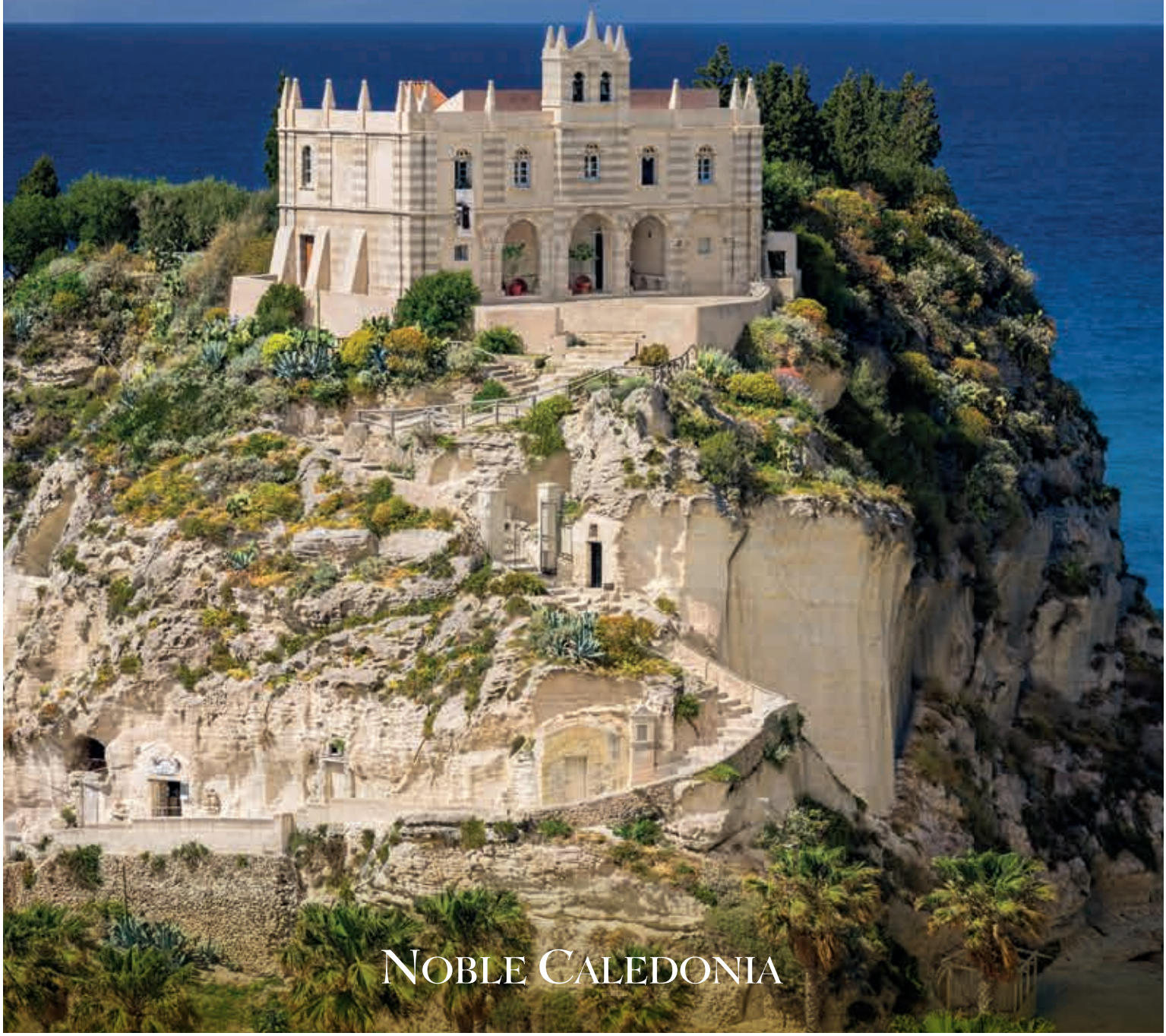
SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON

SPRING IN SOUTHERN ITALY & SICILY

A VOYAGE FROM THE BAY OF NAPLES
TO MALTA ABOARD THE MS MONET

17TH TO 27TH MAY 2028



NOBLE CALEDONIA


Cefalu

Join us aboard the 50-passenger MS Monet for this wonderful voyage as we sail from the Bay of Naples, along the Amalfi Coast to Calabria, onwards to Sicily and finally to Malta. Along the way we will discover historic ports, ancient sites and picturesque coastal towns and have timed our voyage for May, a perfect month to be in the region when the crowds of summer have yet to appear and the temperature will be pleasant for our guided tours.



Beginning with a day in Naples, you can choose to discover the architectural splendours of this vibrant city or venture to nearby Herculaneum, where the remarkably preserved remains offer an insight into life in the Roman world. Further south we spend a day in Campania's Cilento region with the option to either explore the ancient Greek temples of Paestum or visit a local farm to learn about the celebrated production of Mozzarella di Bufala, one of Campania's most distinctive culinary traditions. As we continue along the Calabrian coast, we will discover the charming clifftop town of Tropea before sailing past the volcanic island of Stromboli, where, weather permitting, we hope to witness the dramatic spectacle of its active volcano after dark.

We continue to the island of Sicily for an in-depth discovery of this unique island, the geography of which lends itself beautifully to exploration by sea, as most points of interest are close to the coast. 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 six days to explore the island, we will visit the stunning Greek theatre at Taormina, the Byzantine mosaics of Monreale Cathedral from Palermo, the superbly well-preserved Greek temples of Segesta and the Valle dei Templi, the charming coastal town of Cefalu as well as the timeless city of Syracuse and the beautiful Baroque village of Noto. Our included guided tours will be relaxed and informative and our local guides and Guest Speaker will greatly enhance your enjoyment and understanding of these remarkable sites which you will find yourself wanting to return to time and time again.


Amalfi coast


Stromboli


Paestum


Wall Mosaic, Herculaneum


Tindari Cathedral


Naples

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Naples, Italy. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Monet and embark. Enjoy welcome drinks and dinner as we moor overnight.

Day 2 Naples & Herculaneum. For our day in Naples, there will be a choice of excursions. A city tour will include the Piazza del Plebiscito and nearby buildings including the Galleria Umberto I, the Maschio Angioino and the Palazzo Reale. Inside the palace we will visit the Historical Apartment, which is accessed through the majestic Staircase of Honour, which Montesquieu described as the most beautiful in Europe. Also see the Teatro San Carlo which was built in 1737 and is the oldest opera house in Europe. Alternatively, visit Herculaneum, a wealthy Roman town which was completely submerged by volcanic mud following the 79 AD eruption of Vesuvius. Since its rediscovery in 1709, excavations have revealed beautiful public baths, villas and gardens of noble families, decorated with murals and floor mosaics, and the remains of a theatre. After lunch on board, enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore Naples at your own pace. You may wish to walk the bustling Via dei Tribunali in the historic centre or make your way to a pizzeria to enjoy one of Naples's most famous exports, before we sail tonight.

Day 3 Salerno. Overnight we will have sailed around the Amalfi coast to the ancient city of Salerno, our gateway to the Cilento region, with its small villages, coastal paths, archaeological sites, national parks, and renowned as the home of the Mediterranean diet. There will be a choice of excursions, and you may choose to visit the site of Paestum which was founded by the Greeks in 600 BC. This well preserved and fascinating site was rediscovered in 1752 and during our time here we will see the impressive Temple of Poseidon, the Basilica, Amphitheatre and Aethenian before spending some time in the museum adjacent to the site. Alternatively, learn about one of the main exports of the region during a visit to a farm where we will hear about the production of the local Mozzarella di Bufala. This afternoon will be at leisure to explore Salerno independently before we sail this evening.

Day 4 Vibo Valentia & Stromboli. Arrive this morning into the Calabrian town of Vibo Valentia. Founded as a Greek colony known as Hipponion and part of Magna Graecia, the town has, over the centuries, fallen under the rule of the Brutti, Romans, Normans, Arabs and Byzantines. We will see the ancient Norman Castle and the bell tower of San Michele as we drive to nearby Tropea, a clifftop village voted one of the most beautiful in Italy. During our tour of the historical centre, we will see the Norman Cathedral and the Sanctuary of Santa Maria dell'Isola, an 11th century chapel originally built on an island but now connected to the town by a causeway. We will also sample the town's famous delicacy of sweet red onions. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a relaxing afternoon on board as we sail towards Stromboli, the 'Lighthouse of the Mediterranean'. This evening, we will enjoy dinner on board and, weather permitting, we hope to witness the spectacular eruptions of the island's active volcano.

Day 5 Messina for Taormina or Tindari, Sicily. 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. Alternatively, join an excursion to Tindari, a town which was founded by Syracusan merchants during the war against Carthage in 396 BC. The ruins of the ancient city are relatively well preserved and the structure that impresses above all others is the 4th century Greek Theatre which is a marvel of acoustic engineering. However, the foremost attraction is the Sanctuary of the Madonna Nera containing the sculpture of the Virgin and Child in citron wood, which is said to have reached Tindari in an attempt by the faithful to keep it safe from the 8th century Byzantine Iconoclast movement.

Day 6 Cefalu. Enjoy a leisurely morning on board as we cruise to Termini Imerese from where we will drive along the coast to visit the picturesque fishing town of Cefalu. The town exudes typical Sicilian charm and during our guided walk we will see the Gothic-Norman style cathedral and Medieval Wash House before enjoying some free time to stroll among the narrow streets, perhaps tasting the famous Sicilian ice creams and cakes. Return to the ship in the early evening as we sail the short distance to Palermo where we will moor overnight.

Day 7 Palermo. After breakfast we will explore the Sicilian capital, 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 will visit the impressive 12th century cathedral which houses the royal tombs of Henri VI and King Ruggiero. Return to the MS Monet for lunch and this afternoon either enjoy some time to explore Palermo independently or join the excursion to Monreale Cathedral, said to be the most beautiful Norman Church in Italy, designed and completed by William the Good in 1174. With its thick walls and powerful towers, the exterior looks like an austere fortress yet it is the interior of this great cathedral which is its crowning glory. Here, the large nave, with


Salt Pans, Trapani


Plazza Duomo and the Syracuse Cathedral


Taormina

its side aisles and grey granite columns sets off the exquisite Byzantine mosaics on the walls above the arches.

Day 8 Trapani. This morning there will be the option to travel inland to explore Segesta, home to one of the grandest surviving Doric temples. See the unfinished temple dating from 424 BC as well as the theatre from where you can enjoy excellent views of the countryside and distant coastline. Alternatively, visit the fascinating salt pans that are located between Trapani and Marsala. This area, used by the Phoenicians who first understood how favourable the natural conditions were for salt extraction, has been declared a Natural Reserve and is full of colours thanks to the unique flora and fauna. Visit the museum of salt before we continue to a nearby farmhouse which is dedicated to promoting Sicilian produce including olive oils and wines which we will try before returning to the ship. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore Trapani at your own pace before we sail this evening.

Day 9 Agrigento for Valley of the Temples. 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 UNESCO World Heritage Site, Valle dei Templi, a series of Doric temples and the most captivating of Sicilian Greek remains, a grouping unique outside Greece. Surrounded in greenery of olive and almond trees, we can admire the Temple of Hera, the Temple of Concordia, the Dioscuri Temple, the Temple of Olympic Jove and the Temple of Hercules. Return to the ship for lunch and enjoy a relaxing afternoon at sea.

Day 10 Syracuse or Noto. Arrive this morning in Syracuse which was founded by the Greeks in 734 BC and by the 5th century was a political and military power throughout the Mediterranean, rivalling Athens as the largest and most beautiful city in the Greek world. This morning choose to 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 'Ear of Dionysius', a vast grotto with an amplifying resonance. Alternatively, visit the Baroque town of Noto, a picturesque city built in 1703 located on the terraced slopes of Mount Iblei. A guided walk along the central streets will reveal the 18th century Palazzo Ducezio and some Baroque churches. After lunch on board enjoy an afternoon at leisure before we sail this evening.

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


Palermo Cathedral

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

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

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck	£5895	£5595
C	Twin/Double with windows on Parisian/Lumiere Deck	£6295	£5995
B	Superior Double with windows of Lumiere Deck	£6795	£6495
A	Deluxe Double with windows on Lumiere Deck	£7295	£6995
D	Twin/Double with portholes on Camille/Parisian Deck for sole use	£7895	£7595

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 10 nights aboard the MS Monet on a full board basis • House wine, beer & soft drinks with lunch and dinner • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance.

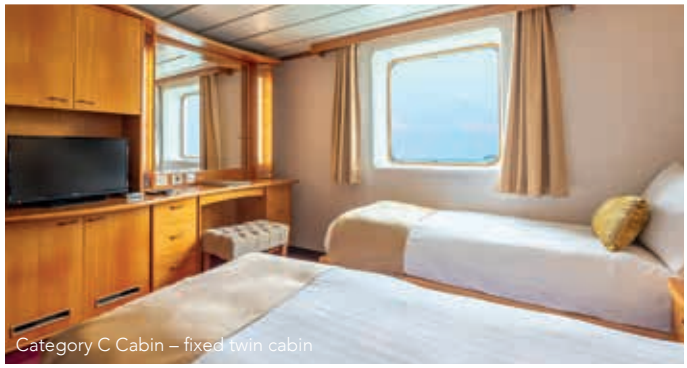
MS MONET



Ships of all different sizes and styles can make the selection of a cruise a somewhat hit and miss affair, and whilst some companies attempt to please everybody, we prefer to continue with our focus on small ships and to that end are delighted to have once again chartered the 50-passenger MS Monet for a series of fascinating cruises in the Mediterranean. Originally built in 1970, the MS Monet is a 220 foot motor yacht and was converted and launched as a passenger ship in 1998, fully renovated in 2016 and upgraded again in 2018. If you find large resort style vessels accommodating many thousands of passengers attractive then of course this isn't the vessel for you. However, if you prefer an informal and warm atmosphere more akin to a private yacht combined with an itinerary dedicated to both discovery and relaxation then you need look no further.



Category A Cabin



Category C Cabin – fixed twin cabin

Your Cabin

All the cabins on board the MS Monet are designed for comfort and have a warm and inviting feel with light fabrics and wood trimmings. Cabins range in size from 9 to 22 square metres and Categories A, B & C are equipped with windows, while those in Category D have portholes. Cabins 104-107, 112, 119, 205 and 210-215 feature twin beds and all other cabins have fixed double beds. Facilities include en-suite bathroom with shower, television, mini-fridge, safety deposit box, air-conditioning and hairdryer.

Your Space

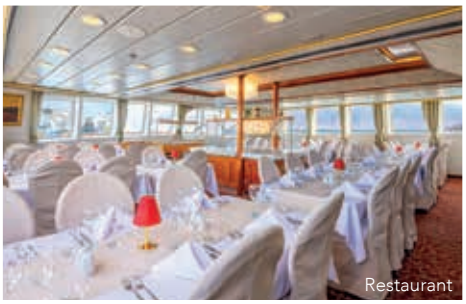
The public areas include a main lounge and bar with comfortable sofas on the Lumiere Deck, a restaurant located on the Parisian Deck and the Lumiere Open Deck al fresco dining area. The Lumiere Sun Deck provides a delightful sun exposed space with sun loungers and a Jacuzzi, ideal for relaxation and wonderful views.

Your Dining

Located on the Parisian Deck, the glass enclosed indoor dining room seats all passengers in a single sitting with unassigned seating and allows for wonderful panoramic views of the stunning scenery as we sail. The Lumiere Open Deck provides a covered area where guests can enjoy meals al fresco on some days, weather permitting. Food is served at the table or displayed on the hot and cold buffet stands. The menu is international, with a focus on local specialties. A choice of house wine, beer and soft drinks are served with lunch and dinner.


Lounge

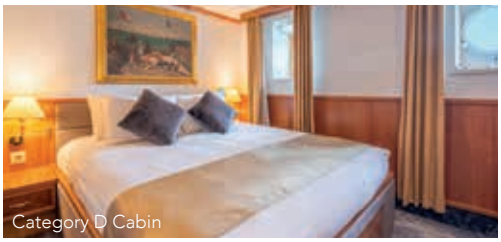

Lounge


Restaurant

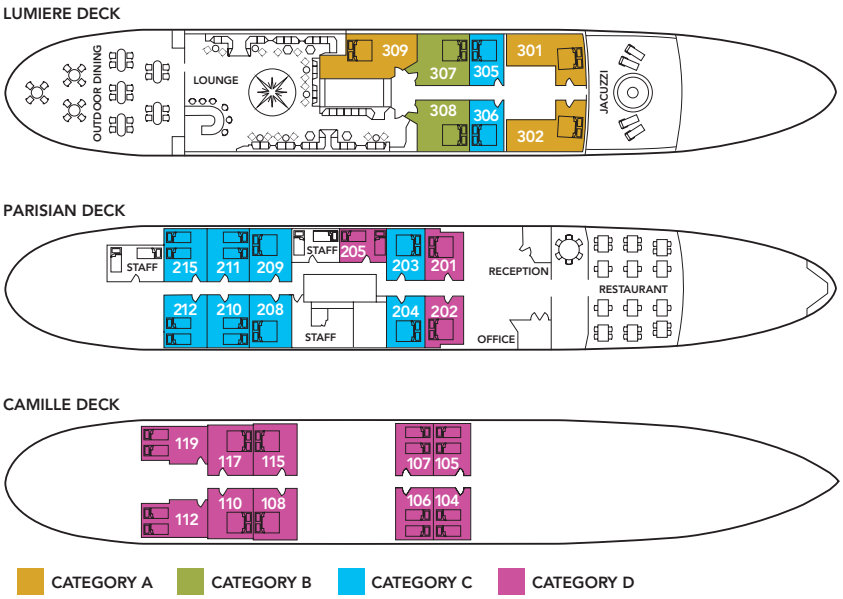

Lumiere Deck

Life On Board

In many ways the virtues of small ship cruising are best expressed by detailing what you will not find on board the MS Monet. For instance, there will be no organised entertainment and no black tie events. What there will be is a warm and convivial atmosphere in which you can learn more about the culture and ancient civilisations of the region in the company of like-minded people with a high level of service. During the day, life on board focuses around the indoor lounge area, and the indoor and outdoor dining spaces, as well as the open and inviting deck areas including the Jacuzzi. These are natural gathering places and perfect for relaxing in a comfortable chair with a good book or socialising with your fellow passengers and enjoying the views.


Category D Cabin

DECK PLAN



NOBLE CALEDONIA

2 Chester Close, Belgravia, London, SW1X 7BE
+44 (0)20 7752 0000 | info@noble-caledonia.co.uk
www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
Cover image: Church of Santa Maria dell Isola, Tropea.