

NOBLE CALEDONIA

SPECIAL
OFFER - SAVE
UP TO
£1000
PER PERSON

PATAGONIA
& THE
TOTAL SOLAR
ECLIPSE

DISCOVER PATAGONIA & THE CHILEAN FJORDS AND EXPERIENCE
THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE ABOARD THE MS ISLAND SKY

1ST TO 18TH DECEMBER 2020



Torres del Paine National Park

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 Island Sky and enjoy the wonders of this magical country, some of which only small ships have access to. With our fleet of onboard Zodiacs we will be able to explore deep into the fjord system away from the larger cruise vessels which may be in the region.

Whilst an undoubted highlight of the cruise is the opportunity to experience a total solar eclipse, there is much more included to occupy us. Wildlife abounds 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.



Solar Eclipse



Pink flamingos



Zodiac landing, Cape Horn

Total Solar Eclipse of 2020

During this cruise we will have the opportunity to experience an incredible astronomical phenomenon – the total solar eclipse. On 14 December 2020, the eclipse will paint a path through the sky over parts of Argentina and Chile and, aboard our small vessel we will be able to best position ourselves to be in the path of totality be it ashore or at sea. Witnessing a total solar eclipse is an incredible experience; this rare celestial event occurs only when a New Moon aligns perfectly with the Sun as we see it, throwing a shadow onto the planet, and is only visible from a small area on earth. It is in the path of the shadow, away from the light pollution, that we hope to plummet into complete darkness for over two minutes as day turns into night. For this brief interval in time, the world as we know it completely transforms and our experts will be on hand throughout to enlighten us about this extraordinary phenomenon and its various manifestations, from flickering shimmering waves of light and dark to the approaching shadow of the moon and the "diamond ring", the remaining last bead of light before totality.

Guest Speakers



Ian Ridpath

Ian Ridpath is an award-winning astronomy author and populariser with over 40 books to his name. He is the editor of the authoritative Oxford Dictionary of Astronomy and the last three editions of Norton's Star Atlas, reputedly the best-known star atlas in the world. His books include three standard introductions to the night sky for amateurs: the Collins Stars & Planets Guide, Collins

Gem Stars, and The Monthly Sky Guide. Another of his books, Star Tales, is about the history and mythology of the constellations, a particular interest of Ian's which will form the subject of one of his talks. Ian is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and a member of the International Astronomical Union. He has been a member of the Royal Astronomical Society's team of outreach speakers since 2008. Ian is a recipient of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific's award for outstanding contributions to the public understanding and appreciation of astronomy, the most prestigious award of its kind, past recipients of which have included Carl Sagan and Patrick Moore. He lives near Syon Park in west London, only a few hundred yards from where Thomas Harriot made the first recorded astronomical observations through a telescope in 1609.



David Makepeace

A filmmaker by trade, David has spent the last 25 years crisscrossing the globe to chase the eclipse experience. His observations of 16 total eclipses, four annular and three partial eclipses has made him one of the busiest chasers in the world - and since the turn of the century he has fulfilled his goal of visiting each of the seven continents on the chase. As a

member of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) and a "celebrity" in the chaser community, David has devoted much of his life to the popularising of these events wherever they may occur. While not a scientist or professional astronomer, his style and enthusiasm are infectious, and his ability to make simple the hard science of eclipses has consistently earned him top marks from his audiences. His award-winning documentary films and videos including "Hooked On The Shadow" (2000) and Still Hooked (2017) are widely regarded as films that define the eclipse chasing culture. David has accompanied RASC on many eclipse chases, and has personally lead expeditions to the Caribbean, India, Brazil and Australia.

What To Expect...

Flexibility is the key to an expedition cruise; sometimes the whole day's schedule may be changed to maximise your experience. Each day holds something new and the below extracts from a past expedition log will provide you with an idea of what to expect during your voyage.

Friday 9 March 2018 – Cape Horn

The night had passed smoothly, and we awoke to a promising day as the sun rose over relatively calm waters at our anchorage off Cape Horn. A scouting Zodiac returned from the shore with the great news that a landing was possible so we all prepared for the first outing of our voyage. Remembering the details given in the Zodiac briefing the evening prior, we boarded the Zodiacs for the short crossing from ship to shore to land on a boulder beach on the sheltered side of the island. The two main objectives of the visit were the Chilean Naval Station, encompassing the lighthouse and chapel, and the monument honouring all the sailors who lost their lives sailing around the Horn. The climb to the top of the stairs proved to be unexpectedly very interesting botanically. The morning grew warmer as we traced the helpful, but occasionally rickety, boardwalk to the ingeniously crafted steel albatross monument. The sun continued to shine as we explored the lighthouse and environs before returning to the ship where lunch awaited. We were destined to travel back north, but as time and weather conditions permitted the Captain was able, and willing to take us on an anticlockwise circumnavigation of the whole island, completing the tour with a blast of the ship's horn to salute this very special place we had been privileged to visit.



Sunday 11 March 2018 – Punta Arenas and Magdalena Island

It was an early start to the day as we embarked in the Zodiacs at 7.30am on a calm but decidedly cool morning. Our objective for the day was Magdalena Island to visit the penguin colony that is home to maybe 58,000 pairs of Magellanic Penguins. We took a short journey by coach to board our exclusively chartered ferry which reached the island in under two hours. Our arrival coincided with the tail end of the penguin breeding cycle. Before us were many adult birds in the process of moulting. The birders amongst us took interest in the menacing looking skuas that were lurking with intent and also some ever-active waders skipping along the tide line. The stars of the show though were undoubtedly the penguins

which never fail to delight the eye, even when exhausted by family duties. Back aboard the ship, Sebastian gave his second presentation entitled Shackleton in Chile, a stirring tale of derring-do from the early 1900s. Continuing our passage through the convoluted channels of the Chilean Fjords we rounded the southernmost tip of mainland South America. The ever-changing lighting was fabulous as the angle of the sun's rays decreased casting bright and bluish search light shafts of light onto the white cross marking the Cape, and the surface of the sea and land beyond.



Wednesday 14 March 2018 - White Narrows and Bernal Glacier

We pulled away from the pier at Puerto Natales retracing some of our track as we began to thread our way back through the narrow channels of these remote Chilean fjords. The weather was changeable throughout the morning as we penetrated further into the Reserva Nacional Alacufes amidst spectacular mountains topped with a white dusting of fresh snow. Time allowed for an extra landing. Running roughly north to south and joining Canal Valdez at right angles is the fjord Canal de las Montañas and this was our opportunity to explore a little visited area. Frozen fingers of ice grasping between the rock peaks thousands of feet above us indicated the presence of the huge lurking mass of ancient frozen water above. Glacier Zamudio had pushed all the way down to the sea but our destination was Bernal Glacier some kilometres further on. On arrival there was a keen wind and a little rain, but the glacier looked too good to miss so many of us braved the Zodiacs to land on a makeshift shingle promontory. A brisk 20 minute walk along a dugout natural path took us through swamp berry bushes. At one point the raised path curved across a pale turquoise lagoon giving a Lord of the Rings feeling to the approach to the glacier. There are not many glaciers in the world as approachable as the Bernal and we were able to touch the huge ice crystals on the face of the cascading frozen river. Time passed quickly in this little oasis of tranquility but there was plenty to talk over at the evening recap when we returned to the ship and all who stepped ashore agreed that this extra mini adventure had been well worthwhile.



Niebla Fort, Valdivia



Sea lions

Torres del Paine



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 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 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. This afternoon is free to relax before we meet this evening for a tango show and dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 4 Buenos Aires to Ushuaia. Enjoy breakfast in the hotel before we transfer to the airport for our flight to Ushuaia. On arrival, transfer to the MS Island 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. 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 1520 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 the South American sea lions abound here in the channel.

Days 6 to 12 Chilean Fjords, Punta Arenas & Torres del Paine National Park, Chile. 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

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 Magdalena Island to see the 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 are up to 10,000. As we continue our journey we hope to navigate the Kirke Narrows, a remarkable channel leading between lush, forested shores, 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. As we leave the fjords we may stop at the town of Melinka where colourful houses cover the hillside down to the harbor, home to the town's important fishing industry. Well off the usual cruise route we will have time to explore the town, see the mermaid statue "La Sirena Chilota", the guardian spirit of the fisherman, and enjoy a pisco sour in the local bar.

Day 13 Valdivia. After a morning at sea we arrive in Niebla, the port that serves the nearby colonial city of Valdivia, one of the oldest European settlements in Chile. An afternoon excursion will include time visiting Niebla Fort, one of the largest strongholds in Valdivia it played a vital role in the city's defence thanks to its strategic positioning and unhindered views of the Pacific Ocean. Learn how Lord Cochrane expelled the Spanish troops from the forts on behalf of the newly formed Chilean governments in the 1920s. We will spend some time exploring the anthropological museum and enjoy a beer tasting at the Kunstmann Brewery.

Day 14 Eclipse Day. Today we will position the ship or, if weather dictates find a spot ashore, to achieve the best location to view the solar eclipse which is due to start in the late morning. The

advantage of our small ship is the ability to find a spot or break in the clouds to increase our chances and maximise our time under a total eclipse. With our onboard experts on hand to provide commentary we will remain here until the end of the eclipse's passage.

Day 15 Puerto Montt. After a morning at sea we arrive in 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 Vicente Perez Rosales National Park which is the oldest in Chile and contains three commanding volcanoes in Osorno, Calbuco and Puntigudo. 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 which is situated in a stunning location on Lago Llanquihue with a backdrop of the Osorno volcano.

Day 16 Puerto Montt to Santiago. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for the flight to Santiago. Upon arrival transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay and enjoy the remainder of the day to explore independently.

Day 17 Santiago 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 UP TO £1000 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Magellan	Standard	£9995	£8995
Columbus	Superior	£10295	£9295
Marco Polo	Premium	£10995	£9995
Marco Polo	Corner	£11595	£10595
Erikson	Deluxe Balcony	£11995	£11495
Explorer	Owner's Balcony Suites	£12595	£12095
Explorer	Island Suite	£13495	£12995
Magellan	Standard for sole use	£11995	£10995
Columbus	Superior for sole use	£12595	£11595

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Two nights hotel accommodation in Buenos Aires on a bed and breakfast basis • Half day city tour in Buenos Aires • Dinner and tango show on day 3 • 12 nights aboard the MS Island Sky on a full board basis • Wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board • Noble Caledonia Expedition Team • Guest Speakers • Overnight accommodation in Santiago on a bed and breakfast basis • Gratuities • Port taxes • Airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas.

NB. The Total Solar Eclipse is a natural phenomenon and sighting is weather dependent and cannot be guaranteed.



Osorno volcano

Pre-Cruise Iguazu Falls Extension 28th November to 2nd December 2020



Before joining your fellow travellers in Buenos Aires prior to the cruise, we are offering the opportunity to visit the Iguazu Falls, considered by many to be the most dramatic waterfalls in the world.

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 and the remainder of the day and evening are free to relax and explore independently.

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 our hotel, the Loi Suites (or similar), for our two night stay and this afternoon enjoy a guided tour of the Brazilian side 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 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 Sheraton Buenos Aires Hotel (or similar) and join our fellow travellers (follow main itinerary from day 2).

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£1695** Single: **£2095**

Price Includes: Economy class scheduled air travel, overnight hotel accommodation in Buenos Aires and two nights hotel accommodation in Iguazu Falls with breakfast daily, lunch and dinner on days 3 & 4, guided tours at the Iguazu Falls, transfers, airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, visas.

MS ISLAND SKY



Friendly Service



Owner's Balcony Suite



The Club

The much loved MS Island Sky is one of our three flag ships and sister vessel to the MS Hebridean 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 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 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. Each affords considerable comfort with en-suite bathroom featuring marble-topped 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

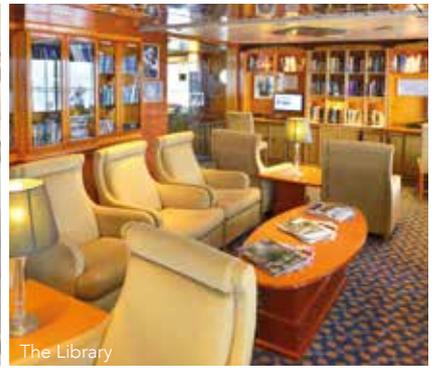
With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the cuisine on board the MS Island Sky is of a consistent superior quality that befits such a vessel. In keeping with the informal atmosphere on board, when dining you are able to choose your seating arrangements and choice of restaurants 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 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.



Standard Suite



The Restaurant



The Library

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 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 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 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 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. Throughout the vessel carefully chosen artwork and photos reflect the destinations we sail to.

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.

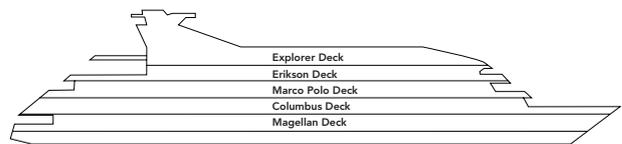
Your Life On Board

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 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 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.

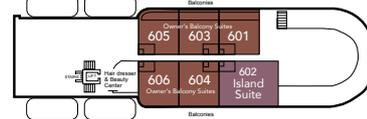


Alfresco Dining

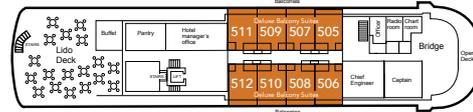
MS ISLAND SKY DECK PLAN



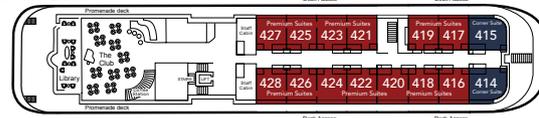
Explorer Deck



Erikson Deck



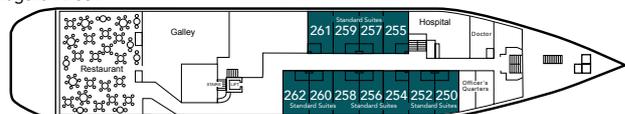
Marco Polo Deck



Columbus Deck



Magellan Deck



- Standard Suites
- Corner Suites with Deck Access
- Owner's Balcony Suites
- Superior Suites
- Deluxe Balcony Suites
- Island Suite
- Premium Suites with Deck Access



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

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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
Cover image: Torres del Paine National Park.