



PACIFIC COAST OF COSTA RICA - LUXURY CRUISE FROM PUNTARENAS

Explore the luxurious Pacific Coast of Costa Rica during a 8-day journey , looped from Puntarenas. From Guanacaste to the Osa Peninsula, set off to discover incredible wildlife and explore emblematic national parks, guided by the song of the howler monkeys, the slow movements of sloths, the hypnotic colours of the macaws and other fascinating species. In this biodiversity sanctuary, mangroves, tropical forests and beaches of black sand are perfect illustrations of the country's mantra: *“Pura Vida”* , meaning a pure life, one that is harmonious and closely linked to nature. *“The wildlife encounters are possible experiences and cannot be guaranteed.”*



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Puntarenas

The capital of the eponymous province, Puntarenas is sometimes called "the pearl of the Pacific", for its unique charm. It sits on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica, along the Gulf of Nicoya, lined with long expanses of wild natural environments. Further inland, among the countless natural wonders to be found in the generous rainforest of the Costa Rica's national parks, Poas and Arena volcanoes towers up in all their majestic glory. In this luxuriant natural setting, Costa Rica protects one of the planet's richest biodiversity: monkeys, sloths, tropical birds, iguanas, crocodiles, waterfalls, canyons, and more than ten thousand species of tropical plants.



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Day 2 - Drake Bay

Located on Costa Rica's remote Osa Peninsula, Corcovado National Park covers 164 square miles, making it the country's largest national park, the largest primary forest on the American Pacific coast, and one of the few remaining large areas of lowland tropical rain forests in the world.

Day 3 - Rio Esquinas

The beauty of Costa Rica and the richness of its biodiversity reveal themselves at this port of call in the heart of the mangrove. In the meanders of Rio Esquinas, a tropical corner of paradise, you will discover an incredibly dense ecosystem. Aboard your Zodiac dinghy, you will brush past the tangled arms formed by the roots of the mangrove trees. This green and lush gallery forest and its inhabitants welcome you. Watch closely: common squirrel monkeys, white ibis, Eurasian whimbrels, ospreys, toucans, snowy egrets and great blue herons can be found hiding here.

Day 4 - Manuel Antonio National Park

You will land in a Zodiac® on the beaches of the Manuel Antonio National Park, one of the jewels of Costa Rica. Protected since the 1970s, this small park, only 16 km² and bordered by the idyllic beaches of the Pacific Ocean, is home to rich biodiversity. Along peaceful paths or during a break on the beach, you will be welcomed by a tropical forest full of life: from the discreet sloth to the noisy howler monkey and the mischievous white-faced capuchin. On the fine sandy beaches rising to lush hills and coconut trees, you will be amused by the dance of the racoons that race down from the trees to tease visitors.

Day 5 - Coco

Discover Bahia El Coco in the Guanacaste Province, along Costa Rica's Pacific Coast, with its idyllic beaches and relaxed atmosphere. The bay is also the departure point for exploring fascinating national parks, including Rincon de la Vieja, which takes its name from the eponymous volcano and unveils itself in a maze of fumaroles, mud ponds, hot springs and impressive waterfalls.

Day 6 - Playa Manta

Bordered by the turquoise waters of the Pacific and lush jungle, Playa Mantas is a little corner of paradise inviting both relaxation and exploration. In addition to its picture-postcard setting, the beach is a gateway to the Carara National Park, a veritable sanctuary for exceptional fauna and flora, since it serves as a meeting point between dry forest and rainforest. Not far from the park, another spectacle unfolds along the shores of the River Tarcoles, a unique ecosystem home to many tropical birds as well as crocodiles.

Day 7 - Curú Wildlife Refuge

On the southern part of the Nicoya Peninsula, the small Curu Wildlife Refuge is the oldest protected park in Costa Rica. This refuge is an exemplary site in terms of ecotourism as well as a research centre for scientists from all over the world. It has been at the heart of an original conservation and sustainable development project since the 1930s. After a short zodiac trip, you will discover, via the paths that criss-cross the tropical forest and lead to magnificent beaches, the most emblematic species of Costa Rica: monkeys, iguanas and over 200 bird species. Since their recent reintroduction, the scarlet macaw and the spider monkey have thrived in this preserved environment.

Day 7 - Cedros Island



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In the Gulf of Nicoya, off the coast of the province of Puntarenas, Cedros Island reveals its incredible charm between lush vegetation and golden sandy beaches. The shores of this small preserved island lend themselves perfectly to lazing around during a beach stopover.

Day 8 - Puntarenas

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Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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YOUR SHIP: LE BELLOT

YOUR SHIP: Le Bellot

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, Le Bellot will embody the unique atmosphere of a subtle blend of exploration, 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. 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. In a relaxed atmosphere, an outdoor grill on Deck 3 will

serve grilled meats with a variety of salads and desserts. **PUBLIC AREAS** Le Bellot 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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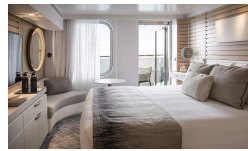
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Deluxe Suite Deck 3	£7755 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 5 Suite	£10505 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 6 Suite	£11045 GBP pp
Privilege Suite Deck 5	£11595 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£4515 GBP pp
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