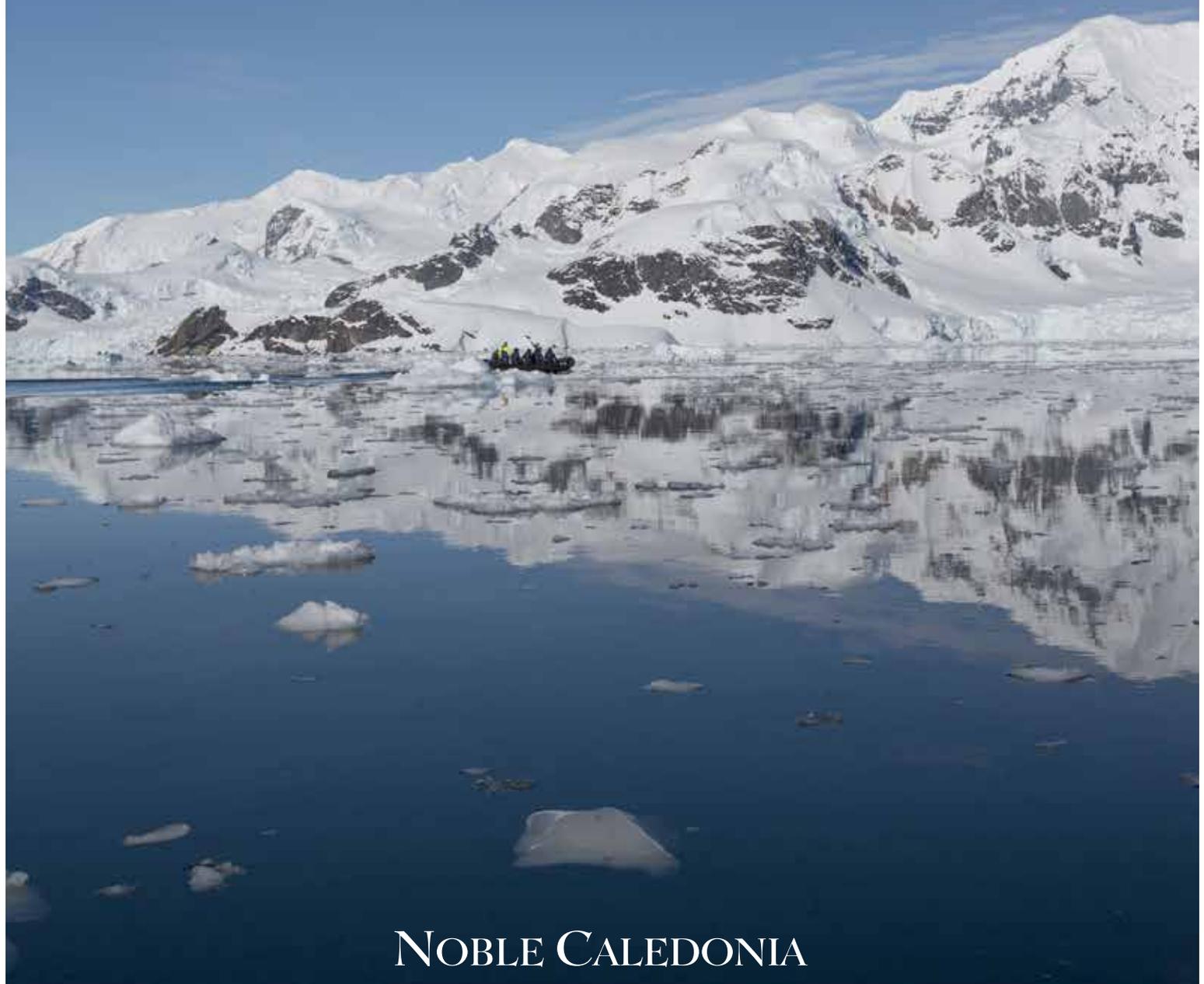


SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
£1000
PER PERSON

THE GREAT WHITE CONTINENT

AN ANTARCTIC ODYSSEY ABOARD
THE MS HEBRIDEAN SKY
IN ASSOCIATION WITH POLAR LATITUDES
15TH TO 29TH JANUARY 2020



NOBLE CALEDONIA

Even today after many decades of exploration, Antarctica still remains a world apart, a majestic last frontier surpassing even the most jaded of travellers' expectations. Join us aboard the all-suite MS Hebridean Sky and follow in the footsteps of researchers, pioneers, adventurers and discoverers on this expedition cruise to the sixth continent. The expeditions of Shackleton, amongst others, are a shining example of honour, strength and perseverance which today still inspire us and it will be a privilege to explore these same waters. For this expedition we are working with our US associates, Polar Latitudes, who have chartered the vessel.

It is hard to put into words the sheer grandeur of an Antarctic landscape. This most southern of continents, this desert of ice, is so unique and uncommon to man's experience, that even the most dramatic of photographs pale into insignificance when one is confronted by the sheer magnitude, beauty and wonder of an Antarctic landscape. Enormous icebergs rise from the sea, hillsides are covered with thousands of penguins and seals bask on icebergs dotted in the ocean; the sights, sounds and emotions will stay with you forever. For most travellers the Antarctic experience is a once in a lifetime visit, it is therefore important that the trip should be as rewarding as possible and this expedition is timed for what is regarded as mid-season which is usually the warmest weeks and when wildlife activities are in full swing. Most penguin chicks hatch in January, penguins hover over their fluffy chicks, young seal pups start appearing and whale sightings become more frequent as new channels appear in the melting ice. Also, daylight hours are long which increases our chances of seeing wildlife.



Antarctica is to be experienced, not just to be seen, and we believe the only way to do this is on board a small ship in order to maximise the time spent ashore. To enjoy the wonders of this icy paradise in the company of a small and enthusiastic party is the perfect way to achieve the most from a visit to this extraordinary place and travelling with you on board will be polar expedition experts and naturalists who will add immeasurably to your experience. In between our landings and while at sea, you can pass the time on deck looking for wildlife, attend the series of lectures by members of the expedition team and simply relax on board.

What to Expect

In Antarctica there is no such thing as a "typical" day. Flexibility is the key and sometimes the whole day's schedule will be changed to maximise your experience. Each day holds something new and below is an extract from the ship's log from a previous cruise which will provide you with an idea of what to expect if you choose to join this Antarctic adventure.



"Deception Island was our starting point today and it was an early start too. The ship sailed into the flooded caldera of the still-active volcano through the narrow channel called Neptune's Bellows. Upon leaving the caldera the ship headed for the nearby, massive colony of chinstrap penguins. However, nature had other ideas! Very soon a whale spout was spotted and then there were more and more seen. Four different species were involved – Antarctic minke, humpback, fin and killer whales. Extremely good views were had of the latter two species and many of the killers (spread

out again) were swimming alongside the fins. Towards the end of the encounter two male killer whales swam down the port side of the ship and another whale dived underneath us. On our port side Livingston Island slowly came into view as it emerged from the cloud. Eventually the cloud cleared completely and revealed yet another high, mountainous, snowy and icy realm. Distant spouts were seen in the sunshine and, as we approached our turning point for Half Moon Island, a plume of cloud and fog emerged from the strait between the islands. It was short-lived and our destination was soon in sight. The beach was a shingly one but the snowy ground behind it was covered in guano of the penguin kind.



Once up the slope we were able to get close views of the nesting chinstrap penguins. Other species seen were kelp gull, Antarctic tern, Antarctic shag, pale-faced sheathbill, southern elephant seal and Weddell seal. The big surprise was a single macaroni penguin. It was seen going

down the main penguin highway to the beach and was seen later on climbing back up the hill. Half Moon Island had certainly provided a very interesting and varied last Antarctic excursion."



"We managed to see an astounding five species of whales today! Fin whales were the numbers champion. We learned their tall spout, low profile, and curved dorsal fin set well back on its body. Not many more than eight humpback whales made an appearance, with at least five breaching off in the foggy distance. Killer Whales made a good showing with at least six. Two longfinned pilot whales were a treat for at least a few lucky viewers. A rare and elusive southern bottlenose whale stole the show; almost quite literally, then it made a cameo appearance during the Noble Caledonia cocktail reception hosted by Kristine Hannon. Not to be outdone by the whales, thousands of Cape petrels followed our wake, often floating on unseen air currents just out of reach."



Landing by Zodiac



Gentoo penguin



Leopard seal



Antarctica

The Itinerary

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

Day 2 Buenos Aires. Arrive this morning and transfer to the Sheraton Buenos Aires Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay. Rooms will be available on arrival. This afternoon choose to enjoy the hotel facilities or join an afternoon tour to visit the Plaza de Mayo, the Cathedral and the Cabildo (Old City Hall) before we make our way towards the most traditional neighbourhood 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 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.

Day 3 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 Arakur Ushuaia Resort & Spa for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day will be at leisure to relax or

explore the surrounding area.

Day 4 Ushuaia. Spend the day exploring independently or making use of the hotel facilities before our transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky for embarkation. Sail in the early evening and after the Captain's Welcome Dinner relax and take in the scenery as we travel through the Beagle Channel, past Magellanic penguin, rock cormorant and sea lion colonies.

Days 5 & 6 Drake Passage. As we make our way ever closer to the white continent, numerous polar experts will prepare us with presentations on everything Antarctic, from wildlife to history. Eventually, we will cross the Antarctic Convergence where we will notice a distinct drop in temperature as we enter the waters of the Antarctic Ocean. Those interested in citizen science can take part in sea bird sighting surveys, or help collect salinity samples and weather data along the way. We are likely to witness some spectacular sights, from icebergs to an array of seabirds and whale species.

Day 7 South Shetland Islands. In the waterways of the Antarctic

Peninsula, we hope to make as much time as possible to explore by inflatable Zodiac boats and marvel up close at nature's glory. Our Expedition Leader and Captain will create a flexible itinerary based on weather, ice, and opportunity. We will aim for the most scenic bays and channels of the Peninsula with stops at penguin rookeries, seal wallows, bird colonies and whale feeding areas, as well as sites of historic and scientific interest. Our first sight of land will likely be that of the South Shetland Islands. These highly volcanic islands offer amazing abundance and beauty. We may visit Half Moon Island, nestled inside Livingston's eastern shore, or conditions permitting visit historic Deception Island. Being further north, sub-Antarctic species are more commonly found here, including chinstrap penguins and southern elephant seals.

Days 8 to 10 Antarctica. As we head south across the Bransfield Strait, we enter the Trinity Coast and Gerlache Strait. Here we may explore picturesque Neko Harbour, sheltered Paradise Harbour, the humpback whale favoured Wilhelmina Bay, the striking Lemaire Channel, the

wildlife-filled Penola Channel, or the majestic Neumayer Channel. We may stop at an active scientific base such as Poland's Arctowski or Ukraine's Vernadskiy as well as a historic base such as Port Lockroy or Wordie House. Adelie, chinstrap and gentoo penguins are abundant, and Weddell and crabeater seals are often found hauled out to rest along with predatory Leopard seals and the assertive Antarctic fur seal. Minke and humpback whales are frequent visitors in the late season and orca sightings are also common.

Days 11 & 12 Drake Passage. As we leave this magical place and make our way north, heading again across the Antarctic Convergence and the Drake Passage, we will continue our presentation series and wildlife spotting.

Day 13 Ushuaia, Argentina. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to Buenos Aires. On arrival transfer to the Sheraton Hotel (or similar) for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day will be at leisure before we meet this evening for a tango show and dinner in a local restaurant.



Antarctic dolphin



Snow petrel



Humpback whale



Chinstrap penguins



Adelie penguin colony

Day 14 Buenos Aires to London.
After breakfast in the hotel transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Please note that flexibility is key to a successful expedition in Antarctica. Although we have outlined an itinerary above, this is only a preliminary plan, our exact route will depend on ice, weather conditions and the wildlife we encounter.

Day 15 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 Price
Amundsen	Standard	£9795	£8795
Byrd	Superior	£10395	£9395
Mawson	Premium	£10795	£9795
Mawson	Corner	£11795	£10795
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£13095	£12095
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£14595	£13595
Shackleton	Hebridean	£16595	£15595
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£14995	£13995
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£16795	£15795

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Two nights hotel accommodation in Buenos Aires on a bed and breakfast basis • City tour, tango show and dinner in Buenos Aires • Overnight accommodation in Ushuaia on a bed and breakfast basis • Nine nights aboard the MS Hebridean Sky on a full board basis • Wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board • Shore excursions • Expedition Team • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes • Expedition parka • Use of rubber boots on board.

Not Included: Travel insurance, kayaking.

NB: Please register your interest in kayaking at the time of booking as places are limited.



Exploring by Zodiac

MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



Alfresco Dining



Owner's Balcony Suite



The Restaurant

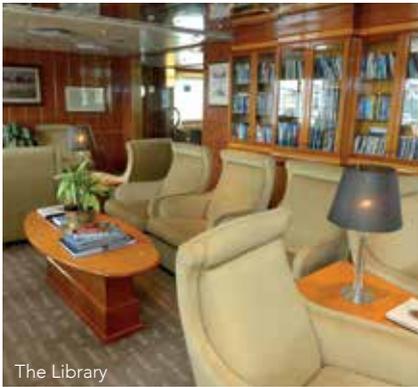
The MS Hebridean Sky is one of our three flag ships and sister vessel to the MS Island Sky and MS Caledonian Sky. All three vessels were built in the same ship yard in Italy at similar times and share the same excellent attributes that make them three of the finest small ships in the world. With a maximum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

Your Suite

On board there are 59 exceptionally spacious and well-designed suites. All feature a sitting area and some have private balconies. The 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 with those on the Scott and Shackleton Decks featuring private balconies. Each suite affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring vanity unit with sink and walk-in shower, large wardrobes, dressing table with large mirror and stool and excellent storage. There is a mini-fridge, flat screen television and a telephone in each suite. Bottled water, Egyptian cotton sheets, dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted Molton Brown toiletries and individually controlled air-conditioning and heating. Soft hues and blended tones enhance the traditional maritime style making the passenger accommodation an inviting and relaxing place to be.

Your Dining

With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the cuisine on board the MS Hebridean 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 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.



The Library



Superior Suite



The Club

Your Space

The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large Lounge on the Byrd 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 Mawson 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 Mawson 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 selection of games and two computers offering complimentary internet access can also be found in the Library. The main Restaurant, which can seat all guests at one sitting, is located on the Amundsen Deck, and outside there is a rear Lido Deck located on the Scott Deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade. Further to this on the top Shackleton Deck there is an observation area, complete with sun loungers for sunbathing, relaxing with a book or catching up with fellow travellers. The Promenade Deck wraps around the whole ship providing outstanding views. There is also a small beauty salon on board with appointments made on request. Throughout the vessel, carefully chosen artwork and photos reflect the destinations we sail to.

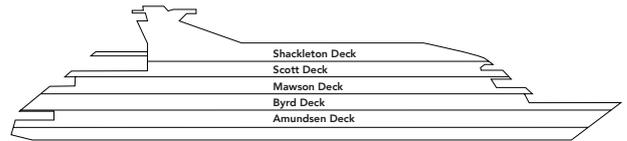
Your Comfort

The MS Hebridean 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.

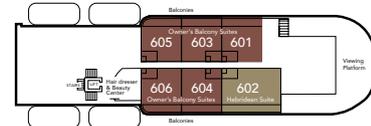
Your Life On Board

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 the 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 Scandinavian 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 or bar 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.

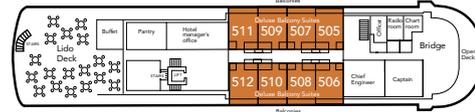
MS HEBRIDEAN SKY DECK PLAN



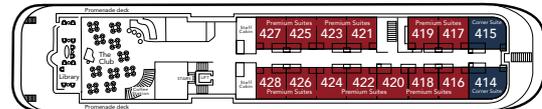
Shackleton Deck



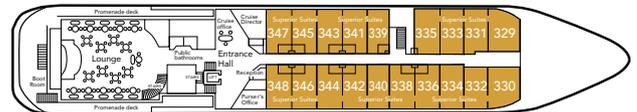
Scott Deck



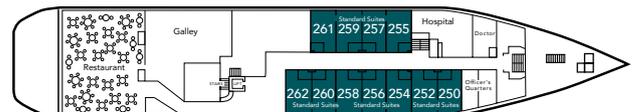
Mawson Deck



Byrd Deck



Amundsen Deck



- Standard Suites
- Corner Suites
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Superior Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Hebridean Suite
- Premium Suites

Please note that beds in each suite can be configured as double or twin with the exception of suites 601 and 602 which feature a fixed double bed.



During this voyage 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. This cruise will appeal to the more adventurous and those who enjoy the natural world.

NOBLE CALEDONIA

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