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Ship Collection

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NORWEGIAN FJORDS ABOARD LE CHAMPLAIN

Cruise with PONANT on an exceptional itinerary and discover the beauty of the Norwegian fjords. Come aboard the Le Champlain for an 8-day cruise and sail along the Norwegian coastline, whose vertiginous cliff faces have been sculpted by the wind and the sea, giving rise to many unspoiled fjords. From Bergen, famous for its Hanseatic wharf which still carries a few traces of the rich historic past of the city founded by the Vikings, you will set sail for the small town of Alesund, where you will be able to admire magnificent examples of Art Nouveau architecture. Hellsøylt will be an opportunity to discover the face of traditional Norway in an enchanting setting imbued with serenity. From the small and charming village of Olden, located a few kilometres from Jostedalsgreen National Park, which is home to one of the last ice caps in Europe, you will have the opportunity to admire the magnificent Briksdal glacier. You will also visit Stavanger, a cosmopolitan and prosperous small town with a perfectly balanced blend of old and new. During your stopover, walk the paved streets and admire the wonderfully preserved fishermen's houses that date from the 18th century. Arendal, once known as the Venice of the North because of its canals, will be an utterly charming port of call. On the final leg of your trip you will call at Gothenburg, in Sweden.



ITINERARY

Day 1 BERGEN

Located at the end of Byfjord, Bergen was the capital of Norway



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in the 12th and 13th Centuries and has preserved some very beautiful monuments from the time when it was home to royalty. Wandering through Bergen's streets means going back in time, in search of the hidden treasures that have been listed as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO. A veritable openair museum, Bergen is home to a thriving artistic community of painters, potters, jewellers. The Bergen cable car offers you a splendid panorama over the port and the surrounding fjords. Do not miss the visit to the old quarter with its narrow streets, a testimony of the power of the hanseatic League that controlled trade in Northern Europe at the end of the Middle Ages.

Day 2 ALESUND

Surrounded by a multitude of islands, fjords and majestic mountains, the town of Ålesund surprises many visitors. In fact, it is internationally renowned for its Art nouveau architecture. After the terrible fire of 1904 which reduced a large part of the town to ashes, Norwegian architects inspired by the Art nouveau style contributed to its reconstruction, with a very picturesque result. Not far from Ålesund, you will also discover Giske, the native island of Rollon, the great Viking leader who commanded the Norse expeditions to Normandy, or the beautiful island of Godøy and the village of Alnes, which offers a grandiose panorama over the Atlantic Ocean and the surrounding islands.

Day 3 HELLESYLT

Hellesylt is a small village located 20 kilometres from the Geiranger site. Here, you'll get a taste of a traditional Norwegian village. Colourful houses, wooden walkways, rustic stalls where

you can have a refreshment before heading off to discover more of the local colour. The surroundings are simply magnificent with cliffs, mountains and lakes with peaceful waters. The village is crossed by a river whose charming cascade tumbles into the fjord waters.

Day 4 OLDEN

With its two wooden churches, one red and the other white, plus its breathtaking view of the mouth of the river Oldeelva, Olden looks just like a picture post card. Located a few kilometres from the Jostedalsgreen park, home to one of the last glacier polar icecaps, this little village is a definite must for exploring the blue languages of the Briksdal or Kjennalen glaciers. Make sure you find some time to visit the Norwegian Glacier Museum. Absolutely amazing. Another gem is lake Lovatn and its turquoise waters inviting you to quiet contemplation.

Day 5 STAVANGER

At the far end of the country, stands the harbour town of Stavanger, with its warm, friendly atmosphere. A friendliness you'll notice in the little old town cobbled streets, which has some 170 old wooden houses, as well as in its modern city centre, always bustling.

Day 6 ARENDAL

This port town located on the south coast of Norway is considered to be the locality with the best climate in the entire



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country. Arendal was long reputed for its iron mines from which, in the 19th century, it was able to produce a particularly strong earthy iron ore.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

Day 7 GÖTEBORG (GOTHENBURG)

A lively harbour town, Goteborg is located on the west coast of Sweden, at the crossing of the Gota alv river and the bay of Cattegat. In the old Haga district, you can peruse hippy-chic fashion boutiques and bohemian cafes in the ground floors of traditional wood houses. On the majestic Gustave-Adolphe square, you'll see elegant neoclassical buildings. Not far from here is the municipal museum dedicated to the town's history. In addition, you will be able to sail along Goteborg's numerous canals. As for eating, it's the fish and shellfish which make the gastronomic reputation of this beautiful stopover.

Day 8 OSLO

Capital of Norway, Oslo, is a green city. Its many parks and gardens make it the reputedly pleasant city it is. The 80 hectares of Vigeland sculpture parks and its 212 open air exhibitions, the Munch Museum dedicated to the life and works of the Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, plus the Akershus fortress which symbolises Oslo's rich history, are both must-sees. For culture, the national gallery shelters the largest Norwegian collection of paintings, drawings and sculptures open to the public. And, for sports enthusiasts, the Holmenkollen district with its Ski museum and famous ski jump offer the most stunning, all-encompassing view of the city.



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YOUR SHIP: LE CHAMPLAIN

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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, Le Champlain 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 Champlain 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 Champlain 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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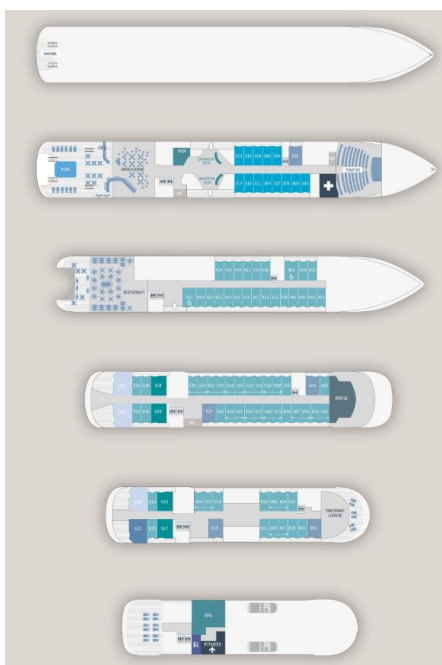
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