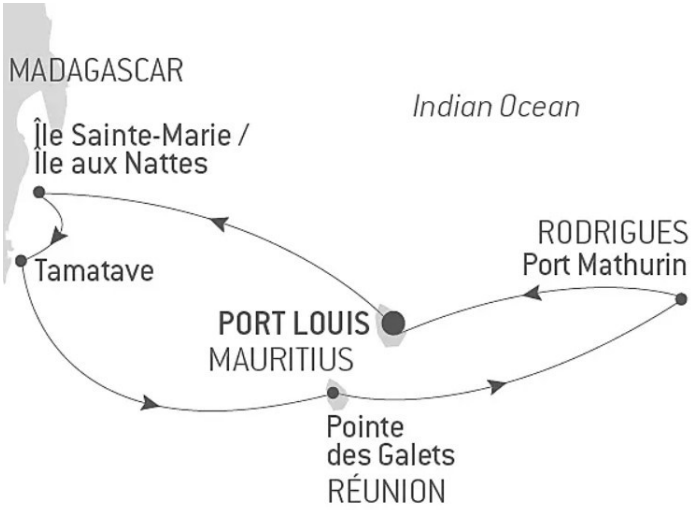


MADAGASCAR & THE MASCARENE ISLANDS ADVENTURE LUXURY CRUISE

The softness of the trade winds, the turquoise of the ocean, the shimmer of the verdant vegetation... the incredible beauty of the islands in the Indian Ocean is striking. During an all-new 14-day expedition cruise aboard Le Jacques-Cartier, time stands still and, between the island country of Madagascar and the Mascarene Archipelago, nature will plunge you into a dream. The shores of Mauritius grow distant as you arrive in flamboyant Madagascar. To the north-east of the largest island in the Indian Ocean, the island of Nosy Boraha appears on the horizon. The days of pirates, who occupied the territory for almost two centuries, seem long gone now, as peace prevails in this tropical paradise. To the far south, the island of Nosy Nato is a treasure just asking to be discovered. Its coral reef lies in the translucent waters of its lagoon, dotted with natural pools. You will spend your time here swimming, meeting the local population and discovering the abundant fauna and flora. Before leaving the 'Great Red Island', you will visit Tamatave, renowned for the charm of its colonial architecture. Setting sail for Reunion Island and its characteristic silhouette. Volcanoes and mountainous areas overlook the lagoon that surrounds the island. The Piton de la Fournaise, the most famous of these volcanoes and one of the most active in the world, unfolds before you during an optional excursion - if conditions allow it - which will make you feel like you have arrived on the moon. Around the crater, the naked beauty of this lava-stripped land is moving. "There is the emptiness of the sky, the appeal of the sea, the birds, the blade-like leaves of the screw pines, this exhilaration from the burned stone, sea and wind that form Rodrigues." Who has managed to describe this jewel of the Indian Ocean better than Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clezio? Immerse yourself in its unique atmosphere and enjoy the stalls of colourful fruit and fresh fish in the Port Mathurin market. Your journey will end on the island of Mauritius. Once one of the main trading posts of the French East India Company, its capital, Port Louis, has kept much of this unique multicultural heritage. On its markets, the perfumes, spices, herbal teas and herbs unveil the make-up of its rich and



diverse cuisine.

ITINERARY

Day 1 PORT LOUIS

On the north-west coast of Mauritius, discover Port Louis, the country's multicultural capital. Constantly in movement, the city, which was once a port of call on the route to India, is home to



many cultural and historic treasures. In addition to the city's market where you will be able to discover all the local flavours and many handicrafts, make sure that you visit Fort Adelaide. Nestling on the heights of Port Louis, this citadel built in the 16th century, classified as a national heritage monument, offers sumptuous views over the surroundings. Not far from there, the Pamplemousse Botanical Garden will reveal to you its countless plant species, coming from all four corners of the world.

Day 2 AT SEA

During your day 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 day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, 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 3 ÎLE SAINTE-MARIE

Off the east coast of Madagascar, discover the island of St. Mary. A real Garden of Eden, this peaceful land will offer you landscapes of stunning beauty, with lush vegetation, enormous waterfalls and sumptuous natural pools. In addition, the island is home to a very large variety of orchids. An idyllic natural setting that contrasts with the eventful past of the island, which once played host to pirates and prisoners. This port of call will also provide you with privileged access to the Île aux Nattes, renowned for its wild beauty.

Day 4 ÎLE AUX NATTES

The Île aux Nattes lies surrounded by a coral reef, to the far south of Nosy Boraha (previously known as Île Sainte-Marie) in the Madagascar region of Tamatave. Its lush vegetation contrasts with the white sand and crystal-clear and turquoises waters of its lagoon whose sea beds you can explore snorkelling or diving. Its fringed shores are home to natural pools that will invite you to relax or swim. Or you may prefer to walk along its coastal paths dotted with welcoming little villages.

Day 5 TAMATAVE (TOAMASINA)

Located 350 kilometres north east of Antananarivo, the capital of the eastern province and the island's biggest commercial port, Tamatave will charm you with its many assets: a town shrouded in history where you'll be able to admire its many 19th-century vestiges as much in one of its museums as by walking the streets. With colonial type architecture, it is the second-largest conurbation on the island. You'll feel its beating pulse with a ride in a rickshaw into the heart of the markets of Bazar Kely or Bazar Be. You'll appreciate walking along Avenue de l'Independance, bordered by magnificent coconut trees, whose unique charm reflects the vestiges of French colonisation.

Day 6 AT SEA

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Days 7 - 8 POINTE DES GALETS

At the end of the 19th century, the construction of the port of Pointe des Galets lasted seven years, with the town called Le Port emerging in its wake. You'll also hear the name "Port-Reunion" used to designate the Pointe des Galets, which is the main port on the island of La Reunion. In fact, it is the only port in France that has five functions: naval base, passenger terminal, commercial port, fishing port and marina. The old town of the Port conjures up the area's rich history, which is connected to transport. Here you'll be able to discover the former house of the Reunion Railway and Port Company (1878), its marine cemetery and its teeming covered market.

Day 9 AT SEA

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Days 10 - 11 PORT MATHURIN, RODRIGUES

The smallest and most little-known of the Mascarene Islands welcomes you from its one and only port, Port Mathurin. This small stretch of land lost in the heart of the Indian Ocean harbours unspoiled nature and wild beauty. In this small, charming regional capital administratively attached to the Republic of Mauritius, the people live to the rhythm of the sun and everything seems timeless. The large town market, with its spicy aromas and fruity scents, is where the locals meet and mingle. This is where they come to stock up on ingredients to make local dishes with multiple influences that you absolutely must try. From this picturesque port, set off to discover the bucolic island of Rodrigues, its mountains, of volcanic origin, but also its deep valleys, its turquoise lagoons and hidden coves, its coral reefs and its shores lined with coconut trees. The incredibly rich fauna and biodiversity make this island a paradise for all nature lovers.

Day 12 AT SEA

During your day 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 day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, 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.

Days 13 - 14 PORT LOUIS



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Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: LE DUMONT D'URVILLE

YOUR SHIP: **Le Dumont d'Urville**

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

Featuring innovative and environmentally-friendly equipment, elegantly designed staterooms, spacious suites with large windows, and lounge areas that open onto the outside, this new limited-capacity yacht boasting just 92 staterooms 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 Dumont d'Urville 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 Dumont d'Urville 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 Dumont d'Urville 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





cruise ships.

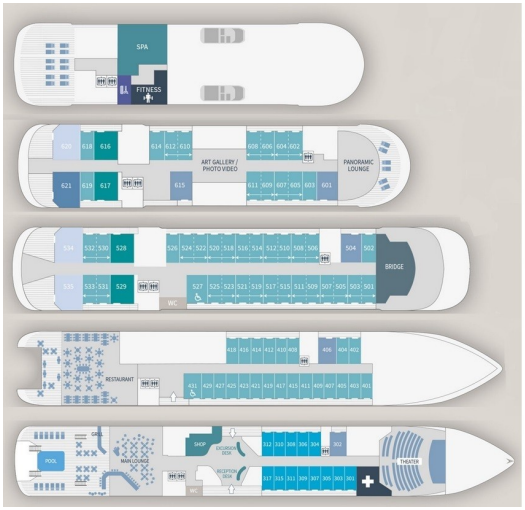
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