

MACARONESIA & BEYOND

AN EXPLORATION OF THE CANARY ISLANDS, MADEIRA & MOROCCO Aboard the MS Hebridean Sky 3RD to 13TH december 2025

NOBLE CALEDONIA



December in the UK is certainly a month to be thinking about travelling south. Join us aboard the MS Hebridean Sky and in the company of just 100 or so likeminded travel companions discover the diversity and beauty of the Canary Islands and Madeira combined with the cultural riches of Essaouira and Agadir in Morocco. We will be able to make the most of the region and in our small groups we can explore places that are otherwise inaccessible to the larger ships. Our itinerary has been designed to offer a choice of excursions on most days and we are confident that you will find this cruise the perfect antidote to the cold and grey skies at home



Our voyage will begin in the delightful Atlantic Archipelago of the Canary Islands where there is much to discover including some marvellously varied landscapes and an absorbing, multifaceted culture. We will visit the three lesserknown islands of La Gomera, El Hierro and La Palma where we can enjoy nature at its very best. These volcanic islands impress with their unique flora and fauna and boast rugged rocky landscapes, evergreen cloud forests, metre high ferns and bizarre-looking dragon trees. Continue on to the delightful island of Madeira where we have a day and a half to explore this "floating garden in the Atlantic" visiting the island's wonderful gardens and experiencing the breathtakingly beautiful scenery on offer.

After a day at sea to relax and enjoy some interesting talks by our Guest Speaker, we reach the Moroccan port of Safi for our exploration of charming Essaouira and then further south we arrive into the beautiful bay of Agadir. After a morning tour to explore the city, we head into the fertile Souss valley for a visit to the ochre walled city of Taroudant where we can watch the Berbers trade and explore the sougs and squares. Returning to the Canary Islands our final afternoon will be spent on the island of Lanzarote where there will be the opportunity to explore the beautiful gardens of the city or the otherworldly landscapes of the Timanfaya National Park.



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Tenerife, Canary Islands. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky for embarkation as we sail this evening.

Day 2 La Gomera. Arrive this morning on beautiful and unspoilt La Gomera. On a full day tour we will explore the island including Garajonay National Park, home to the world's only surviving laurel forest and visit the villages of Hermiqua, Agulo and Las Rosas followed by lunch in a local restaurant. Before returning to the ship experience a demonstration of Silbo Gomero, the island's unique whistling language, and visit the magnificent rock formations of Agando. Alternatively, you may wish to join a morning guided trek through the Garajonay National Park commencing in the village of El Cedro which offers some interesting examples of the architecture of the Canary Islands. Set sail during dinner as we make our way to El Hierro where we will moor overnight.

Day 3 El Hierro. Probably the least known of the Canary Islands, and once considered to be the end of the world, El Hierro is unique and utterly captivating. This morning will be free to explore the town at your own pace. Later on an afternoon island tour it will be impossible not to be entranced by the island's slow pace and simple style; by its craggy coast, where waves



hurl themselves against lava sculpted rock faces; by the pretty farmland and flower meadows of the interior; by the eerily beautiful juniper groves; and by the desolate volcanic badlands that stretch out like moonscapes in the south. We will also have the opportunity to sample some of El Hierro's excellent wine and visit the lizard house where the island's unique giant lizards are bred; near extinction, they are protected by international law. Alternatively, opt for the La Llania hiking excursion which will take us through primeval forests, along ancient cisterns and mythical witches dance floors to El Hierro's top viewing point affording spectacular views of the western parts of the island.

Day 4 La Palma, Canary Islands. La Palma is known by locals as the 'Beautiful Island', and it is easy to see why. It is a simply stunning, peaceful and most importantly an un-spoilt destination that has deservedly been declared a UNESCO biosphere reserve. This morning drive inland to the beautiful village of El Paso and visit the Silk Museum. This is the only place in Europe where the 500-year-old tradition and processes have been preserved. From here we will continue onto the Caldera de Taburiente, a massive depression eight kilometres wide which scientists agree was a majestically tall volcanic mountain that collapsed in on itself. Explore on foot and whilst all may seem stoic and still, the forces of erosion are hard at work and some geologists estimate that it will finally disappear in just 5,000 years. Alternatively, for those who would prefer a more energetic excursion there will be a guided trek on offer through the El Pilar area; see remains of volcanic eruptions, the magnificent views of the Valley of Aridane and the crater wall that surrounds the Taburiente National Park. Return to the ship for lunch and set sail for Madeira.

Days 5 & 6 Madeira. Spend the next day and a half on Madeira where there will be a choice of excursions, including a beautiful panoramic exploration of the western part of the island taking in Ribera Brava and Porto Moniz. There will also be the opportunity to visit the Madeira Botanical Gardens which cover an area of over 35,000 square metres and has more than 2000 exotic plants from all continents, some of which are endangered species. This fantastic garden has several ornamental trees and shrubs, an orchid area, lawns, and lovely viewpoints. The more active may wish to join a Levada walk. Levada are irrigation channels that were created by the Portuguese settlers in the 19th century, who painstakingly carved them out of the rock by hand. Designed to carry freshwater from the north to the drier southern regions of the island, they helped to create many of the lush landscapes that can be seen today. The walk will follow the course of 'levadas' for over three miles, seeing the verdant plants, mountain views and green farmland that cover Madeira.

Day 7 At Sea. Spend the day at sea as we sail towards Morocco. Our lecture programme continues in the lounge or maybe find a spot on deck to relax.

Day 8 Safi for Essaouira, Morocco. This morning we will depart the port of Safi and head along the coast to Essaouira. Founded in the 18th century, Essaouira was built to be a rival city to Agadir. Formerly known as Mogador, meaning small fortress, it was designed as a fortified town surrounded by Vauban-style ramparts and played a major role as an international trading seaport, linking Morocco and sub-Saharan Africa with Europe and the rest of the world. On our full day tour we will see the amazing mixture of Portuguese and Berber architecture, the 16th century sea bastions built to protect the city, the 18th century Medina, and in the Mellah we will find the souks dedicated to gold, spices and fish. Enjoy a seafood lunch near the beach before returning to the MS Hebridean Sky.

Day 9 Agadir. Arrive in southern Morocco in the vast bay of Agadir. A morning tour will include time at the Kasbah, built to defend the Atlantic shoreline and offering wonderful views over the coast, and the Talborjt Mosque. After some time in the souk we will drive through the fertile Souss valley to the gold, pink and orange tinted imperial city of Taroudant, a past capital of the Saadian dynasty. Explore the medina with its souks, see the red ramparts and end with a visit to the Assarag and Tamaklotte squares. After a local lunch we return to the ship.

Day 10 Lanzarote, Canary Islands. Returning to the Canary Islands we arrive in the early afternoon in Arrecife, a pleasant town with a modern seafront and colourful gardens. A volcanic island designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, Lanzarote's dramatic landscapes were shaped by an explosive past, but today the dazzling white salt flats of Janubio, the rugged terrain of Fire Mountain and an array of unspoilt fishing villages scattered around the coast combine to make it a hugely successful tourist destination. This afternoon you may wish to experience the world of Cesar Manrique, celebrated painter, landscape conservationist and one of Lanzarote's best-known citizens, who left an indelible imprint on the island. Cross the northeastern part of the island to Jardin del Cactus, an unusual botanical garden where many species of cacti have been carefully arranged in a natural setting by Manrique himself. Then visit Manrique's former home, designed by Manrique and which combines his interest in traditional local architecture with his concerns about environmental protection. Alternatively, visit Fire Mountain which was born from a spectacular volcanic eruption over 280 years ago. Drive through the haunting scenery of dark, barren lava cinders topped by brooding ochre and violet volcano cones resembling a lunar landscape. Vineyards dot the landscape with the vines, protected by semi-circular stonewalls, making them look more like art than agriculture. A visit will be made to a 'bodega' so you can sample one of the local wines before returning to the ship.

Day 11 Las Palmas to London. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight.





PRICES PER PERSON Based on double occupancy

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

Deck	Suite Category	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Amundsen	Standard	£6295	£5995
Byrd	Superior	£6495	£6195
Mawson	Premium	£6795	£6495
Mawson	Corner	£6995	£6695
Scott	Deluxe Balcony	£7295	£6995
Shackleton	Owner's Balcony	£7595	£7295
Shackleton	Hebridean	£8295	£7995
Amundsen	Standard for sole use	£7295	£6995
Byrd	Superior for sole use	£7495	£7195

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

Pre-cruise Tenerife Extension 1st to 3rd December 2025



Before embarking the MS Hebridean Sky we are offering the opportunity to join a two night hotel stay on the island of Tenerife staying at the Hotel Botanico.

The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Tenerife, Canary Islands. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival we will transfer to the Hotel Botanico in Puerto de la Cruz for our two night stay.

Day 2 Tenerife. Your day is at leisure to relax in the hotel or maybe explore the local area at your own pace. (B)

Day 3 Tenerife. Check out after breakfast and enjoy a morning exploring the beautiful gardens of Tenerife. We will start with a visit to the Botanical Gardens which were founded by Charles III of Spain in 1788. From here we will visit the Orchid Gardens which is abundant with colour and tranquillity. After lunch in a local restaurant we transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky for embarkation. (B, L)

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£795** Single: **£995**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation at Hotel Botanico, meals as indicated (B - Breakfast, L - Lunch), drinks with lunch, tours as described, Noble Caledonia Tour Manager, gratuities, transfers. Not Included: Travel insurance.



MS HEBRIDEAN SKY



The much loved MS Hebridean Sky is one of our two flagships and sister vessel to the MS Island 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 Hebridean 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, television and a telephone in each suite. Refillable water bottles, towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted Noble Isle 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 the Club. Tea and coffee are also available 24 hours a day. Special diets can be catered for with sufficient notice



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. 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 collection of games and 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 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.

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 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



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.



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: Madeira Coastine.