

EXPEDITION TO THE THULE REGION - CRUISE ALONG THE COASTLINE OF BAFFIN BAY

Discover the region of Thule , the mythical territory of the Far North, on a PONANT itinerary along the coastline of Baffin Bay. Between Greenland's west coast with its mountains softened by glaciers to the Arctic mountain range's steep slopes and Thule's high Arctic tundra, you will sail through the polar region's most spectacular landscapes. From Kangerlussuaq , set off aboard _L 'Austral _on a 17-day expedition cruise to the far reaches of the planet. From the ice cap to the ice floes , via glaciers , icebergs and brash ice, you will sail among the Northern Hemisphere's largest ice producers. North of the Baffin Sea, in the region of Thule , guided by your Captain and your Expedition Leader, you will experience a tricky but spectacular sail between drifting icebergs and sheets of ice floe. If you are lucky you will observe one of the many polar bears that roam this favourable environment. _We are privileged guests in these remote lands where we are at the mercy of weather, ice, tidal and current conditions. Landings on certain sites and the observation of certain wildlife cannot be guaranteed. They vary from day to day, making each PONANT cruise a unique experience. The Captain and the Expedition Leader will make every effort to ensure that your experience is as rich as possible, while complying with the safety rules and instructions imposed by the AECO._



ITINERARY

Day 1 Nuuk

When Erik Le Rouge, the exiled Norse chief, landed on the coast of Nuuk, he found a fertile and welcoming land dotted with fjords. He settled there with a group of his former countrymen, and **the Norse** remained the principal inhabitants until, over a period of 500 years, their population declined and gave way to the Inuit. **Nuuk** is situated at the mouth of one of the largest networks of fjords in the world, where the waters never freeze. The town spreads gently out towards the **Davis Strait** and enjoys an historic center that is particularly rich in national heritage. The vivid reds, blues, greens and yellows of the houses are a lively contrast to the somber waters of Greenland and serve to lift the spirits of the locals during the



Winter months.

Day 2 Sisimiut

During your cruise, we invite you to discover Sisimiut, founded in 1756 and the second largest town in Greenland. This small town is typical of Greenland, boasting bewitching panoramas: here and there, colourful stilt houses dot the undulating landscape, and the small fishing port stands as the gateway to an icy realm. As for the town centre, it is home to a number of historic buildings, a small church and a museum which retraces the history of the Inuit people, as well as many craft shops. When your ship drops anchor here, you will set out to meet the locals in a typically arctic atmosphere.

Day 3 Disko Bay

To the east of Baffin Bay, discover Disko Bay, scattered with countless icebergs produced by the Ilulissat Icefjord, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. From your ship, admire the majestic ballet of these ice giants as they slowly drift across the dark waters. This site is a natural marvel of Greenland, and is also renowned as an observation point for the region's many humpback whales. The encounters with wild fauna and stunning landscapes in the heart of this spectacular and fragile nature will be pure moments of wonder for you.

Day 4 Paul-Émile Victor Base Camp, Eqi Glacier

"The most beautiful place in the Arctic" is how Paul-Émile Victor described Greenland, a land of great icebergs and of towering ice formations calved by the giant glaciers of the polar ice cap. The Eqi Glacier is one of the region's most impressive sights. Here, the silence is broken only by the roaring and cracking of the ice. It is impossible to know if one is shivering from cold or from the sheer thrill of being here... Imagine the vast outline of a glacier, its translucent crystals glowing with an ice-blue fire in the sunlight. Paul-Émile Victor's shelter cannot be overlooked; it was from here that the French Polar Expeditions' anthropological and geographic explorations set off in the 1950s.

Day 5 Akulleq

In the curve of Uummannaq Bay, opposite a narrow passage between two islands, you will discover the moonscape of the small desert island of Akulleq. The ochre yellow and orange of this mineral site look ablaze under the sunshine of the polar summer. From the island's summit you will be able to contemplate a panoramic view of the bay's magical landscape and its huge icebergs with surprising shapes.

Day 6 Kullorsuaq

Well beyond the Arctic Circle, in the majestic landscapes of Greenland's Northwest, you will find the village of Kullorsuaq, the last bastion of Greenland's traditional hunters. Here is where you will find Greenland's true character... Vast mineral expanses, sumptuous mountains, impressive glaciers and, above all, the local population which still lives off fishing and seal or bear hunting. Hospitality and respect for nature are essential elements in the daily lives of these men, who live an austere life. When we drop anchor in this remote part of the world, set off to discover these friendly people who are also talented craftsmen, deftly sewing the furs and skins of marine mammals. This will be a unique and authentic experience.

Day 7 Savissivik

Some places in this world are so magical that their beauty cannot be described in words... Savissivik, a small Inuit village with less than a hundred inhabitants, is one such place. Rightly considered to be the biggest iceberg graveyard in Greenland, it

is a stunning sight to behold. During your zodiac outing, you will sail between these icy giants. Once on land, you can hike to a viewpoint from which to enjoy breathtaking views over these icebergs, which come in an incredibly diverse range of shapes and colours. Photographers will love it. Savissivik Bay attracts many bears and is also known for having been the home of one of the world's biggest meteorites, but the latter has now been moved to a museum in New York.

Day 8 Thule Region

Thule, the region located to the northwest of Greenland, is the mythical name used to designate the Far North. The presence of many drifting icebergs calved from the glaciers of Greenland and sheets of ice floe can make sailing tricky - but spectacular - in this region. You will attempt to sail as far north as possible and if you are lucky enough you will perhaps observe one of the many polar bears that roam this favourable environment. You'll perhaps visit traditional villages such as Dundas ("old Thule") and Siorapaluk, Greenland's northernmost native settlement, where you will probably be greeted by a joyous group of children, who are always happy to welcome visitors.

Day 9 Thule Region

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Day 10 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 11 Pond Inlet, Nunavut

On **Baffin Island** , located in northern Canada at the mouth of the famous NorthWest Passage, there is a small Inuit settlement at the very bounds of infinity. To get there, cross the **Arctic Circle** , the imaginary line that separates man from lands of mystery and wonder. It's not so much the way of life that sets Pond Inlet's inhabitants apart, so much as the setting. Snow-capped mountains, **fjords** and **glaciers** combine in a dazzling natural environment that fills space and expands time. Some discoveries change you forever: this is one of them.

Day 12 Devon Island, Nunavut

Located in Baffin Bay, **Devon Island** is part of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. Robert Bylot and William Baffin were the first Europeans to sight Devon Island in 1616 but it



would only be mapped two centuries later by the British sailor William E. Parry, who named it after the eponymous English region. Around 1920, the **Hudson's Bay Company** set up a fur-trading outpost there, until the departure of the Inuits in 1936. A new attempt to populate it was made at the beginning of the 1950s. Only a few buildings in ruins, vestiges of that time, remain today. In the heart of these Far North landscapes, keep your eyes peeled for the Arctic wildlife that populates these shores, including the Lord of the Kingdom, the polar bear, that you may be lucky enough to spot.

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Day 15 At sea

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Day 16 Nooralak

Located a few kilometres away from the Arctic Circle, the **Nooralaq** peninsula features raw and untamed beauty. Nature reigns supreme here, **with** **the tundra stretching as far as the eye can see** , decked out in various forms of flora and inhabited by Greenland's emblematic fauna -- snow buntings, common ravens, reindeer, musk oxen, and the discreet Arctic fox. The heights of Nooralaq afford **sublime panoramas over the Itteleq fjord** , whose water reflects the moving skies of the Far North.



Day 17 Nuuk

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Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: L'AUSTRAL

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VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH: 142 metres. Passenger Capacity: 264 (200 in Antarctica). Built: 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

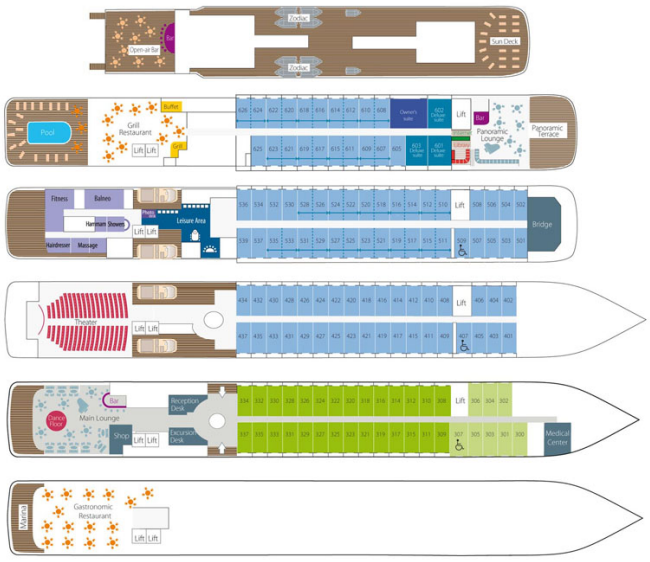
balcony and Deck 5 = Prestige Cabin no 509, with balcony) and lifts to all decks/areas. Details Please click the following links to read more about Ponant and the other Ponant



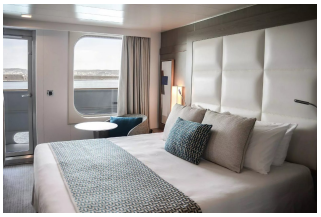
cruise ships.



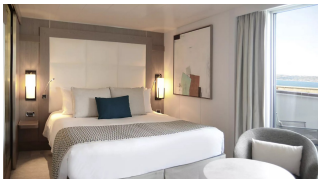
INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Deluxe Stateroom



Deluxe Suite



Owner's Suite



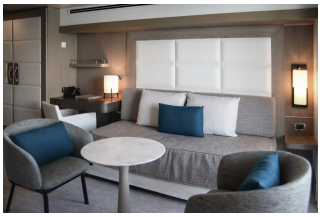
Prestige Deck 4



Prestige Deck 5



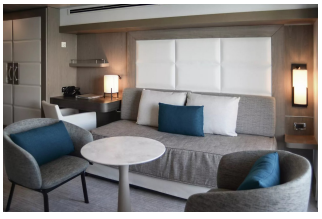
Prestige Deck 5 Suite



Prestige Deck 6



Prestige Deck 6 Suite





Prestige Stateroom Deck 4



Prestige Stateroom Deck 5



Prestige Stateroom Deck 6



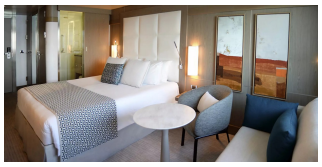
Prestige Suite Deck 5



Prestige Suite Deck 6



Superior Stateroom





PRICING

12-Aug-2027 to 28-Aug-2027

Prestige Deck 5 Suite	£33835 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 5	£18305 GBP pp
Superior Stateroom	£15055 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£25695 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 4	£17565 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 6	£19185 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 6 Suite	£35455 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£16085 GBP pp

10-Aug-2028 to 26-Aug-2028

Deluxe Stateroom	£16565 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£25845 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 4	£17985 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 5	£33695 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 6	£35265 GBP pp
Owner's Suite	£51905 GBP pp
Superior Stateroom	£15565 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 5	£18705 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 6	£19565 GBP pp