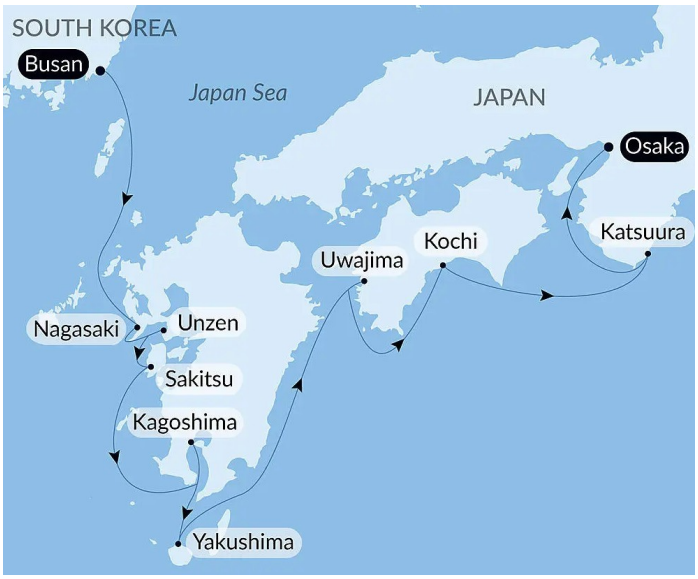


JAPAN, BETWEEN TRADITION AND MODERNITY LUXURY CRUISE

Ponant has an ideal introduction to this captivating archipelago, inviting you on a timeless journey around the fascinating and surprising Empire of the Rising Sun, where unbridled modernism and ancestral traditions form a delightful blend, where the history of the samurai rubs shoulders with the delicateness of the geisha, and where the aromas of the tea plantations intermingle with the fragrances of cherry blossom. Dive into the heart of ancestral Japan, where each port of call unveils unsuspected treasures and unique moments. Between temples imbued with spirituality, majestic volcanic landscapes and mystical forests, nature unveils all of its splendour. Fall under the spell of the local handicrafts, the refined flavours of thousand-year-old gastronomy , and a warm welcome that is deeply rooted in tradition. Explore sites steeped in serenity, witnesses to rich and poignant history, where each detail inspires contemplation.



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Busan

With around four million inhabitants, **Busan** is the second largest metropolis on South Korea, after Seoul. This dynamic harbour city, located in the south-east, surrounded by the warm waters of the Sea of Japan, benefits from a mild, pleasant climate. You'll find delightful simply to stroll around the **lively streets** and explore the city's outstanding cultural heritage of art galleries, museums, and Buddhist sites, such as the **Haedong Yonggungsa temple,** which elegantly sits on the waterfront. Rich too in magnificent beaches and superlative natural landscapes, Busan's peaceful atmosphere will win you over, as will its inhabitants, whom you'll have the pleasure of meeting.



Day 2 - Nagasaki

Located on the north-west coast of Kyushu, **Nagasaki** will impress you by its rich heritage. Despite the destruction in 1945, you can visit several ancient sites, including the beautiful 19th-century **Catholic Church of Oura** and its garden, the **sanctuary of Suwa Shrine** or several Buddhist temples. A visit to the **Atomic Bomb Museum** gives you insight into the extent of the damage caused by the nuclear attack. Close by, a walk in the **Memorial Peace Park** leads you to a collection of objets d'art offered as a gift from Japan to the world.

Day 3 - Sakitsu, Unzen-Amakusa National Park

Facing the mythical island of Kyushu, between the Yatsushiro and Ariake seas, **the** **island region of Amakusa** both surprises and captivates. Composed of some one hundred verdant islets surrounded by stunning seabeds, the Japanese archipelago was once a refuge for many Christians fleeing the ban on Catholicism in the 17th century during the Edo period. Nestled on the shore of a cove opening onto the calm waters of Yokaku Bay, **Sakitsu** is a charming fishing port. Immerse yourself in its Christian heritage, notably through a visit to its **emblematic church** blending Western and Japanese cultures. Rebuilt in 1934, it is now a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

Day 3 - Unzen, Unzen-Amakusa National Park

Located in the north of the Shimabara Peninsula, the town of Unzen lies at the heart of Unzen-Amakusa National Park, **Japan 's first national park**, founded in 1934. Created to preserve the region's culture and nature, this natural haven covering more than 280 km² (108 sq. miles) combines **a spectacular volcanic environment** with the landscapes of the **Amakusa Islands**. During this enchanting interlude, you will be able to discover the park's legendary high-temperature **hot springs** , volcanic gas vents, and **highly diverse wildlife**. With impressive natural phenomena and open views over the sea, this stop offers an elegant immersion in one of the most emblematic environments of southern Japan.

Day 4 - Kagoshima

The seaside city of Kagoshima, at the south of Kyushu Island, is best known for Sakurajima, an **active volcano** that faces Kinko Bay. A visit to this busy metropolis will remind you just how much the volcano is part of the inhabitants' everyday life: in the wake of the almost daily eruptions, a delicate layer of ash settles on everything. The top of a buried torii (traditional Japanese gate) measuring three metres that was 'swallowed up' by a giant lava flow in 1914 can still be seen. The **power of nature** will send a shiver down your spine.

Day 5 - Miyanoura, Yakushima

Miyanoura, on the unspoiled island of Yakushima, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, reveals a natural world of remarkable richness. Between mist-covered mountains, lush forests and wild coastlines, the island is home to majestic thousand-year-old cedar trees, some of which are said to have inspired the enchanting landscapes of the film Princess Mononoke. The spectacular Senpiro Falls, cascading down a vast granite monolith, is one of the island's most iconic landmarks. Yakushima is also the guardian of ancestral craftsmanship, passed down through generations and deeply connected to its exceptional natural environment.

Day 6 - Uwajima



Located on the west coast of Shikoku island, Uwajima will delight lovers of history and traditional customs. The magnificent **Uwajima Castle** was built in the 17th-century by the powerful Date clan and has a beautiful ornamental garden and bridge. The much-visited **Taga Shrine** is dedicated to fertility and is full of phalluses. As for eating, you must taste jakoten, a local delicacy based on fried fish.

Day 7 - Kochi

The fourth largest island in the Nippon archipelago, Shikoku, is also the best preserved. Here, **forests and oceans** stretch as far as the eye can see. On the southern coast of the island, Kochi, the tranquil metropolis will quietly welcome you. You can enjoy a lively town, with many commercial centres and restaurants. On the menu, katsuo tataki, a local speciality with delicately grilled fish. But Kochi, overlooked by the benevolent shadow of its castle, also invites you to explore its magnificent **Katsurahama beach,** its museums and **Buddhist temples,** the site of a famous annual pilgrimage.

Day 8 - Katsuura

Located in a peaceful cove overlooking the Pacific Ocean, Katsuura is a true coastal paradise home to the largest number of **natural open-air hot springs** in the entire Wakayama Prefecture. Numerous rocky islets are scattered across the calm waters of this secluded bay, providing delicious local seafood for you to enjoy as you savour the fresh air of this timeless place. Katsuura is part of Japan's largest peninsula,**the Kii Peninsula** , and home to **Kumano Nachi Taisha Shrine** , one of the Kumano Sanzan, a religious complex dedicated to the three sacred mountains of Kumano.

Day 9 - Osaka

Like its big sister Tokyo, Osaka is the product of ancestral traditions and amazing **technological innovations.** And despite its size, its location on the Pacific Ocean give it a sense of **serenity**. The main historic landmark is the 16th century **Osaka Castle,** which stands proud in the midst of majestic skyscrapers. The lively streets of Dotomburi and the bizarre Shinsekai district attract thousands of locals and visitors. A multitude of restaurants offer menus full of regional specialities: takoyaki, made with octopus, and other succulent dishes such as kushikatsu kebabs.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: LE SOLEAL

YOUR SHIP: Le Soleal

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

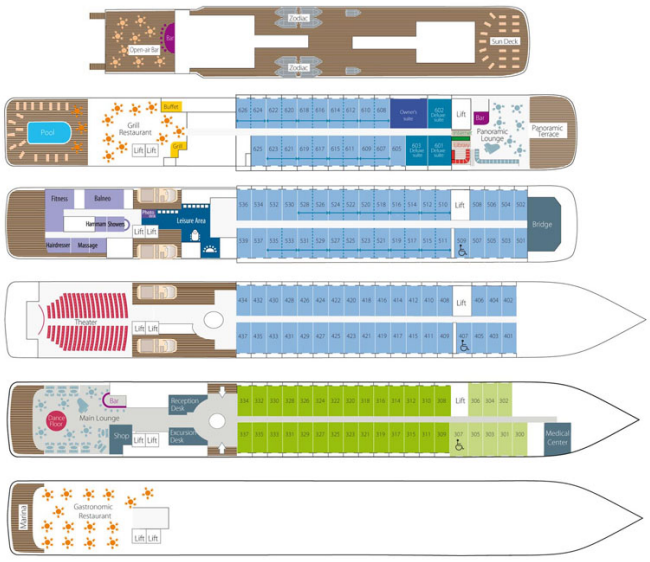
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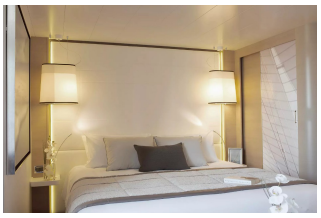
Luxury Small Ship A sleek silhouette, a welcoming intimate atmosphere, and the same philosophy that has made her sister ships, L'Austral, Lyrial and Le Boreal, such a success. This magnificent yacht of only 132 staterooms and suites, all with balconies, has contemporary decor inspired by the luxury yachting world, with fluid lines and a modern colour scheme combining natural wood with shades of grey and white. White Corian counters in the lobby contrast with the warmth of leather to recall a boat's hull, while the central scuplture of enamelled pieces takes its inspiration from the sea. In the lounge bar, the carpet picks up a tennis stripe theme symbolising a certain idea of cruising, one synonomous with French elegance and a chic seaside spirit. 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. Read about our recent Ponant cruise to Antarctica Please click the following links to read more about Ponant and the other Ponant cruise ships.



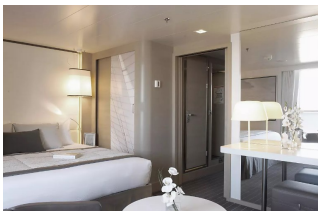
INSIDE YOUR SHIP



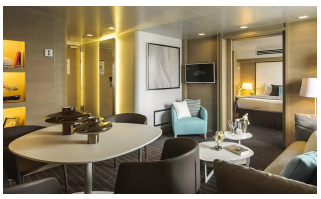
Deluxe Stateroom



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





Superior Stateroom





PRICING

07-Oct-2027 to 15-Oct-2027

Deluxe Stateroom	£6265 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 5	£14185 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 6	£14915 GBP pp
Owner's Suite	£22615 GBP pp
Superior Stateroom	£5795 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 6	£7645 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£10555 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 5	£7255 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 4	£6925 GBP pp

17-Mar-2028 to 25-Mar-2028

Deluxe Suite	£9885 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 5	£13275 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£5885 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 5	£6805 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 4	£6495 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 6	£7175 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 6	£13955 GBP pp
Owner's Suite	£22615 GBP pp
Superior Stateroom	£5445 GBP pp

04-May-2028 to 12-May-2028

Owner's Suite	£22615 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 5	£13275 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£9885 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£5885 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 6	£13955 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 5	£6805 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 6	£7175 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 4	£6495 GBP pp
Superior Stateroom	£5445 GBP pp