

# ABOARD&ASHORE NOBLE CALEDONIA

## PATAGONIAN ODYSSEY

WHITE CHANNEL & BERNAL GLACIER, CHILE

Depart Puerto Natales: 0730

White Channel: ~1350

TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2024

Sunrise: 0739

Sunset: 2020

### YOUR DINING

**Self-service Tea & Coffee** 24 hrs

The Club

**Early Risers' Breakfast** 0730-0800

Pastries available in the Club

**Breakfast** 0800-0930

Restaurant & Lido (*weather permitting*)

**Late Risers' Breakfast** 0930-1000

Restaurant only

**Club Bar Menu** 1100-1600

The Club

**Lunch** 1230-1400

Restaurant & Lido (*weather permitting*)

**Cocktail Hour** 1830-1930

The Club

**Dinner** 1930

Restaurant & Lido (*weather permitting*)

### OPENING HOURS

**Reception:** Tel: 301 0600-2300

**Hospital:** 24 hours

*Contact Reception for an appointment.*

**Emergency:** 24 hours – dial 500 (Bridge)

**The Club** 1000-Late

*Cocktail of the Day: Negroni*

**Beauty Salon** 0900-1900

Please book with **Teresa** via Reception or ask to view the range of treatments, including massage, hairdressing and beauty treatments.

### Contact Numbers:

Reception: +1 954 672 6785

### TIME ZONE:

GMT – 3

### CURRENCY: CHILEAN PESO

£1 = 1,200 CLP

USD = 968 CLP

### WEATHER:

6°C - 12°C Mostly cloudy with a light breeze and a possibility of afternoon showers.

*Our journey continues through the vast network of fjords and channels in this remote part of southern Chile. The section we are sailing through today includes the narrow White Channel, which we have to pass again at slack tide during daylight. Yet another navigational highlight of our cruise!*

**0730** *MS Island Sky* is scheduled to depart Puerto Natales and take a scenic cruise north along to the Seno Ultima Esperanza then return back past Puerto Natales so that we can arrive at the White Narrows in time for the slack tide.

**1000** **Recap and Briefing** in the Lounge.

**1100** Please join **Conrad** in the lounge for: “Plants of Chile”.

**1200** Join the **Expedition Team out on Deck 4 for an eBird survey** as part of our Citizen Science Program. Bring your binoculars!

**1250** *MS Island Sky* is expected to arrive at the narrowest section of the Canal White (White Channel) to wait for slack water. An announcement will be made when we are about to start the transit.

### AFTERNOON SCENIC SHIP'S CRUISING

About half way up the “Channel of the Mountains” fjord we find the **Bernal Glacier**. This glacier draining the ‘Campos de Hielo Sur’ (South Patagonian Icefield) has receded up the slopes of the Sarmiento de Gamboa and terminates these days well above the tidewater line of the fjord. We will also pass the **Zamudio Glacier**.

**1530** Join **Wendy** on the Lido deck for another session of “**Shipilates**”. Please bring your stripy towel.

**1730** **Fran** will be in the Lounge with: “**Mysterious Microorganisms**”: From the Atacama Desert to the Chilean Fjords and even on this ship! Join Fran to learn a bit more about the hardy microscopic organisms that surround us.

**1915** **Briefing:** Join us in the Lounge to learn about our plans for tomorrow.

**After Dinner (at about 2115)** **Finlay** will be tinkling the ivories in the Club. Grab a drink and come and join him.

Bernardo O'Higgins National Park is the largest of the protected areas in Chile, covering an area of 35,259 km<sup>2</sup> (13,614 sq mi) in both the Aysén and Magallanes and Antártica Chilena regions. The park is named after General Bernardo O'Higgins, the first head of state of the Republic of Chile.

The earliest occupants of the area were the Alacaluf people before in 1830 the then Captain Phillip Parker King on board *H.M.S. Beagle* visited the Eyre Fjord as the first European.

The park is located approximately between 48° and 51° 38' South Latitude (between the Baker Channel and the northern part of the Fjord of the Mountains. The east-central area of the park is subject to a territorial dispute between Chile and Argentina. The highest summit is the Lautaro volcano at 3,607 m (11,834 ft). Other summits include the Mount Fitz Roy, the Cerro Torre and the Cerro Riso Patrón. The elevations are lower in the southern part of the park, but the scenery is still spectacular. The highlight of this zone is Mount Balmaceda at 2,035 m (6,677 ft), beautified by the glaciers Balmaceda and Serrano.

There are no large rivers on the park coast, but the narrow fjords penetrate deeply into the mountains and bring away the drainage of their ice-capped, storm-swept elevations.

The area of the park corresponds to the Magellanic subpolar forests ecoregion. The forests are made up of several trees species, including *Nothofagus betuloides*, *Nothofagus pumilio*, *Nothofagus antarctica* and *Drimys winteri*. The park is one of the last refuges for the Chilean huemul. In this also can be found species such as Andean condor, marine otter and cormorant.

Because of its rugged geography and the remoteness of the area, the tourism in the park has been scarcely developed. It is only accessible by boat or helicopter. The main gateways for visitors to the park are Puerto Natales, Villa O'Higgins, Caleta Tortel and Puerto Edén.

