





# PONANT, DISCOVER YACHT CRUISES & EXPEDITIONS

www.ponant.com  
Head Office: Marseille  
Offices: Paris, Brussels,  
Hamburg, New York, Sydney,  
Shanghai, Mata Utu

The only French cruise line and world leader in luxury expeditions, PONANT perpetuates the great French maritime tradition, one that offers exceptional destinations and premium hotel services on small capacity ships.



## CONTACTS

Alexandra OLIVARI  
Director of Communications  
Tel: +33 4 88 66 65 42  
aolivari@ponant.com

Laure FOULATIER  
Press & Public Relations Manager  
Tel: +33 4 88 66 64 38  
lfoulatier@ponant.com

PONANT,  
Discover Yacht Cruises & Expeditions



# CONTENTS



6	YACHT CRUISES & EXPEDITIONS An exclusive promise for those who love travel
7	THE LUXURY CULTURE & LEISURE CRUISE A different concept of cruising
9	THE LUXURY EXPEDITION CRUISE A journey to the limits of your dreams
11	OUR DESTINATIONS Discover the treasures of the World by sea
12	GASTRONOMY French Chefs inspired by the World's cuisine
13	WELLNESS ABOARD The privilege of taking care of yourself
14	LATEST GENERATION FLEET Performance and excellence
15	<i>LE PONANT</i>
16	<i>LE BORÉAL, L'AUSTRAL, LE SOLÉAL AND LE LYRIAL</i>
17	<i>THE PONANT EXPLORERS</i>
18	<i>LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT</i>
19	SAFETY Strict rules, international controls
20	ENVIRONMENT & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY A pioneering commitment
21	A COLLECTIVE ADVENTURE Together we go further
22	INFORMATION AND KEY FIGURES
23	A UNIQUE TALE OF SAILORS



# YACHT CRUISES & EXPEDITIONS

An exclusive promise for those who love travel



Yacht Cruises & Expeditions is an exclusive promise made to those who truly love travelling.

## SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

From the beginning, PONANT made a bold gamble to focus on small capacity ships as a way of combining a passion for sailing with luxury yachts.

Aboard PONANT ships, the newest and most modern in the cruise sector, refinement and comfort take inspiration from nautical references: somewhere between chic and casual relaxation. Their sophisticated design and intimate size give passengers the feeling they are on a private yacht.

## EXCLUSIVE ITINERARIES

PONANT's yachts are small enough to reach ports that are inaccessible to the bigger ships. Be it an expedition to the Arctic, a relaxing cruise in the Caribbean or a voyage of discovery to South America, PONANT's carefully thought out itineraries meet everyone's desires.

## THE « FRENCH TOUCH »

PONANT, the only cruise line flying the French flag, brings the "French Touch" to travelling the world's oceans, a way of life embodied by French crews, and where discreet service and gourmet cuisine take pride of place.

The "French Touch" is also this subtle blend of relaxed elegance and conviviality, welcoming and attentive service on board, the "je-ne-sais-quoi" acclaimed by passengers – whatever their nationality.

It is also the choice of French partners known for their high standards of excellence: VEUVE CLICQUOT champagnes, LADURÉE teatime, Pierre FREY for fabrics, home fragrances by FRAGONARD, beauty firm SOTHYST™, HERMÈS for bath products...

## THE MAGIC OF THE "PONANT MOMENT"

Swimming in the wake of a sea turtle in Tobago Cays, sipping champagne at the foot of Mount Etna, or admiring with bated breath a family of whales frolicking... PONANT cruises offer unforgettable moments as immense and magical as the open sea. A unique experience of travel and escape.

# THE LUXURY CULTURE & LEISURE CRUISE

Another concept of cruising



Refinement, curiosity, authenticity...  
A unique reinterpretation of cruising  
to discover or rediscover  
iconic destinations

**The Luxury Culture & Leisure Cruise embodies a new interpretation of the art of sea travel, combining all its pleasures.**

- Gain access to the very heart of ports, both the most iconic and most secret, not accessible to big ships.
- Enjoy a voyage and life aboard elegant intimate ships.
- Set forth to meet local people and learn about their cultures.
- Explore authentic sites known only to insiders.
- Benefit from the presence of guests of honour and expert speakers keen to share their knowledge and passions.
- Experience the privilege and peace of a mind of a tailor-made cruise with the Butler service, available to passengers on Deck 6 of our sisterships.

## THEME CRUISES

Every theme cruise has a bespoke programme built around a topic, on board and ashore during ports of call. These can be special guests, exceptional golf courses, prestigious concert halls, iconic museums...

## GRAND VOYAGES

Combining two or more cruises, these long-distance voyages offer 45 to 81 days of emotions and discovery for people who want to go at their own pace. Designed for those who adore cruising, they offer preferential conditions for back-to-back cruises.

## OCEAN VOYAGES

A unique experience closely sharing in the lives of the crew while enjoying the ships' luxury comfort and facilities.

# THE LUXURY CULTURE & LEISURE CRUISE

Another concept of cruising



## A FEW OF OUR TRAVEL COMPANIONS



### Olivier DE KERSAUSON - **Special Advisor**

He sailed with the great Eric TABARLY on several of his Pen Duicks, then embarked on an independent career. With 45 years as a professional sailor behind him, he has been seven times round Cape Horn, won twice the Jules Verne Trophy, and has several world records to his credit including the tour of Australia, and Los Angeles to Honolulu. He has travelled the world's oceans and shares his experiences of legendary places like the Magellan Strait and Cape Horn with passengers.



### Luc FERRY - **Guest of honour**

Philosopher, writer and politician, Luc FERRY is a philosophy professor with a PhD in political sciences. A former French Minister of Education he regularly gives lectures on our cruises.



### Alain DUAULT - **Artistic Director and Lecturer**

Musicologist, journalist, writer, TV and radio presenter and producer, Alain DUAULT regularly comes aboard to share with passengers his always insightful knowledge of classical music through talks, shows and exceptional artists selected by him for the programme.



# THE LUXURY EXPEDITION CRUISE

A journey to the limits of your dreams



Explore the world's most remote and inaccessible regions in supreme comfort with luxury service: a unique concept from PONANT, world leader in Polar cruising.

Aboard superb yachts, purposefully designed to navigate in extreme regions, passengers gain access to exceptional locations and regions on Luxury Expeditions, real adventures that are authentic yet refined.

## The Luxury Expedition embodies:

- Twenty years of expertise in extreme regions.
- A fleet of five yachts, which will be joined by 6 new sisterships, the PONANT EXPLORERS, between 2018 and 2020. These are designed for expedition, especially tropical and are small enough to be able to land passengers in the most exceptional sites, which other ships are unable to reach. In 2021, the company's fleet will be joined by the first electric hybrid powered by LNG cruise icebreaker too.
- Unique itineraries where flexibility is the approach at all times.
- Expedition teams composed of passionate experts.
- Regular outings and landings in Zodiacs to get as close to nature as possible.
- Constant respect for the environment, from the design of the ships to Zodiac landings.
- And as always, the quality, service and comfort that are the PONANT hallmarks, whatever the destination.

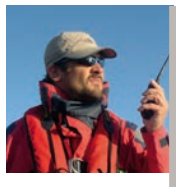
## Exceptional destinations:

- Polar destinations: Antarctica, Arctic, Alaska.
- Tropical et sub-tropical destinations: Costa Rica, the Amazon, the Maldives, Papua New Guinea, the Orinoco, the Bissagos Islands...

# THE LUXURY EXPEDITION CRUISE

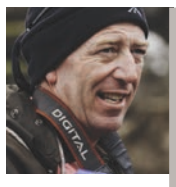
## A sophisticated adventure

Expedition leaders, naturalists, lecturers and passionate guides: our teams of experienced professionals accompany our passengers.



Nicolas DUBREUIL - Expedition leader

Nicolas, the organizer of many expeditions in all of the circumpolar countries, is a pole specialist who is passionate about the indigenous peoples and has undertaken numerous polar expeditions in Antarctica and in the Arctic, including the crossing of the ice cap in Greenland and Prince William Sound in Alaska. This renowned specialist has been accompanying and guiding our polar expeditions since 2005.



Mick FOGG - Expedition leader

As an award-winning wildlife photographer and adventurer, Mick has spent 17 years scouting and developing new itineraries, leading expeditions and photographing some of the world's most remote and spectacular destinations from Antarctica to South East Asia. Mick joined PONANT in 2014 to guide expedition cruises in the Asia Pacific region.



Raphaël SANÉ - Expedition leader

Passionate about nature since his early childhood, Raphaël holds a Master of Advanced Studies in Hydrobiology. He took part in his first scientific expedition in 1997 to conduct a faunistic inventory in Arctic Siberia. Aboard our ships, he has been working as a guide, lecturer or expedition leader in polar (Arctic, Antarctic) and tropical regions (Amazon, Orinoco) since 2005.



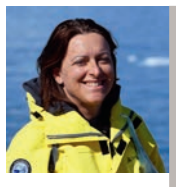
José SARICA - Expedition leader

From an early age protecting nature has been a true vocation for José. With a PhD in Marine Biology, this marine mammal enthusiast is regularly published in international scientific journals. He has been the cetology expert on our polar cruises since 2009.



Alain BIDART - Naturalist-lecturer

Fascinated by the polar territories and wildlife, Alain is part of the team at the International Polar Foundation. Having participated in numerous educational projects and expeditions to the Antarctic, he shares his knowledge of wildlife at the South Pole, birds being his speciality, with our passengers. A wildlife photographer, he also helps them achieve some outstanding photos.



Cécile MANET - Naturalist-lecturer

Cécile is passionate about travel and has worked for tour operators all over the world, but above all in Norway and in Finnish Lapland where she caught the polar bug. Since 2010, as a real expert in the polar worlds and a specialist in the history of expeditions and the great explorers, she has been accompanying PONANT cruises in the Arctic, Antarctic and Asia-Pacific.



Florence KUYPER - Naturalist-lecturer

Florence discovered the Antarctic in 2004 and since then she returns there every year. Attracted by extreme landscapes, she is also in love with deserts and has crossed the Gobi Desert in Mongolia, walking 1,200 km alongside a camel train. Aboard our ships, she likes sharing her love for the history of the polar regions and for penguins.

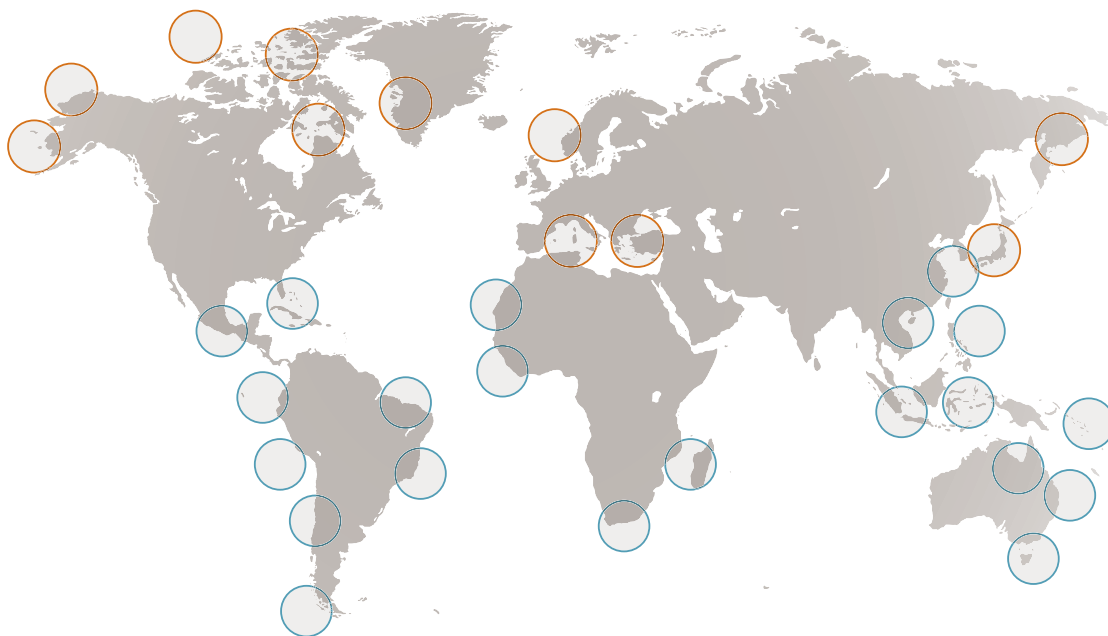
# OUR DESTINATIONS

Discover the treasures of the World by sea

Moorings in hidden coves in the Mediterranean, surprise outings at sea among majestic glaciers in the Antarctic, unusual encounters in remote areas of Alaska, or cruising under sail in the Caribbean...

Our itineraries have been meticulously thought through to discover the world in a privileged environment as close as it is possible to be to Nature and Man.

PONANT cruises are divided into two key seasons: Summer (April to October) and Winter (October to April).



## SUMMER

### ARCTIC

Greenland, Northwest Passage, Alaska, Iceland, Norway (fjords and Spitsbergen), Russian Arctic

### NORTHERN AMERICA

Canada, United States

### ASIA AND OCEANIA

Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Fiji, Wallis and Futuna, Samoa, French Polynesia, Easter Island...

### NORTHERN EUROPE & THE BALTIC

Ireland, England, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, Russia...

### MEDITERRANEAN

Spain, Balearic Islands, Portugal, France, Corsica, Sardinia, Italy, Sicily, Malta, Croatia, Montenegro, Greece...

### AFRICA

Cape Verde, Egypt, Canary Islands, Morocco

## WINTER

### ANTARCTICA

Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia, Falkland Islands...

### LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Panama, Dominican Republic, Cuba, French West Indies (Saint-Martin, Martinique, Guadeloupe), Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, French Guiana, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Brazil, Argentina...

### ASIA AND OCEANIA

Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Maldives, Red Sea.....

### AFRICA

Cape Verde, Bijagos Islands, South Africa, Scattered Islands, Madagascar, Seychelles...

### NORTHERN AMERICA

United-States

# GASTRONOMY

French Chefs inspired by the World's cuisine



Choose the gourmet à la carte menu or a light salad, a table outdoors or room service, treat yourself to a lie-in. Passengers are free to pamper themselves as if they were on a private yacht.



## A JOURNEY TO THE LAND OF FLAVOURS

Whether you are having breakfast among friends with the horizon as special guest, a sun-kissed lunch on one of our exterior decks, or a delicious dinner prepared by our talented chefs in the elegant setting of our gastronomic restaurants, you will enjoy our refined and varied cuisine, served with a selection of fine wines presented by our expert sommeliers.

To continue its route to excellence aboard its ships, PONANT joined forces with Ducasse Conseil, a catering centre of excellence run by Alain Ducasse Entreprise. The two entities are embarking on a project anchored in continuity with a long-term view. It includes auditing, culinary concept creation and training for all the company's chefs, the goal being to provide consistently high levels of service and cuisine across the company's restaurants.

Menus for those with special dietary requirements (light, vegetarians, gluten-free) are also available.

**Note: the OPEN BAR is included on all itineraries.**

## ON THE MENU...

« I love working with fresh produce. To complement what we already have on board I never hesitate to go ashore and scour the markets when we are in port. In Nunavut (Canada), I get my sea trout directly from the local fisherman. » explains Philippe TREMEL, the Breton Head Chef bitten by the sea travel bug.

Awaken your taste buds with a chilled lobster tail and marinated crispy vegetables or with seared sea scallops, octopus, broccoli, Château Viran pure olive oil.

Followed by an Argentinean beef tenderloin, seasonal vegetable gratin, and truffled jus.

Finish in style with a Grand Cru Valrhona dark chocolate delight.

Every day, Head Chefs and their brigades share their passion for France's culinary heritage with passengers, a common thread defining the cuisine which also takes its inspiration from ports of call.



## WELLNESS ABOARD

The privilege of taking care of yourself



As a cruise provides the perfect setting to take care of yourself, PONANT has created intimate beauty and well-being centres aboard its ships, where expert, top-end treatments are on offer — with the ocean as a backdrop.

**Located on Deck 5 on *Le Boréal*, *L'Austral*, *Le Soléal* and *Le Lyrial*, the Spa offers:**

- Treatment rooms, created in partnership with SOTHYST™, a distinguished French beauty institute and spa brand.
- A balneotherapy room (on *Le Boréal* and *L'Austral*).
- A hammam.
- A L'ORÉAL PROFESSIONNEL® hairdressing salon.
- A gym equipped with the latest generation Technogym® apparatus (including the Kinesis Wall®) open to the horizon.
- An outdoor salon with panoramic view providing the perfect spot in which to unwind in peace before or after a treatment.

Like *Le Boréal* and its sisterships, the PONANT EXPLORERS boast a well-being centre to meet all of our passengers' needs. This centre located on Deck 7 features:

- Treatment rooms.
- A sauna with a unique panoramic view.
- A L'ORÉAL PROFESSIONNEL® hairdressing salon.
- A gym equipped with the latest generation Technogym® apparatus.
- A relaxation room.

Moisturising facials, massages, scrubs, aromatic baths, anti-age breaks, hydro-massages (only on *Le Boréal* and its sisterships), evasion treatments or detox rituals: the range is wide, the salts re-mineralising and the expertise very professional.



# LATEST GENERATION FLEET

Performance and excellence



From the start in 1988, PONANT's founders stood out for their innovative approach with a new French flag, then the launch of an exceptional sailing yacht followed by four small capacity ships with character, *Le Boréal*, *L'Austral*, *Le Soléal* and *Le Lyréal*. A new series of six sistership expedition yachts, the PONANT EXPLORERS, will join the fleet between 2018 and 2020, then 2021 will see the arrival of the first cruise icebreaker, *Le Ponant Icebreaker*.

## THE SAILBOAT

### *Le Ponant*

This superb three mast sailing yacht has just 32 cabins, all decorated in a harmonious palette of maritime shades. As on a private yacht, there is a select group of guests on board, people who truly love the sea and sailing under wind power.

## THE FOUR SISTERSHIPS

### *Le Boréal, L'Austral, Le Soléal and Le Lyréal*

These four sisterships, elegant yachts with 122 to 132 cabins and suites, perpetuate our philosophy: limited capacity, unique atmosphere, a subtle combination of luxury, privacy and well-being. Quality materials, discreet refinement, and a natural blend of relaxed elegance, our ships give your customers the chance to enjoy the unique experience of feeling as though they were aboard their own yacht.

Designed specifically for the Polar destinations, the sisterships obtained Comfort Class 1, the highest marks awarded by Bureau Veritas.

## THE PONANT EXPLORERS

*Le Lapérouse and Le Champlain* (delivered in 2018), *Le Bougainville* and *Le Dumont-d'Urville* (delivered in 2019), *Le Bellot* and *Le Surville* (delivered in 2020).

A new generation of ships flying under the French flag, fitted with the latest technologies, certified as a 1C class (the ice class), the PONANT EXPLORERS comply with the most recent environmental regulations and have been awarded the "Cleanship" label (Bureau Veritas).

Just 88 cabins, each with a private balcony, 4 suites, each with a plate glass window and private terrace... The limited-capacity PONANT EXPLORERS are designed for landing in the most inaccessible locations, where others do not go.

## LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT

The first hybrid electric polar exploration vessel powered by Liquefied Natural Gas, *Le Commandant Charcot* is a pioneer in terms of environmental protection. With just 135 staterooms and luxury service, this innovative polar vessel is "Cleanship" certified. The ship will take passengers to rarely explored polar destinations, such as the geographic North Pole (90 degrees North Latitude), the Weddell Sea, the Ross Sea and Peter I Island.



The company's first ship, small scale with shallow draft and a design very open to the sea, this three-masted flagship of our fleet gives passengers the feeling they are on a private yacht.

## AN INTIMATE FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE OPEN TO THE SEA

Enjoying a meal outdoors, diving into the sea from the marina, or watching the sails being unfurled from the large 400 m<sup>2</sup> sun deck, for passengers *Le Ponant* is about life in the open air.

The 32 staterooms all have a porthole. Two comfortable lounges and two restaurants complete the intimate spaces on this beautiful sailing yacht.

## INTERIOR DESIGN

Nautical elements, sophistication and comfort: from a palette of azure blues to grey-blue, this yacht evokes the spirit of yachting (latest renovation in 2014).

32 staterooms all offering a magnificent panoramic view of the sea.

## FACILITIES

- Individual air-conditioning in each stateroom
- Double bed or two singles
- Minibar
- Flat screen, TV channels via satellite
- Bureau with writing paper
- Electronic safe
- Selection of HERMÈS bath products
- Dressing table, hairdryer and bathrobes
- Direct phone line via satellite
- Installation 110/220 volts
- Wi-Fi access.



## LE BORÉAL, L'AUSTRAL, LE SOLÉAL AND LE LYRIAL



The four sisterships embody PONANT'S unique atmosphere, a subtle combination of luxury, intimacy and wellbeing which is the company's hallmark. The sober elegance of their exterior and interior design, and intimate size (only 132 staterooms and suites, 122 on *Le Lyrial*), make these yachts rare and innovative on the cruise market.

### A UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT OF SOPHISTICATION AND COMFORT

On board, everything has been done to respect everyone's independence and tastes: two restaurants, two indoor bars, an outdoor bar, relaxation area on the pool deck, lounges, a theatre for talks, films and shows, a library, an Internet space, a games area with Wii™ consoles, and everywhere intimate spaces where passengers can get together or relax in peace.

### INTERIOR DESIGN

Quality materials combine in a harmony of colours to create a discreetly sophisticated atmosphere, reinventing nautical codes to ensure a warm, welcoming ambiance.

### FACILITIES

- 132 staterooms and suites on *Le Boréal*, *L'Austral* and *Le Soléal* (124 with balcony), 122 on *Le Lyrial* (114 with balcony)
- Individual air-conditioning
- Double bed or 2 singles, possibility to have communicating rooms (for children)
- Minibar
- Flat screen, TV channels via satellite
- iPod™ Station
- Bureau with writing paper
- Electronic safe
- Selection of HERMÈS bath products
- Dressing table and hairdryer
- Bathrobes
- Direct phone line via satellite
- Installation 110/220 volts
- Room service 24/7
- Internet and Wi-Fi access.





# THE PONANT EXPLORERS



PONANT is expanding its unique luxury expedition cruise concept with the arrival of six new sisterships, the PONANT EXPLORERS. *Le Lapérouse* and *Le Champlain* are joining the fleet in 2018, followed by *Le Bougainville* and *Le Dumont-d'Urville* in 2019 then *Le Bellot* and *Le Surville* in 2020.

## A DIFFERENT KIND OF EXPEDITION

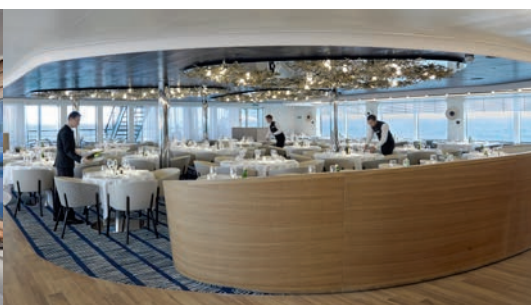
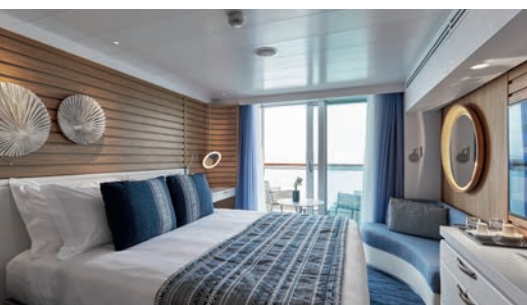
Fitted with innovative equipment, elegantly designed cabins, spacious suites with windows, and lounge areas opening onto the outside, these six new limited-capacity yachts (131 metres long with 92 cabins and suites) provide a unique cruising experience thanks to their design and their small size. The PONANT EXPLORERS are fitted with a movable marina platform, enabling passengers to swim and engage in other activities directly from the ship.

## BLUE EYE, THE FIRST MULTI-SENSORY UNDERWATER LOUNGE WORLDWIDE

The six yachts are fitted with a world exclusive multi-sensory underwater lounge, called Blue Eye. Located within the hull beneath the water line, it allows passengers to see, hear and feel the underwater world. This exclusive concept, a veritable technological achievement, has been designed in collaboration with the architect Jacques ROUGERIE.

## AMENITIES

- Individually controlled air-conditioning
- Double or two single beds, communicating rooms available (for families with children)
- Choice of pillow (down or hypoallergenic)
- Mini bar (unlimited drinks, replenished every day)
- Kettle and Nespresso coffee machine
- Flat-screen TV, television channels via satellite
- On-demand video
- Desk with writing pad
- Electronic safe
- Selection of HERMÈS bath products
- Dressing table and hair dryer
- Direct telephone line via satellite
- 110/220 volt outlets
- Room service twice daily
- Room Service 24h
- Butler service
- Laundry service (at an additional charge)
- Wi-Fi internet access
- Outdoor hot tub in Owner's Suite



## LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT 2021



PONANT announces  
the launch of the first  
hybrid polar exploration vessel,  
in the history of  
the cruise industry.

A world first.  
*Le Commandant Charcot* is  
scheduled for 2021.

### THE ULTIMATE EXPLORATION

Reach the true Geographic North Pole at 90 degrees latitude North, step foot on the ice, cross the Arctic Ocean, discover the far north-east of Greenland, the Weddell Sea, the Ross Sea, reach Peter I Island. PONANT is taking its passengers in the footsteps of the great polar explorers, aboard the very first new-generation polar exploration vessel ever designed.

This new polar Odyssey, promises to be a magnificent adventure in a luxurious setting, with services never before available on this type of ship, which has been specially designed for extreme destinations: on-board Zodiacs, large panoramic suites, Duplex suites with private terrace and spa, personalized service, heated outdoor swimming pool and a giant fire pit, indoor pool extended by a winter garden, gastronomic cuisine, spa, and more.

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT THE HEART OF THE DESIGN

Flying the French flag, this ship equipped with ice-breaker capacity, will be fitted with the latest environmental protection technology and will have a hybrid liquefied natural gas (LNG) and electric propulsion system. This will allow a reduction in the ship's emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub> and fine particulate matter. There will be silent sailing in sensitive areas: thanks to electric batteries, the ship will be able to sail for 30 minutes without producing any emissions and with a very low noise level. It will be equipped with the latest technology to optimise energy consumption, wastewater treatment and waste processing.

*Le Commandant Charcot* will also contain a modern laboratory.



# SAFETY

Strict rules, international controls

Ashore as at sea, PONANT applies strict safety regulations that are subject to regular international controls.



## FRENCH FLAG

Top of the Paris MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) ranking for flags in 2013 and 2014, the French flag is deemed to be the safest in the world. PONANT is the only cruise ship operator flying this flag, a guarantee of environmental quality, ship safety and staff working conditions.

The fleet is monitored by the PACA Corsica CSN (Centre de Sécurité des Navires) in Marseille. All safety equipment is checked and certified every year by the French administration and Bureau Veritas.

Each ship has the ISM (International Safety Management) certification, a very strict international regulation.

On board, each passenger has their own lifejacket in the cabin and near to the lifeboats. The ship evacuation drill, involving all the passengers, is organized before the departure of every cruise. The ships are also equipped with other detection devices, including fire extinguishing systems, and fireproof and watertight doors.

## POLAR REGIONS SPECIALIST

The position of the PONANT fleet is monitored in real time, even in the polar regions. The captain is assisted by an officer specialised in sailing in icy waters and the crew is trained in the behaviour required for navigation in the region and for survival in polar waters. With their reinforced hulls and a structure certified by Bureau Veritas, the sisterships were awarded "Ice 1C" classification, authorising them to sail in the polar regions. The safety equipment aboard allows the ships to withstand extreme conditions while waiting for help to arrive in the event of a problem.

*Le Commandant Charcot*, the first polar exploration vessel, will be built to the standards of Polar Class 2. A world first which will give this ship the capacities of a high-performance icebreaker, capable of sailing in all types of ice, even the most extreme, whilst guaranteeing the highest levels of safety for our guests. Optimal manoeuvrability, autonomy and comfort are guaranteed in all circumstances, there will be a permanent power supply thanks to the hybrid-electric engines and the safety equipment has been specifically designed for the company. This ship is designed to withstand any situation in the extreme polar regions, going beyond what is required by the regulations.

## OFFICERS TRAINING

In 2013, PONANT and the ENSM (Ecole Nationale Supérieure Maritime) naval academy in Marseille inaugurated an ice navigation simulator, the only one in France, developed using data provided by the company's ships and officers who are experienced in this type of navigation. The device is used to train young officers in the organisation of the Bridge, and how to navigate in polar environments, amidst the drifting ice and in extreme weather conditions (snow storms, heavy seas, etc.).



# ENVIRONMENT & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

A pioneering commitment



As a signatory of the Charte Bleue d'Armateurs de France (Blue Charter of French Shipowners' Association) and as a member of IAATO (International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators) and AECO (Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators), PONANT places preservation of the environment at the heart of its priorities.

PONANT was awarded the 2016 Blue Charter Trophy from the French Shipowners' Association to reward its actions with regard to environment protection.



## SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Since 2014, PONANT has adopted a CSR policy and is committed through measures and regular audits to:

- Excel in health and safety management
- Take care of its staff
- Be a leader in terms of protecting the environment
- Apply good practices to its supply chain

## AN ONGOING COMMITMENT

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019, PONANT decided to definitively stop using HFO and replace it with Low Sulphur Marine Gasoil, LS MGO. This fuel considerably reduces Sulphur and fine particulate matter emissions.

Given that its ships are cruising in sensitive areas, PONANT has an ongoing commitment to improve its performance in terms of protecting the environment by:

- Obtaining the "CLEANSHIP" certification for each new ship.
- Fully complying with environmental regulations for its operations and anticipating new regulations.
- Developing and implementing techniques, procedures and partnerships that combine performance and preservation of the environment and communities visited on cruises.

## RESPONSIBLE CRUISE

From the design stage of its ships to landings, everything is done to reduce the company's impact on the environment: carefully selected itineraries, cruising under sail on *Le Ponant*, raising awareness among passengers and crew for responsible behaviour.

• Our commitment goes beyond environmental aspects. We are also clear about our responsibility towards local populations. Our commitment goes beyond environmental aspects. We are also clear about our responsibility towards local populations. We take care to consult them over important decisions and we involve them in the activities on offer during ports of call. We have even been known to provide them with medical support. In this way, we have developed strong partnership with local communities in Greenland, Argentina and also in France.

• We develop each of our expedition cruises in close collaboration with the natives. We work with specialized Ethnologists to build with them the tourist practices of which they are the protagonists. They are the ones who decide what they want to share in their cultures and their environment. Thus involved, the local populations are no longer considered passive actors of tourism.

• We have even been known to provide them with medical support. In this way, we have developed strong partnership with local communities in Greenland, Argentina and also in France.



# ENVIRONMENT & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

A pioneering commitment



## ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

- Waste is sorted aboard ships in accordance with MARPOL regulations for the prevention of marine pollution. PONANT works to optimise the management of its waste when on land. Our aim is to add value to all our packaging. We have put in place a working group dedicated to this subject that includes representatives from all the company's departments.
- Sanitary and waste water are regularly checked to ensure their compliance. Waste water treatment residues are offloaded in ports and given to specialised companies for the appropriate treatment. Ponant has placed a high priority on eliminating plastics in the oceans through a "life cycle" approach that includes source reduction, manufacturing, transportation, use and end of life. We pay attention to the elimination of non-recyclable plastic products.
- Fuel consumption is monitored aboard ships and at the head office. A calculation of our greenhouse gas emissions is made each year.

## CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGIES

- Water treatment: Our ships are equipped with a complete desalinisation system and a wastewater treatment system: a submerged membrane bioreactor. This biodegrading process – free from the use of chemical products – is very reliable. It produces clean water and meets the highest standards of quality. This system is certified according to IMO 2017 regulations and has a GREEN PASSPORT which affirms its respect for the environment. The quality of the water obtained means it does not need chlorination or any other chemical treatment. The pureness of the water produced means it can be used aboard the ship, notably in the laundries.
- Waste processing: we have compactors that are adapted to each type of waste. This allows us to optimise storage volumes and disembarkation operations at ports.
- Navigation aids: PONANT is working on an innovative project using digital navigation. Our ships will be fitted with an electronic assistance system that will ensure optimal fuel consumption.
- FarSounder Sonar providing 3D vision of the seabed at different depths.

# A COLLECTIVE ADVENTURE

Together, we go further

PONANT joins forces with partners who have the same values as the company.



## LE CERCLE POLAIRE®

PONANT supports "Le Cercle Polaire", a think tank that aims to develop and promote a genuine scientific culture of the Arctic and Antarctic areas. "Le Cercle Polaire" also intends to work for better governance of the polar regions in order to ensure a sustainable and responsible management of Polar environments. Laurent MAYET one of the founders of "Le Cercle Polaire", continues this action, initiated by Michel ROCARD, Ambassador of the Poles of the French government, who died in July 2016 and who was the honorary president of "Le Cercle Polaire". Every year, during a cruise aboard our ships, people close to "Le Cercle Polaire" meet at the invitation of PONANT and share conferences, presentations and discussions on environment and geopolitics with the passengers. Among PONANT guests of honour: personalities such as Michel ROCARD, Laurent MAYET, Bernard KOUCHNER, Christine OCKRENT...

[www.lecerclepolaire.com](http://www.lecerclepolaire.com)



## SEAORBITER®

Conceived by French architect and academic Jacques ROUGERIE, in partnership with an international multi-disciplinary team (including oceanographer Jacques PICCARD, astronaut Jean-Loup CHRÉTIEN and Patrick MARCHESSEAU, a Captain with PONANT), SeaOrbiter® is a vertical vessel of 58m (21m above sea level and 37m below), designed to explore the oceans' depths in the future. This international research station right in the heart of the oceans, a world first, will accommodate 18 crew members, including scientists when completed. Its main missions will be to explore, analyse, alert, educate and highlight the marine world.

[www.seaorbiter.com](http://www.seaorbiter.com)

## THE UPERNAVIK FABLAB®

Initiated by the EDANA research laboratory attached to the applied sciences institution Ecole Arc de Neuchâtel in Switzerland and the Neuchâtel's Ethnography Museum, in partnership with PONANT Expedition Leader Nicolas DUBREUIL, the Upernavik Fablab is a crafts cooperative. The project aims to give local craftsmen the means to reproduce Inuit art objects to be sold in museums across the world and on the company's ships. In keeping with its eco-responsible commitment, PONANT is donating money to support the FabLab and also gives €10 to the association every time a passenger opts to have the digital version of their travel documents.

[www.edana.ch](http://www.edana.ch)



## SEA PLASTICS

Because of its geographical scope and its persistent nature, ocean plastic pollution causes irreversible damage to marine biodiversity and ecosystems. The aim of Sea Plastics, a non-profit organisation created in 2016 by students from AgroParisTech, French higher education and research institute, is to design and operate oceanographic expeditions to study the impact of plastics on the marine environment. The data gathered will contribute to the set-up of a circular economy for plastic and to the fight to protect the world's oceans.

[seaplastics.wixsite.com/seaplastics](http://seaplastics.wixsite.com/seaplastics)



## TOURISM CARE

PONANT is a proud member of Tourism Cares, the industry's community for giving and volunteering. Together, PONANT and Tourism Cares bring the talent, resources, and influence to help destinations in need worldwide, and to support the next generation of travel professionals.

# INFORMATION AND KEY FIGURES



## AN EXCLUSIVE CONCEPT

### TWO TYPES OF EXPERIENCES

Yacht Cruises & Expeditions

Luxury Culture & Leisure Cruise

Luxury Expedition Cruise

### KEY FIGURES

7 continents to discover

230 cruises in 2018

A fleet of 9 ships in 2019 and 12 in 2021.

34,000 passengers in 2018

€204 million turnover in 2018

97% customer satisfaction rating

8 offices: Marseille (Head Office), Paris, Brussels, Hamburg, New York, Sydney, Shanghai, Mata Utu

### AWARDS AND HONOURS

- Deutscher Kreuzfahrtpreis 2018 (German Cruise Award 2018)  
*N°1 Product Innovation (Blue Eye)*
- Magellan Awards – Travel Weekly  
*Gold Winner dans les catégories « Small Ships » (2016, 2017), « Eco-Friendly 'Green' Ships » (2017) et « Itinerary » (2016)*
- Travel Awards – Le Quotidien du Tourisme  
*Best cruise line (2015, 2016, 2017)*
- Signature Luxury Travel & Style Cruise Awards (2017)  
*N°1 Luxury Expeditions, N°1 Tall Ships, N°3 Boutique Ships*
- Armateurs de France (French Shipowners' Association)  
*Blue Charter Trophy (2016)*
- Virtuoso Awards  
*Best Luxury Cruise Line (2016)*
- Travel Bulletin Star Award  
*Star Specialist Cruise Company (2016)*
- World's Best Cruise Lines - Conde Nast Traveller UK  
*N°1 for service in the « Small ships » category (2015, 2016)*
- L'Excellence Française  
*Winner (2014)*
- Best for Luxury  
*US Cruise Critic's Editors' Picks Awards (2014)*
- National Geographic Traveler « 50 Tours of a Lifetime »  
*Northwest Passage Crossing (2014)*
- Saveur Culinary Travel Awards  
*Outstanding Culinary Cruise Line (2013, 2014)*
- Tour Hebdo/Invescomm - Barometer of satisfaction from French Travel Agents  
*N°1 for cruise passengers (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014)*
- Seatrade Awards  
*Jean Emmanuel SAUVÉE, Personality of the Year (2012)*

## A UNIQUE TALE OF SAILORS



Jean Emmanuel SAUVÉE  
Founder and CEO

- 1988 LA COMPAGNIE DES ÎLES DU PONANT launches in Nantes on April 1, founded by 14 sailors aged 23 to 29: Jean Emmanuel SAUVÉE, Philippe VIDEAU and a dozen other young officers who had only recently graduated from the Merchant Navy academy. To realise their dream, they come up with an innovative solution for operating ships, which includes a new French flag. They also rely on an unusual means of funding by launching a public offering in 1989 to build their first ship.
- 1991 *Le Ponant*, the first of the fleet and the company's legendary sailing yacht, is built at the Villeneuve-La-Garenne shipyard in France.
- 2004 The company joins CMA CGM, moves to Marseille and becomes LA COMPAGNIE DU PONANT. In 2007, at the instigation of the Group, heir to the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes and Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, the company embarks on a bold new adventure: to design the ideal cruise ship which results in the launch of four sisterships, built by the Italian Fincantieri shipyard, starting with *Le Boréal* launched in 2010, followed by *L'Austral* in 2011.
- 2012 The acquisition of LA COMPAGNIE DU PONANT from the CMA CGM Group by investment firm Bridgepoint provides the means to continue its growth and take the company onto the next stage of its development into other international markets. A third sistership, *Le Soléal*, is launched in 2013. In keeping with the company's pioneering spirit, she becomes the first French commercial ship to cross the Northwest Passage, from Greenland to Siberia with 200 passengers on board in September 2013.
- 2014 LA COMPAGNIE DU PONANT becomes PONANT, an eponymous brand bearing the name of the first ship and founding element of the brand. This name change comes at an important stage in the company's history to support its development in France and abroad.



- 2015 The launch of *Le Lyrial* in April 2015 marks the last of this superb series of four latest generation sisterships, unique in the cruise sector due to their size and innovative design. The acquisition of PONANT by Artémis, holding company of the Pinault family, allows PONANT to pursue its maritime adventure, building a promising future, based on its savoir-faire, its original ideas and an enormous amount of hard work from all the crews and onshore teams.
- 2016 PONANT announces order of the PONANT EXPLORERS series: four exceptional yachts, specially designed for expeditions. The first two will arrive for the Summer 2018 season and the other two in 2019.
- 2017 PONANT announced the order for the first hybrid electric polar exploration vessel powered by Liquefied Natural Gas, *Le Commandant Charcot*.
- 2018 PONANT announces an order for two additional ships for the PONANT EXPLORERS series, *Le Bellot* and *Le Surville*, delivery of which is scheduled for 2020.





Photos credits: Ponant, François Lefebvre, Nathalie Michel, Philip Plisson, Guillaume Plisson, Christophe Dugied, Christophe Brachet, Nicole Lejeune, Eric Laignel, Corbis, Fotolia, Shutterstock, iStock, Getty Images.

