



The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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BRITISH ARCHIPELAGOS AND CELTIC SHORES

From the coast of Brittany to the shores of Ireland, PONANT invites you to spend unique moments where the English Channel meets the Celtic Sea. This 8-day interlude between Saint-Malo and Dublin aboard Le Lyrial will take you to the heart of landscapes of wild and melancholic beauty. Between lush meadows, craggy cliffs, small colourful villages, peat bogs and moors, succumb to the charms of these lands steeped in mystery. You will set sail from Saint-Malo, a town famous for the legendary Route du Rhum yacht race. The city of privateers, the diversity of its heritage and its rampart walks will not fail to delight you. Le Lyrial will then make its way north-west to reach the Channel Islands. Here, nature reigns and offers the perfect getaway. In Guernsey, fall in love with this island that is as captivating as it is mystical. Numerous dolmens and menhirs dot the island, bearing witness to its long history and rich heritage. Next, edged with verdant plains and rocky cliffs, Herm, the smallest of the Channel Islands, will surprise you with its wild, unexplored and untouched quality. Then, you will make your way to Dartmouth, a charming town tucked away in the heart of the stunning decor formed by the mouth of the Dart. You will discover its old pastel-coloured fishermen's houses and some half-timbered buildings. Then, mythical Cornwall will reveal itself. In Fowey, you will marvel at Mother Nature's masterpieces. There, you will discover a spellbinding environment of majestic cliffs and vast natural spaces, conducive to escape and tranquillity. Your ship will then sail towards the Isles of Scilly, a strange little archipelago whose landscapes seem to have come straight out of Enid Blyton's famous story, The Rockingdown Mystery. Here, long sandy

beaches lie alongside green fields, while ruins of old castles stand proud on hilltops. After a unique stop in Bantry, between spectacular cliffs, a fascinating bay, and vast stretches of orange-tinged moors, you will call at Cobh. Charming and romantic, a place of history and legend, the city reveals itself through its maze of cobbled streets with, in the background, its 17th-century fortress and its majestic forest. Your cruise will end in Dublin, the Irish capital brimming with convivial atmosphere and

authentic charm.

ITINERARY

Day 1 SAINT-MALO

The mere mention of Saint-Malo's name is enough to plunge us back into the richness of its past. The fortifications stand as testimony to the Malouins' determination to defend their citadel, fought over by France and Britain in turn. When we drop anchor here, immerse yourself in the diversity of its heritage: the time when privateers sailed the oceans in search of trade and victories; the legendary yacht races the port city is still famous for, such as the Route du Rhum; and the final resting place of the French writer François-René de Chateaubriand, who was born here and chose to be buried here anonymously.

Day 2 GUERNSEY, CHANNEL ISLANDS & HERM, CHANNEL ISLANDS

Guernsey is an atypical and unforgettable port of call. This Channel Island will delight you with its mild, idyllic climate and its green and floral landscapes. Don't be surprised to come across dolmens and menhirs here and there, testifying to the

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long history of the island and its rich heritage. The attractive capital of St. Peter Port is characteristic of the delightful British atmosphere that gives the island its charm. The memory of the great writer Victor Hugo is also very present, as he lived for fifteen years in exile in Guernsey. His home, Hauteville House, preserves his memory. The incredible richness of the decoration gives a clear illustration of the creative genius of this great man. A neighbour of Guernsey and the smallest of the Channel Islands, Herm offers escape, tranquillity and authenticity. A green and rocky islet with a population of 60 souls, time seems suspended here, and you will hear only the captivating melody of the Channel swirling against the jagged cliffs, and the colonies of seabirds flying over these preserved lands. Steeped in history and mystery, it also shelters fine expanses of fine sand on which woolly mammoths roamed millions of years ago. Neolithic colonies have been discovered and excavations have revealed evidence of a prehistoric beach.

Day 3 DARTMOUTH

Succumb to the charming setting of the small town of Dartmouth in the county of Devon, South-East England. Set in the heart of lush scenery, on the banks of the River Dart's estuary, the town's magnificent landscapes are typical of English countryside. Its picturesque paved streets will let you discover sumptuous half-timbered houses dating back to the 15th and 16th centuries while, on the northern bank of the river, you will be able to admire former fishermen's houses in their pastel colours. Now a popular tourist destination, this small port town has nonetheless managed to retain its relaxing and romantic atmosphere.

Day 4 FOWEY

In mythical Cornwall, at the mouth of the River Fowey, the eponymous town surprises and enchants. Edged with lush valleys, Fowey is ideal for those who love nature and the great outdoors and are looking to escape and relax. The charming little town has many coastal hiking trails. Stroll through its narrow streets of its picturesque old town, which was home to the British novelist and playwright Daphne du Maurier as well as inspiring her work.

Day 5 ISLES OF SCILLY

Nestling in the clear waters of the Atlantic Ocean, at the south west tip of Cornwall, the Isles of Scilly form a small British island chain whose climate, landscapes and lifestyle are unlike any other and seem to have come straight from an Enid Blyton story. Here, everything resembles a tropical paradise. The long sandy beaches run alongside lush green meadows teeming with semi-exotic flowers, whilst the ruins of ancient castles loom from the tops of the hills. Veritable havens of peace that inspired the legendary Avalon of King Arthur, they are today listed as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the rugged coastline plays host to wildlife that is as varied as it is exceptional, including the very rare Atlantic grey seal.

Day 6 BANTRY

In the hollow of a majestic harbour north of the Durrus Peninsular, in southwestern Ireland, in County Cork, the village of Bantry appears between spectacular cliffs, a fascinating bay and huge expanses of amber-coloured moors. Like a postcard of a wild, preserved and authentic Ireland, this charming small town can be explored via its coastline shredded by the winds and currents, and its small paved streets edged with Georgian- and Victorian-style residences. Fall under the spell of one of the village's emblematic sites, Bantry House. A majestic

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17th-century manor house dominating the bay, it will charm you with its architecture, its enchanting French-style gardens and its captivating panoramas.

Day 7 COBH

From the very endearing small town of Cobh, you will set out to discover Cork, rich with a history that goes back to Viking times. During our visit here, we invite you to take an exceptional trip to Blarney Castle, dating from 1446 and renowned for its legends and its ancient stones. At the end of your visit, do not miss the chance of kissing the "Stone of Eloquence", located at the top of the monument, which legend tells will confer its powers upon you.

Day 8 DUBLIN

The Irish capital stretches along the banks of the Liffey to Dublin bay, on the East coast of Ireland. Discover Ireland's warm conviviality in the pedestrian district of Temple Bar. Its cobbled streets are brimming with fabulous shops, pubs and arts centres. Next to Trinity College, famous for its 18th century library, you can stroll along Grafton Street: in one of its famous tea shops, try a delicious scone and clotted cream served hot and melt-in-the-mouth with jam. Not far from here, the majestic O'Connell bridge leads you to the avenue with the same name, on which Spire, a luminous contemporary sculpture presides.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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YOUR SHIP: LE LYRIAL

YOUR SHIP: Le Lyrial

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

A sleek silhouette, a welcoming intimate atmosphere, discover aboard this new ship the philosophy that has made our sisterships such a success: the spirit of Yacht Cruises. Sailing under the French flag, this magnificent yacht of only 122 staterooms and Suites, with balconies, will join our fleet in April 2015. You will be enchanted by the contemporary decor inspired by the our destinations and the blue light of the Vega star in the Lyra constellation. The result is a subtle variation around a palette of blues, ranging from the luminous delicate grey-blue of the Polar ice to splashes of the vivid turquoise blue found in Mediterranean coves. A refined ambiance is enhanced by the quality of the workmanship and materials: white Corian counters in the lobby contrast with the warmth of leather to recall a boat's hull, while the central sculpture of enamelled pieces takes its inspiration from the sea. In the loungebar, the carpet picks up a tennis stripe theme symbolising a certain idea of cruising, one synonymous with French elegance and a chic seaside spirit. Please click the following links to read more about Ponant and the other Ponant cruise ships.



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ADDITIONAL CHARGES:

Port Taxes & Fees 520 AUD pp



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