

PASSAGE TO BOROBUDUR & BEYOND - A VOYAGE FROM BALI TO KUALA LUMPUR

This unusual journey between the beautiful island of Bali and the cosmopolitan city of Kuala Lumpur represents a fascinating itinerary which focuses on the island of Java, the heart of Indonesia and the most culturally compelling of her islands. From encounters with endemic wildlife, snorkelling on wonderful corals, witnessing volcanic landscapes and visiting places of deep spiritual significance and areas of outstanding natural beauty, we have planned the itinerary to incorporate all facets of this beguiling region. Our expedition promises to be an adventure shared with just 100 like-minded travellers and with our perfectly suited small ship, we can access islands and bays that the big ships simply cannot get close to and with our fleet of Zodiac landing craft, friendly crew and excellent expedition team we will truly make the most of our time in this unique part of the world. After some time in Bali, during which we will visit the less developed north coast of the island, we begin our exploration of Java. From Probolinggo we will witness the stunning landscape of Mount Bromo National Park, learn of 16th century Javanese history in Cirebon, see the Krakatoa volcano, birdwatch in the beautiful World Heritage Site of the Ujung Kulon National Park and snorkel, swim and explore ribbons of pristine beaches in the idyllic 'Thousand Islands' and Belitung Islands. In addition, one of the many highlights of our journey will be our visit to Borobudur, the great Buddhist stupa, built and decorated perhaps before 800 AD. This should be on anybody's list of the ten greatest art-complexes in the world for its size, quality, sophistication and excellent state of preservation. Leaving Java we sail for Malaysia, and before our voyage concludes in Kuala Lumpur, we will have the opportunity to explore the culturally fascinating city of Malacca. We hope you can join us for this extraordinary adventure as we discover areas of outstanding natural beauty and witness diverse cultures while learning of the region's



intriguing history.

ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Bali, Indonesia.

Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Bali.

Arrive today and transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day and evening is at leisure to acclimatise after our flight.



Day 3 Bali.

Spend the morning relaxing in the hotel or exploring the local area at your own pace. We will check out in the late morning and after lunch transfer to the MS Island Sky which will be moored in Benoa. Sail this evening.

Day 4 Celukan Bawang.

Overnight we will have sailed around Bali and will arrive on the less developed north coast of the island from where there will be a choice of two full day excursions. You may wish to visit the West Bali National Park which comprises of 19,000 hectares of land with an additional 7000 hectares of coral reefs and coastal waters. Here we can take a gentle trek through the protected mangrove and monsoon forest and hope to see grey monkeys, black monkeys, giant lizard and some of the 160 species of birds that live here. Afterwards we will take a short boat ride to Menjangan Island to snorkel in beautiful coral reef gardens and hope to also see electric clams, scorpion fish, starfish, eels and reef fish. Alternatively you can choose to join the excursion to the Munduk Highlands. Passing through Singaraja, the former capital city of Bali, we continue to the mountainous area of Bedugul to see the three lakes, Bratan, Buyan and Tamblingan. Alongside Lake Bratan is Pura Ulun Danu, an important Hindu-Buddhist temple dedicated to the water goddess and a site of pilgrimage. The scenery is stunning and we will have time to take in the surroundings before continuing to the appealing town of Munduk which is set amongst hillsides full of fruit trees, jungles and rice fields.

Day 5 Probolinggo for Mount Bromo, Java.

This morning we will arrive on Java where, from the port of Probolinggo we will leave the ship early to make our way towards the active volcano, Mount Bromo, driving through the awe inspiring surrounding landscapes. At 2329 metres, Mount Bromo is not the highest peak in the Tengger Massif Range but is the most famous. The name derives from the Javanese pronunciation of Brahma, the Hindu creator god and it sits in the middle of a vast plain called the 'Sea of Sand', a protected nature reserve since 1919. We will use four-wheel drive vehicles to reach the Penanjakan viewpoint which offers spectacular views of the caldera and surrounding mountains. We will enjoy a lunch in a local restaurant before returning to the MS Island Sky and sailing this evening.

Day 6 Bawean Island.

After a relaxing morning at sea we will use our Zodiacs to land on Bawean, an island dominated by an extinct volcano that rises 655 metres above sea level. During our island tour we will see the endemic local subspecies of deer known as Bawean hog deer (Axis Kuhlii). Considered the symbol of Bawean, it is also protected by Indonesian law. As well as spending time at Lake Kastoba we will visit a local school and enjoy a traditional dance performance before returning to the ship.

Days 7 & 8 Semarang, Borobudur & Yogyakarta.

Returning to Java we reach Semarang, our base for our overnight excursion to the UNESCO sites of Borobudur and Yogyakarta. Leaving the ship we cross Java towards the site of Yogyakarta recognised as the cradle of Javanese civilisation. Constructed in the 8th century, the Prabanan Temple Complex consists of 240 temples and is the largest Hindu Temple complex in Indonesia. Also visit the Kraton, the sprawling palace of the Sultan of Yogyakarta. After our visit we transfer to our hotel for dinner and a special performance of Ramayana ballet. The following day we will make an early start and drive to Borobudur, one of world's greatest ancient monuments and the



single largest Buddhist structure anywhere on earth. Built in the 9th century, possibly to enhance the image of Buddhism when Hinduism was growing in strength across the Indonesian archipelago, it was deserted almost immediately when the Buddhist Sailenra dynasty was overthrown by the Hindu Majapahit Empire. It lay for 1000 years under heavy jungle before its re-discovery by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1814 from when it was slowly restored. The site consists of six square platforms topped by three circular platforms and is decorated with no less than 2672 relief panels and 504 Buddha statues of various types. Return to the MS Island Sky after lunch and set sail in the early evening.

Day 9 Cirebon.

Continuing along the coast of Java we arrive at Cirebon during lunch. Here we will use pedicabs to take us to the Kasepuhan Palace which was built in the 16th century and is a blend of Sundanese, Javanese, Islamic, Chinese and Dutch styles. We will watch local dance performances before touring the palace museum which features royal carriages, weaponry, masks, clothing, artwork and the mosque. We continue to the bustling local market before returning to the ship.

Day 10 Pulau Krakatoa.

This afternoon we sail into the Suna Strait and towards the island of Krakatoa. The volcano here famously exploded in 1883 with the explosion considered to be the loudest sound ever heard in modern history, with reports of it being heard nearly 3,000 miles from its point of origin. If conditions permit, we will use our Zodiacs to land on the island where you can choose to join a nature walk at the base, climb up the lower slopes of the volcano or swim in the surrounding waters.

Day 11 Ujung Kolon National Park.

Arrive this morning at the far western tip of Java for a day of exploration in the Ujung Kulon National Park, a World Heritage Site. It is a stunningly beautiful area with great bird watching and the largest remaining area of lowland rainforest on the Java Plain. During guided walks we will explore the park and thriving ecosystem alive with monkeys, macaques, deer and varied birdlife which live amongst the towering fig trees, vibrant orchids and ancient medicinal plants. This afternoon there will be the opportunity to swim, snorkel or relax on the beach.

Day 12 Thousand Islands.

We will spend the day in the 'Thousand Islands', located in the Bay of Jakarta. The archipelago consists of a string of 110 islands stretching 28 miles and covering an area of 107,489 hectares of land and sea. We hope to land on Pulau Harapan where we can visit the local community and learn about their work developing mangrove forests. There will also be time to enjoy swimming, snorkelling or relaxing on one of the island's beaches.

Day 13 Belitung Islands.

Our final call in Indonesia is the idyllic Belitung Islands, a group of islands off the coast of Sumatra famed for their long clean beaches and crystal clear seawater. We have the afternoon to enjoy the fine white sandy beaches and the wonderful coral reefs. Snorkelling platforms will allow us to swim with a multitude of colourful fish, molluscs and sea urchins. Meanwhile on nature walks we will explore the forest for birdlife, or you may prefer to simply relax on the beach.

Day 14 At Sea.



Spend a relaxing day at sea as we cruise towards Malaysia and into the Malacca Strait which was named after the Malacca Sultanate that ruled over the archipelago between 1414 and 1511. It is from here that early traders from Arabia, Africa and Persia would trade glassware, camphor, ivory, sandalwood and perfumes and today the Strait is one of the most important shipping lanes in the world.

Day 15 Malacca, Malaysia.

With more than its fair share of colonisers from Malaysian princes to the Portuguese, Dutch, British and Japanese, this strategically placed city has a fascinating history which is brought vividly to life in the excellent Ethnographical Museum. During our guided walk we will also visit the 16th century Portuguese fortress, the former Dutch Governor's house and the impressive Christ Church. This afternoon is free to relax on board or explore further at your own pace.

Day 16 Kuala Lumpur to London.

Disembark this morning in Port Klang and transfer to Kuala Lumpur where our walking tour will include Independence Square, the Masjid Jamek Mosque and Chinatown, with the extravagantly decorated Sri Mahamariamman Temple, before ending at the Petronas Twin Towers. After lunch we will transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Day 17 London.

Arrive today.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: ISLAND SKY

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VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

With a maximum passenger capacity of only 116, 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. There is a high ratio of crew to passengers- the friendly crew of 75 crew and Scandinavian captains are experienced mariners, having been in service aboard large 2000 plus passenger vessels and who now prefer a less frantic life aboard a small ship. If, like them and us, you prefer a more peaceful life at sea, you will find the MS Island Sky the perfect ship. When choosing the vessel for your next voyage of discovery, you can select a ship with endless entertainment and impersonal service or come with us where peace, high quality service and attention to detail are the order of the day. We promise there will be no organised entertainment, fancy dress, deck games or any of the usual big ship experiences. The atmosphere on board is more akin to a private yacht or country hotel. A little music in the lounge or bar after dinner, guest speakers, informative port briefings from our cruise director and of course good food which may be enjoyed leisurely in the attractive dining room. After a day ashore you will return to the comfort and peace of a well run and exceedingly comfortable ship. Your Suite Onboard there are 57 exceptionally spacious and well designed suites. All feature a sitting room 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 with inbuilt DVD player which can also play CDs and a telephone in each suite. Bottled water, towelling dressing gowns and slippers are also provided for your comfort. Other facilities include a programmable electronic safe, hairdryer, assorted toiletries and individually controlled air-conditioning and heating. The suites on each deck have their own colour theme. Soft hues and blended tones enhance the traditional maritime style making the passenger accommodation an inviting and relaxing place to be. Your Space The spacious and finely decorated public rooms include a large lounge where daily briefings and talks will be provided throughout the voyage and an elegant bar where a pianist plays periodically throughout the day. The bar also features a 24-hour tea and coffee station. The onboard library is the perfect place to relax with a book and is stocked with reference books pertaining to the places the vessel is visiting along with a selection of games and two computers with internet access. Daily newspapers and magazines are also placed in the library depending on local availability. There is

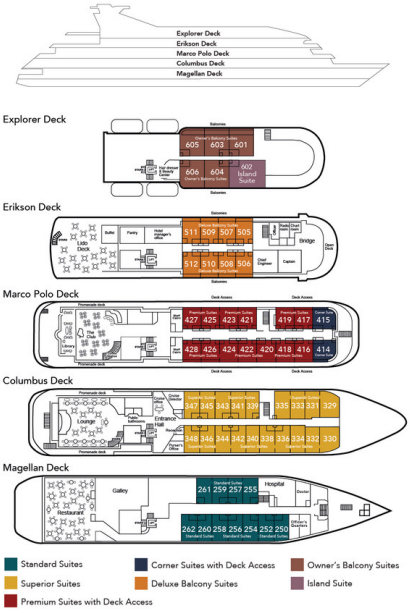
also WI-FI access throughout the vessel. Outside there is a rear sun deck where meals are served in warm weather under shade, a bar and comfortable deck furniture for sun bathing or relaxing with a book. On the top deck there is a Jacuzzi and further observation and sun deck. There is also a small hairdressers on board with appointments made on request. Your Dining Another benefit of a small ship is the quality of the cuisine. With only one sitting and a maximum of just over 100 passengers, the galley is able to provide delicious meals. Where possible and when it meets his high standards, the chef will obtain local produce in markets or buy the catch of the day from a passing fishing boat. Such purchases enhance the well stocked larders and bring a local touch to the



varied menus.



INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Columbus Deck Superior Single



Columbus Deck Superior Suite



Erikson Deck Deluxe Balcony Suite



Explorer Deck Island Suite



Explorer Deck Owner's Balcony Suite



Magellan Deck Standard Single



Magellan Deck Standard Suite



Marco Polo Deck Corner Suite





Marco Polo Deck Premium Suite





PRICING

11-Sep-2027 to 27-Sep-2027

Explorer Deck Island Suite	£13995 GBP pp
Magellan Deck Standard Single	£10995 GBP pp
Magellan Deck Standard Suite	£10995 GBP pp
Marco Polo Deck Premium Suite	£11795 GBP pp
Explorer Deck Owner's Balcony Suite	£13495 GBP pp
Erikson Deck Deluxe Balcony Suite	£12995 GBP pp
Marco Polo Deck Corner Suite	£12295 GBP pp
Columbus Deck Superior Suite	£11395 GBP pp
Columbus Deck Superior Single	£11395 GBP pp