

# **ISLAND HOPPING IN THE CANARY & CAPE VERDE ISLANDS**

Join us aboard the MS Hebridean Sky for this wonderful island hopping itinerary visiting the diverse islands of the Atlantic with their mountainous landscapes, intriguing topography, lunar like landscapes, verdant pine forests and stunning national parks. We will begin our exploration in the remote and intriguing Cape Verde archipelago whose islands have been used by mariners as a staging post through the ages and there is no better way to explore their dramatic beauty and cultural vibrancy than by small ship. Each island is a little world of its own; some are arid and flat withextraordinary beaches and sand dunes whilst others by contrast are more mountainous and lush.

After a relaxing two days at sea we arrive in our next island group, the Canary Islands, an archipelago consisting of seven main islands that are formed from the tips of a vast volcanic mountain range that lies beneath the Atlantic Ocean. We have three days here during which time we will visit three of the lesser known islands: La Palma, El Hierro and La Gomera 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.

Every new day brings a different vista and our itinerary has been carefully designed so that we can fully explore the dramatic beauty and cultural vibrancy of these amazingly varied groups of islands, each one having a distinct culture and landscape. In the company of just 100 like-minded travel companions we will be able to make the most of the region and in our small groups

we can explore the places otherwise inaccessible to the larger ships. Whether your interests lie in botany, geology, history or walking, this cruise has something for everyone.



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**ITINERARY** 





Day 1 London to Praia, Sao Tiago, Cape Verde.

Fly by scheduled indirect flight. Arrive late tonight and transfer to the MS Hebridean Sky for embarkation. Moor overnight.

## Day 2 Praia.

Today we explore the historic capital of Praia on the island of Sao Tiago. Praia has a wonderful African feel and we will visit Cidade Velha, the old Portuguese capital with a rich history which was once the centre of the slave trade. See the fort and cathedral which dominate the narrow, cobbled lanes and stone houses. Enjoy a traditional performance of Batuco dance before we continue into the green interior, climbing the steep mountains and enjoying the colours as we make our way to Rui Vaz where we enjoy a lunch of local produce in the shadow of Pico da Antonia. We will see local farms and drive past the only water dam in Cape Verde before returning to the ship where we moor overnight.

## Day 3 Sao Nicolau.

Sao Nicolau is a charming, peaceful and attractive island of plantations, small holdings and busy farming villages. It also has impressive, almost untouched mountain scenery, friendly residents and lively traditions. On our tour we will drive through a spectacular landscape towards the historical capital Ribeira Brava. Here we will discover the lively centre of the island which reflects the character of the people and learn why Ribeira Brava was the bedrock of Cape Verdean intellect in the 19th century. After lunch enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

#### Day 4 Porto Novo, Sao Antao.

We have a full day on the most beautiful of the islands, Sao Antao. Driving up the old trading route, we pass the volcanic crater 'Cova' with its agricultural plantations and enjoy panoramic views of the island before arriving in the tiny, picturesque mountain village of Fontainhas, on the northern side of the island. After lunch in the seaside village of Ponta do Sol, we will take the coastal road towards the greenest valley in the archipelago, the valley of Paul. Here we will enjoy a coffee break whilst learning about the production of sugarcane on the island. Also discover 'Grogue', the national drink of the islands and have a

taste of it at the oldest traditional Grogue distillery on the island. Drive back along the coast to the southern side of the island and our waiting ship. This evening we sail the short distance to Mindelo where we moor overnight.

# Day 5 Mindelo, Sao Vicente.

Enjoy a full day in Mindelo, one of the most attractive of all the Cape Verde towns with its colonial buildings, cobbled streets, cafes and lively restaurants. Depart on a morning discovery tour of The Itinerary the lively markets and the secret corners of the harbour town followed by a coffee break in a typical Cape Verdean bar. The afternoon is free to further explore the vibrant town independently before we will be entertained by local music and capoeira on board. Sail this evening.

#### Days 6 & 7 At Sea.

Spend a couple of leisurely days on board as we cruise to the Canary Islands. Find a spot on deck to relax or join our lecture programme that will continue in the lounge.

#### Day 8 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 afternoon there will be a choice of excursions. You may wish to join the tour to Caldera de Taburiente, a massive eight kilometre wide depression 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, take a drive to visit Los Tilos Forest, nestled between colossal mountains, it is one of the few surviving Laurisilva forests on the planet. Continue to the charming town of San Andres where we will visit the El Tendal Museum and learn more about the island and its history. Before returning to the ship enjoy a tasting at the Rum Factory. Finally 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.





# Day 9 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 is free to explore the town or relax on board. This afternoon we explore the island and 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 local 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 primaeval 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 10 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 Canarias architecture.

#### Day 11 Tenerife to London.

Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

#### Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.





# YOUR SHIP: HEBRIDEAN SKY

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VESSEL TYPE: Expedition

LENGTH: 90.6 metres

PASSENGER CAPACITY: 118

BUILT/REFURBISHED: 1992 / 2016

The MS Hebridean Sky is one of our three elegant sister ships--alongside the MS Island Sky and MS Caledonian Sky--renowned for their small size, comfort, and service. Built in the same Italian shipyard, this refined vessel underwent a multi-million-pound refurbishment in 2016, enhancing its private yacht-like atmosphere.

#### Suites

The ship offers 59 spacious, outside-facing suites over five decks, with 14 featuring private balconies. Each suite includes a sitting area, en-suite bathroom with rainfall shower, flat-screen TV, minibar, safe, dressing table, Molton Brown toiletries, robes, slippers, and individually controlled climate settings. Beds can be configured as twins or doubles, except in suites 601 and 602. The luxurious Hebridean Suite includes a large balcony, sitting room, and complimentary minibar and laundry.

#### **Public Areas**

Public spaces include a panoramic lounge for talks and briefings, The Club bar with live piano music, a library with books and games, and ample outdoor deck space including a wildlife observation area. A lift serves all decks, and there is a small hair salon and an onboard doctor. Complimentary satellite

Wi-Fi is available, though signal strength may vary.

## Dining

Meals are served in a single sitting in the elegant dining room or al fresco on the Lido Deck. Cuisine is fresh and varied, often featuring local produce. Enjoy daily afternoon tea, pre-dinner canapes, and wines with lunch and dinner. Breakfast is buffet-style with cooked-to-order options. Barbecues and live cooking stations are also offered. Special diets can be accommodated with notice.

### Experience

Designed for those who prefer a quiet, enriching cruise, the Hebridean Sky offers a relaxed, yacht-like ambiance without large ship distractions. There's no organised entertainment or dress codes--just thoughtful service, enriching lectures, and scenic cruising among like-minded travellers.

# Comfort & Safety

The vessel is fitted with stabilisers, modern navigation systems, and safety equipment. Guests can visit the Bridge, view route information on suite TVs, and enjoy peace of mind with a fully equipped clinic on board.





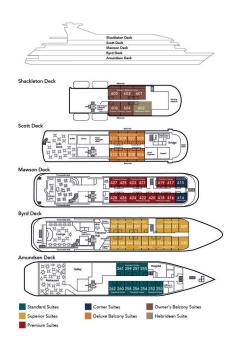


c on board.





# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**



Amundsen Deck Standard Sole



Byrd Deck Superior Sole



Mawson Deck Corner Suite



Scott Deck Deluxe Balcony Suite



Amundsen Deck Standard Suite



Byrd Deck Superior Suite



Mawson Deck Premium Suite



Shackleton Deck Hebridean Suite







# **PRICING**

### 31-Mar-2026 to 10-Apr-2026

Amundsen Deck Standard Suite	7495 GBP pp
Byrd Deck Superior Suite	7595 GBP pp
Mawson Deck Premium Suite	7695 GBP pp
Mawson Deck Corner Suite	7995 GBP pp
Amundsen Deck Standard Sole	8495 GBP pp
Byrd Deck Superior Sole	8595 GBP pp
Scott Deck Deluxe Balcony Suite	8995 GBP pp
Shackleton Deck Owner's Balcony Suite	9495 GBP pp
Shackleton Deck Hebridean Suite	9995 GBP pp

