Meiji period.

Day 6 Hagi. Japan's revolution began here in Jokamachi's old samurai residential quarter, we will tour a samurai's home and visit Daisho Temple, the resting place of the two first Mori daimyo and all the even-numbered daimyo. We will also take



time to explore Hagi Castle, Shizuki Park and Tokoji Temple.

Day 7 Ulsan for Kyongju, South Korea. Today embark on a full-day excursion to magnificent Kyongju, a World Heritage Site which is often described as the world's finest open-air museum. As the ancient capital of the Shilla Dynasty, Kyongju's cultural heritage dates back to the first millennium. Today, as we stroll through some of the hundreds of excavated monuments, temples, tombs and pagodas, there will be time to explore the National Museum with its exceptional collection of finely worked gold jewellery, metal weapons and distinctive pottery. At lunch, sample Korean delicacies and enjoy a cultural performance of traditional dance.

Day 8 Nagasaki & Dejima, Japan. Arrive this morning in Nagasaki the second city destroyed by an A-bomb in World War II. We will tour the Peace Memorial Park, Atomic Bomb Museum and Glover

Garden. We will continue to Dejima Island which was built during the Edo Period to accommodate Portuguese Christian missionaries and prevent the propagation of their religion. It also used to be the residential quarters of the Dutch, the only foreigners allowed to trade in Japan during the Sakoku (Isolation) Period. For 200 years, until Japan reopened the country in the 19th century, Dejima was its only window to the world.

Day 9 Yakushima. This morning we arrive on the island of Yakushima which became Japan's first UNESCO World Heritage site in 1993. Its natural wonders will astound you as Yakushima has a particularly diverse flora. We will spend our time here on nature walks including Yakusugi Land a nature park populated by a number of the island's ancient cedar trees, such as the Buddhasugi, Futagosugi and Sennensugi. This afternoon we relax at sea.

Day 10 Uwajima. Arrive this morning at Uwajima situated deep inside the saw-toothed coast of Uwajima Bay. The city of Uwajima is emerging as the nation's largest pearl cultivation centre. Learn the process of implanting, harvesting, extracting and



Sensoji Temple, Tokyo



Koraku-en Gardens, Okayama



Peace Statue, Memorial Park, Nagasaki



sorting pearls on a visit to a pearl farm. We will continue to Sakiya Square and Dairakuji Temple.

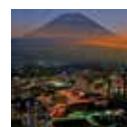
Day 11 Hiroshima & Miyajima. Arrive in Hiroshima to visit the compelling Peace Memorial Park. The park is dotted with memorials, including the cenotaph that contains the names of all the known victims of the A bomb. Return to the ship for lunch and then continue to Miyajima. Considered one of Japan's top scenic wonders, Miyajima provides a picture-postcard vista of the scarlet Torii gate, the giant camphor wood gates at the entrance to the Shinto Shrine. We will go ashore to explore the Itsukushima Jinja Shrine, founded in the 6th century and dedicated to three sea goddesses. The shrine is a designated World Heritage Site. Please note we will use the vessel's Zodiacs to land ashore at Miyajima.

Day 12 Okayama & Kurashiki. This morning we will visit one of Japan's most famed gardens, Koraku-en. This 17th-century formal garden has 28 acres of walking trails, ponds, plum and cherry trees, and a classic teahouse where we will experience a traditional tea ceremony. After a local lunch we will continue to Kurashiki where we explore the old merchant quarter and its fine 17th century wooden warehouses painted white with traditional black tiles, along a canal framed with weeping willows and filled with koi.

Day 13 Osaka to London. Disembark this morning in Osaka and transfer to the airport for the return scheduled indirect flight to London. Arrive this evening.

Pre & Post-Cruise Extensions

Pre-Cruise Extension - Tokyo



For those that wish to enjoy more time in Tokyo our two night extension will include accommodation at the New Otani Hotel (or similar) on a bed and breakfast basis, airport transfers and a full day tour to Nikko. This is a post-cruise extension for the 7th May departure and a pre-cruise extension for the 16th May departure.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £595 Single: £845

Post-Cruise Extension - Kyoto



Join our two night stay in Kyoto which includes two nights at the Hotel Granvia Kyoto (or similar) on a bed and breakfast basis, a full day tour of Kyoto & Nara and transfers. This is a post-cruise extension for the 16th May departure and a pre-cruise extension for the 7th May departure.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £695 Single: £945

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER - SAVE £400 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£6695	£6295
Castle	Standard	£6995	£6595
Caledonian	Superior	£7495	£7095
Promenade	Premium	£7895	£7495
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£8695	£8295
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£9195	£8795
Promenade	Owner's Corner Suite with balcony	£9695	£9295
Castle	Standard for sole use	£9495	£9095
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£9995	£9595

*Please note that the 7th May 2017 departure operates in the reverse direction from Osaka to Kanazawa.

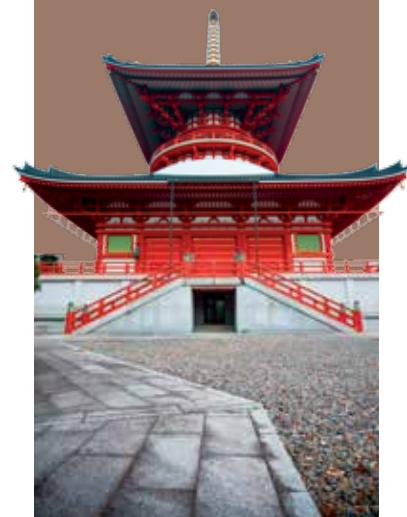
Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Tokyo on breakfast only basis, 10 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis with house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, shore excursions, gratuities, transfers, port taxes, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

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Although we will visit the awe-inspiring contemporary landscape of Tokyo, what makes our itinerary truly unique is our visits to parts of Japan where relatively few tourists set foot.

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Spring in the Secret Mediterranean

A voyage from Malta to Istanbul aboard the MS Island Sky
13th to 25th May 2017

The month of May is the perfect time for cruising in the Mediterranean. Just about everything is as perfect as it can be, from the comfortable temperatures to the relatively crowd free sites. Join us aboard the MS Island Sky for what promises to be an informative and relaxing journey and immerse yourselves in the historical and cultural gems of the hidden Mediterranean. As we sail from Malta to Istanbul we will visit ancient sites, excellent museums, charming villages and see some of the loveliest scenery imaginable whilst enjoying all the comforts of our vessel. We will have the added benefit of excellent local guides and our knowledgeable onboard guest speaker who will bring to life all we see.

Our View

"The Mediterranean has for years been a focal point for cruising with the combination of grand sites and major cities a draw to ships. However there is an advantage on sailing on a ship with only 114 passengers in that we can access some of the smaller ports, visit some fascinating but less frequented sites and moor in picturesque harbours and islands. During our spring cruise we will sail from Malta and see the wonders of Calabria and Puglia in Southern Italy, spend three days in Albania visiting sights only opening up now 25 years after the fall of communism and Greek islands where we can enjoy guided tours as well as time to wander and explore independently. We also enjoy a transit of the Corinth Canal which is only possible for a ship such as ours."

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Malta. Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the MS Island Sky.

Day 2 Crotone, Italy. Relax onboard this morning as we cruise to Italy, maybe join one of the lectures or find a spot on deck. Over lunch we arrive in the Calabrian port of Crotone which was once one of the most important settlements on Magna Graecia. This afternoon we drive inland to Santa Severina, a pretty town overlooking the Neto River valley. After our tour of the town there will be the opportunity to taste the famous local Ciro wines and sample the local cuisine: olive oil, local cold cuts and a selection of cheese before returning to the ship.

Day 3 Otranto for Lecce. From the port of Otranto we will drive to Lecce, often referred to as 'The Florence of the South' with its amazing collection of Baroque architecture. A guided walk will include a visit to the beautifully decorated Santa Croce Basilica and Piazza Duomo, considered one of the finest and most impressive squares in southern Italy. After the tour, there will be an exclusive, private visit to the 15th century Palazzo Tamborino-Ceza. The owner of the palazzo will personally

take us on a tour, sharing interesting stories and anecdotes regarding his family and the palazzo itself. Enjoy a light lunch of local specialities before a concert of traditional music of the Salento region called La Pizzica.

Day 4 Kotor, Montenegro. This morning we enter the Gulf of Kotor and sail up the fjord-like entrance to the Medieval town and UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kotor. This really is an extraordinary place full of marvellous architecture and pretty town squares. Our morning guided walk will include the 12th century cathedral of St Tryphon, the ancient town gates, the Maritime Museum and Romanesque churches including St Luke's. After lunch onboard enjoy the afternoon and evening at leisure.

Day 5 Shkodra, Albania. There will be a choice of activities today and on the full day tour we will drive from Kotor through the Montenegro countryside. We will cross the border into Albania to reach Shkodra which was founded in the 4th century BC and has been occupied by the Romans, Serbians and Venetians. Here we will visit the Rozafa Castle which rises majestically on a rocky hill just outside the city, and explore the museum within the walls.



We will continue into the countryside for lunch where we will enjoy a slow food experience of Albanian specialities before returning to the MS Island Sky which will have relocated to Shengjin port. Alternatively you may prefer to stay onboard and enjoy a day cruising through the Kotor fjord and along the coast.

Day 6 Sazan Island, Albania. Located around ten miles from the port of Vlore, Sazan is Albania's largest island albeit at only 2.2 square miles. Having been under Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman control due to its strategic location it was occupied by the Italians in 1914 and only returned to Albania in 1947. During the Cold War the Russians built a submarine base and the Albanian Communist regime built a military base complete with bunkers and tunnels which could withstand a nuclear attack or western invasion. Since 1992, following the end of communism, the island has fallen into disrepair but we are able to explore this derelict base and ruined buildings which still contain original furniture and the tunnels. We return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and this afternoon explore the rest of the island which is situated in the Karaburun – Sazan National Marine Park.

Day 7 Sarande for Butrint, Albania.

Our last call in Albania sees us discover the archaeological and ancient city of Butrint, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the ruins that feature the remains of many eras and cultures. From the Hellenistic period there are temples, the promenade and the 4th century BC theatre. From the Roman era are the public baths, gymnasium and fountains. From the Byzantine era we see chapels and the large Basilica of St Peter and St Paul, whilst the Venetians are represented by a watchtower and a small castle with commanding views

over the Straits of Corfu. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and enjoy an afternoon cruising.

Day 8 Delphi & Corinth Canal, Greece. From our berth in Itea, we will drive through lush olive groves up to Delphi, stunningly situated upon a mountain terrace and one of Greece's most important sites of antiquity. Our visit begins at the Castalian Spring, erupting from the spot where Pegasus is said to have struck his hoof. We will continue up the Sacred Way, passing the treasury of the Athenians and the bases of many monuments, the temple of Apollo, the 5000 seat theatre dating from the fourth century BC and the ancient stadium. Return to the vessel for lunch and in the late afternoon we will transit the Corinth Canal.

Day 9 Nafplion. Nafplion's sheltered location below a rocky headland and large natural fortress crowned by a Venetian castle is perhaps unrivalled in Greece. From here we will enjoy a scenic drive through the Argos Plain, once ruled by Agamemnon, conqueror of Troy, to the famous citadel of Mycenae. High above the confluence of two boulder-strewn ravines, Mycenae is entered by way of the Lion Gate. Once inside the gate, we will explore the Royal Palace, the shaft graves and the remains of the city walls. Return to the MS Island Sky and enjoy a free afternoon in Nafplion.

Day 10 Sifnos & Folegandros. This corner of the Cyclades is far from the well-trodden tracks of the big ships. After breakfast go ashore to the little known island of Sifnos where you will be greeted by traditional white houses, picturesque churches and narrow lanes and alleys. Our morning will include Apollonia, the island's tiny capital, the Virysianni Monastery and the villages of Castro and Artemos both delightful places to wander and admire the traditional architecture. Over lunch we sail to the little known



island of Folegandros. Explore at leisure the clifftop capital of Chora, a wonderfully picturesque village.

Day 11 Chios. The birthplace of Homer, Chios remained a significant Aegean island into the Byzantine period, when the monastery of Nea Moni, with its 11th century mosaics was built. The island is rich in ancient ruins and this morning we will visit the 11th century Monastery of Nea Moni, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the most important ecclesiastical monuments in Greece. Return to the MS Island Sky for lunch and this afternoon you have the choice to relax and explore Chios town independently or join a tour to the south of the island where we visit the beautifully preserved 14th century fortress village of Mesta and the

elaborately decorated houses of Pirgi.

Day 12 Limnos. Arrive over breakfast in Myrina, the small capital of Limnos. We have a choice of activities this morning, maybe enjoy a gentle walk along an idyllic rural pathway to the pretty village of Kondias. Alternatively enjoy a morning in Myrina which is known for its romantic castle built over the rocky promontory. The castle foundations date back to Classical times, when it was the site of a temple of Artemis. We will continue to the archaeological museum before returning to the vessel for lunch and a final relaxing afternoon at sea.

Day 13 Istanbul, Turkey to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight to London.

Istanbul Post-Cruise Extension - 25th to 27th May 2017



Extend your stay in Istanbul with our two night package offering the chance to explore some of the highlights of the city.

The Itinerary

Day 1 Istanbul. Disembark this morning and we will enjoy the sights of old Constantinople with visits to the Hippodrome and the great Byzantine church of Santa Sophia. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before checking into our hotel for a two night stay. The afternoon is free to explore at your own pace. Maybe look for a bargain in the Grand Bazaar, visit the fascinating Basilica Cistern. This evening is free to enjoy dinner independently in one of the local restaurants.

Day 2 Istanbul. Our morning tour will include a visit to Chora church; for the best Byzantine art, mosaics and frescoes in the city and a visit to the great Theodosian walls which protected the city for 1,000 years. Return to the hotel for a chance to relax and explore independently. Meet this evening for a farewell dinner.

Day 3 Istanbul to London. After breakfast in the hotel we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Price per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £545 Single: £695

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis, excursions as per the itinerary, transfer from ship to hotel and hotel to airport, meals as described.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visa.

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
Magellan	Standard Forward	£5495	£5195
Magellan	Standard	£5695	£5395
Columbus	Superior	£6095	£5795
Marco Polo	Premium	£6495	£6195
Marco Polo	Corner	£6695	£6395
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£7095	£6795
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£7495	£7195
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£6895	£6595
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£7295	£6995

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 12 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia onboard team including guest speaker, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas.

Ship to Shore: Please note that whilst we plan to be alongside for most port of call, depending on local harbour conditions the vessel's Zodiacs may be used to transfer ashore at Otranto, Sifnos and Folegandros.

Atlantic Island Odyssey



Explore the Hebrides, Faroes, Shetland and Orkney Islands aboard the MS Hebridean Sky
17th to 28th May & 19th to 30th June 2017*

Come with us and see nature in the raw. After the huge success of this itinerary over the last few years we are delighted to be able to offer it again in 2017. This expedition cruise will appeal to those who prefer their islands deserted, but with abundant bird and wildlife. True, Noble Caledonia can bring you all over the world, visiting all manner of exotic and wonderful places yet it is also true that some of the finest scenery, fascinating history and most endearing people are found close to home and nowhere is this truer than the islands off Scotland's indented coastline which form stepping stones into the Atlantic. During this unique voyage, we will journey along rugged coastlines and visit once inhabited islands aboard the 114-passenger Hebridean Sky, venturing far north to the Outer Hebrides, Faroes, Orkneys and Shetlands. We will witness vibrant colours, amazingly prolific birdlife, explore deserted villages and learn of the history and ancient culture of unique island life.

Such a journey can of course only be undertaken by a special vessel with the self-sufficient qualities of the Hebridean Sky. With our Zodiacs we will be able to land on remote beaches and cruise close to shorelines and cliffs crowded with birdlife. Enabling us to land in remote places, the Zodiacs make the otherwise inaccessible readily available. Although we will set sail with a schedule, this will not be set in stone as these are perfect waters for expedition cruising and our Captain and Expedition team will keep a flexible approach allowing for the opportunity to fully experience the unexpected whether it be a sighting of dolphins, a whale or any unusual event.

Our View

"We have been operating our cruises around the tip of Scotland for many years and this really is an itinerary that shows the benefits of small ship cruising. With our fleet of Zodiacs we are able to make calls into some of the remote and uninhabited islands that surround the Scottish coast. Few ships make the journey to these outer islands and we are grateful to therefore be able to explore in our small groups. To combine the small communities of Fetlar, Unst, Mykines, Westray and Foula with the uninhabited St Kilda, North Rona and Mingulay into one itinerary is rare and when combined with the towns of Lerwick, Kirkwall and Torshavn, such an itinerary allows us to understand the history, witness the wildlife, experience the culture of these remote islands and gain a better understanding of what it is like to live on one of the 'Islands on the Edge'."



Torshavn, Faroe Islands

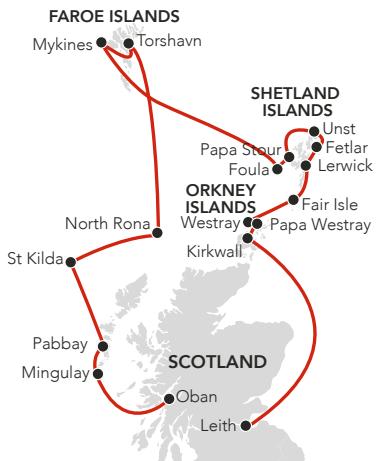
The Itinerary

Day 1 Oban, Scotland. Embark this afternoon. Transfers will be provided from Glasgow International Airport and Glasgow Central station at a fixed time. Sail this evening.

Day 2 Mingulay & Pabbay, Outer Hebrides. Today we explore the remote islands at the tip of South Uist including Mingulay and Pabbay. We will use the Zodiacs to explore and hope to make some beach landings. Despite there being a continuous population on Mingulay for at least two thousand years, evacuation began in 1907 and the island was completely abandoned by its residents in 1912. The islands are also a nature reserve with important breeding populations of razorbills, guillemots, black guillemots, puffins, fulmars and shags.

Day 3 St Kilda. Awake this morning in St Kilda, a remarkable uninhabited archipelago some fifty miles beyond the Outer Hebrides. Dominated by the highest cliffs and sea stacks in Britain, Hirta, St Kilda's main island was occupied on and off for at least two thousand years, with the last 36 Gaelic speaking inhabitants evacuated at their own request in 1930. Immediately after the evacuation, the island was bought by the Marquess of Bute to protect the island's thousands of seabirds including puffin and fulmars, and in 1957 it was bequeathed to The National Trust for Scotland. St Kilda is one of the only two dozen UNESCO World Heritage Sites with dual status reflecting its natural and cultural significance. The local ranger will join us on board before our expedition staff lead a number of guided walks on the island. Later, cruise past two of the largest ganneries in the world at Stac Lee and Berneray. These impressive stacks rise 170 metres from the sea and are home to up to 60,000 breeding pairs of northern gannet.

Day 4 North Rona. Spend the day around North Rona, an isolated island some fifty miles north of Cape Wrath. The last islanders left North Rona in 1844 and today it is home to thirteen species of breeding seabirds including large colonies of great black-backed gulls, great skuas and puffins. There is also a large population of grey seals which we hope to observe on a Zodiac cruise. If weather permits we will also



visit the gannet colony on Sula Sgeir home to over 5000 breeding pairs and renowned as the least visited national nature reserve in Britain.

Day 5 Torshavn, Faroe Islands. Enjoy a morning at sea before we arrive in the Faroe Islands at lunchtime. From our berth in Torshavn we will join a guided tour through Torshavn over the hills to Kirkjubour, the island's oldest cultural centre, where we see the ruins of the 13th century St. Magnus Cathedral and the 11th century church, still in use. We also visit the 900-year old "Røykstovan", the old bishopric, considered to be the oldest wooden house in Europe. We will moor overnight for those who wish to explore the town this evening.

Day 6 Mykines. Sailing from Torshavn at first light we cruise past the huge caves of Vagar that have been created by the Atlantic Ocean as we head to the westernmost islands of the Faroes. Mykines is one of the loveliest of the archipelago, it is wonderfully green and its single village with bright turf roofed houses and turf streets is a delight. One of the best walks in the Faroes can be found here at 'Lundaland' (land of the puffin) on the islet of Mtkinesholmur, which is connected to Mykines by a small bridge. There will be time to explore the lighthouse which was built in 1909, and view the large numbers of puffins and gannets that inhabit the island.

Day 7 Foula and Papa Stour. We return to Scotland this morning and visit Foula, one of Britain's most remote inhabited islands. Apart from a narrow coastal strip of more fertile croftland, Foula is an expanse of peat and moorland rising steeply



Gannets



Ring of Brodgar, Orkney Islands



Mingulay

to five dramatic peaks. In the long midsummer days, Foula's wildflowers provide a glorious burst of colour. The world's largest colony of Great Skuas compete fiercely with many Parasitic Jaegers for breeding territories. Over lunch we will sail the short distance to Papa Stour where we will use our Zodiacs to explore the stunning cliff scenery, sea stacks, arches, blowholes and coastal caves.



Harbour seal

Day 8 Unst and Fetlar. We continue our exploration of Shetland in the northern islands of Unst and Fetlar. Unst is Britain's most northerly inhabited island and at the Heritage Centre we will learn about the islanders' struggles over the centuries and the industries that have prospered whilst the Unst Boat Haven is dedicated to the history of the island's distinctive wooden boats which descend from Viking craft. We also visit Saxa Vord with views over Hermaness National Nature Reserve and Muckle Flugga stacks and home to thousands of gannets and puffins as well as rare arctic-alpine plants. Over lunch we sail to Fetlar, inhabited for over 5,000 years the island lays claim to being the first Norse landing site in the Shetlands. Known as the most fertile of the Shetland Islands the wildflowers bring colour to the landscape whilst the birdlife on the island is prolific. Our expedition team will lead walks ashore including the Fetlar Interpretative Centre and Museum we will learn about the wildlife and archaeological history of the island.

Day 9 Lerwick & Fair Isle. After breakfast, we will begin our exploration of this historic port with a walking tour that wanders through

its narrow stone lanes. We will visit the excellent Shetland Museum, containing artefacts from shipwrecks and the whaling era. Return to the Hebridean Sky for lunch as we sail to Fair Isle. The tiny population of sixty or so islanders always extend us a warm welcome. Enjoy a walk across the island, perhaps visiting the Bird Observatory, searching out the puffin slopes, or continue to the community hall for a cup of tea.

Day 10 Westray and Papa Westray, Orkney Islands. Today we explore the islands to the north of the Orkney mainland. On Westray we will visit Noup Head, an RSPB reserve on the sea cliffs and home to up to 100,000 nesting seabirds. We also see Notland Castle an incomplete fortress built in the 16th century by Gilbert Balfour, Mary Queen of Scots Sheriff of Orkney whilst in the main village of Pierowall we find the Westray Heritage Centre housing Neolithic carvings. Over lunch we sail the short distance to Papa Westray. Here you have time to stretch your legs on a number of island walks. You can choose to visit the 3500 year old Knap of Howar a Neolithic farm building that claims to be the oldest standing house in Europe and the 12th century St Boniface Kirk. In the north of the island is the North Hill reserve, home to Arctic terns and skuas and also

the extremely rare Scottish primrose. In the early evening we will meet at the Papay Pub for a well-deserved pre-dinner drink with the locals.

Day 11 Kirkwall. From the Orkney capital of Kirkwall we will head into the west of Mainland, Orkney's largest island. We will pass through gentle rolling landscape and into the Neolithic Heartland of Orkney; an area designated as a World Heritage Site due to its wealth of pre-historic archaeology. We will see the Standing Stones of Stenness, the Ring of Brodgar; a huge ceremonial circle of stones dating back almost 5000 years. We continue to the 5000-year-old village of Skara Brae and see the remarkable dwellings revealed from beneath the sand dunes by storms only 150 years ago. Time permitting we will also visit Birsay, the ancient centre of Viking power and explore St Magnus Church which dates back over 900 years. Return to the MS Hebridean Sky for lunch and an afternoon at sea.

Day 12 Leith. Disembark this morning. Transfers will be provided to Waverley train station and Edinburgh International airport after breakfast.

*Please note that the 19 June departure operates in the reverse direction from Leith to Oban.

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
Amundsen	Standard	£5120	£4820
Byrd	Superior	£5320	£5020
Mawson	Premium	£5580	£5280
Mawson	Corner	£5865	£5565
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£6240	£5940
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£6540	£6240
Shackleton	Hebridean	£7795	£7495
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£6420	£6120
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£6620	£6320

Price Includes: 11 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities, use of rubber boots and parka jackets onboard.

Not Included: Travel Insurance.

“

Although we will set sail with a schedule, this will not be set in stone as these are perfect waters for expedition cruising and our Captain and Expedition team will keep a flexible approach.

”



Voyage to the Land of the Polar Bears



An expedition exploring the Svalbard Archipelago aboard the MS Hebridean Sky
12th to 24th July* & 23rd July to 5th August 2017

Few places remain in the world where you can be assured that nature in its purest form will provide highlight after unexpected highlight. The region beyond Norway's North Cape is without doubt such a wilderness. The Svalbard Archipelago and the island of Spitsbergen especially, are astonishing places of glacial landscapes and endless horizons with lingering twilight located just 600 miles from the North Pole. Exotic and remote this archipelago lies almost as far north as there is land on our globe.

Escape with us aboard the MS Hebridean Sky to this land of glacier-coated fjords, beautiful bays, spectacular landscapes and abundant wildlife such as large colonies of walrus on beaches and passing ice floes, the amazing seabird cliffs of the offshore islands, Arctic foxes and of course the elusive polar bear of which there are somewhere between 3000 and 4000 in the region.

Using the fleet of onboard Zodiacs, we will go ashore on beaches, visit bird cliffs, hike across the tundra which is miraculously dotted with wild flowers and cruise along glacier fronts. Exploring Spitsbergen's nature, fauna and cultural heritage, we will visit sites where few people have set foot in one of the largest remaining wilderness areas in the Northern Hemisphere. Seabirds such as ivory gulls, guillemots, fulmars and kittiwakes will be our constant companions during our expedition and we will also look out for puffins and little auks which nest here in their millions. Taking full advantage of the long daylight hours we will embark on numerous Zodiac excursions to view the profuse wildlife up close accompanied by our expert expedition team who know the region well and whose knowledge will contribute much to our understanding with daily briefings and a series of lectures.

What To Expect...

Although we set sail with a planned schedule, experience of past expeditions in the region has proven that in order to achieve the most with our time, flexibility is crucial and changes to the itinerary may be made following a local reconnaissance, a change in the weather, ice conditions or wildlife sightings. Each day holds something new and below are some extracts from a ship's log from last season which will provide you with an idea of what to expect.

Bellsund, Svalbard - Wednesday 6th June 2012

Early this morning we sailed into the mouth of Bellsund, with snow-covered mountains rising to north and south and our destination for the morning ahead. After breakfast, we took two scout boats along the shore in the vicinity of Alstrandodden to check for the presence or past presence of polar bears. We saw some fresh-looking tracks, but no bears, and a small group of white reindeer, so after breakfast brought everyone ashore for a hike or slow meander. We watched the reindeer browsing on the vegetation and a lone male comfortably slouched on the snow, a large bearded seal fishing in the fjord, many flights of geese overhead and a few grazing on land, little auks, eider and black guillemots bobbing in the bay below us, purple

sandpipers and snow buntings flitting about the tundra, and the changing scenery as the sun shifted its way across the dramatic slopes and strata on the mountains. We returned regretfully to the ship for lunch, then immediately set off again to explore the front of Nathortbreen, a long glacier at the end of Vankeulen Fjorden. Six Zodiacs slowly wove between the stranded bergs. Back on the ship, we headed back out towards the mouth of Bellsund, watching for bears, and turned south into picturesque Recherchfjorden, with 1205 metre high Berzeliusstunden towering above us and several glaciers flowing smoothly down to the sea. The day continued sunny, mild and windless, adding to our intense pleasure at being more than 77 degrees north in this spectacular land. At last! Sue spotted a big polar bear in amongst some reindeer, each ignoring the other. The bear gave us about 15 minutes of viewing before it disappeared into a hollow, quite unconcerned about our presence. After that, a couple of fat bearded seals on ice pans seemed tame by comparison, but rounded out the day's haul of wildlife nicely. Laurie gave us some historical notes about this fjord, which has been in use for more than four centuries by whalers, miners, trappers and explorers. Roger reminded us of the lovely bird species we had seen today, from the highly vocal geese that Roger thought were not quite at the nesting stage yet to the flighty little snow bunting filling the air with exquisite sound. With that, it was time for dinner.



Moffen Island, 80°N - Friday 8th June 2012

A grey day greeted us as we approached Moffen Island, an oval ring of gravel immediately north of the 80°N line of latitude, where a large herd of approximately 100 walrus lay huddled together (thermotactilly, Laurie fount of all wisdom told us) just above the water. Others hauled their way up to join them and yet more rolled in the light surf or offshore. The herd was surrounded by dozens of eider ducks and some brent geese and a few skuas watched for their chance at an easy meal. For most of us, this was our furthest north point, but Laurie wasn't finished yet as, over breakfast, we steamed even further pole ward towards the ice edge to see if we could find some ice firm enough to walk on and/or some more walrus or polar bears. The first strip of jammed-together chunks of ice, perhaps a mile long, produced our first bear of the day. Callum had the watch and saw the lovely fat bear haul a skinned seal up on the ice, where a crowd of glaucous gulls were eager to share in the catch. We watched until the bear grew uneasy and moved away from his kill, at first plunging into the sea and then clambering back onto the ice where he appeared to be having some difficulty manoeuvring over the ice chunks and intervening water spaces, so we left him in peace and set off further north passing more ice strips, moving in and out of fog banks. We reached about 80° 40'N before we began to head back south. The day would have been complete with a couple of whales and, sure enough, up popped two bowheads, one of the rarest of northern whales hunted to near extinction by the last century.



Arctic tern



Polar Bear family



Svalbard

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Oslo, Norway.

Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to our centrally located hotel for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is free for independent exploration before we meet tonight for a welcome drink in the hotel.

Day 2 Oslo to Longyearbyen.

After breakfast in the hotel we transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Longyearbyen. On arrival transfer to the Hebridean Sky and sail this evening.

Days 3 to 11 Spitsbergen. A place of deep fjords, mountains and massive sheets of ice that cover much of the land, Spitsbergen is home to a wonderful assortment of wildlife; walrus, seal, reindeer, Arctic fox and Polar bear. Our itinerary for the next nine days will be kept flexible and in the hands of our experienced Expedition Leader and Captain allowing us to take advantage of the local ice conditions and maximise our chances to see the flora and fauna of the region as well as historical sites. Some of the places we hope to include will be Hornsund Fjord, where we can cruise along stunning glaciers which wind their way down to the sea. Send a post card from Ny Alesund the world's northernmost settlement where Svalbard reindeer roam through the town and Arctic terns nest along the roads. At Danskoya we will learn of two of the most courageous attempts to reach the North Pole started from this island and be guided around the

site which is littered with remnants from the heroic era. Whilst at nearby Amsterdamoya we learn about the whaling activities founded here in 1617.

On Nordaustlandet we can cruise along a massive icecap stretching down to the sea where it forms a long glacier front intersected by hundreds of melt-waterfalls. This is a favourite area for seals, and where there are seals, we hope there are bears. Meanwhile in the nutritious waters of the Hinlopen Strait we will find a large concentration of sea birds including a colony of 300 000 pairs of guillemots at Alkefjellet. On Edgeoya, the third largest island in the archipelago, we can explore the tundra with good chances of seeing walrus, arctic fox and reindeer.

Day 12 Bear Island. Spend the morning cruising through the rich waters of the Barents Sea looking out for minke and humpback whales, dolphins and sea birds. At lunchtime we will approach Bear Island. For nearly three centuries, Bear Island, which sits halfway between North Cape and Svalbard was the home of a major Barents Sea whaling station. Today, thousands of fulmars, kittiwakes, murres, dovekies and multiple varieties of gulls make their home on the jagged cliffs and rocky pinnacles that rise vertically from the sea, often enshrouded in a mystical fog. Cruise by Zodiac along the eroded cliffs and make a landing for a tundra walk among seasonal Arctic wild flowers and to search for Arctic fox.

Day 13 North Cape. We will spend a day taking a close look at the magnificent landscape of the area known as Finnmark. This wilderness area is home to many thousands of Sami people and we will learn of their lives and culture. There will be the opportunity to explore the wildlife and scenery on foot and by Zodiac. The fjords and unspoiled islands of this little-known area are just perfect for expedition cruising. We hope to use our Zodiacs to explore the magnificent bird cliffs at Gjesvaerstappen Island home to thousands of gannets, guillemots, puffins and razorbills. We will round the North Cape and see the monument erected on top of the

307 metre cliff of Mageroya Island and from the port of Skarsvag drive to the North Cape Plateau.

Day 14 Tromso to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London via Oslo.

**Please note that 12th July expedition operates in the reverse direction to that shown, from Tromso to Longyearbyen and is one night shorter as the itinerary does not include an overnight stay in Oslo. Full itinerary can be viewed online.*

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER - SAVE £200 PER PERSON OFF THE PRICES SHOWN			
Deck	Suite Category	12th July*	23rd July
Amundsen	Standard	£5490	£5715
Byrd	Superior	£5690	£5915
Mawson	Premium	£5940	£6165
Mawson	Corner	£6195	£6420
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£6695	£6920
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£6995	£7220
Shackleton	Hebridean	£7995	£8220
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£6690	£6920
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£6890	£7115

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Oslo on a bed and breakfast basis (applicable to 23 July departure only), 12 nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, all shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities, use of wellington boots and parka jackets onboard.

Not Included: Travel Insurance.

Across the Top of Australia



An expedition cruise to Australia's 'Top End' from Broome to Darwin aboard MS Caledonian Sky
26th August to 12th September 2017

The Kimberley region of Western Australia was the last great empty section of Australia to be explored, with European settlers arriving only just over 100 years ago. Ignored by the early settlers, the Kimberley is today one of the richest areas of the continent with record gold and diamond rushes, great cattle drives and hauls of pearl shells having put the region well and truly on the economic map. However, for all its latterly discovered wealth, it still remains one of the most untouched areas in the world. Covering nearly 423 000 square kilometres, the region has fewer people per square kilometre than almost any other place on earth and is truly one of the world's last great wilderness areas with a complex landscape which encompasses spectacular gorges and waterfalls, fascinating cave systems and an incredibly diverse variety of wildlife.

Rarely visited in any comprehensive way due to its wild and undeveloped nature, the Kimberley is a wonderful place for the genuine traveller to explore and perfect for expedition style cruising. There are so many highlights, it is difficult to know where to begin when extolling its virtues. From the tidal phenomena at the Montgomery Bay Reef to the Horizontal Waterfalls near Talbot Bay, from the hundreds of islands in the Buccaneer Archipelago to the gorges of the Mitchell, King George and Prince Regent rivers and from the fertile Ord River Valley to Lake Argyle. The whole vast area offers a cornucopia of natural world delights on a scale seldom witnessed anywhere else in the world.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Perth, Australia.
Fly by scheduled indirect flight via Singapore.

Day 2 Perth. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to the Duxton Hotel (or similar) for a two night stay.

Day 3 Perth. After breakfast in the hotel we enjoy a guided tour of Perth which will include a guided walk of Kings Park, perched on Mount Eliza. Absorb impressive views of the city and the Swan River and visit the Caversham

Wildlife Park. Enjoy a free afternoon to explore at your own pace before we meet tonight for a welcome dinner including a glass of the local wine.

Day 4 Perth to Broome. This morning enjoy a cruise along the famous Swan River to Fremantle which is famous for its wonderful beaches and well-preserved colonial architecture. We have time to explore before returning to Perth airport for our scheduled flight to Broome. On arrival transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky and sail this evening.

Day 5 Lacepede Islands. Arrive this morning at the Lacepede Islands, a series of low islands consisting of coarse sand and coral rubble lying atop a platform reef. This nature reserve has been identified by BirdLife International as an Important Bird Area as it supports up to 18,000 breeding pairs of Brown Boobies and Roseate Terns, possibly the largest such population in the world. Board the Zodiacs and explore the island's lagoon, keeping an eye out for many species of marine birdlife including Australian Pelicans, frigate birds, egrets, gulls and terns. The islands are also renowned as Western Australia's most significant breeding grounds for the Green Turtle, often seen nesting on the islands.

Days 6 & 7 Buccaneer Archipelago, Talbot Bay and Horizontal Falls. We spend two days cruising the Buccaneer Archipelago, made up of over 800 islands and home to a wealth of wildlife and fascinating rock formations. We will use our Zodiacs in Yampi Sound to make beach landings and enjoy a swim in the natural pool at crocodile creek, an area that defies its name. We will also visit Talbot Bay, known for its massive 12 metre tides that create an amazing spectacle, the unique Horizontal Falls. David Attenborough described the phenomena as "one of the greatest natural wonders in the world". Subject to tidal conditions we board local boats for an exhilarating, ride through the falls. This afternoon we will use our Zodiacs to explore Cyclone Gorge. Here we hope to see crocodiles and fiddler crabs in the waters whilst observing the unique geology and amazing rock formations.

Day 8 Montgomery Reef & Raft Point. An unforgettable adventure today as the magnificent Montgomery Reef 'rises' out of the ocean as the tidal waters cascade down in to the surrounding deep channels in an awesome display of the power of nature. Join our Expedition Team aboard your Zodiac to experience this natural phenomenon up close and discover the reef's diverse marine life including turtles, manta rays and reef sharks. Over lunch we position to Raft Point and use Zodiacs to land on the beach. Either enjoy time to relax whilst the energetic can climb to a secluded Aboriginal rock art gallery to view Wandjina art which is over 4000 years old. Enjoy the spectacular views from the top before returning to the ship.



Day 9 Hunter River & Naturalist Island. The Prince Frederick Harbour is home to some of the most spectacular scenery we will see. Soaring red cliffs, green rainforest and mangroves paint a beautiful canvas for our arrival as we sail through Nine Pin Head, the sandstone bluff that marks the mouth of the river. We follow the Hunter River to reveal the spectacular backdrop of Mount Trafalgar while to the north Mount Anderson rises to an impressive 480 metres. We will drop anchor at Naturalist Island and have the choice to join a Zodiac excursion around the island and mangroves looking for wildlife, especially crocodile, or an optional helicopter excursion to Mitchell Falls. This amazing four tiered waterfall drops 80 metres and is surrounded by the red escarpment lands of the Mitchell Plateau making the view from the air quite stunning. We will land at the top for a short walk to the lookout points and may even have a chance to swim in the river at the top of the falls.



Day 10 Vansittart Bay & Jar Island. We have the whole day to explore Vansittart Bay. First thing we will use the Zodiacs to land on Jar Island to see the Gwion Gwion Aboriginal art gallery. Discovered by Joseph Bradshaw in 1891 some of the art has been dated back over 17,000 years and is unique to this region. We will



Dugong



Local, Jaco Island



Raft point

walk to the two rock art galleries and see the rocky burial mound between the sites. Return to the vessel for lunch and this afternoon land on the Anjo Peninsula. Our onboard naturalists will lead various walks over the mud flats, rock pools and sand dunes looking for wildlife, birds and plants.

Day 11 King George River. At dawn we will start our 12 kilometre journey through some of the world's most spectacular scenery along the mighty King George River. Millions of years of erosion have created vertical sheer walls that resemble stacks of sandstone. The highlight is sure to be King George Falls, the highest single drop falls in the whole of the Kimberley and your Expedition Team will get you to the cascading waters. The more active may like to accompany some of the Expedition Team on a trek to the top of the falls for breathtaking views. For those that remain at the foot of the falls we will run a series of Zodiac cruises through the gorge looking for wildlife such as flying foxes, dugong and crocodiles.

Day 12 Wyndham. We will arrive in Wyndham before breakfast and have a choice of optional excursions. Choose to discover the Bungle Bungles, a distinct mountain range within Purnululu National Park – many visitors describe them as the highlight of their visit to the Kimberley region. Enjoy a scenic flight over the Bungle Bungles rock formations and a hike into Cathedral Gorge and Piccaninny Creek. Alternatively join the Ord River Cruise which will involve travelling by bus to Kununurra where we board our scenic cruise boat for a 55 kilometre scenic cruise along the mighty Ord River to Lake Argyle keeping an eye out for freshwater crocodiles in the water. Enjoy a land tour of Lake Argyle and visit historic Durack Homestead and view the lake from the scenic lookout.

For those who wish to remain onboard, the town of Wyndham is close to the port to enjoy at your leisure.

Day 13 At sea. Enjoy a relaxing day at sea.

Day 14 Jaco Island, East Timor. After clearing custom formalities in Com we will travel to uninhabited Jaco Island, part of East Timor's, Nino Konis Santana National Park, for a day of beachcombing, swimming and snorkelling. The island has been identified as an important birding area due to its population of doves, honey-eaters and sunbirds and members of our expedition team will lead birding walks. Snorkelling platforms will be set up for those wanting to experience the underwater world whilst others may prefer to relax on the white sandy beaches.

Day 15 At sea. A final relaxing day at sea to enjoy a lecture and enjoy the slideshow presentation of our voyage.

Day 16 Darwin, Australia. Disembark after breakfast and enjoy a full day tour to Litchfield National Park, famous for its magnificent waterfalls and where bird and wildlife species abound. We will see Florence Falls and enjoy an interpretive bush and monsoon vine forest walk. Visit the Buley Rock Hole and then travel on to Tolmer Falls for a magnificent view of the water cascading down to the deep waterhole at the base of the falls. Return via Wangi Falls, with its large crystal clear pool; maybe take a dip in the cool waters and Litchfield's amazing stand of termite mounds. On arrival in Darwin we will transfer to the Hilton hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay and meet this evening for a farewell dinner at the hotel.

Day 17 Darwin to London. After breakfast in the hotel transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 18 London. Arrive this morning.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER - SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£8295	£7795
Castle	Standard	£8495	£7995
Caledonian	Superior	£8695	£8195
Promenade	Premium	£8895	£8395
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£9195	£8695
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£9495	£8995
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£9895	£9395
Castle	Standard for sole use	£11295	£10795
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£11795	£11295

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, 12 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, two nights hotel accommodation in Perth and overnight accommodation in Darwin on a bed and breakfast basis, Welcome dinner in Perth, Farewell dinner in Darwin, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, visas, optional excursions.

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Covering nearly 423 000 square kilometres, the region has fewer people per square kilometre than almost any other place on earth and is truly one of the world's last great wilderness areas.

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Wildlife & Wildflowers of Western Australia

21st to 29th August 2017

Before embarking the MS Caledonian Sky in Broome we are offering the opportunity to join an escorted extension discovering the wildlife and wildflowers of Western Australia at the perfect time of the year.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Perth. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Perth. On arrival at Perth airport, you will be met by your local tour guide and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 3 Perth to Caversham Wildlife Park. After breakfast we will enjoy a guided tour of Perth and take a guided walk of Kings Park, perched on Mount Eliza. Absorb impressive views of the city and the Swan River and visit the Caversham Wildlife Park. Tonight enjoy a Welcome to Western Australia Dinner and a glass of West Australian wine.

Day 4 Perth to New Norcia & Coomberdale Wildflower Farm to Kalbarri. Travel to the monastic town of New Norcia today and enjoy a visit to the town's museum and art gallery. We will savour the offerings of the Spanish Benedictine monks and later, tour the Coomberdale Wildflower Farm. This

afternoon, continue to the town of Kalbarri for an overnight stay.

Day 5 Kalbarri National Park, Shark Bay. Visit Kalbarri National Park this morning, where wildflowers burst into bloom between July and October in a riot of colour. Head to Eagle Bluff (subject to road conditions) for its stunning views, then continue to Denham and visit the Shark Bay Interpretive Centre. Later, head to Monkey Mia and feast on a delicious seafood meal during an exclusive dinner tonight.

Day 6 Monkey Mia Dolphins. Start today with a magical encounter with the wild Monkey Mia dolphins that come close to shore to be fed (subject to appearance). The day is yours to spend at leisure in this coastal paradise. Like a local - this afternoon, enjoy a special wildlife cruise on Shark Bay. Perhaps spot a dolphin, manta ray or dugong.

Day 7 Shell Beach, Hamelin Pool Marine Nature Reserve, Geraldton. Travel to Shell Beach, a 60-kilometre beach covered by billions of tiny white sea shells. Then, head to Hamelin Pool Marine Nature Reserve to view some of the world's oldest living organisms, the stromatolites. Afterwards, travel

to Geraldton and undertake a town tour.

Day 8 The Pinnacles & Perth. This morning, travel to Nambung National Park to see the unusual limestone pillars of the Pinnacles. Return to Perth and meet our remaining passengers for dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 9 Perth to Broome. This morning enjoy a cruise along the famous Swan River to Fremantle. Fremantle is famous for its wonderful beaches, as well as its well-preserved colonial architecture. We have time to explore before returning to Perth airport for our scheduled flight to Broome. On arrival transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky and sail this evening.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy
Twin: £1545; Single: £2075

Price includes: Seven nights hotel accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis, dinner on days 3, 5 and 8, shore excursions, gratuities to guides and drivers, Tour manager, transfers, taxes.

Not Included: Travel Insurance, meals other than those specified, visa.



In the Wake of the Bounty



An epic voyage through the South Seas aboard the MS Caledonian Sky
20th November to 12th December 2017

Escape the British winter and join us in paradise on a leisurely passage through the South Seas to an area long associated with Captain Cook, Captain Bligh and the Bounty, as well as Gauguin. We can promise you an unforgettable voyage to a corner of the world which has lured adventurers and romantics alike ever since Magellan first sailed to these waters in 1521.

From Easter Island, blessed with an extraordinary collection of remarkable archaeological sites, we embark on our exploration of the South Pacific's islands and atolls. From coral reefs teeming with life to powerful legends that shaped history, each island is unique, each culture distinct. On the more remote islands, villages are still composed of thatched houses, set amongst the shade of the breadfruit and coconut trees. Many islands are important nesting grounds for seabirds and sea turtles and the lagoons everywhere are breeding grounds for countless species of fish.

We embark our vessel, the MS Caledonian Sky, in Easter Island. Lying some 2300 miles off the coast of Chile, it is the most remote inhabited island in the world. Easter Island, a tiny volcanic triangle was aptly named 'Navel of the World' by its early settlers. Surrounded by the vast Pacific, over 1200 miles from the nearest inhabited land, the island is an archaeological treasure. From here our island hopping adventure begins. Highlights of our cruise are numerous, but for many it will be the Pitcairn Islands, final destination of the Bounty. The mix of islands and cultures is a fascinating journey where we can discover the range of lifestyles, traditions, people and landscapes of some of the most remote islands on earth.

With our fleet of Zodiac landing craft we can explore inlets, bird sanctuaries and land in otherwise inaccessible places and although we set sail with a set itinerary, it is often the unscheduled events that become the highlight. We will be joined onboard by an expert expedition team including naturalists, marine biologists and ornithologists who will share their knowledge and enthusiasm during forays ashore and whilst onboard.

What To Expect...

Flexibility is the key to an expedition cruise; sometimes the whole day's schedule will be changed to maximise your experience, something that would not be possible on a large cruise ship. Each day holds something new and below are some extracts from the ship's log from last season which will provide you with an idea of what to expect.

Pitcairn Island

The long awaited day finally arrived. At dawn, the Caledonian Sky sailed towards tiny Pitcairn Island which was silhouetted against pink skies and as we approached closer still, a beautiful rainbow. What an amazing welcome to such a mystical place. By 08.00 there was bright sunshine and clear blue skies overhead as the zodiac shuttles between the ship and aptly named Bounty Bay began. On arrival we were welcomed at the small harbour by a group of Pitcairn islanders who provided us with maps and some basic information about the island before we made our way up the Hill of Difficulty to the main square at Adamstown. The Hill of Difficulty is a concrete road but gradually rises to 80 metres above sea, at the top we met at the square where Mayor Mike Warren said a few words to formally welcome us to the island. At the main square and on the roads either side, the islanders had set up market style stalls where we were able to buy much sought after souvenirs such as t-shirts, wooden handicrafts, books, postcards, jewellery and honey which are a key source of income for the 50 or so inhabitants living on the island. The expedition team arranged a series of guided walks around the island. Alex and Danny one group around the main historical points of interest of Adamstown itself. Stuart, Susan, Tony and Brent led a 1.5 hour walk along the Eco Trail towards the north end of the island through lush vegetation ultimately leading to Christian's Cave. This is where Fletcher Christian is said to have spent many hours looking out to sea watching for any ships that may approach from the horizon. Judith and Louis led a walk to the highest point



of the island to take in the stunning views of the surrounding ocean and down onto the Adamstown while Kit and Damon went on a scouting mission to St Pauls Pool, which is a natural rock pool on the eastern side of the island to see if it would be suitable for a swim in the afternoon. After lunch onboard the Caledonian Sky, a new set of activities ensued, kicking off with the much anticipated opening of the post office to buy stamps and souvenir first day covers as well as opening the doors to the island museum where we could see artefacts from the days of the mutineers including the original bible from the Bounty as well as more recent history. Mid-afternoon the weather started to change as the wind picked up and rain poured down over the island. While we returned slightly earlier than anticipated the buzz back on the ship was clear as everyone chattered together about how they had spent their day and the great conversations we had enjoyed with our island hosts. There was no doubt that thus far Pitcairn Island was a voyage highlight.



Pukarua, Tuamotu Archipelago

This morning we arrived at Pukarua Atoll in the eastern part of the Tuamotu Archipelago. Like many of the Atolls we have visited over the past week, Pukarua is surrounded by a coral reef without any pass. Wasting no time after our arrival, the Zodiacs were launched and the expedition team made their way to the Atoll to check the landing conditions. On arrival we were greeted by the villagers of Marautagaroa who greeted us with local music and placed colourful, fragrant lei over our shoulders as we hastily removed our Zodiac jackets! After taking a few moments to absorb the traditional atmosphere created by our Polynesian hosts, we were accompanied on a short walk through the village. We were immediately struck by how well maintained the village was with waist-high white-washed walls outside pretty little houses with Breadfruit and Lychee trees in the gardens. After our casual stroll, we turned a curve in the road and the beautiful turquoise lagoon came into view just beyond a stunning white sand beach. This was the setting for a series of demonstrations from our hosts. After our walk in the sunshine we were all very pleased to be offered fresh young coconuts and a seat in the shade while we watched traditional dancing, javelin throwing, basket weaving using the leaves of local coconut palms as well as how to crack open the husks of a coconut. The call of the lagoon was however hard for many to resist and in no time at all we were swimming and snorkelling in the sheltered waters with the locals. After all that swimming we re-charged our batteries with local delicacies such as sweet coconut bread, rolls baked with chicken and clams soaked in lime juice which were served up on large breadfruit leaves by the local women. As we returned to the ship, spirits were high and we sensed that the villagers had enjoyed it as much as we had. At the end of our visit we were also delighted to hear that we were able to give something back to the villagers in return as Caledonian Sky delivered much sought after eggs as they currently have no chickens!



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Santiago, Chile.

Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Santiago. Arrive this morning and transfer to the your comfortable hotel for an overnight stay. Rooms have been pre-booked so we can check in on arrival this morning. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to relax and explore independently.

Day 3 Santiago to Easter Island.

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Easter Island. On arrival transfer to Hanga Roa Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay. This afternoon we explore Rano Kau, the second oldest volcano on the island. Its huge Caldera (1.5 kilometres at its base) contains one of the island's three fresh water lakes. From the look-out at the rim of Rano Kau we continue on to the ceremonial village of Orongo, best known for the birdman cult ceremonies. The site was restored in 1974 and within the village you will see 47 restored houses. Continue to Ahu Tahai, another restored ceremonial site and one of the oldest, dating back to the 6th century. Return to the hotel for dinner this evening.

Day 4 Easter Island.

Today we enjoy a full day tour, visiting many of the different areas where moais (statues) can be found. We will see the volcano of Rano Raraku, the site where 95% of all moais were carved and today you will find nearly 400 statues in various stages of completion. A hike to the

top of the volcano's crater will not only reveal many statues but also a beautiful fresh water lake. We continue our exploration of the island with Ahu Tongariki, the largest ceremonial site in Polynesia restored in 1996 and Ahu Akivi where we find seven maoi built around 1460B.C and which face out to sea. Lunch will be a specially arranged barbecue on Anakena beach, home of Easter Island's ancient paramount chiefs and one of the prettiest coves in the South Pacific. In the late afternoon we transfer to the MS Caledonian Sky and sail this evening.

Days 5 & 6 At sea. Enjoy time relaxing on deck and joining the lectures from our experts onboard.

Day 7 Ducie Island, Pitcairn Islands. After a morning at sea we will experience expedition cruising at its finest as we land on one of nature's wildlife sanctuaries. A remote coral atoll with superb snorkelling and birding, Dusky Island is so remote that no threats to its native wildlife exist, and it is one of the rare places in the world where wildlife is relatively unaffected by man's presence. Our expedition team will lead a series of walks on the island.

Day 8 Henderson Island. We arrive at Henderson Island at lunchtime. This upraised former coral atoll has fascinating eroded rock formations, with giant blowholes flinging up tremendous sea spray. Very rare birds inhabit the island, including the

Henderson Island rail and Stephen's Lori. Numerous underwater ravines and crevices support a great diversity of fish and whilst walking on the island we will come across a profusion of coconut crabs.

Days 9 & 10 Pitcairn Island. We arrive this morning on the island of Pitcairn, famous as the final destination of the Bounty in the late 18th century. Meet the Anglo-Tahitian descendants of the mutineers of the Bounty, who arrived here 200 years ago and see the ship's anchor outside the courthouse. We will have time to explore this inspiring island setting and visit with islanders who display memorable stamps and handicrafts. Enjoy a Pitcairn welcome in the Town Hall before exploring the capital of Adamstown. The expedition team will also plan some walks to explore more of the island's highlights. We will stay overnight or if weather permits will sail to Oeno Atoll, three uninhabited islands situated around 75 nautical miles from Pitcairn, and spend a morning. It is an important bird area due to the colony of 12,500 pairs of Murphy's petrels that nest here alongside sooty tern and brown noddy. (Please note that access to the Pitcairn Islands is very weather dependent).

Day 11 Mangareva, Gambier Islands.

Mountainous Mangareva is capital of the Gambier group of islands and home to the remarkable St Michael's cathedral with a stunning mother-of-pearl altar. During our afternoon call,

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We can promise you an unforgettable voyage to a corner of the world which has lured adventurers and romantics alike ever since Magellan first sailed to these waters in 1521.

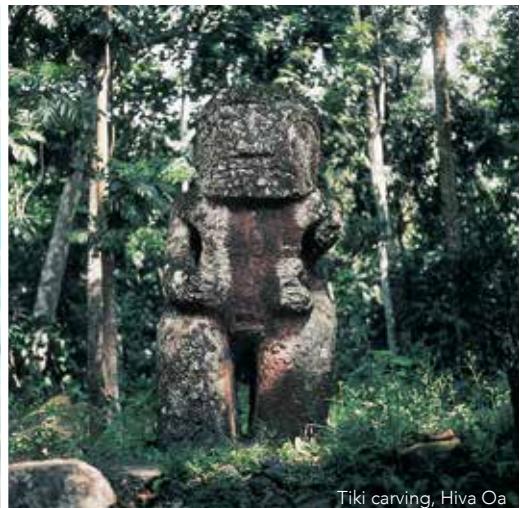
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Masked boobies, Henderson Island



Butterfly fish



Tiki carving, Hiva Oa

we will have the chance to join island nature walks, take an energetic hike up the 440 metre Mount Duff, named after the first European vessel to visit the island in 1797, or you can simply wander around the small village.

Day 12 At sea. We have a day at sea to enjoy the continuing lecture programme or find a spot on deck to relax.

Day 13 Pukarua, Tuamotu Islands.

Located on the outer fringes of French Polynesia, Pukarua faces thousands of miles of open ocean. Onshore, its small population lives in a spirit of cooperation and friendship, living largely on coconuts and the bounty of the sea. Arriving in the morning, we visit the small community and are enthusiastically greeted with genuine friendliness and lively music. We will have the chance to walk through the village or enjoy a swim in the lagoon before enjoying an afternoon at sea.

Day 14 Pukapuka. This morning we visit Pukapuka. To honour you and fellow guests, the islanders proudly decorate their tidy village with green palm fronds and flowers, and welcome you with a fragrant flower lei and entrancing dances. Sample traditional coconut treats and watch a demonstration of how copra – the dried meat of the coconut – is prepared for its various uses. We plan to travel to the inland lagoon where you can swim or snorkel to discover a bounty of vibrant corals and iridescent reef fishes in the warm waters. Relax on deck in the afternoon as we sail to our next island.

Day 15 Fatu Hiva, Marquesas Islands. After a morning at sea we arrive in the Marquesas Islands far removed from the rest of the South Pacific in everything from language and culture to geology. With a landscape of spectacular pinnacles towering over the cobalt Bay of Virgins, Fatu Hiva is one of the most floral and pristine

islands. Villagers will perform their traditional dances and demonstrate their handicrafts of wood carvings and tapa making. Afterwards our expedition team will run a series of nature walks either climbing to the view point, searching for birds with our ornithologist or a nature walk to the waterfall. Meanwhile later in the afternoon a snorkel platform will be set up for those who wish to swim.

Day 16 Hiva Oa. At first light we arrive at volcanic Hiva Oa. We will anchor off Atohuna where if we are lucky we may find mantarays before ashore. Our morning will be dedicated to Gauguin, the iconic artist of the South Pacific. We will visit his museum and make a pilgrimage to his final resting place, soaking up the landscape that inspired him to leave it all behind and go native. This afternoon we reposition the ship to Puamau and visit the Oipona me’ae temple, one of the best preserved archaeological sites in French Polynesia and home to the eight foot tall Tiki Takali. On our return to the ship you may wish to enjoy a swim from the beach.

Day 17 Nuku Hiva. Our last day in the Marquesas will be at Nuku Hiva, the largest of the Islands and the island group's economic capital. Today we will immerse ourselves in local culture and geography. Traditional Marquesan dancers welcome us to their village. We will visit the archaeological centres at Kamuihei and Hikoku'a and see the temples, petroglyphs and tiki. Meanwhile a series of island walks will investigate the nature of the island whilst there will also be a chance to swim from the beaches.

Day 18 At sea. Enjoy a relaxing day at sea as we cruise to the Tuamotu Islands.

Day 19 Takapoto, Tuamotus Islands. After a morning at sea we arrive back in the Tuamotus. On the atoll of Takapoto we will be welcomed by the local

population and treated to local fruits and demonstrations. We will enjoy walks with our expedition team and see the local church and swim in the lake. For those who prefer the underwater world a snorkelling platform will be set up with our Zodiacs.

Day 20 Rangiroa, Tuamotu Islands.

As one of the world's largest coral atolls, Rangiroa has a magnificent lagoon surrounded by small islets or motus, stretching as far as the eye can see. Today, a variety of activities

await. There will be a chance to tour a black pearl farm, enjoy free time in the enchanting local village of Avatoru or have a last chance to snorkel or swim.

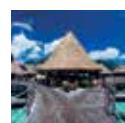
Day 21 Papeete, Tahiti to London.

Disembark and transfer to the airport for the return indirect scheduled flight to London.

Day 22 En-route.

Day 23 London. Arrive this morning.

Post-cruise Moorea Extension - 10th to 13th December 2017



Extend your time in Tahiti with our two night stay on the island of Moorea, the heart shaped island situated close to the main island of Tahiti and renowned as one of the most beautiful in the world. From our hotel base there will be the opportunity to enjoy water sports or alternatively you may wish to explore the island seeing the plantations of cotton, coffee, sugarcane and pineapples and the majestic mountains with views over the island and wonderful waterfalls.

Prices per person based on double occupancy

Twin: £495 Single: £695

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in Moorea on a bed and breakfast basis, transfers from the MS Caledonian Sky to hotel and hotel to airport.

Not Included: Travel insurance.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

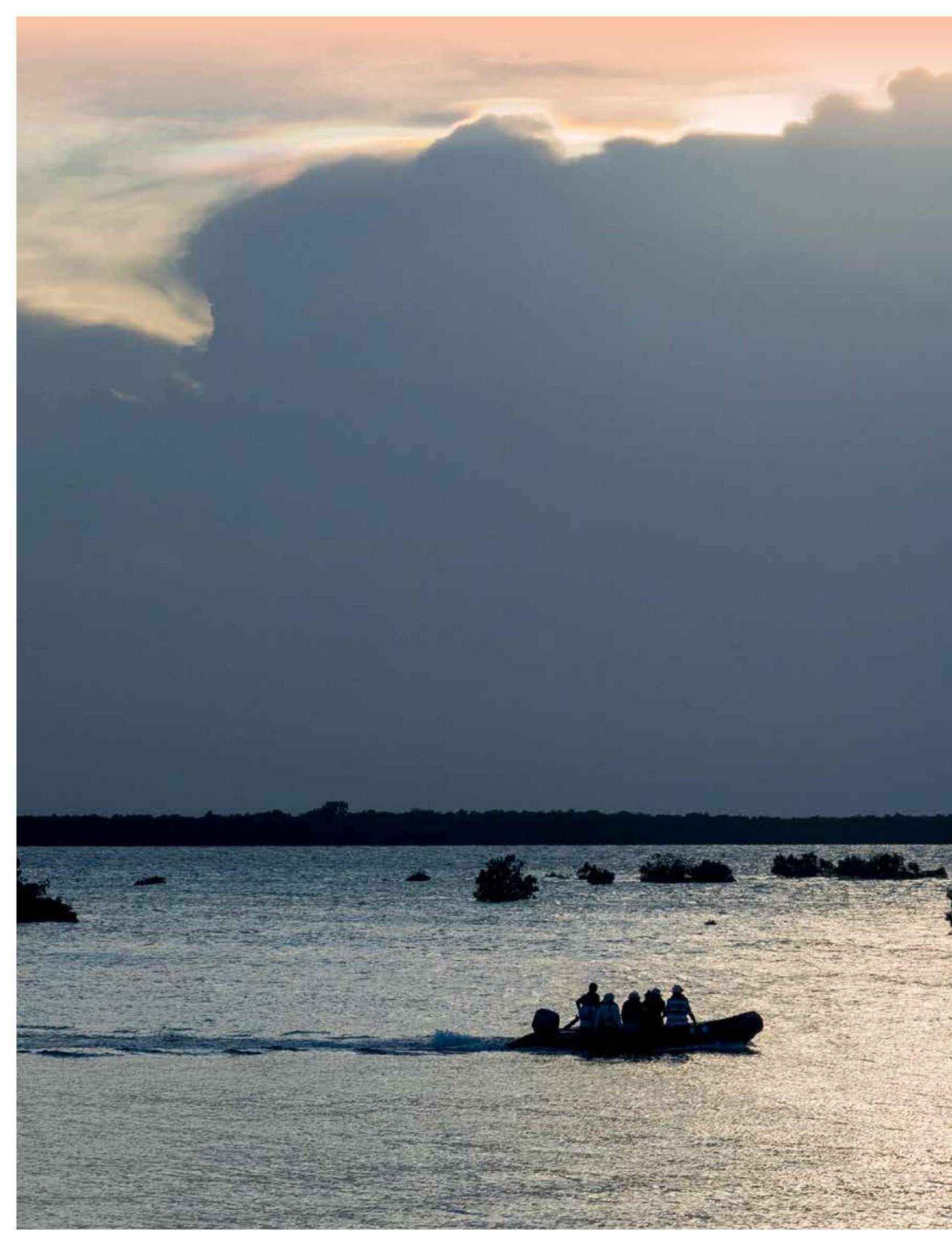
SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer
Castle	Standard Forward	£10495	£9995
Castle	Standard	£10795	£10295
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Promenade	Premium	£11795	£11295
Bridge	Deluxe Balcony	£12495	£11995
Promenade	Premium Balcony	£12995	£12495
Promenade	Owners Corner Suite with balcony	£13295	£12795
Castle	Standard for sole use	£14995	£14495
Caledonian	Superior for sole use	£15495	£14995

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Santiago on a bed and breakfast basis, overnight accommodation in Easter Island on a half board basis, 17 nights aboard the MS Caledonian Sky on a full board basis including wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner onboard, shore excursions, Noble Caledonia Expedition Team, transfers, port taxes, gratuities.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas.





“

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

Mark Twain

”





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Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.