

The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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LANDSCAPES AND CULTURES OF THE ADRIATIC

Young Ocean Explorers Club in partnership with MAUD FONTENOY FOUNDATION. Dotted with hundreds of captivating islands running along the coastlines and boasting an exceptional heritage, the Adriatic surprises, dazzles and enchants. Its shores, edged with beaches, coves and bays, leave indelible memories for all who sail its calm waters, sparkling in turquoise. Set sail aboard Le Bougainville for an 8-day cruise discovering its cities of unparalleled splendour. Your voyage will begin in Italy with an embarkation in Venice. An opportunity to discover or rediscover the sublime city of the Doges, with its many canals, its vaporetti and its mythical gondolas before heading to Croatia and the city of Rovinj. To the north of Dalmatia, the charming fishing village of Primosten unfolds before you, with its pretty traditional stone houses and its architectural heritage influenced by the Venetian Republic. It is the gateway to the magnificent Krka Waterfalls and you will fall in love with its authenticity and exceptional environment. Split will open its doors to you to discover its historic centre, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with treasures such as Diocletian's Palace or the Cathedral of Saint Domnius. After a stopover in Hvar, Le Bougainville will set sail for Brac Island. Bol, the island's oldest port town, will reveal itself through a maze of picturesque little streets, edged with traditional homes with white façades and red-tiled roofs, and through its paradisiacal beaches, like the most famous of them: the pebble beach of Zlatni Rat. Further north, off the Istrian coast, there lies an archipelago called Brijuni, which is a real paradise on earth. On this archipelago's idyllic islets, completely devoid of cars, let yourself fall under the spell of its isolated coves, ancient ruins

and its National Park. You will then call at Pula, the most Roman of Croatian cities, before heading for Slovenia. The old town of Piran, girdled by ramparts, will transport you into a medieval atmosphere, tinged with Venetian colour. As a grand finale, your voyage will draw to an end in Venice the Serenissima and



its lagoon.

ITINERARY

Day 1 VENICE

Proud and eternal, Venice has reigned on its lagoon ever since the 6th century. You may think you know this city before even

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setting foot here. You will inevitably fall in love with the charm of the innumerable treasures of the Serenissima: Saint Mark's square, the basilica, Doges palace, the Grand Canal and the gondolas. Yet, secret Venice is also waiting for you to explore its little interlacing streets and canals, to ramble through its squares and to push open the doors of its churches. The city's extraordinary heritage shouldn't stop you from enjoying a glass of Spritz and a few tramezzini.

Day 2 ROVINJ

Rovinj is located in Istria, a region bordering Slovenia. This becomes apparent as you walk through its old cobblestoned town. There are many monuments of Venetian influence here. If you study the Balbi arch, you will see the winged lion, symbol of Venice. The bell-tower erected beside Saint Euphemia Cathedral was designed like the bell of Saint Mark in Venice. From the top of the tower, you can scan the entire historical district. To absorb its quaint atmosphere, take a walk in the ochre and sepia-coloured streets leading to bustling squares and terraces shaded by canvas awnings.

Day 3 PRIMOSTEN & SPLIT

Located south of Sibenik, Primosten is a picturesque village on the Dalmatian Coast, whose charm is distilled, via its narrow streets, through pretty stone houses and an architectural heritage influenced by the Venetian Republic. Built on a rocky peninsula, the historic city was connected to land by a mobile bridge from which it earned its name in the 16th century: in Croatian, primostiti means "to bridge". The high point of the

village, the Church of St. George watches over the stunning bay enveloped in crystal-clear waters while, to the north of the peninsula, the charming beach of Raduca reveals itself between the skies and the pine forest. Further on, the vines of the renowned babi varietal, protected from erosion by low stone walls, complete this idyllic setting.

Day 4 SPLIT & HVAR

On the Dalmatian coast, the town of Split offers cultural visits in a seaside atmosphere. Close to the seafront shaded by palm trees, the historical centre listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, boasts a unique building: the Diocletian's Palace. Here you will explore its galleries, courtyards with carved columns, as well as a former mausoleum converted into a church, namely Saint Domnius Cathedral. If you get peckish, stop off at a terrace in the Pjaca, the main square in the old town, where you can try a palacinka, a kind of pancake topped with melted cheese.

Day 5 HVAR

Off the coast of Split, Hvar will surprise you by its traditions that have not changed since Antiquity. The country's oldest town, Stari Grad, is here on this Dalmatian Island. The town nestles by a cove on the north-west coast, surrounded by dry stone wall structures on the Stari Grad plains. These have been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site because they were built in the time of the Ancient Greeks. From these parcels of land come wines and olive oil manufactured manually. In the upper part of town, it is possible to discover hams and cheeses made by local producers.



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Day 6 BOL

Bol is a destination in the Dalmatian archipelago, best kept secret. This picturesque village is located on the southern coast of Brač Island. Its traditional architecture has unbelievable charm: little houses with white facades and red tiled roofs provide the perfect setting for laid-back meanders. Beyond the port, the waterfront promenade leads onto the beaches which are shaded by pines and cypresses. The most famous of them is Zlatni Rat, "the golden horn". From the belvedere on Vidova Gora mountain, you can see its unusual contours and get an eyeful of the other Adriatic islands.

Day 7 THE BRIJUNI ISLANDS & PULA

Viewed from above, the Brijuni archipelago forms rounded shapes in dazzling colours against the blue hues of the Adriatic. This group of 14 Istrian islands has been inhabited by man since the Bronze Age, thanks to its mild climate and favourable geographical position. The architectural heritage of these islands is very significant, since Roman ruins from the 1st century BC can be found here. Vestiges from the Byzantine and Venetian periods round off this deep-dive into the past which continues right up to the 19th century with the arrival of the Austrian industrialist Paul Kupelwieser. By purchasing Veliki Brijun, the largest island in the group, he actively contributed to the reputation of the archipelago among the Austro-Hungarian aristocrats of the Belle Époque. Later on, great political leaders such as Marshal Tito, the former president of Yugoslavia, would mingle here with the great writers of the time, including James Joyce or Thomas Mann. The islands were granted national park

status in 1983, for their natural beauty and their biodiversity. Discover this unique corner of paradise on a bike or in a kayak, via land or from the refreshing waters of the Mediterranean. The Pearl of the Adriatic, lying at the southern tip of the Istrian Peninsula, Pula is undoubtedly the most Roman of all Croatian towns. Some of the greatest pages in history were written here, as the breathtaking ancient remains testify. Take your pick exploring the amphitheatre, the Twin Gates, the Gate of Hercules and the triumphal Arch of the Sergii. Stroll through the busy lanes in the old town, enjoying the warm welcome of the locals, and perhaps you will be tempted to try the famous Kvarner scampi or Istrian ham.

Day 8 PIRAN

On the Slovenian coast, the picturesque town of Piran stands on a tongue of land bathed by the Adriatic. Its old town, girded by fortifications, provides a medieval atmosphere embossed with Venetian nuances. From Tartini square, you can explore a whole interweave of mysterious streets located on the hillside, leading you to Saint George's church, built on a hillock overlooking the shoreline. After admiring the view, don't miss a good look at the nave, and its rich decorations of frescoes and panelling. You will also see that the tower built behind the church reproduces the famous bell-tower of Saint Mark's square. During your peregrinations, make sure you try a borek, a sort of pastry which can be sweet or savoury, filled with meat or fruit.

Day 9 VENICE

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Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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YOUR SHIP: LE BOUGAINVILLE

YOUR SHIP:

Le Bougainville

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

Featuring innovative and environmentally-friendly equipment, elegantly designed cabins, spacious suites with large windows, and lounge areas that open onto the outside, this new limited-capacity yacht boasting just 92 cabins and suites will offer you a truly unique cruising experience. As the first ship in a new series that remains true to the Ponant spirit, Le Bougainville will embody the unique atmosphere that is the cruise line's hallmark: a subtle blend of refinement, intimacy and comfort. Aboard this ship that flies the French flag, you will experience the incomparable pleasure of an intimate cruise, with the possibility of exploring an ever-increasing range of destinations in an ethnic-chic ambiance with luxury service. Experience a luxurious setting where the accent is on authenticity and passion for travel. **RESTAURANTS** As it is an essential part of French culture, gastronomy will naturally have pride of place aboard this new ship. Through its two restaurants, Le Bougainville will invite you on a journey to elegance and epicureanism. In a relaxed atmosphere, a first dining area located on Deck 3 and able to seat 70 will serve grilled meats daily, along with a variety of salads and desserts. To the back of Deck 4, you will find a 260 m² panoramic restaurant which can accommodate all of

our passengers in a single sitting. Designed differently to that on our other ships, this dining area, which opens onto the outside, will have a buffet of salads, desserts and cheeses at your disposal. Our discreet and attentive crew will provide table service for hot meals. **PUBLIC AREAS** Like Le Boreal and its sisterships, Le Bougainville has many common areas that are designed and equipped to meet all of your needs while preserving the intimacy of each passenger. A 140 m² reception area includes: A reception/concierge desk, An excursions desk, The ship's administrative services, The sales office, manned by our Guest Relations Officer, Our 50 m² boutique which sells clothing, jewellery, beauty products, postcards and various accessories, Toilets accessible to passengers with reduced mobility. A new hydraulic platform with adjustable height provides: Easier boarding than on any other cruise ship, Easier Zodiac embarkation and disembarkation for expeditions, Easier access to the sea for swimming and practising various water sports such as kayaking or paddle-boarding. A pool deck offering: A pool with a panoramic view, equipped with a counter-current swimming system, A pleasant solarium, An outdoor bar and lounge with armchairs and sofas. A 200 m² main lounge which can accommodate all of our passengers to share convivial moments and to host activities organised during the day or evening. Lastly, a theatre that seats 188, equipped with: The latest sound and lighting technology, A LED wall as the stage backdrop, for the projection of high-resolution images and videos. Please click the following links to read more about Ponant and the other Ponant

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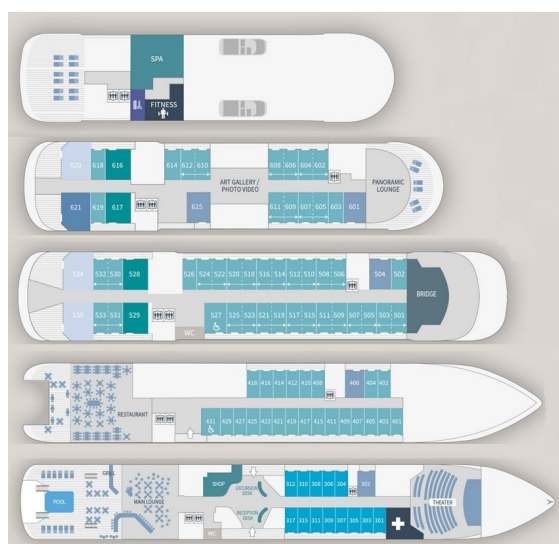
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Deck 5-6
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Deck 4-5-6
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