

AN ODE TO CONTEMPORARY ART, WITH THE PINAULT COLLECTION - MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE

Some encounters change the way we look at art. From the Corsican shores to the lights of Sicily via the Croatian coastlines to Trieste , the Mediterranean will reveal itself like an open-air gallery, where each port paints its own distinctive picture. Alongside the Pinault Collection and in the presence of Emma Lavigne , General Director and Chief Curator of the Collection, go behind the scenes of contemporary art and discover the works through the eyes of those who bring it to life, and Lucia Pesapane , art historian and specialist in the work of Niki de Saint Phalle, go behind the scenes of contemporary art. Emma Lavigne 's talks will offer insights into the Collection's curatorial vision and the artistic practices that inform it. Enjoy exclusive art experiences curated by Emma Lavigne, General Director and Chief Curator of the Pinault Collection: discover the treasures of Venice, then the Revoltella Museum during a guided tour. Continue with a private visit of the Tarot Garden , before enjoying a special preview of the Renava Biennale in Bonifacio. In Venice , discover the Pinault Collection's two museums, Palazzo Grassi and Punta della Dogana , during private tours, with the visit to Palazzo Grassi culminating in an exclusive cocktail reception in its atrium. Then dive into the heart of the Biennale of Contemporary Art , enriched by insights from the Biennale's guides, a highlight of this voyage.



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Venice

Proud and eternal, Venice has reigned on its lagoon ever since the 6th century. You may think you know this city before even setting foot here. You will inevitably fall in love with the charm of the innumerable treasures of the Serenissima: **Saint Mark 's square,** the **basilica** , **Doges palace,** the **Grand Canal** and the **gondolas.** Yet, secret Venice is also waiting for you to explore its little interlacing streets and canals, to ramble through its squares and to push open the doors of its churches. The city's extraordinary heritage shouldn't stop you from enjoying a glass of Spritz and a few tramezzini.

Day 2 - Venice



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Day 3 - Venice

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Day 4 - Trieste

Nestled in North-Eastern Italy, **Trieste** is a quiet little town that time seems to have forgotten. In the past the main port for the Austro-Hungarian Empire and a meeting point between the East and the West, it has managed to shape a personality of its very own over the centuries, in a unique setting between the whiteness of the karstic landscapes and the blue of the Adriatic. Constructed by the Romans in the 1st century BC, it has preserved important ancient ruins from this epoch, which now mingle with many Neo-Classical and Viennese palaces, as well as elegantly decorated cafes. Discover the hidden treasures of this town with such a particular atmosphere, a source of inspiration for Jules Verne who wrote his famous novel Mathias Sandorf here.

Day 5 - Dubrovnik

Emblem of the Dalmatian coast, Dubrovnik is magnificently positioned on a rocky spur. History is sovereign here, in this ancient city, now a **listed UNESCO World Heritage site.** You will perhaps be surprised by the proportions of La Placa, the central drag through the city. The sheer width of it can be explained by the fact that it straddles a former lagoon. The elegant houses along La Placa are built in the legendary travertine stone. At Pile gate, you will be greeted by the statue of the patron saint of Dubrovnik, and you can admire the coastline as you **walk along the ramparts.** But what's inside **Fort Saint John,** adjoining the outer walls? A maritime museum and an aquarium featuring rare fish from the Adriatic.

Day 6 - At sea

During your journey at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This journey without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, depending on the activities offered, or to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.



Day 7 - Taormina, Sicily

Located on Sicily's eastern coast, in the province of Messina, the seaside town of Taormina is Sicily's Saint-Tropez, boasting heritage sites, secluded beaches and luxury shopping. You can visit its medieval centre, suspended 300 metres above sea level, where terraces offer a spectacular view of the Mediterranean Sea. Another vestige from its past are the ruins of the **Greco-Roman theatre.** This extremely well-preserved site attracts visitors who are fascinated by the natural beauty of the area which overlooks a **turquoise bay.**

Day 8 - Sorrento

Perched on the cliffs that plunge into the deep blue of the Mediterranean, **Sorrento** is ideally located on a peninsula between the **Gulf of Naples** and the Amalfi Coast. Its peaceful alleyways, villas, hotels and **gentle way of life** have been charming visitors and the greatest authors since the 19th century, from Byron and Tolstoy to Dickens and Goethe. As you enjoy a walk in this **romantic atmosphere** , you will discover the mediaeval cloister of Saint-Francis Church and a magnificent panorama over the Gulf of Naples and **Mount** **Vesuvius**. Sorrento is surrounded by groves of **oranges** and **lemons** , flavours that can be enjoyed in particular in the form of a sweet liqueur, limoncello.

Day 9 - Porto Ercole

With its landscapes of undulating hills covered in lush meadows, narrow streets with colourful houses, and picturesque paths shaded by pines... **Porto Ercole** is a concentration of all of Tuscany's beauty. And what would it be without a fascinating, mystery-filled history? Overlooked by its 16th century fortress, this small village is renowned for having witnessed the final days of the**famous painter Caravaggio** , said to be buried there. On the Monte Argentario peninsula, you might have the chance to meet the fishermen of the Orbetello Lagoon, classed as a natural reserve, who perpetuate traditional fishing methods, or meet local wine, olive oil and cheese producers. For our sportier guests, the surrounding wild and pristine nature will provide the opportunity for a hike along the island's heights to enjoy breathtaking views.

Day 10 - Bonifacio, Corsica

The spectacular town of **Bonifacio** located on the very tip of southern Corsica, clings to a narrow promontory of white rock overhanging the turquoise waters of the Mediterranean. You can admire its limestone cliffs hewn out by the wind, before setting off on a cultural tour of its cultural treasures. From the little paved streets in the ancient **Haute Ville,** to the promenade on the open-air medieval **chemin de ronde,** this stunning town will take you on a journey back in time. Frequented or secluded, there are numerous beaches to choose from, all in keeping with the high standards of the "Île de Beaute".

Day 11 - Nice

Capital of the Cote d 'Azur, Nice is surrounded by an amphitheatre of hills and mountains that protects it from the wind. You will probably want to explore the Promenade des Anglais, where you can sit on one of the famous blue chairs laid out opposite the baie des Anges. The Chateau hill is also a very pleasent place to walk. This is the entrance to the **old city,** with its bustling markets and regional products along the main street, the Cours Saleya.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: L'AUSTRAL

YOUR SHIP:	**L'Austral**
VESSEL TYPE:	
	142 metres. Passenger Capacity:
	264 (200 in Antarctica). Built:
LENGTH:	**2011**
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	

Luxury Expedition / Cruise Ship This superb mega-yacht with 132 cabins is the result of the expertise of the Italian Fincantieri shipyard and French sophistication, as interpreted by designer Jean-Philippe Nuel. L'Austral has a unique atmosphere, a subtle blend of luxury, intimacy and well-being. A sleek silhouette softened by elegantly smooth contours and large, arched windows opening up to the sea and the light: so many features come together to give L'Austral her distinctive shape. Precious materials, discreet elegance and a perfect balance between chic and casual, combine to make you feel as if you are on your own private yacht. A design blending tradition and innovation, where a nautical mood has been subtly recreated. Precious materials in smoothing neutral tones are brought to life with splashes of cheerful reds. So many personal touches create the spirit of a "private yacht". Suites and staterooms You can expect magnificent ocean views as 124 staterooms and suites have balconies. Individually-controlled airconditioning · Cabin layout: kingsize bed, or twin beds, communicating cabins available (children welcome) · Minibar · Flat screen satellite TV · IPod™ players · Desk with stationery · Electronic safe · French bath products · Dressing table and hairdryer · Bath robes · Satellite direct line telephone · 110/220 volts · 24hr room service · WiFi · Balcony Cuisine Loyal to the great French tradition, the haute cuisine on board is worthy of the finest restaurants, where discreet, attentive service is the hallmark. Choose from two restaurants for breakfasts, lunch and dinner. The Gastronomic Restaurant is situated on Le Liberte Deck and serves you French and international cuisine accompagnied by fine wine. On the Grill Restaurant, you have the opportuniny to eat outside and enjoy buffet lunch and themed dinner. Life On Board Whether you want to join other guests in the theatre or games area (Wii™ consoles, etc), or relax on your own in a quiet corner of the library, L'Austral has been designed to meet the needs of every guest. Everything has been done to preserve the independence of each guest to suit their personal tastes: lounges for lectures and shows, a spa in partnership with Sothys™, but also more intimate spaces such as the library and internet corner. Comfortable cabins, nearly all with private balcony, are available for families either as triples or as communicating cabins. There is also a games area with Wii™ consoles, children's menus, and a baby-sitting service. Just as if you were on a private yacht, your time is your own to do as you please. Fitted with the latest equipment (Kinesis Wall, running machine) and in partnership with the famous Sothys™ brand, the Beauty Centre on L'Austral welcomes you for some unforgettable moments of relaxation and pampering (beauty treatments, hairdresser). Wheelchairs 3 specially adapted wheelchair cabins (Deck 3 = Superior cabin no. 307, no balcony, Deck 4 = Prestige Cabin no. 407 - with

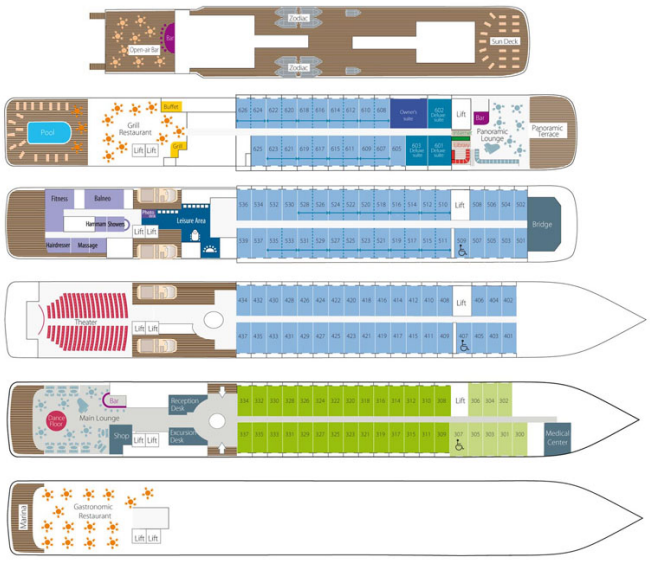
balcony and Deck 5 = Prestige Cabin no 509, with balcony) and lifts to all decks/areas. Details Please click the following links to read more about Ponant and the other Ponant



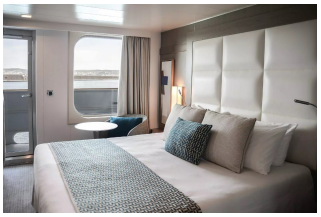
cruise ships.



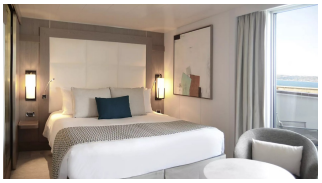
INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Deluxe Stateroom



Deluxe Suite



Owner's Suite



Prestige Stateroom Deck 4



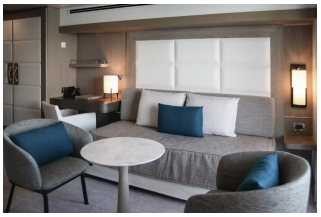
Prestige Stateroom Deck 5



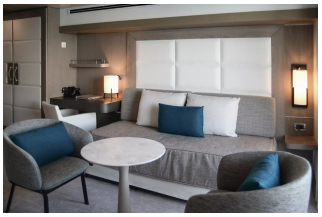
Prestige Stateroom Deck 6



Prestige Suite Deck 5



Prestige Suite Deck 6



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