

# The Small Cruise Ship Collection

www.small-cruise-ships.com

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info@small-cruise-ships.com

## 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 with extraordinary 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.

### 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.

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### 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

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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 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 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 Hermigua, 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.

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## YOUR SHIP: HEBRIDEAN SKY

**YOUR SHIP:**

**Hebridean Sky**

**VESSEL TYPE:**

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:**

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:**

Hebridean Sky has always been known for its effortless elegance, impeccable service and atmosphere of charm and camaraderie. Now we add increased adventure options and an on-site Passenger Service Representative. Hebridean Sky is the perfect blend of luxury and adventurous exploration. Is it a luxury ship? An adventure ship? It's both! The vessel underwent a multi-million pound refurbishment in Sweden in Spring 2016. **ONBOARD DINING** Great expeditions require great food! We are pleased to offer daily changing breakfast, lunch and dinner menus with an emphasis on providing well balanced and nutritional cuisine. Our team of international chefs has boat loads of creativity and you are sure to experience a variety of interesting dishes throughout your voyage. The restaurant is located on Deck 2 and our service team looks forward to providing a memorable dining experience. **IMPECCABLE SMALL-SHIP AMENITIES** Returning from excursions, passengers enjoy complimentary refreshments, afternoon tea and all-day coffee in The Club, a gracious space for relaxation, surrounded by panoramic windows. Other Sea Explorer features include: Library with Internet access Lounge with audiovisual facilities Dining room Wraparound sun deck with Jacuzzi Exercise room

Medical facilities with available doctor Elevator serving all passenger decks Swimming/zodiac platform All Voyages Include: Up to Two Pre-Voyage Hotel Nights Complimentary Wine or Beer with Dinner Certified Emergency MD and Clinic World Class Cuisine Live Entertainment Complimentary Coffee/Tea station Voyage Photographer Dedicated Passenger Service Manager Complimentary Expedition Jacket Please note deck



plan may vary.

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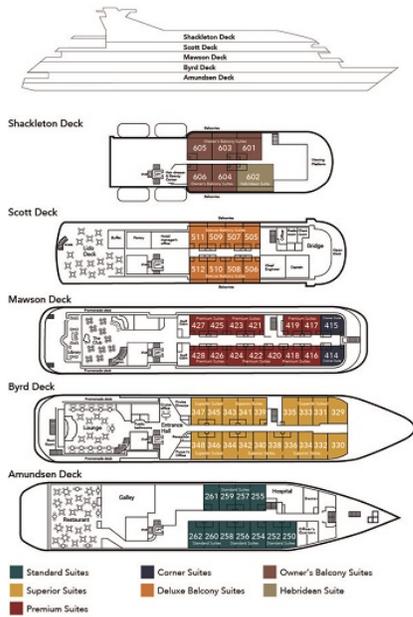
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Amundsen Deck Standard Sole



Amundsen Deck Standard Suite



Byrd Deck Superior Sole



Byrd Deck Superior Suite



Mawson Deck Corner Suite

Mawson Deck Premium Suite

Scott Deck Deluxe Balcony Suite

Shackleton Deck Hebridean Suite

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## PRICING

31-Mar-2026 to 10-Apr-2026

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