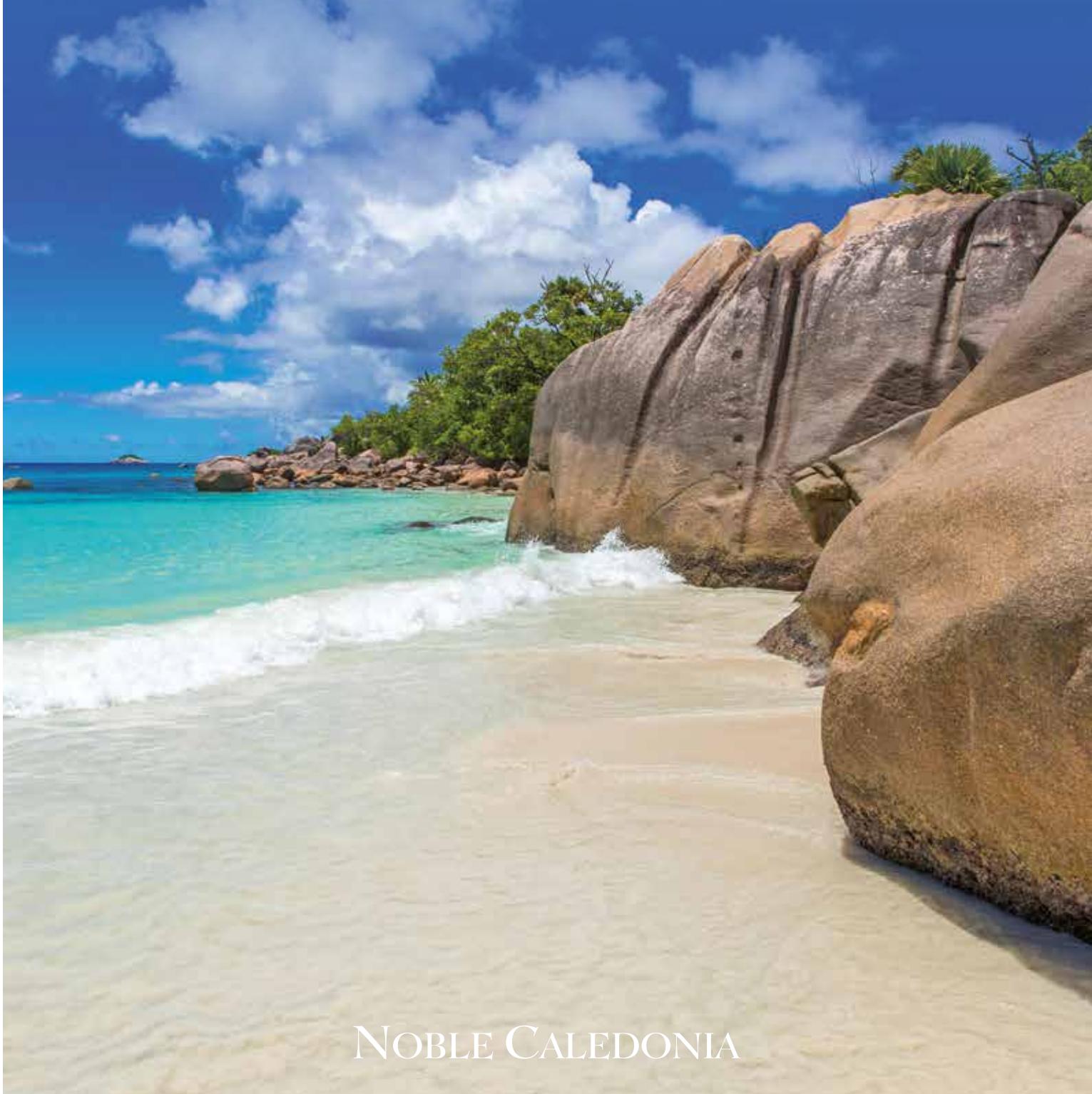


SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£500
PER PERSON

SMALL SHIP CRUISING IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

ABOARD THE MS ISLAND SKY

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2027



NOBLE CALEDONIA

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DEAR TRAVELLER

We are delighted to be bringing the all-suite MS Island Sky to the Indian Ocean in October 2027 for a series of four expeditions. Having operated vessels in the Indian Ocean for over thirty five years, we know the region well, as do our expert expedition team and if ever there was a region perfect for expedition cruising it is here, a timeless world of wonders both below and above the water.

The MS Island Sky is an ideally suited vessel for expedition cruising in the Indian Ocean, her size allowing us access to places larger vessels are unable to venture. In addition, with our fleet of Zodiac landing craft we are able to explore and land in otherwise inaccessible places. Your experience will be made all the more memorable by our expert crew and officers who along with our expedition team of marine biologists, ornithologists and botanists have many years of experience in the Indian Ocean.

Our itineraries represent a veritable feast of beauty and the natural world, from the unique flora and fauna of Madagascar to the enchanting, tropical scenery and magnificent birdlife of the Seychelles and the idyllic Maldives. Obviously, such beauty and serenity is best enjoyed with a small number of travelling companions and with the MS Island Sky, you have the luxury of travelling with just 100 or so fellow travellers. Your days will be spent exploring verdant rainforests and national parks on guided walks with our expedition team, swimming or snorkelling in the clear waters, visiting local villages or just relaxing on some of the beautiful beaches, each evening returning to our comfortable ship to rest and look forward to the next adventure. If you would like to combine some time exploring the idyllic islands of the Indian Ocean with a more cultural focus, you can choose one of the voyages that includes time in either Sri Lanka or Southern India.

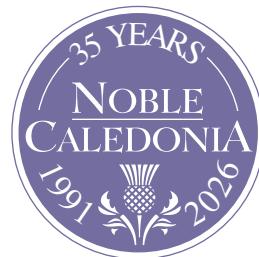
We hope you can join us on board and discover for yourself the bounty of the Indian Ocean including the wildlife from the lemurs and chameleons of Madagascar to the giant tortoises of Aldabra, the amazingly prolific birdlife and the mesmerising underwater world.

We look forward to welcoming you on board.

Yours sincerely



Tim Cochrane
Managing Director



NOBLE CALEDONIA
CHARITABLE TRUST

NOBLE CALEDONIA CHARITABLE TRUST

During our worldwide explorations over the years, we have come across many situations where help is desperately needed, be it following a natural disaster, civil unrest, abject poverty or to save an endangered species. To this end we established the Noble Caledonia Charitable Trust in 2013 (NCCT). It is our vision to use the Noble Caledonia framework to improve economic, social and environmental conditions in the areas we work and visit. Our onboard teams are uniquely positioned to identify projects and lead fundraising initiatives, whilst many of our guests genuinely care about the people and places we visit and want to make a difference. 100% of all donations go directly to the beneficiaries as Noble Caledonia Ltd covers all the administration costs and donates a percentage of profits annually. Details of our projects can be found on our website www.noble-caledonia.co.uk



MS ISLAND SKY



The Library



Deluxe Balcony Suite



The Restaurant

The much loved MS Island Sky is one of our two flagships and sister vessel to the MS Hebridean Sky. Both vessels were built in the same shipyard in Italy at similar times and share the same excellent attributes that make them two of the finest small ships in the world. With a maximum passenger capacity of only 118, a vessel of her size is capable of carrying many more but instead the MS Island Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks.

Your Suite

On board there are 59 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites. All feature a seating area and some have private balconies, whilst those on the Marco Polo Deck feature tinted, sliding glass doors allowing greatly enhanced viewing opportunities and quick access to the deck. The feeling of luxury is enhanced by the wood panelling and brass, which predominates throughout the vessel conveying the atmosphere of a private yacht. The passenger accommodation is arranged over five decks and each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, a large wardrobe, dressing table and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, television and a telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a safe, hairdryer, assorted Noble Isle toiletries, air-conditioning and heating. The comfortable beds in each suite can be configured as either double or twin.

Your Dining

With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the cuisine on board the MS Island Sky is of a consistent superior quality that befits such a vessel. In keeping with the informal atmosphere on board, when dining you are able to choose your seating arrangements and choice of restaurants at your leisure; whether that be joining a table of four to six other passengers in the elegant à la carte Restaurant or outside buffet-style on the Lido Deck in the evening sunshine. In the main Restaurant, breakfast is served buffet-style, with certain items cooked to order on request. Lunch and dinner menus offer plenty of choice, often reflecting the daily catch and local delicacies. The Welcome and Farewell dinners are a sumptuous five course affair. To enhance your dining experience further a selection of wines is included with both meals. Afternoon tea and pre-dinner canapés take place in either the comfort of the Lounge or the Club. Tea and coffee are also available 24 hours a day. Special diets can be catered for with sufficient notice.



Superior Suite



The Lounge



The Club

Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Columbus Deck featuring a selection of seating options from individual armchairs and sofas to side cushioned benches. Daily briefings given by the Cruise Director and talks from Guest Speakers and expedition staff take place in the Lounge. In addition to the main Lounge, there is also The Club, located on the Marco Polo Deck which features the main bar. The Club also features a 24-hour tea and coffee station. Towards the aft of the ship on the Columbus Deck is the Library. Well stocked with reference books pertaining to the destinations the vessel is visiting and a selection of essential reads, you will not find yourself short of excellent literature on board. A collection of games as well as devices to access the internet via the ship's satellite can also be found in the Library. Access to the ship's satellite Wi-Fi via your own device is complimentary on board (*signal strength varies depending on location and demand*). The main Restaurant, which can seat all guests at one sitting, is located on the Magellan Deck, and outside there is a rear Lido Deck located on the Erikson Deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade. Further to this on the top Explorer Deck there is an observation area ideal for spotting wildlife, complete with sun loungers for sunbathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. The Promenade Deck wraps around the whole ship giving outstanding views. There is also a small beauty salon on board with appointments made on request.

Your Comfort

The MS Island Sky is equipped with the latest safety, navigation and communications equipment along with roll stabilisers to minimise the ship's motion. During your voyage we hope to offer you the opportunity to visit the Captain and Officers on the Bridge to check the vessel's progress by charts and learn more about your journey. On board you will also find a clinic and Doctor and a lift that serves all decks. When at anchor our nimble Zodiacs will ferry you ashore or, on select cruises, enjoy Zodiac cruises getting you closer to the natural world.

Your Life On Board

The atmosphere on board is warm and convivial and more akin to a private yacht or country hotel in which you can learn more about wonderful destinations you are visiting in the company of like-minded people. There is a high ratio of crew to passengers and our friendly crew of 75 are mainly Filipino and Eastern European and our Captains are experienced mariners. After a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well-run and exceedingly comfortable ship where peace, high quality of service and attention to detail are the order of the day. A little music in the Lounge after dinner, Guest Speakers and informative port briefings and of course good food, all contribute to make any voyage aboard this wonderful vessel a memorable and joyful experience.

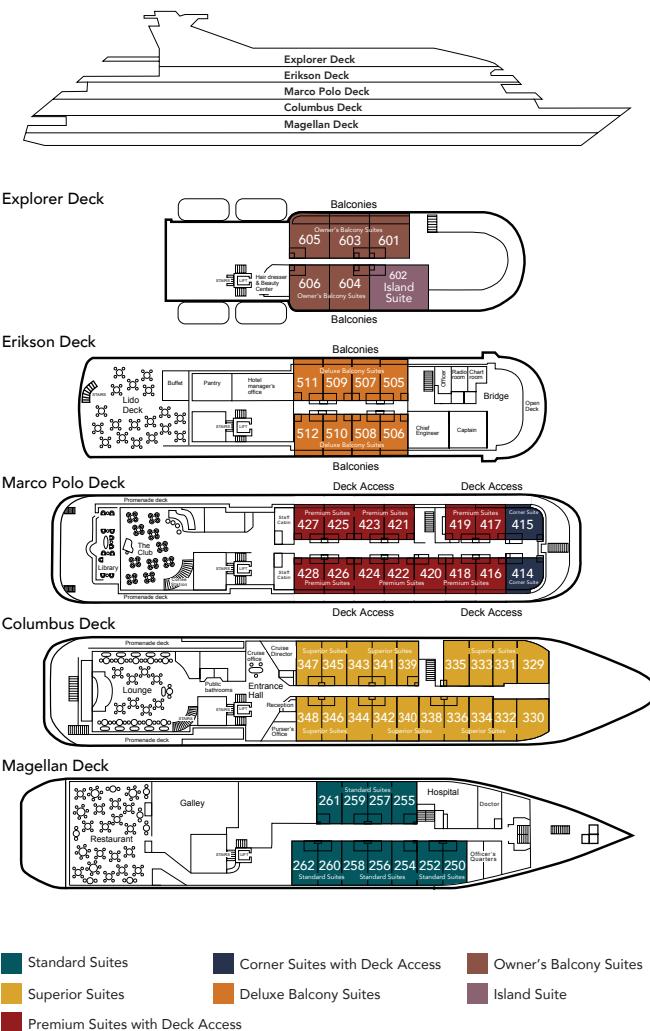


Please note that cruises with this logo visit out of the way destinations and will be accompanied by an expedition team. Landings and excursions will be made by Zodiac landing craft. These cruises will appeal to the more adventurous and those who enjoy the natural world.

Alfresco Dining on the Lido Deck



MS ISLAND SKY DECK PLAN



SRI LANKA TO THE SEYCHELLES

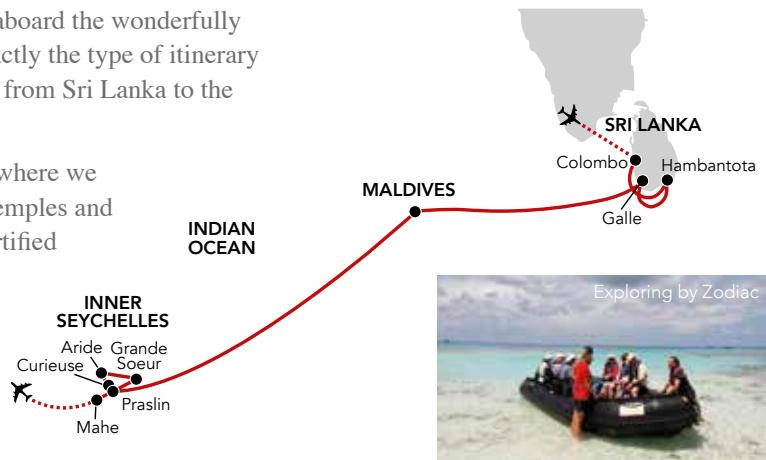
A voyage from Colombo to Mahe including the Maldives aboard the MS Island Sky

30th September to 15th October 2027



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 Sri Lanka to the islands and atolls of the Maldives and Seychelles.

Our voyage begins with a cultural focus in Sri Lanka where we spend time in Colombo with its Buddhist and Hindu temples and old colonial buildings before we explore Galle, the fortified old city founded by Portuguese colonists in the 16th century and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We will also discover some natural world wonders during our visit to the Bundala National Park, a haven for birdwatchers and Sri Lanka's first designated wetland site of international importance.



Following a relaxing day at sea our voyage will take on more of an expeditionary and natural world focus as we sail across to the Maldives and the Seychelles, two of the world's most pristine and picturesque archipelagos. With our fleet of Zodiacs we will explore some truly beautiful islands, land on otherwise inaccessible beaches, explore vast lagoons and coral reefs and encounter some wonderful tropical scenery. Our small ship is ideal for the region, allowing us to enjoy the peace and tranquility of these paradise islands, afterall it would be disappointing to find yourself in the company of hundreds on what was a deserted beach.

This unusual itinerary will appeal to those looking for something different, incorporating a fascinating look at Sri Lanka followed by island hopping through some of the most idyllic tropical scenery in the world. With the MS Island Sky as our base and, travelling with just over 100 fellow passengers, we can enjoy great food, good company, a convivial atmosphere and of course the expert onboard team and friendly crew which entices travellers to cruise on her time and time again.



shopping arcades that have been developed inside. There will be a choice of activities this morning including a cultural tour visiting the Gangaramaya Buddhist Temple, the National Museum and Independence Square. Alternatively, visit the Kelaniya Buddhist Temple, located on the outskirts of the city. It is said that Buddha visited and preached his doctrine here to a gathering of serpent-kings. Today worshippers come to lay sprigs of lotus flowers around the great white dagoba, light oil lamps, and sprinkle the base of the Tree of Enlightenment with purifying water. We will see the fine carvings and lovely frescoes, fascinating geometrically patterned ceiling paintings, and three important images of Buddha. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a leisurely afternoon at sea.

Day 4 Hambantota. From our berth in Hambantota there will be a choice of excursions today. You can choose to to visit Kataragama, one of the three most important religious sites in Sri Lanka and a popular place of pilgrimage for Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim and the indigenous Vedda communities of Sri Lanka and South India. According to 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. Alternatively explore Bundala National Park, a haven for birdwatchers and Sri Lanka's first declared Ramsar wetland. Located in the deep south of the island, the diversity of the park lies in its landscape, from dry thorny scrubland to sand dunes and salt marshes, to mangroves and lagoons. Take a jeep through the park and discover close to 200 species of bird as well as many species of butterflies, crocodiles, elephants, and deer.

Day 5 Galle. Awake this morning in Galle where we take a walking tour

The Itinerary

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

Day 2 Colombo. Arrive and transfer to the MS Island Sky. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

Day 3 Colombo. Sri Lanka's commercial capital and largest city dates back over 600 years having been a trading hub for sea merchants and colonial rulers. Buddhist temples, Hindu temples, mosques and churches reflect the various beliefs practiced all over the island and the beautiful facades of the old, colonial buildings contrast with the modern but elegant



Galle Fortress



Curieuse

of the impressive Galle Fortress. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is the port where the Portuguese first landed in Sri Lanka in the 16th century and was then extensively fortified by the Dutch during the 17th century. Also see the maritime museum, which is housed in an old Dutch house, the lighthouse, mosque, and church before taking a stroll through the narrow streets with their shuttered mansions and cloistered courtyards. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore Galle further at your own pace or alternatively join a tour to a nearby tea plantation where we will learn about the growing processes and enjoy a tasting.

Day 6 At Sea. Spend a relaxing day at sea as we cross the Laccadive Sea towards the Maldives.

Days 7 to 10 Maldives. We spend four days exploring the whole archipelago. This vast area of ocean is scattered with staggeringly beautiful dots of land surrounded by a cerulean sea. It offers some of the finest lagoons, beaches and coral reefs in the world. Our day to day schedule will be left in the capable hands of the Captain and Expedition Leader and we hope to include visits to a number of atolls as we sail from the northern islands to the south. Our expedition team will be on hand to take guided walking tours to explore the flora and fauna on land whilst our Snorkel Master will take us to some stunning reefs to view the wonderful coral and marine life.

Days 11 to 13 At Sea. Relax and enjoy our days at sea as we continue to the Seychelles. Watch out for the bird and marine life and listen to the informative talks by our expedition team. We are assured of warm weather so make the most of the fresh air, get lost in a novel from your deck chair and enjoy all the comforts of the MS Island Sky.

Days 14 & 15 Inner Seychelles. We have two days exploring the islands of the Inner Seychelles group. After clearing immigration formalities at Praslin 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. We also hope to include time on Aride which is one of the finest and most important seabird islands in the Indian Ocean. Over one million seabirds breed on the island including tropical shearwater, lesser noddy, frigate birds and roseate tern in addition to five species

unique to the Seychelles such as the Seychelles warbler and Seychelles magpie robin. The island is largely covered in native woodland, including the endemic Wright's gardenia, a shrub with beautifully scented flowers found nowhere else in the world. Also see Curieuse, a rugged island which was once home to a leper colony and now houses an eco-museum and visitor centre. The island is an important nesting site for hawksbill turtles and boasts endemic vine and mangroves which we explore on an island walk. Maybe also relax on Grande Soeur, an idyllic uninhabited island. Walk the island trails which link the white sand beaches and maybe catch sight of some of the island's giant Aldabra tortoises, or take a swim in the turquoise waters. Our final night will be spent alongside at Mahe.

Day 16 Mahe to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London. Arrive this afternoon.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON PLUS NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard	£10995	£10495
Columbus	Superior	£11395	£10895
Marco Polo	Premium	£11795	£11295
Marco Polo	Corner	£12295	£11795
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£12995	£12495
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£13495	£12995
Explorer	Island	£13995	£13495
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£10995	£10495
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£11395	£10895

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 14 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia expedition team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, Sri Lankan visa, Maldives visa, Seychelles Travel Authorisation.

ISLANDS & ATOLLS OF THE SEYCHELLES

Discover the beauty of the Seychelles aboard the MS Island Sky

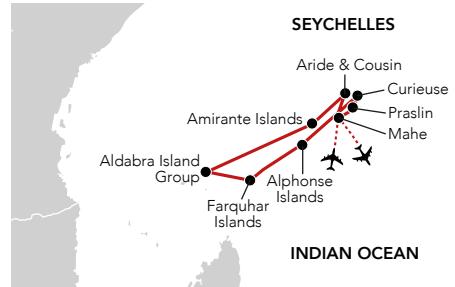
14th to 25th October 2027

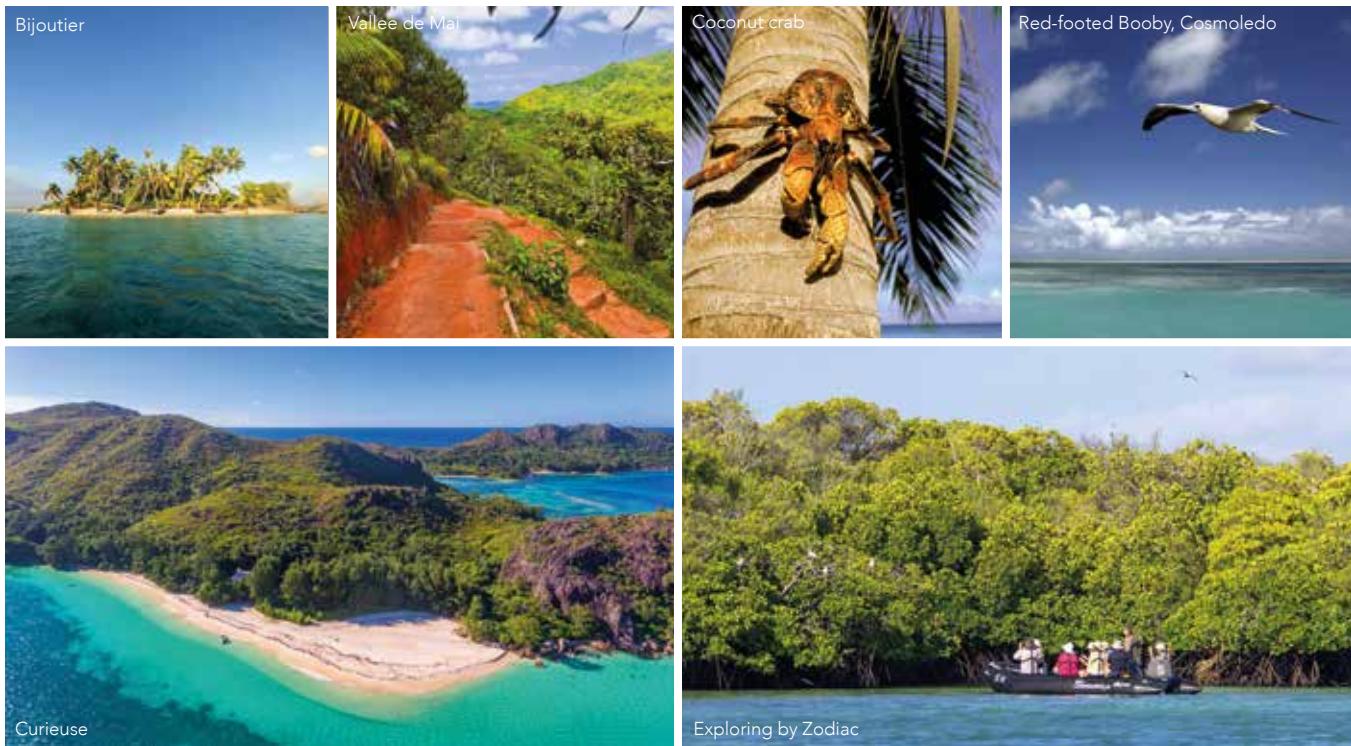


The Seychelles offers the visitor a tropical beauty that is difficult, if not impossible to match anywhere else in the world. Spread out over a vast area of the Indian Ocean, they offer everything from quiet sophistication and enchanting scenery to wild and uninhabited nature reserves, where the very remoteness of the islands has protected them from the worst excesses of mankind. We know the region well having operated vessels there for over thirty years and if ever there was a region perfect for expedition cruising it is here, a timeless world of wonders both below and above the water.

Obviously, such beauty and serenity are best enjoyed with a small number of travelling companions and the MS Island Sky is an ideal vessel. With a maximum of just over 100 passengers, an expert expedition team and our fleet of Zodiacs we can land on remote beaches, walk through verdant rainforest and national parks and get close to some unique flora and fauna. Those who have sailed with us through these extraordinary waters have experienced the magic of dropping anchor off a remote atoll at first light and watched the dawn illuminate the watery horizon. Then as the sun rises, have ventured ashore by Zodiac, landing on a deserted beach to discover the rich bird and marine life, the exotic flora and nature reserves as colonies of birds congregate overhead and in the seas a kaleidoscope of tropical fish swim amongst the coral.

Our journey will include all aspects of this extraordinary island nation from the developed Inner Seychelles with staggeringly beautiful islands such as Praslin to the lesser known and rarely visited Outer Seychelles. Here we will sail all the way to Aldabra, the world's largest coral atoll and a World Heritage Site. 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 only small vessels like the MS Island Sky are allowed to visit. It is therefore a great privilege to be able to land on the untouched beaches of Aldabra, the breeding ground for thousands of giant tortoises and home to some of the rarest birds in the Indian Ocean. To explore the abundant crystal clear waters of the vast lagoon and to set foot on atolls which have never been exploited by the hand of man is a rare experience and one we hope you can join us for.





Days 5 & 6 Farquhar Islands. Spend the morning at sea as we cruise to the Farquhar Group which consists of ten islands and atolls which cover an area of 370 square kilometres. We will spend two days here and will discover the Providence Atoll before we 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. Hawksbill and green sea turtles come to the atoll to nest and several of the Farquhar Group's islands are Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas. We will visit the island's settlement, enjoy walks looking for the birdlife or snorkel in the clear waters.

Days 7 & 8 Aldabra Islands. We have two days to enjoy the Aldabra group of islands and hope to include landings at Cosmoledo where a huge ring of twelve islands circles 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 and Biodiversity Area with all three species of booby found in the Seychelles including the last breeding site for the brown booby. We also hope to spot sooty terns and great frigate birds on land and have the opportunity to see turtles as we swim and snorkel in the lagoon. Close by is Aldabra, the island referred to by Sir Julian Huxley as "One of nature's treasures and should belong to the whole world" which 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 life, the skies are alive with varied birdlife and ashore giant land tortoises forage as they have done for millions of years. We hope to explore Picard Island with a short walk to see some of the thousands of tortoises and numerous robber crabs or swim in 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.

Day 9 At Sea. Spend a leisurely day on board as we continue our journey through the Seychelles. Maybe join a lecture and watch for wildlife on deck.

Day 10 Amirante Islands. Over lunch we arrive at the 28 islands in the Amirante Group which were discovered by Vasco de Gama in 1501 and are considered to be some of the most pristine and untouched islands in the world. If conditions permit we will visit Poivre Atoll which is made up of three islands. In the past the islands were used for vanilla, nuts, maize, cattle and pig farming but in recent years, the atolls' landscapes have become a popular nesting ground for bird species like Chinese and blue

heron, whimbrels, fodies, noddies and greater frigate birds. The sandy shores are also important nesting grounds for hawksbill and green turtles.

Day 11 Aride & Cousin, Inner Seychelles. Early this morning we return to the Inner Seychelles and hope to anchor off 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, lesser noddy, frigatebirds and roseate tern and also five species unique to the Seychelles such as the Seychelles warbler and Seychelles magpie robin. The island is largely covered in native woodland including the endemic Wright's gardenia, a shrub with beautifully scented flowers found nowhere else in the world. We will spend our final afternoon on Cousin, a lovely island and nature reserve which is surrounded on two sides by spectacular beaches. There will be the option to take a final swim from the beach or keen bird watchers may like to join a nature walk to look for some of the endemic land birds including the Seychelles sunbird and Seychelles fody.

Day 12 Mahe to London or Manchester. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled indirect flight to London or Manchester. Arrive this afternoon.

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 Price
Magellan	Standard	£8995	£8495
Columbus	Superior	£9295	£8795
Marco Polo	Premium	£9495	£8995
Marco Polo	Corner	£9995	£9495
Eriksen	Deluxe Balcony	£10995	£10495
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£11395	£10895
Explorer	Island	£11895	£11395
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£10195	£9695
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£10495	£9995

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia expedition team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, Seychelles Travel Authorisation.

WONDERS OF MADAGASCAR & THE SEYCHELLES

An expedition from Mauritius to Mahe aboard the MS Island Sky

16th to 30th November 2027



Join us aboard the MS Island Sky for this island hopping expedition through the Indian Ocean which will appeal to those who enjoy the natural world and all its wonders, travelling aboard a small ship and staying clear of the well-beaten tourist tracks. The all-suite MS Island Sky with her fleet of Zodiac landing craft is the perfect vessel for such an enterprise. Carrying just over 100 guests, she is a far cry from the latest breed of cruise ships and can visit small islands which larger vessels cannot access. Your experience will be made all the more memorable by the expert crew and officers, who along with our expedition team of marine biologists, ornithologists and botanists have many years of experience in the Indian Ocean and will provide commentary on all we see.

Setting sail 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 landscape before continuing to Madagascar where we will have four days to explore the incredible verdant and beautiful island and its unique flora and fauna. Continuing to the Seychelles, one of the highlights of the voyage will be our time spent exploring the Aldabra Islands, the last breeding ground of the giant tortoise and in addition to seeing some of these endearing creatures, we should also encounter dolphins, turtles and whales as well as countless birds including the flightless rail, the last flightless bird in the Indian Ocean. To explore the abundant crystal clear waters of the vast lagoon and to set foot on atolls that have never been exploited by the hand of man is a rare experience.

Our itinerary is a veritable feast of beauty and the natural world. You will witness the bounty of the islands, the wildlife from the lemurs of Madagascar to the giant tortoises of Aldabra, an amazingly prolific birdlife and a mesmerising underwater life.



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.

Nosy Mangabe: This morning we were anchored off the Masoala Peninsula and we disembarked the long and 'birder' walks first followed by the medium and short walks on a beautiful golden beach backed by primary rainforest. Once ashore we were on the lookout for creatures big and small, and we found them. The lemurs appeared, racing through the treetops. The inquisitive white-fronted brown lemurs came and had a good look at us. Frogs were everywhere. There were the green backed mantellas, quite brash in their black and green colours and tiny nondescript frogs laying their single egg in the stumps of bamboo. There were several leaf-tailed geckos that were so well camouflaged that they were almost impossible to see even at close range. We needn't have walked far from the landing stage at all. As we were starting to leave the lemurs came down to check us out and allowed for some great close up photographs. On walks inland, there were huge boulders of 3.2 billion year old granodiorite to be seen. The afternoon offered us an opportunity to land at the camp for a second time for an exploratory walk or a long Zodiac cruise down the peninsula. Both options were rewarded with excellent sightings of lemurs, chameleons and a variety of bird species. We were all back on board for a quick recap followed by dinner. Those who chose to dine outside were rewarded with a lovely sunset and the noises of the rainforest.



Aldabra: We were here at last – Aldabra! The sun appeared as a large orange ball and rapidly rose over the research station on Picard Island as the Zodiacs were readied for our landing. The timing of the tides necessitated a 7.30 am start. We were soon all ashore and split off into various groups for walks along the shore and into the undergrowth, a resident ranger accompanying each group. There was no need to search for the endemic, flightless land rails as they came to greet us emerging from beneath the ranger accommodation buildings or from the bushes, some of them shepherding chicks. Giant tortoises were obviously accustomed to people and wandered alongside us searching for any juicy leaf that may come within reach. The "raised coral" was much in evidence alongside the beach paths with very prominent pavement like protrusions clearly showing the constituent fan, plate and cushion forms of old reef growths. Out in the lagoon we could see the very characteristic mushroom, shaped champignon rocks. The dark shapes of rays could be seen swimming over the sand in the clear turquoise blue sea.



Masoala National Park



Exploring by Zodiac



Reunion Island



Mantella frog

The Itinerary

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

Day 2 Mauritius. Arrive and transfer to the MS Island Sky moored in Port Louis. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner on board as we sail this evening.

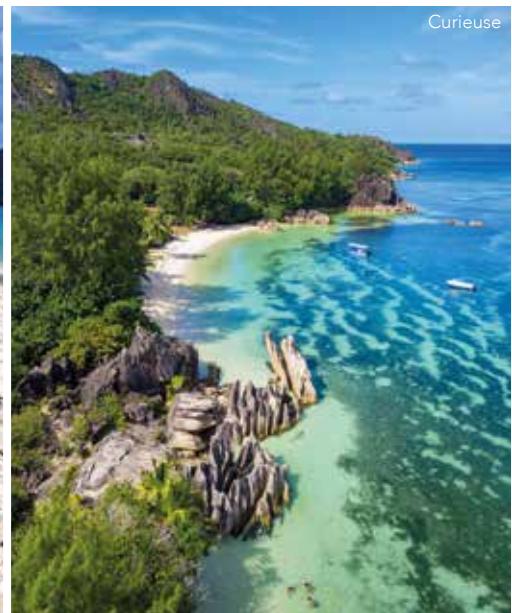
Day 3 Reunion Island. Arrive at breakfast in Reunion where we have a choice of excursions. On a full day tour we will visit the central highlands, where spectacularly rugged peaks of volcanoes cradle huge amphitheatres known as cirques, where mountains tower to over 10,000 feet and magnificent waterfalls plummet hundreds of feet. The rich soil and mellow climate create a verdant landscape, dotted with villages and towns with a distinct French atmosphere. Fields of sugar cane and plantations of tropical fruits, vanilla and all manner of spices perfume the air. Enjoy panoramic views from the Nez des Boeuf and visit the crater of Piton de la Fournaise. After a Creole lunch in a local restaurant, we will visit La Cite du Volcan museum. Alternatively, take a morning tour to a vanilla plantation in Saint Andre to learn about the history and cultural importance of the crop, an integral part of Reunion's heritage. Continue to Salazie, a verdant landscape and home to many waterfalls including the 'Voile de la Mariee' before spending some free time in Saint Denis on the way back to the ship for an afternoon at leisure.

Day 4 At Sea. Spend a relaxing day at sea as we sail towards Madagascar. Perhaps attend a lecture or simply relax on deck and enjoy the passing seascapes.

Days 5 & 6 Nosy Mangabe & Masoala National Park, Madagascar. Spend two days exploring from our anchorage in Antongil Bay. Discover Nosy Mangabe, a 520-hectare island reserve and one of Madagascar's most diverse areas of virgin rainforest. The island has served as an important research centre since the mid-1960s when several aye-ayes and other lemurs were released into the forest. Using our Zodiacs we will land

on a beach next to the forest and enjoy guided nature walks looking at the varied trees, plants and ferns and we 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. We will also explore Madagascar's largest protected National Park, the Masoala Peninsula, which comprises of coastal rainforest, flooded forests, marsh and mangroves. With luck, we may encounter the endemic red-ruffed lemur. The park is also home to various species of brightly coloured Mantella frogs, all manner of extraordinary chameleons and is a refuge for the endangered Madagascar red owl, Madagascar serpent eagle and many endemic bird species. A range of walks for all levels will be on offer, as well as a visit to the local village.

Day 7 Vohemar. After a morning at sea, arrive over lunch at the port of Vohemar. This afternoon, there is a choice of tours. Set out to explore Daraina Forest, a protected area in Loky Manambato. The undulating hills covered with deciduous and semi ever green forest are home to one of the world's rarest primates, the golden crowned sifaka, as well as Daraina sportive lemur and Sanford's brown lemur. The forest is one of the richest and most ecologically sensitive areas in the north of the island. Its isolation and lack of tourist infrastructure ensure an unspoilt and tranquil experience. Alternatively, for those that would like to experience a bit of local life there will be a tour of Vohemar. From the port, set out on a walking tour through the city taking in the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Visit the Catholic church and continue along the seaside promenade where pirogues line the beach, and fishermen untangle their nets. There will also be an opportunity to sample the local rice cake, mokary vary, one of the most popular street foods in Madagascar. Continue by tuk tuk to a nearby vanilla plantation, where we will learn about the process of cultivation, harvest and transformation of vanilla for export. Vanilla is the region's main economic resource. Return to the port by tuk tuk, with the opportunity to visit the local market for those who wish.



Day 8 Diego Suarez. This morning we will enter the dramatic harbour of Diego Suarez, also known as Antsiranana. The town has a cosmopolitan mix of inhabitants, including Creoles, Indians, Chinese, Comorans and Arabs. This morning, choose from a city tour taking in the Commonwealth Cemetery, the faded colonial grandeur of Place Joffre, and a baobab viewpoint at French Mountain; or alternatively, drive up to the Amber Mountain National Park at an elevation of 3,200 feet, where we will divide into short and long walking parties to explore the pristine rainforest. Amid the towering vegetation, we may encounter Sanford's brown and crowned lemurs, as well as chameleons, stunningly well camouflaged leaf-tailed geckos, and an array of endemic birds. We will depart this afternoon, continuing our voyage towards the Seychelles.

Days 9 to 11 Aldabra Islands, Seychelles. Arriving in the Outer Seychelles we have two and a half days to enjoy the remarkable Aldabra group of islands. Our itinerary will be in the hands of our Expedition Leader and Captain, who will monitor the local conditions to ensure we maximise our time here. Whilst our itinerary is flexible, we hope to call at 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 nature walks or snorkelling. We will also plan time on Aldabra, the island referred to by Sir Julian Huxley as "One of nature's treasures and should belong to the whole world". Aldabra is truly 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 included the extremely rare white throated rail, while the atoll is also home to the world's second largest colony of frigate birds and the largest crab, the coconut crab. Whilst exploring by Zodiac it is difficult to know in which direction to look first. The clear blue seas abound with life, the skies are alive with varied birdlife and ashore giant land tortoises forage as they have done for millions of years. We hope to explore Picard Island with a short walk to see some of the numerous tortoises and robber crabs or swim in 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. Meanwhile, at Cosmoledo a huge ring of twelve islands circles 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 and Biodiversity Area with all three species of booby found in the Seychelles including the last breeding site for the brown booby. We also hope to spot sooty terns and great frigate birds ashore and encounter turtles as we swim and snorkel in the lagoon.

Day 12 At Sea. Spend a leisurely day on board as we continue our journey to the Amirante Islands.

Day 13 Amirante Islands. This morning we arrive at the 28 islands in the Amirante Group which were discovered by Vasco de Gama in 1501 and are considered to be some of the most pristine and untouched islands

in the world. If conditions permit we will visit Poivre Atoll which is made up of three islands. In the past the islands were used for vanilla, nuts, maize, cattle and pig farming but in recent years, the atolls' landscapes have become a popular nesting ground for bird species like Chinese and blue heron, whimbrels, fodies, noddies and greater frigate birds. The sandy shores are also important nesting grounds for hawksbill and green turtles.

Day 14 Aride & Curieuse. Early this morning we arrive at the Inner Seychelles and hope to anchor off 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, lesser noddy, frigatebirds and roseate tern and also five species unique to the Seychelles such as the Seychelles warbler and Seychelles magpie robin. The island is largely covered in native woodland including the endemic Wright's gardenia, a shrub with beautifully scented flowers found nowhere else in the world. We will spend our final afternoon on the island of Curieuse, a rugged island that was once home to a leper colony and now houses an eco-museum and visitor centre. The island is an important nesting site for hawksbill turtles and boasts endemic vines and mangroves which we will explore during our island walk.

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

PRICES PER PERSON

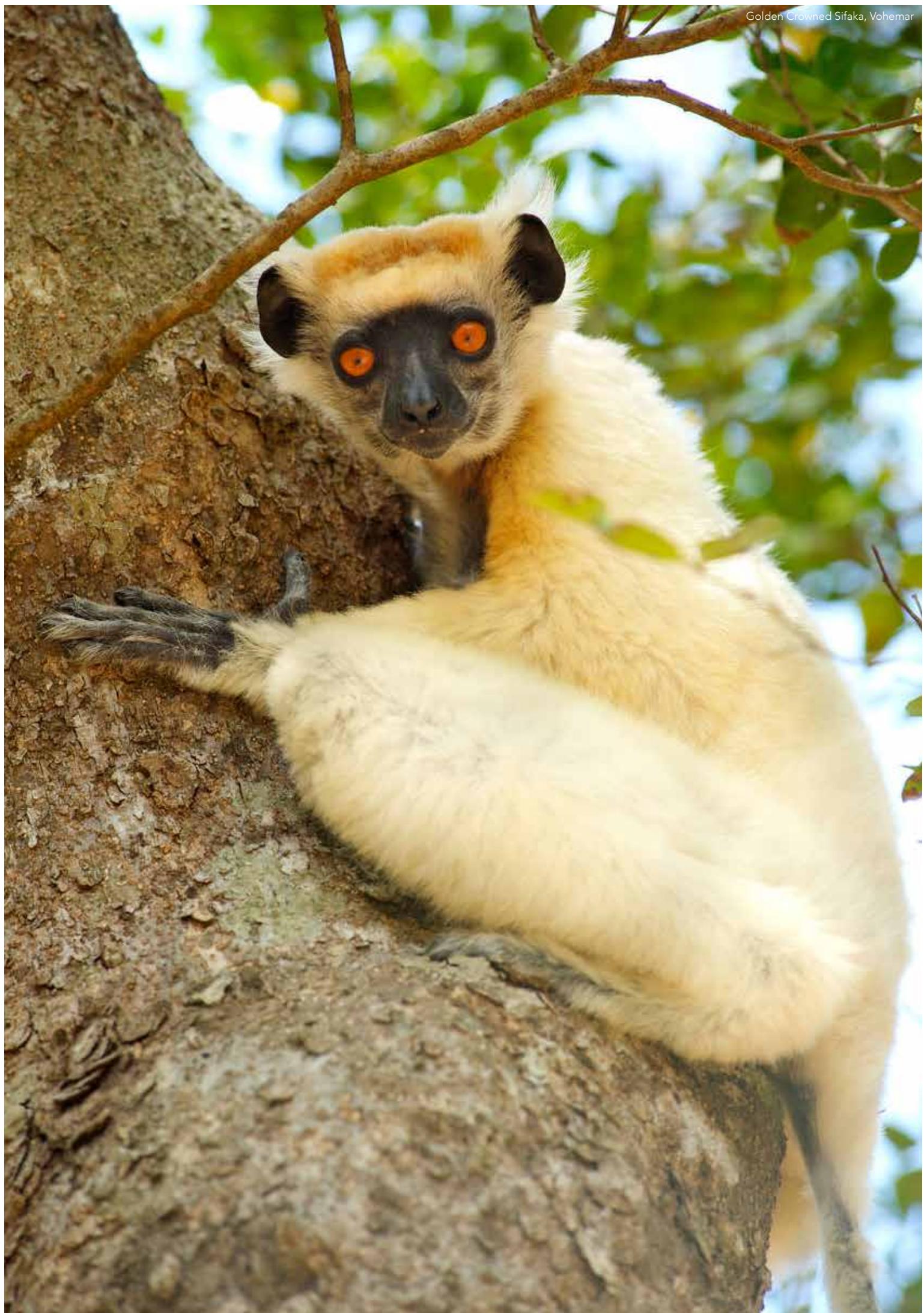
Based on double occupancy

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

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard	£10995	£10495
Columbus	Superior	£11395	£10895
Marco Polo	Premium	£11795	£11295
Marco Polo	Corner	£12295	£11795
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£12995	£12495
Explorer	Owner's Balcony	£13495	£12995
Explorer	Island	£13995	£13495
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£11995	£11495
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£12395	£11895

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 13 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • House wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia expedition team • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Airport taxes • Port taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, Seychelles Travel Authorisation.



PASSAGE TO INDIA

A voyage from Mahe to Mumbai including the Maldives aboard the MS Island Sky

29th November to 16th December 2027

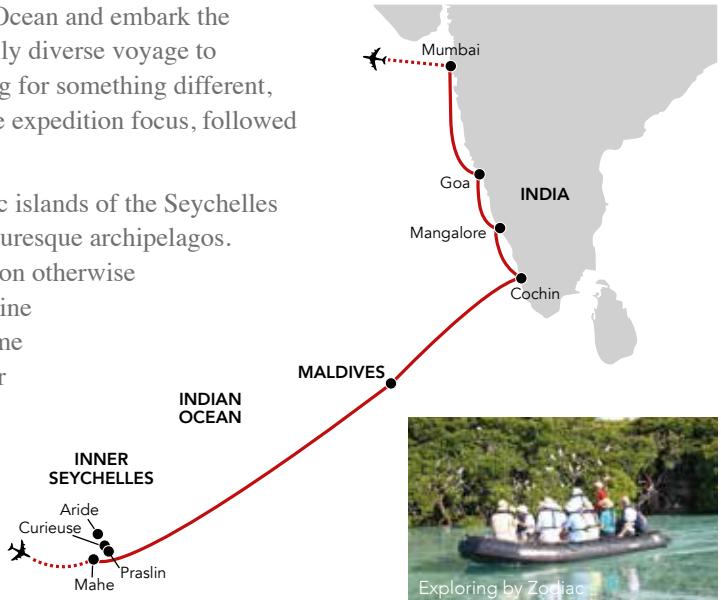


Escape with us to the warmth and beauty of the Indian Ocean and embark the MS Island Sky in Mahe as she undertakes a wonderfully diverse voyage to Mumbai. This unusual itinerary will appeal to those looking for something different, incorporating explorations of the natural world with a more expedition focus, followed by a fascinating look at southern India.

Our journey to Mumbai first allows us to explore the idyllic islands of the Seychelles and the Maldives, two of the world's most pristine and picturesque archipelagos. Using our purpose built Zodiac landing craft, we will land on otherwise inaccessible beaches, witness the magnificent bird and marine life, explore vast lagoons and coral reefs and encounter some extraordinarily beautiful tropical scenery. There is no better way to explore these tropical isles than from the comfort of the MS Island Sky which can island hop through the region with ease and allows us to enjoy the beauty, peace and tranquillity of the islands. After all, it would be disappointing to find yourself in the company of hundreds on what was a deserted beach or whilst exploring remote atolls.

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 in India will be Cochin, an ancient city of islands which has for centuries attracted traders and adventurers from Europe and the far Orient and from here we can explore the serene 'backwaters', a network of lagoons, lakes, rivers and canals. Continuing north we spend time in the coastal city of Mangalore which, with its rich history dating back centuries, coupled with its modern dynamism, is a vibrant tapestry of culture, commerce, and coastal charm. Finally, we will spend time in Goa with its interesting blend of Indian and Portuguese cultures and Mumbai, the perfect city in which to observe the colourful day to day life and the general hubbub of India.

Our voyage will be one of contrasts with explorations of the natural world combined with a cultural focus once we reach the shores of southern India. Returning to the MS Island Sky after each day of exploration you can enjoy great food, good company and a convivial atmosphere before the next day's adventure.



The Itinerary

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

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

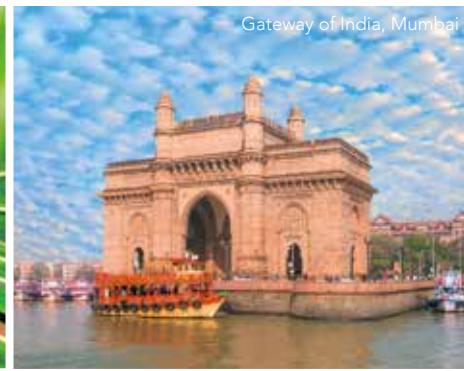
Day 3 & 4 Inner Seychelles. Spend two days exploring the islands of the Inner Seychelles group. We hope to include time on Aride which is one of the finest and most important seabird islands in the Indian Ocean. Over one million seabirds breed on the island including tropical shearwater, lesser noddy,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

paths looking out for the rare black parrot and enjoying its natural beauty. This evening we will clear custom formalities as we start our journey to the Maldives.

Days 5 to 7 At Sea. Relax on board, enjoying our time at sea sailing between the islands of the Seychelles and the Maldives. Watch out for 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 and enjoy all the comforts of the MS Island Sky.

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

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



Aride

Chinese fishing nets, Cochin

Se Cathedral, Old Goa

Day 13 Cochin, India. Our first call in India is Cochin, an extraordinary city with strong influences of Portuguese, Chinese, Arab, Dutch and British cultures still much in evidence today. There will be a choice of excursions today and you may like to visit the serene Kerala backwaters at Alleppey where we will board a local boat for a cruise past colonial warehouses and coconut thatched houses. For centuries, these canals provided a safe and efficient means of transportation for goods and people moving between the heartland of Kerala and the port towns along the coast. Even today, traditional barges, or kettuvallams, haul coconut, pepper, rice and other goods along the waterways. Alternatively stay in Cochin to explore the diverse mix of cultures and religions that together, with its strong trading past in spices and silks, makes for a fascinating city. During our guided tour we will discover Mattancherry Palace with its ornately decorated rooms including some marvellous ancient murals and also see the oldest European church in India, St Francis, and the ruins of the fort.

Day 14 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 between Hyder Ali and his son Tipu Sultan, and the British. 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. Arriving over lunch we will spend the afternoon learning about the cashew processing industry before we visit Gokarnatha 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 artwork is one of the city's hidden gems.

Day 15 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 they planned to set up a colony to seize control of the spice trade. Goa remained a Portuguese colony until 1961 when it became the 25th state of the Indian Republic. Whilst famous for beautiful beaches, Goa also offers wonderful architecture with a mixture of Hindu and Catholic styles, unique history, rich culture and pretty natural scenery. We spend the morning exploring Old Goa with its fine Basilica of Bom Jesus and the Neo-Classical Church of St Cajetan. Afterwards, you can choose to return to the ship for lunch and a leisurely afternoon or alternatively continue to a spice plantation where the cultivation of cardamom, chilli, cloves and coriander can be seen. We will enjoy the smells and tastes and have lunch whilst we learn about their uses in Indian life.

Day 16 At Sea. Relax as we continue our journey along the Indian Coast.

Day 17 Mumbai. This morning we will sail into Mumbai, a cluster of seven islands which were first home to the 'Koli' fishermen, who still occupy parts of the city shoreline today. Mumbai was derived from 'Mumba' the name of the Hindu goddess 'Mumbadevi' and 'Aai' – mother in the local Marathi language. First ceded to the Portuguese, the British Government took possession of the islands in 1665 before leasing them to the East India Company who founded the port and saw the city grow in size and importance. Choose to explore the city and see the prominent landmarks visiting the Gateway of India, Mani Bhavan, the former residence of Mahatma Gandhi when he stayed in Mumbai from 1917 to 1934, and Dhoobi Ghat where we can observe the vast open air Indian laundry. Alternatively, 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 features courtyards, shrines, remarkable statues and vibrant sculptures that date from the 5th to 7th century AD. The afternoon is free to explore further at your own pace.

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

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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

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Explorer	Island	£15995	£15495
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Fairy tern



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Cover image: Praslin.