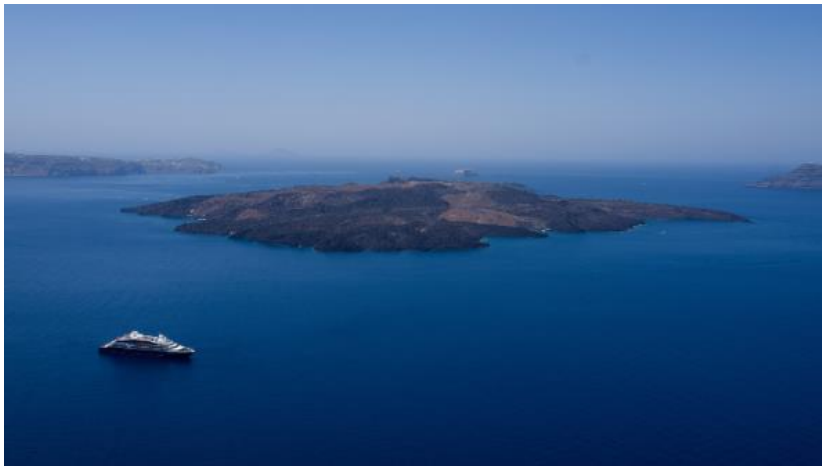




PONANT reaffirms its environmental commitment



True to its commitments for responsible tourism, PONANT continues to deploy innovative solutions across its fleet and sets the seal on environmental excellence by obtaining Green Marine Europe certification for the third year running.

A Green Marine Europe certified fleet

PONANT is the first international cruise company to join the Green Marine Europe environmental certification for the shipping industry programme, and sees its certification renewed for the third consecutive year.

This programme provides a detailed framework of indicators that enables port authorities, terminals, shipowners and shipyards to reduce their environmental footprint proactively and measurably.

The Green Marine Europe initiative recognises those who measure their environmental performance every year and reduce their ecological footprint. It addresses priority issues through 14 performance indicators, eight of which apply to shipowners. They assess on a scale of 1 to 5 the practices and technologies that are having a direct impact on the environment. These include underwater noise, pollutant air emissions (NO_x, SO_x and PM), greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂), invasive aquatic species, management of residues and oily discharges, and ship recycling. This year PONANT achieved an average of 4.4, reaching level 5 ("leadership and excellence") for six out of the eight indicators.

"PONANT has made strong commitments towards sustainable and responsible tourism, illustrated in particular by the fact its requirements are considered fundamental to our operations and by the significant deployment of green technology aboard our ships. Participating in a rigorous certification process of continuous improvement like the one offered by Green Marine is directly in line with our Blue Horizon sustainability strategy which also promotes a collective commitment: Sustainable Future is our destination," explains PONANT General Secretary Charles Gravatte.

Green equipment to protect the natural wealth of visited destinations

Since 2019, the company has abandoned heavy fuel oil for Low Sulphur Marine Gasoil (LS MGO) with 0.05% sulphur content, which is ten times lower than current maritime standards stipulate. PONANT was the first company to take this approach, regardless of the ship or destination, considering the whole world as a Sulphur Emission Control Area (SECA).

Having undertaken to equip all its ships by 2025, PONANT has just fitted *L'Austral* and *Le Boréal* with catalytic systems to slash their nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions by 90%. Up to now, only the six more recent PONANT EXPLORER ships and the world's only luxury icebreaker *Le Commandant Charcot* had this technology. As will *Le Ponant*, when she leaves the yard in July. PONANT's objective is to extend that commitment to limit its nitrogen oxide emissions (NECA – Nitrogen oxide Emission Control Area) for all oceans.

PONANT has also taken major steps to reduce all its atmospheric emissions, particularly greenhouse gas emissions, hence why the company chose to equip all its ships with dockside connections by 2025, starting with *Le Dumont-d'Urville* and *Le Bellot*. Recently, *Le Bellot* was the first of the company's ships to connect to the dock's electricity supply at Hafnarfjörður (Reykjavik), a first for that port.

A pioneer in the field, PONANT has stayed ahead of environmental standards since it launched 30 years ago. It is the only company to use, on all the oceans, systems and fuels currently only mandatory in a few vulnerable zones, which has set the benchmark. Other measures to reduce carbon emissions are being studied or deployed, such as reducing speed and improving energy efficiency on board.

Committed to the environment and climate

As a reminder, the company's environmental commitments are reflected in a tangible, visible way across the whole fleet:

- Consider the whole world as a Sulphur Emission Control Area for all ships in its fleet by 2025;
- Reduce CO₂ emissions by 15% by 2026 and 30% by 2030 compared to 2019;
- Completely eliminate single use plastics aboard and ashore from 2022;
- Ensure reuse and traceability of all waste by 2025;
- Embark scientific research teams aboard the world's only luxury icebreaker *Le Commandant Charcot*;
- Support the international Blue Nature Alliance project that aims to create 18 million km² of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2025.

ABOUT PONANT

Explore to Inspire: explore to better understand, learn, share and protect. For more than 30 years, PONANT has been committed to more responsible tourism and voyages of exploration which have meaning. The French-flagged fleet comprises 12 small capacity ships and the sailing yacht *Le Ponant*, equipped with state of the art environmentally friendly equipment. With PONANT, exploration is refined, authentic and a source of inspiration. For more information www.ponant.com

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