

# The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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## IN THE HEART OF THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE 2026 LUXURY EXPEDITION CRUISE

With PONANT, set off to discover Baffin Bay all the way to the mythical Northwest Passage during a 20-day expedition cruise aboard L'Austral. Leaving from Kangerlussuaq, explore the heart of this historic maritime route and set off for an unforgettable stay among the Arctic's most beautiful landscapes. First of all, you will explore the western coast of Greenland which will welcome you with its majestic icebergs in Disko Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and its colourful villages encircled by mountains and basalt formations. This is the ideal opportunity for meeting the local population and learning about Greenland Inuit culture. Then set sail for the Nunavut province in Northern Canada, to approach the entrance of the Northwest Passage. Amundsen was the first to pave the way on this northern route between the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, which long remained just a theory for navigators and scientists. On Beechey Island, retrace the steps of the Franklin expedition, before marvelling at the sublime canyon at Fury Beach. Throughout your trip, you will enter grandiose fjords and sail at the edge of the ice floes, in the hope of glimpsing the polar bear, the lord of the Far North. After Bellot Strait, the narrow passage of Coningham Bay will provide the perfect spot for an encounter with majestic belugas. In Artic Bay, you will meet the inhabitants of an Inuit village and will be able to build unique relationships. The exploration of nature and wildlife and, above all, the polar history linked to this mythical route are the common theme of this journey, which will let you experience magic and unforgettable moments. The raw beauty of the Arctic offers an unforgettable backdrop, while the team of on-board naturalists sharpens your adventurer's soul. With a keen eye, you will scan

the coastlines, fjords and glaciers in search of traces of life - a colony of walrus, a polar bear, beluga, northern fulmar, guillemot, Arctic tern, black-legged kittiwake... - and comprehend the historic places that bear witness to this



iconic passage.

### ITINERARY

Days 1 - 20 Northwest Passage Exploration

You will embark in Nuuk on 31 August 2026 and disembark in Nuuk on the 19 September 2026.

As the capital of Greenland and a key regional hub, Nuuk offers port facilities fully suited to maritime operations, as well as



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excellent air connectivity, making your journey to and from the destination seamless.

The first stop in Nooralaq, on Greenland's eastern coast, allows for immediate immersion in the vast tundra landscapes and the region's wild fjords. The journey then continues towards Disko Bay, where a longer exploration period is allocated, offering a more in-depth discovery of this emblematic region of western Greenland, renowned for its monumental glaciers, volcanic formations, and spectacular light.

The expedition then extends deep into the Canadian Arctic, within the Nunavut Archipelago, with a gradual and thorough exploration of some of the most remote territories in the Northern Hemisphere. Calls at Pond Inlet, Philpots Island, and Devon Island provide several days dedicated to discovering these grandiose landscapes of glaciers, sheer cliffs, and vast tundra expanses. We would like to inform you that access to the Baffin fjords is regulated and currently restricted by the Inuit communities of Pond Inlet, who conduct their annual subsistence narwhal hunt there.

Zodiac landings, supervised by our naturalist guides, allow for close access to the coastline and remarkable natural sites.

Navigation continues towards the Somerset Island region, followed by the crossing of the spectacular Bellot Strait a legendary passage in the history of great Arctic expeditions then onwards to Prince of Wales Island and Beechey Island, a major site of polar heritage. These exploration area offer new opportunities for landings and onshore discoveries, ideal for observing Arctic wildlife and interpreting landscapes shaped by

ice and time.

Periods of navigation through Lancaster Sound and at sea complete this exploration harmoniously. They are particularly conducive to observing drifting ice and marine wildlife, especially marine mammals, while also allowing guests to fully enjoy the comfort of the ship and life on board.

The return to Greenland includes calls at Svartenhavn, Qeqertarsuaq, and the Evighedsfjord, where majestic fjords and rugged reliefs provide a spectacular conclusion to this great Arctic crossing, before your final disembarkation in Nuuk.

**Please note:**

Itineraries are subject to change.

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## YOUR SHIP: L'AUSTRAL

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

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 soothing 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 accompanied by fine wine. On the Grill Restaurant, you have the opportunity 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

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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



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## PRICING

31-Aug-2026 to 19-Sep-2026

Prestige Stateroom Deck 4	£20805 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 6	£22849 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£31039 GBP pp
Superior Stateroom	£17635 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 5	£41279 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 5	£21735 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 6	£43325 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£18939 GBP pp
Owner's Suite	£57705 GBP pp



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