The Mediterranean & Northern Africa
May 1, 2028 - May 14, 2028

National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours

Program Overview

Sail from the crossroads of civilizations on an extraordinary journey aboard Hebridean Sky, exploring the rich cultural tapestry of Malta, North Africa and the western Mediterranean. From Valletta's magnificent fortifications and Malta's prehistoric megalithic temples to the legendary ruins of Carthage and the Roman grandeur of El Jem, each destination reveals layers of history shaped by Phoenician, Roman, Arab and European influences. Discover Tunisia's vibrant medinas, Algeria's remarkable archaeological treasures and the dramatic landscapes surrounding Constantine, Djémila and Gouraya National Park. Stroll through Algiers' historic Kasbah, explore ancient Tipasa and experience traditions that have endured for centuries. Continuing west, uncover the Moorish heritage of Gibraltar, the gardens and medina of Tangier, and the architectural treasures of Málaga.

With exclusive Traveler's Choice excursions and visits to numerous UNESCO World Heritage sites, this immersive voyage offers a rare opportunity to experience the cultures, cuisine and enduring legacies of the Mediterranean's most fascinating shores. Enhance your journey with our Valletta Pre-Extension!



La Grande Poste, Algeria



El Djem, Tunisia



Medina, Tunisia

Program Highlights

- Experience 6 countries from Valletta, Malta, to Casablanca, Morocco, and cruise for 11 nights aboard Hebridean Sky, an exclusively chartered small ship.
- Explore the North African coast, tracing the legacy of the Roman Empire and earlier civilizations, with a focus on ancient ports, ruins and layered Mediterranean history.
- Opportunities to visit 8 UNESCO World Heritage sites: Megalithic Temples of Malta, Malta; Amphitheatre of El Jem, Archaeological Site of Carthage, Medina of Tunis and Kairouan, Tunisia; Djémila (Cuicul), Tipasa and Kasbah of Algiers, Algeria; plus Gouraya, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.
- Included meals | 2 receptions, 12 breakfasts, 10 lunches and 11 dinners.
- Valletta Pre-Tour Extension. (Available at additional cost.)

Day-by-Day Program Itinerary

- The Activity Level ratings indicate each excursion's physical expectations. To make the best personal choice, please evaluate each excursion's rating and your ability to meet the tour's physical demands.

Mild excursions involve:

- Walking for 1.5 hours or more over uneven terrain
- Walking on challenging surfaces: cobblestones, uneven paths and/or pavements
- Climbing stairs and hills and crossing rail tracks
- Ascending and descending narrow (and sometimes steep) gangplanks
- Stepping on and off motorcoaches with 3-6 steep steps

Moderate excursions could involve the above, plus:

- Walking for 3 hours for distances of a mile or more
- Walking on uneven terrain: narrow cobblestone streets, stone floors, and/or slippery surfaces. There may be several flights of stairs, some without railings

Active excursions could involve the above, plus:

- Walking on uneven terrain: sandy or rocky beaches and/or steep inclines
- Standing for 2 hours or more at a time, possibly without areas to sit
- Climbing 100 stairs or more
- Additional challenges, such as long jeep rides, bumpy boat rides or hikes

- Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives to active excursions may be available.

Day 1 | Depart Home City

Depart for Valletta, Malta.

Day 2 | Valletta, Malta

Arrive at the Malta International Airport in Malta. Transfer across the bay to Sliema and check in to AX The Palace, a stylish five-star hotel offering contemporary comfort and warm Mediterranean hospitality. Located in the heart of Sliema, the hotel is ideally situated for exploring the town's lively waterfront, shops, cafés and restaurants. Relax in the elegant guest rooms, unwind by the rooftop infinity pool while enjoying panoramic views of the island, or visit the hotel's spa and wellness facilities.

The remainder of the day is at leisure, with lunch and dinner on your own, providing an opportunity to discover Malta's distinctive cuisine at one of the area's many inviting restaurants.

Day 3 | Valletta, Malta | Embark

Breakfast will be served at the hotel this morning. After, venture out for your chosen excursion.

Traveler's Choice | Choose one of the following included excursions.

Valletta City Tour. Visit the Upper Barrakka Gardens, where sweeping views extend across the Grand Harbor. Continue to the Grandmaster's Palace, the seat of Malta's Parliament, and St. John's Co-Cathedral, one of Valletta's most remarkable landmarks. Inside the cathedral, view Caravaggio's renowned masterpiece, "The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist." Measuring approximately 12 feet by 17 feet, it is the largest painting he ever created. Caravaggio painted the work while living in Malta, where he had joined the Knights of St. John. The painting was created for the cathedral's Oratory of St. John and remains there today. (Moderate)

Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra Archaeological Park. Visit the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra, two remarkably preserved megalithic temple complexes perched on the dramatic sea cliffs of southern Malta. Dating back more than 5,500 years, the temples predate Stonehenge and the Egyptian pyramids and offer a fascinating glimpse into one of the world's earliest monumental stone structures. Enjoy sweeping views of the Mediterranean and the island of Filfla. (Moderate)

Return to Sliema for lunch on your own and free time before transferring to the port.
Embark Hebridean Sky in Valletta's magnificent Grand Harbour. Settle into your cabin before enjoying welcome drinks and dinner on board. As the ship sets sail, admire the breathtaking views of Valletta's Baroque skyline and imposing fortifications, built by the Knights of St. John, as they create a memorable backdrop to your departure.

Welcome Reception. Meet and mingle with your fellow travelers at the Welcome Reception this evening, followed by a dinner aboard the ship.

Day 4 | Sousse, Tunisia

The ship arrives in Sousse, Tunisia, known as the "Pearl of the Sahel." Sousse blends rich history, North African

culture and Mediterranean charm. After lunch, disembark for your traveler's choice excursion.

Traveler's Choice | Choose one of the following included excursions.

Sousse Discovery. Explore the rich history of Sousse, a coastal city whose heritage reflects centuries of Roman, Byzantine and Islamic influence. Begin at the Kasbah Museum, housed within the city's historic fortress walls, where an impressive collection of Roman mosaics offers a glimpse into daily life and artistic traditions in ancient Tunisia. Continue to the Ribat of Sousse, a remarkably well-preserved Islamic fortress-monastery dating to the 8th century. Explore its fortified courtyards and climb the watchtower for sweeping views over the city's rooftops and the Mediterranean Sea. Along the way, discover how these imposing structures once served as both defensive strongholds and centers of religious life, providing a fascinating introduction to Tunisia's architectural and cultural heritage. (Moderate)

El Djem. On this full-day excursion, travel inland through Tunisia's countryside to El Djem, home to one of North Africa's most extraordinary Roman monuments. Explore the impressive Roman amphitheater, built in the 3rd century A.D. and large enough to accommodate an estimated 35,000 spectators. Remarkably well preserved, this monumental arena offers a vivid sense of the scale and spectacle of Roman public entertainment, with towering stone arches, tiered seating and underground passageways that once housed gladiators and animals before performances. Continue to the Archaeological Museum, where an outstanding collection of Roman mosaics showcases the artistry and sophistication of life in ancient Tunisia. Admire intricate scenes depicting mythology, wildlife and everyday activities, and gain a deeper appreciation for the region's importance during the Roman Empire. (Moderate)

Day 5 | Tunis

This morning, your ship arrives in La Goulette, a lively port town near Tunis, known for its Mediterranean waterfront, bustling cafés and blend of Tunisian, French and Italian influences. Serving as a gateway to Tunisia's capital and nearby historic sites, it offers a glimpse of local coastal life and access to the region's rich cultural heritage.

Disembark for your chosen excursion. (Those joining the half-day Traveler's Choice excursions will return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. If you choose the full-day excursion, you will enjoy lunch while on your outing.)

Traveler's Choice | Choose one of the following included excursions.

Carthage. This half-day excursion explores the layered history of Carthage, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Founded by the Phoenicians and destroyed by Rome in 146 BC, Carthage was later rebuilt as one of the Roman Empire's most important cities. Explore the remains of this remarkable ancient center and discover the civilizations that shaped its history. (Active)

Bardo Museum. Join a half-day excursion to visit the Bardo Museum in Tunis, renowned for its exceptional collection of Roman mosaics discovered at archaeological sites throughout Tunisia. Explore the museum's galleries and admire these intricate works, which offer a glimpse into daily life and artistic traditions during the Roman era. (Moderate)

Uthina's Hadrianic Amphitheatre & Zriba Olia Berber Village. Those seeking a full-day excursion travel inland to the

ruins of ancient Uthina, a Roman city known for its hillside amphitheater, dating to the reign of Emperor Hadrian, and the imposing remains of its Capitole. Continue to the atmospheric abandoned Berber village of Zriba Olia, nestled in the mountains and offering a glimpse into the region's traditional way of life. (Active)

Dinner is served on board tonight.

Day 6 | Tunis

Medina of Tunis. Explore the Medina of Tunis, a UNESCO World Heritage site and atmospheric walled city that has served as the heart of Tunisia's capital for centuries. Wander through a maze of narrow alleyways lined with bustling souks, where artisans craft traditional ceramics, intricate metalwork and colorful textiles, and merchants display fragrant spices and other local treasures. Along the way, admire historic mosques, ornate doorways and elegant merchant houses, known as dar, whose intricate tilework, carved wood and peaceful courtyards reflect the city's rich architectural heritage. Discover the enduring influence of Arab and Islamic traditions as you experience the sights, sounds and daily rhythms of this remarkable historic quarter. (Moderate)

Return to the ship for lunch before sailing onward to Algeria.

Day 7 | Skikda, Algeria

Welcome to Skikda, Algeria, a scenic Mediterranean port city celebrated for its beautiful coastline, sandy beaches and mountainous surroundings. Originally founded as the ancient Phoenician settlement of Rusicade and later developed by the Romans, the city retains traces of its rich history alongside French colonial-era architecture.

Traveler's Choice | Choose one of the following included excursions.

Algerian Pastry Making. After a leisurely morning, join a local pastry chef to learn about the traditional techniques used to prepare some of Algeria's distinctive sweet and savory pastries. Enjoy samples throughout the demonstration. Return to the ship for lunch, then spend the afternoon at leisure on the sun deck or reading in the lounge. (Mild)

Constantine. A full-day excursion travels inland to Constantine, one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities. Known in antiquity as "Cirta," it was the royal capital of ancient Numidia. Dramatically situated on either side of a deep gorge carved by the Rhumel River, Constantine is renowned for its many bridges. Visit the Palace of Ahmed Bey, an impressive example of Ottoman-influenced Algerian architecture, and see the imposing Emir Abdelkader Mosque. Take in sweeping views from the Sidi M'Cid Bridge before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant. (Active)

Dinner is served on board tonight.

Day 8 | Bejaia

Arrive in Béjaïa, a picturesque port city on Algeria's Mediterranean coast that is framed by the rugged peaks of the Kabylie region and beautiful turquoise waters. Once an important medieval center of trade and learning, the city offers a rich history, lively waterfront and access to spectacular natural scenery, including Gouraya National Park.

Visitors can explore historic landmarks, enjoy panoramic coastal views and experience the distinctive Berber culture and traditions of this captivating region.

Depart for your chosen excursion. (Those joining the half-day Traveler's Choice excursions will return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. If you choose the full-day excursion, you will enjoy lunch while on your outing.)

Traveler's Choice | Choose one of the following included excursions.

Djemila. The port of Béjaïa, known in Roman times as Saldae, provides access to some of Algeria's most remarkable Roman remains. This active, full-day excursion follows a scenic mountain road through the Kabylia highlands to Djemila, ancient Cuicul, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Explore the remarkably preserved ruins, including the Arch of Caracalla, forum, basilica, temples and theatre. The site museum houses an exceptional collection of Roman mosaics discovered in the surrounding area. (Active)

Bejaia Excursion. Join a cultural half-day outing that explores the history and character of Béjaïa. Visit the Casbah, Place Gueydon, a lively central square, and the historic gates that once marked the entrances to the city. Stop at a local ceramics shop to learn about traditional designs and craftsmanship, with time to browse the collection and shop for a keepsake. (Moderate)

Gouraya National Park Trek. Depart this morning on a half-day excursion that travels to nearby Gouraya National Park, part of the Gouraya UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, for a strenuous yet invigorating trek. Along the way, pause to rest and take in expansive views across the Bay of Béjaïa.(Active)

Relax over dinner on board.

Day 9 | Algiers

Welcome to Algiers! The capital of Algeria is a captivating Mediterranean city recognized as the "White City" for its gleaming white buildings cascading down hillsides toward the sea. Explore the historic Casbah, a UNESCO World Heritage site with winding lanes, traditional houses and Ottoman-era architecture, or admire the grand boulevards and elegant French colonial buildings of the modern city. Blending Arab, Berber, Ottoman and French influences, Algiers offers a fascinating glimpse into Algeria's rich history and vibrant cultural heritage.

After breakfast, depart for your chosen excursion.

Traveler's Choice | Choose one of the following included excursions.

Ancient Tipaza. Join a full-day excursion. Travel west along the coast from Algiers to the ancient site of Tipaza, founded by the Phoenicians and later developed into a prosperous Roman city under Emperor Claudius. Explore the archaeological remains, including three basilicas, the baths, theatre, nymphaeum and a rare oval amphitheater overlooking the Mediterranean. After a traditional Algerian lunch ashore, continue to the Mausoleum of Mauretania, an imposing pyramid-shaped royal tomb that predates the Christian era and is locally known as the Tomb of the Christian. em>(Active)

Algiers City Tour. A half-day city tour of Algiers explores the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Casbah of Algiers and visits the Martyrs' Monument. See La Grande Poste, an impressive example of Hispano-Moorish architecture from the French colonial era, and visit the Basilica of Notre-Dame d'Afrique, perched on a hillside overlooking the bay. (Moderate)

Dinner is served back on board.

Day 10 | Day at Sea

Take the opportunity to slow down, relax and enjoy a full day at sea. Explore the ship, discover its amenities and inviting spaces, or simply unwind and take in the views as you sail northwest across the Mediterranean for Spain. Whether you choose to spend time on deck, join an onboard activity, or settle in with a good book, today is yours to enjoy at your own pace.

Day 11 | Malaga, Spain

Arrive in Málaga, the ancient Phoenician settlement of Malaca, later incorporated into the Roman province of Hispania Baetica. Following lunch, disembark for an enriching excursion.

Malaga. Explore Málaga's fascinating history, beginning with the Alcazaba, a remarkably well-preserved Moorish fortress palace dating to the 11th century and built on earlier Roman foundations. Wander its fortified passageways, peaceful courtyards, lush gardens and ornate arches, with beautiful views overlooking the city and harbor. Nearby, discover the Roman Theatre, dating to the first century B.C., where the remains of the ancient seating area and stage offer a glimpse into Málaga's Roman past. Continue through the historic center, strolling along lively pedestrian streets, grand boulevards and elegant squares lined with traditional architecture, cafés and shops. Visit the Picasso Museum, housed in the beautifully restored 16th-century Buenavista Palace, to admire works spanning the career of Málaga-born Pablo Picasso and learn more about the artist's life and creative evolution. Together, these landmarks reveal the many cultural influences that have shaped this vibrant Andalusian city. (Moderate)

Day 12 | Gibraltar, United Kingdom

Gibraltar's strategic location at the entrance to the Mediterranean has made it a crossroads of civilizations for thousands of years. The Phoenicians, Romans and Moors all left their mark, with Moorish forces capturing the Rock in 711 and ruling for several centuries. Britain gained control of Gibraltar in 1704 during the War of the Spanish Succession, and the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht formally ceded it to Britain. Today, Gibraltar remains a British Overseas Territory, celebrated for its distinctive blend of British and Mediterranean cultures and its enduring importance as a maritime gateway between Europe and Africa.

Gibraltar Discovery. Disembark in Gibraltar, the iconic Rock overlooking the entrance to the Mediterranean. Visit the Moorish Castle, St. Michael's Cave and the colony of Barbary macaques before ascending the Rock for panoramic views across the Strait of Gibraltar to North Africa. Also, explore Gibraltar's distinctive blend of Spanish and British influences, reflected in its architecture, historic sites and enduring role as a strategic military stronghold. (Moderate)

Return to the ship for lunch, followed by free time. There will be shuttles for transport between the port and the

town center.

Free Time: During free time in Gibraltar, explore the lively town center, where you can stroll along Main Street, browse shops and enjoy a coffee or traditional British-style pub meal in Casemates Square.

Day 13 | Tangier, Morocco

Having passed through the Strait of Gibraltar, the ship arrives in Tangier, a historic port city at the crossroads of Africa and Europe.

Tangier's Donabo Gardens, Medina & Grand Souk. Begin your day with a visit to the Donabo Gardens along the coast, where lush greenery and peaceful pathways offer a refreshing introduction to the beauty of the region. Continue into the historic Medina, exploring its maze of narrow alleyways lined with colorful shops, spice merchants and artisan workshops. Discover traditional crafts, browse displays of textiles and ceramics, and experience the lively atmosphere of daily life in this historic quarter. Proceed to the Kasbah, perched at one of the city's highest points, where historic architecture and scenic viewpoints provide a glimpse into the area's past. Conclude your exploration at the bustling Grand Souk, where stalls overflow with fragrant spices, fresh produce, handcrafted goods and local specialties. Throughout the day, enjoy the opportunity to experience the region's rich cultural heritage, distinctive flavors and vibrant traditions. (Moderate)

Return to the ship for lunch.

Free Time: Enjoy leisure time in Tangier. Shuttles will be arranged to provide transportation between the port and the town.

Day 14 | Casablanca | Disembark | Return to Home City

Following breakfast, disembark and transfer to the Mohammed V International Airport for your return flight home.

Accommodations

Noble Caledonia - Hebridean Sky

The Hebridean Sky by Noble Caledonia is an elegant, first-class all-suite vessel designed for up to 118 guests, blending boutique yacht-style cruising with the comfort of a luxury hotel. Following an extensive refurbishment in 2016, she was transformed into a luxury expedition ship, with the complete redecoration of all suites and public areas, enhancing comfort and style throughout. The Hebridean Sky features spacious, well-appointed suites, refined public spaces and advanced maritime technology for smooth and reliable voyages. On board, guests can unwind in welcoming lounges, browse the well-stocked library, enjoy panoramic views from the observation decks or stroll along the open-air promenade, all contributing to a relaxed and sophisticated cruising experience. The atmosphere on board Hebridean Sky is warm, welcoming and intimate, evoking the ambience of a private yacht or refined hotel. Together with exceptional cuisine and carefully selected wines served with lunch and dinner, these thoughtful touches create a voyage that is both memorable and enriching.



Dates & Rates

Travel Dates: May 1, 2028 - May 14, 2028

All rates are in U.S. dollars per person, based on double occupancy, unless otherwise stated, and include taxes. The deposit is per person. The Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure. Single accommodations are subject to availability.

The Optional Extension(s) is available at an additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

For Terms & Conditions, visit: natrus.gohagantravel.com/terms/

The Special Savings consist of $500 Early Booking and $500 Pay-in-Full savings. The Special Savings rate is valid if you book by August 13, 2027 and pay in full at the time of booking.

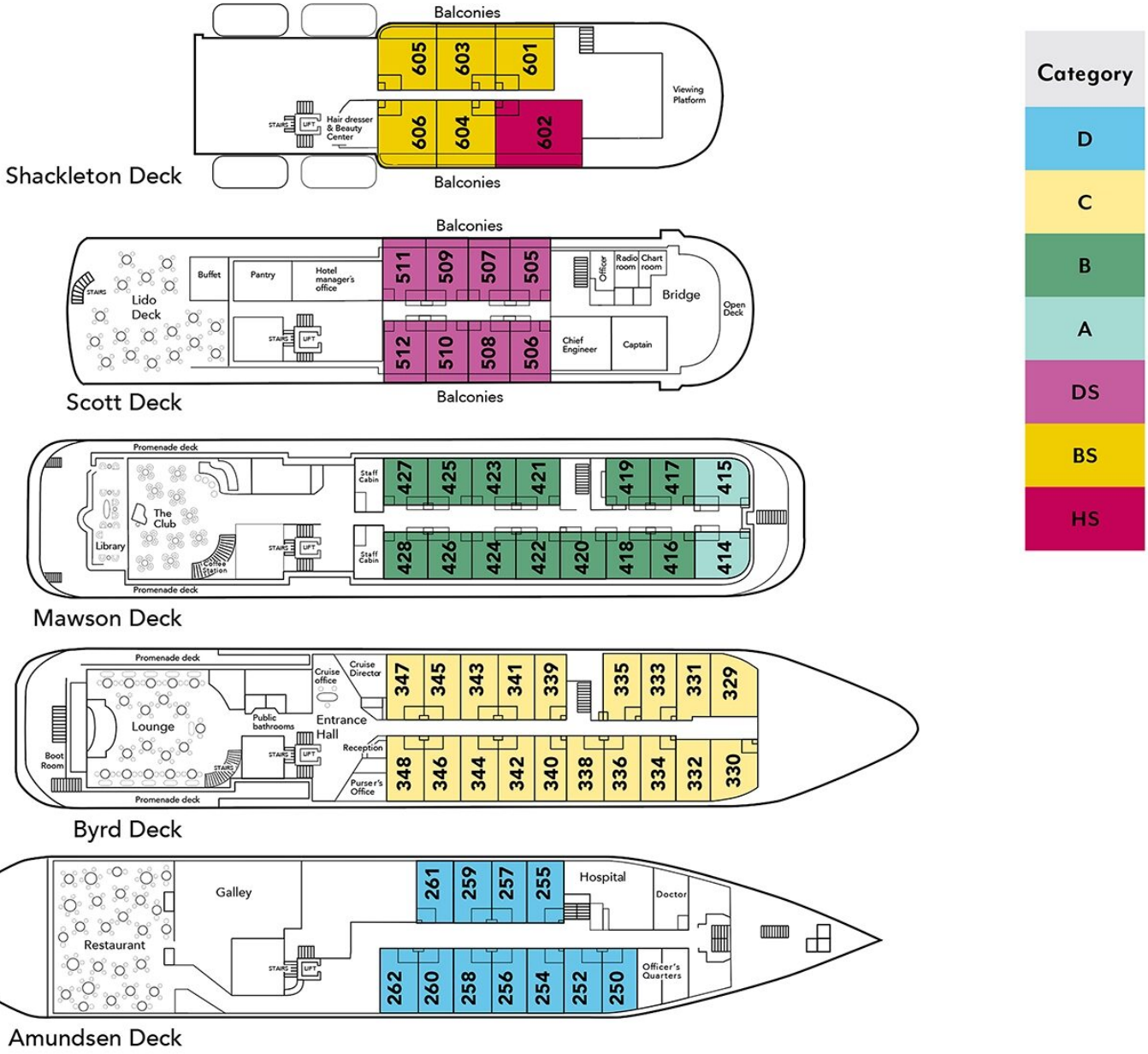
Double Occupancy Rates

Category	Description	Standard Rate	Discount Rate
D	Suite with large porthole. 226 sq ft | Amundsen Deck, mid-fwd.	$14495.00	$13495.00
C	Suite with large window. 236 sq ft | Byrd Deck, mid-fwd.	$15995.00	$14995.00
B	Suite with large window. 226 sq ft | Mawson Deck, mid-fwd.	$17495.00	$16495.00
A	Suite featuring dual aspect windows. 236 sq ft | Mawson Deck, fwd.	$18995.00	$17995.00
DS	Suite with private balcony, furnished with table and chairs. 225 sq ft | Scott Deck, mid.	$21495.00	$20495.00
BS	Spacious suite with large balcony, furnished with table and chairs. One suite has fixed double bed; inquire upon booking. 236 sq ft | Shackleton Deck, mid.	$22495.00	$21495.00
HS	Spacious suite with large balcony, furnished with table, chairs and sun lounger; fixed double bed. 263 sq ft | Shackleton Deck, mid.	$26495.00	$25495.00

Single Occupancy Rates

Category	Description	Standard Rate	Discount Rate
C	Suite with large window. 236 sq ft | Byrd Deck, mid-fwd.	$25590.00	$24590.00
B	Suite with large window. 226 sq ft | Mawson Deck, mid-fwd.	$27990.00	$26990.00
D	Suite with large porthole. 226 sq ft | Amundsen Deck, mid-fwd.	$28990.00	$27990.00
A	Suite featuring dual aspect windows. 236 sq ft | Mawson Deck, fwd.	$37990.00	$36990.00
DS	Suite with private balcony, furnished with table and chairs. 225 sq ft | Scott Deck, mid.	$42990.00	$41990.00
BS	Spacious suite with large balcony, furnished with table and chairs. One suite has fixed double bed; inquire upon booking. 236 sq ft | Shackleton Deck, mid.	$44990.00	$43990.00
HS	Spacious suite with large balcony, furnished with table, chairs and sun lounger; fixed double bed. 263 sq ft | Shackleton Deck, mid.	$52990.00	$51990.00

Noble Caledonia - Hebridean Sky



Pre / Post - Program

Valletta Pre-Tour Extension



Discover Malta's fascinating history, vibrant culture and Mediterranean charm on this enriching pre-extension. Stay in the coastal town of Sliema at AX The Palace hotel and explore the historic capital of Valletta, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where magnificent architecture, sweeping Grand Harbor views and St. John's Co-Cathedral reveal centuries of Maltese heritage. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, unwind along the sparkling Mediterranean at St. George's Bay, and discover the islands' artistic treasures at MUŻA, Malta's national community art museum. A special performance of traditional Maltese folk music offers an intimate introduction to the island's living traditions before your main program begins.

All information is accurate as of November 25, 2026. For up-to-date details, please visit:
natrus.gohagantravel.com/programs/the-mediterranean-and-northern-africa-2028-0501