

The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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POLAR LIGHTS CRUISE: FROM NORTH CAPE TO THE LOFOTEN ISLANDS

With featured guest Ian Dawson, British Photo Ambassador. Winter is silently approaching and the day is slowly withdrawing near the Arctic Circle, making way for a long dusk pre-empting the darkness. Take the time to discover the Norwegian fjords and the sumptuous Lofoten archipelago, in the morning light or at dusk. The moment is perfect for a sensitive experience, if ever there were one, and for exploring this seasonal temporality like somewhere completely new. The warm refuge of Le Commandant Charcot will open the doors for you to an all-new journey on the cusp of winter and invites you to explore the magnificent panoramas from the uninterrupted outside promenade deck, the Blue Lagoon pool or the Observatory Lounge. Appreciate the discreet and refined comfort of its spaces opening out onto the exterior and enjoy moments in complete communion with the elements. Experience first-hand the North Cape, the summit of Europe, and explore the rugged shores of the edges of the Arctic and the natural sanctuaries of Norway: dolomite cliffs shaped by the last glaciation, an archaeological site dating from the Bronze Age, majestic fjords, remarkable coastal cities, fishing villages and coniferous forests. During this journey above the Arctic Circle, you will discover Lapland, home to the Sami, who are reindeer farmers and one of the last European indigenous people. During warm encounters, you will discover their cultural traditions and their way of life, in harmony with the elements. Immerse yourself in nature and, as the night overtakes the day, set off to chase the Northern Lights. Amidst these distant landscapes, the Lofoten archipelago reveals itself, and is quite captivating. Can we conceive of a spectacle that is more fascinating than the

undulating and coloured veil of the Northern Lights observed in the heart of these marvellous islands? The Swedish Impressionist artist, Anna Boberg (1864-1935) understood. She discovered the Lofoten Islands in 1901 and continued to return there over 33 years, finding the archipelago to be a great place from which to observe the Northern Lights. Her paintings give them a poetic, lyrical and almost mystic vision, celebrating the beauty of the setting. Be like this passionate painter and allow the beauty of the journey soak in as the sky enshrouds the landscapes with



surreal light.

ITINERARY

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Days 1 - 2 LAKSELV

Discover Lakselv, whose name means "Salmon River", lying at the end of the immense Porsangerfjorden. As its name indicates, this small village is renowned for the salmon fishing in the waters of its river, which are brimming with this fish and others. The village is ideally located, offering privileged access to the surrounding magnificent nature. In particular, it retains traces of the last ice age in Trollholmsund, where dolomites with dreamlike silhouettes can be seen. Do not miss this extraordinary sight!

Day 3 HONNINGSVAG

If you feel like you have arrived at the end of the world in Honningsvåg, it is because this is the case. Halfway between Oslo and the North Pole, it competes with Hammerfest for the status of "the northernmost town in Continental Europe". Colourful houses light up this charming and typically Norwegian fishing port nestled in the hollows of the region's mountainous terrain. Travellers come to stay in the village to go to the North Cape. At the end of the road, you will see the globe that indicates that you are at the very end of Europe. At this point, only the Svalbard archipelago separates you from the North Pole. There is sea as far as the eye can see. The Northern Lights, the view of the immense cliff plunging into the sea, the thousands of puffins, gannets and cormorants that spin around you: everything here is grandiose.

Day 4 SAILING ALONG BJORNØYA (BEAR ISLAND)

Halfway between Norway and Spitsbergen, you will sail not far from the coastlines of Bjørnøya, the southernmost island of Svalbard. From your ship, observe this isolated piece of land discovered in 1596 by the Dutch navigator Willem Barents, then looking for the Northwest Passage. Following a tough fight between a polar bear and the members of the expedition, he dubbed the place Bear Island. Regularly covered by a thick layer of fog, Bjørnøya shelters a meteorological station built in 1923, which is still in operation. Declared a nature reserve in 2002, the island is above all home to an enormous colony of sea birds during summer.

Day 5 HAMMERFEST

Hammerfest, located on the north-western coast of the island of Kvaløya, beyond the 70th parallel north, is often considered the northernmost town in the world. Conserved in an immaculate natural setting, this charming fishing port enjoys a rich history, as is evidenced by various vestiges dating back to the Stone Age, Napoleonic wars or the Second World War. During your port of call, you will have the opportunity to discover the Struve Geodetic Arc, a chain of triangulations stretching across Europe from Hammerfest to the Black Sea, and the first technical and scientific object to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day 6 TROMSØ

In the north of the Arctic circle you'll discover Tromsø, a secluded town located in the county of Troms. Norwegians call it



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the "Paris of the north". You'll soon see why when you discover its extensive neoclassical architectural heritage. A stunning example is the Arctic cathedral, a major monument whose stylistic purity echoes the outline of the mountains surrounding the town.

Day 7 HARSTAD

Beyond the Arctic Circle, north of the Norwegian Sea and at the gateway to the Vesterålen archipelago and the sumptuous Lofoten islands, surprising Harstad enjoys an extraordinary natural setting. A favoured destination for its gentle way of life, the small town and surrounding area are a concentrate of the northern Norway's finest features: majestic coniferous forests, rugged mountains, bewitching fjords and preserved archipelagos. As inhospitable as they are magnificent, these lands still bear traces of the Bronze Age. For example, work tools, jewels and cairns sheltering many tombs that date back several millennia have been discovered during archaeological excavations. Profitez également d'une visite de l'église médiévale de Trondenes, le bâtiment médiéval le plus au nord du monde, qui date du XIII^e siècle et raconte l'histoire méconnue de l'Eglise de Norvège.

Day 8 LEKNES, LOFOTEN

Are you attracted by the force of the elements, by the world's end, by untamed landscapes? Welcome to the Lofoten Islands, an archipelago moored in the Norwegian Sea, beyond the Arctic Circle. Here, you will sail in majestic decors of alpine summits, sandy coves, sharp peaks emerging from the sea and deep-blue

fjords rippling with fish. The small town of Leknes is on Vestvågøy Island. All around you are the jagged shapes of mountains, and bays that empty and fill with the tides. During this port of call, you will be able to hike or partake in other open-air activities to ensure that you really appreciate all the region's natural treasures. You will set off to meet the Vikings at the Lofotr Viking Museum and reach the small fishing port of Henningsvær, which is picturesque and lively, with its cafes, art gallery and modern art museum.

Days 9 - 10 NARVIK

Beyond the Arctic Circle, you will discover Narvik, nestling in the heart of impressive mountains that plunge into the Ofotfjord. It is on the verge of obtaining the "sustainable destination" label, a national label awarded to destinations that are committed to a sustainable approach to tourism for the long term. You will be mesmerised by its scenery. From Narvik, it is possible to take the Ofoten Line towards Sweden. This historic railway once linked the mineral-rich mines of Kiruna in Sweden to the ice-free port of Narvik.

Please Note:

The itinerary is subject to modifications. On board, the sailing programme, outings and activities cannot be guaranteed and are subject to weather conditions.



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YOUR SHIP: LE COMMANDANT-CHARCOT

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Le Commandant-Charcot

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

With its hybrid propulsion combining liquefied natural gas (LNG) and electric generators, Le Commandant-Charcot has been designed to minimise the environmental impact of travel to the furthest latitudes. The decoration of the ship, designed by two internationally renowned design and architecture firms - the studio of Jean-Philippe Nuel and Wilmotte & Associes - is designed to be in harmony with the environment. The approach is contemporary with the desire to create a warm and elegant setting; stone, wood and leather recall the natural environment in which the ship is sailing. Equipped with just 135 staterooms including 31 suites with balconies and outside views, Le Commandant-Charcot welcomes you in an intimate and refined atmosphere. Outstanding gastronomy in the two restaurants, relaxation in the indoor pool surrounded by its winter garden, relaxation in the well-being area with sauna and Snow Room... Like on a private yacht, each of our guests is unique. **PUBLIC AREAS** Le Commandant-Charcot has many common areas that are designed and equipped to meet all of your needs while preserving the intimacy of each passenger. A 177 m² reception area includes: A reception/concierge desk, An expeditions desk, The ship's administrative services, The sales office, manned by

our Hospitality & Travel Manager officer, Our boutique which sells clothing, jewellery, beauty products, postcards and various accessories, The image & photo desk. The different lounges include a 302 m² main lounge including a 28 m² cigar lounge, a tea corner and a bar, with live music on selected evenings, A 400 m² panoramic bar and lounge, An open-air Bar. The recreation spaces Fitness & Beauty Corner: Fitness room: Elliptic, running machines, bicycles... Beauty Corner: Hairdresser, Massage rooms, Sauna, Snow Room, Nail Shop. Pool area: Indoor Pool and winter garden - Outdoor Pool Theatre: Capacity: 270-276 - Main show room for conferences and live entertainment on selected evenings - State-of-the-art audio and video technology. Leisure area: Public areas - Library - Medical centre. 16



Zodiacs on board.



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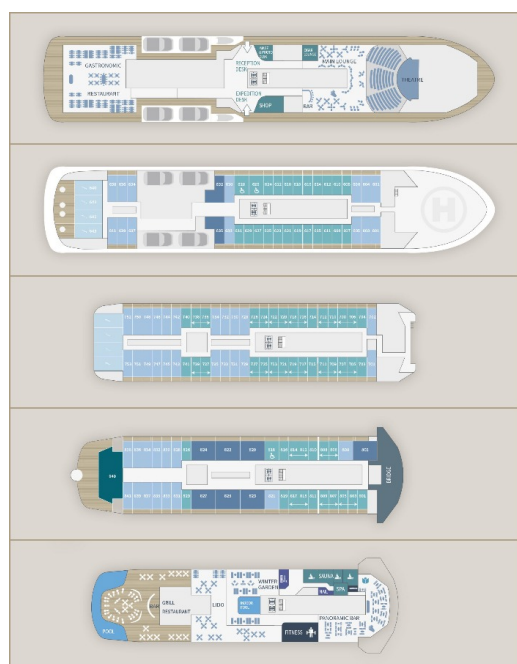
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INSIDE YOUR SHIP



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PRICING

ADDITIONAL CHARGES:

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