



The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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ISLAND HOPPING SAILING CRUISE FROM ATHENS TO DUBROVNIK

Le Ponant, the first Relais & Châteaux sailing yacht, like the finest travel address on the waters of the world. “Eternity. It is the sea mingled with the sun”, according to a poem by Rimbaud. Whether you are a lover of the sea or a curious traveller, experience once again the indescribable joy of navigating under sail, bathed by the wind and sea spray, surrounded by the elements. Take your place aboard *Le Ponant*, a majestic three-mast yacht with elegant lines and an interior design created by the Jean-Philippe Nuel studio to be a warm and intimate setting with a very distinctive personality. As if you were on your very own yacht, match your inner *tempo* to the boat’s subtle oscillations and savour the freedom of living in the moment, being fully present for your trip. Throughout your journey, you will benefit from an excursion included per person per port of call, to choose from a selection offered by PONANT. During this cruise, dive into the history of the Peloponnese from Pylos, with the discovery of the Palace of Nestor and Methoni Castle, explore the charming Fiskardo thanks to a guided walking tour, and enjoy a cooking class at Klinici Village Resort departing from Tivat. The diversity of experiences on offer promises you intense and varied moments (to discover the full range of excursions, go to the itinerary tab). Between the Aegean Sea and the Ionian Sea, begin your trip by discovering the Peloponnese, the epitome of a mythical land. With your senses awakened, the scent of jasmine that embalms the island of Spetses – the favourite holiday spot of Athenians – will delight you, the picturesque beauty of the small port of Pylos, tucked against the green hills of Messenia, will captivate you, and the Italian influences of the charming Fiskardo, where visitors can

savour the delicious Greek specialities called *kreatopita*, will enchant you. Like nowhere else on earth, Greece combines a fascinating history with the raw and spellbinding beauty of the Mediterranean shores. Impelled by the wind, a little further on you will discover the Ionian island of Paxos, where the Venetian architecture coexists alongside a natural environment featuring mountains and vast stretches of land planted with cypress and olive trees. Sailing in the Bay of Kotor aboard *Le Ponant* and, while you are there, contemplating the last peaks of the Dinaric Alps encircling the fjord and then spotting Our Lady of the Rocks on the horizon is, without a doubt, one of the highlights of this cruise. The old town of Kotor awaits you to reveal its mysteries before you depart for Dubrovnik, where your Mediterranean cruise under *Le Ponant*’s sails will draw to an end. At your own pace, immerse yourself in wild and stunning panoramas, away from the crowds, and enjoy moments spent in harmony with nature: glass-bottom kayaking, snorkelling, paddle-boarding. The activities, designed for you and with you, create possibilities for returning to what is essential, in a setting conducive to contemplation. The activities on offer will be confirmed on board by the captain according to the weather conditions, the itinerary and the

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Poseidon.

Day 2 SPETSES

Spetses, "the jasmine island", is an unspoiled paradise and the favourite holiday spot of Athenian high society. The shaded outdoor dining areas of the restaurants serving local cuisine stand alongside beautiful boutiques. Away from the hustle and bustle of the world, stroll or cycle around the small port lined with the beautiful Neoclassical homes of shipowners and enjoy the pleasantness of the moment. There is a distinct dolce vita atmosphere in the air. From hidden coves to beaches of fine sand, this island is brimming with charm. The hiking trails through the pine forest also promise beautiful panoramas.

Day 3 PYLOS

The picturesque port of Pylos is located in the south west of the Peloponnese. Backed against the lush green hills of Messenia, it looks out onto the Navarino Bay. You can admire the gorgeous view as you walk uptown amid pink oleanders that cascade over the jetty. A stone's throw away, the historical centre's winding streets will plunge you into a maze of houses with whitewashed facades and terracotta roof-tiles. On the attractive main beach, you will be able to relax in the shade of the age-old plane trees and taste the delicious local biscuits made of sesame and honey.

Day 4 FISKARDO, CEPHALONIA

cruise plan._

ITINERARY

Day 1 LAVRIO (ATHENS)

Near Athens, Lavrion is a peaceful port welcoming boats from around the world. The town has been known since ancient times for the silver-producing mines of Lavrion, which were major contributors to the wealth of Athens and to the Greek economy in the 20th century. Weather permitting, take a stroll through the town and discover the many vestiges of this industry that flourished until the 1980s: old Neoclassical-style constructions, industrial buildings, and worker houses. While at this port of call, also take the time to discover Athens and its acropolis, or Cape Sounion on which stands the magnificent temple of

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You will discover Fiskardo in the north-east of Kefalonia, a refined, flowery island, a little-known destination in the Ionian Islands. The colourful houses along the seafront present an astonishing architecture with Italian influences. As you step further out on the pier, you will glimpse the coast of Ithaca, the legendary land of King Ulysses. Take the time to sit at an outdoor terrace along the water's edge, under the shade of the awnings: they offer a delightful, relaxing setting. Enjoy the spectacle of the boats moored in the harbour as you savour small meat pies called kreatopita, a Greek speciality.

Day 5 PAXOS

Near the pretty port of Gaios, discover Paxos, a lush hideaway resting in the Ionian Sea. The island is planted with cypresses and ancient olive trees that once provided oil to Venice. The architecture is marked by a distinct Venetian influence. Succumb to the charms of this island where nature, ever-present, forms beautiful landscapes. From mountainous terrain to lovely fishing villages and hidden coves, Paxos reveals its authenticity to those willing to discover it.

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 TIVAT

Much of Tivat's elegance comes from the beauty of its marina, Porto Montenegro, which attracts many influential personalities. The port's promenade, emphasised by its line of palm trees facing the mountains of the Bay of Kotor, really is a setting with unique charm. Built in the 14th century, the town was successively governed by the Venetians and the Austro-Hungarians before the creation of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia following the First World War. Today, Montenegro's most prosperous city welcomes visitors, in particular to visit its old town or take a walk along its magnificent beaches.

Day 8 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

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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.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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YOUR SHIP: LE PONANT

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VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

Le Ponant becomes world's first sailing yacht to obtain Relais & Chateaux label After four years of regular ad hoc partnerships, PONANT and Relais & Chateaux are strengthening their ties. The three-master joins the large family of Relais & Chateaux establishments as a new member. It is the first sailing yacht in history to obtain the label and be included in its catalogue of the finest travel addresses in the world. In 2019 & 2020 Le Ponant underwent a huge revamp. Her capacity was reduced from 64 to just 32 passengers who will be served by a crew of 34. Following in the nautical tradition of three-masted sailing ships, Le Ponant will take you on a voyage of discovery. The ship provides intimacy and convivial atmosphere and the refined life on board, the welcoming charm to your cabin, the lounges and the restaurants setting are invitations to relax. Le Ponant is one of the most majestic sailing vessels in the world. With 16 spacious cabins and suites, one crew member per passenger, a dedicated chef, and authentic and exclusive experiences to be enjoyed at every stop, designed for and with you, the ship redefines the concept of luxury yachting and promises you an extraordinary experience. In addition to its tasteful and refined design by Jean-Philippe Nuel, it has many innovative and

environmentally friendly amenities. Conserving the environment is one of our priorities. We have therefore chosen to invest in innovations and equipment at the cutting edge of technology, with the aim of achieving the highest standards possible in the sector. Le Ponant is the only yacht in the world with a hybrid propulsion system. This uniquely designed three-masted schooner can rely solely on its sails but also can connect to the electricity network in certain ports to limit its ecological impact. On board, we have banned the use of plastic in straws, laundry bags, cups and individual food portion packaging. Packaging is collected from our warehouses. Unavoidable plastic waste is sorted and entrusted to resource-recovery companies, who monitor its traceability until its elimination. Le Ponant is equipped with a complete desalination and wastewater treatment system. This biodegradation process works without the use of chemicals. It provides clean water and meets the highest quality standards. On board, 60% of packaging is recycled, while the rate elsewhere in the world is only 20%. The rest is 100% traced. We have on-board compactors adapted to each type of waste and are working to optimise their management on land. Under full sail, gliding over the sea with the wind, you will fall under Le Ponant's spell. Please click the following links to read more about Ponant and the other Ponant

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