


# SAILING THE ADRIATIC: TREASURES OF EASTERN ITALY AND SICILY — WITH SMITHSONIAN JOURNEYS

In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys. _This cruise is part of a collection of PONANT voyages that are specially-tailored for English-speaking travelers who want to engage with the world. In addition to the usual elements of the PONANT experience, the listed price for these voyages includes transfers to and from the ship, talks and discussions aboard ship by world class experts, and a shore excursion in each port of call that encourages guests to embrace the sights, sounds, tastes, and smells of the local environment and culture._ This carefully curated voyage to Italy's Adriatic coast and Sicily visits some of the most culturally rich destinations in the country. Opportunities for discovery include the chance to visit a UNESCO World Heritage Site from every port of call on the itinerary as you move from the charm of _La Serenissima._ Along the way, you will immerse yourself in the cultures, both ancient and modern, that you encounter--a truly wonderful way to be introduced to the treasures of the Adriatic. Begin with a full day to explore Venice , where you may choose to visit the Scuola Grande di San Rocco , whose walls are covered with paintings by Tintoretto, and the Frari Church , featuring works by Titian and Donatello. Or you may opt for an excursion that introduces the uniquely Venetian crafts of mask-making and gondola manufacture; or enjoy a guided tour of Venice's hidden gardens. In Ravenna , once the center of Byzantine power in Italy, discover the remarkable 5th- and 6th-century churches that were collectively designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996--in large part because of their Byzantine mosaics, universally recognized as among the most stunning in the world. The port city of Ancona serves as a gateway for exploration of Italy's Marche. Visit the city of Jesi,

where the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II was born and which features a splendid medieval Old Town. Or spend the day exploring Urbino, birthplace of Raphael and home to one of the most important collections of Renaissance art in the world. From Bari, Puglia's capital, travel inland to the Valle d'Itria to explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Alberobello, with its conical _trulli _houses. Or stay in Bari for a walking tour of the Old Town , including tastings of the street food for which the city is famous--focaccia, panzerotto, scagliozze, and cremoso. Further south, Otranto offers an excursion to Lecce , "the Florence of the South," home to a spectacular display of the Baroque architecture that dominates this region of Italy. Your first port of call in Sicily is the beautiful resort town of Taormina , home to a stunning Greek theater, buildings that blend Arab and Norman influences, and villas built by European aristocracy in the 18th and 19th centuries. It is a showcase of the rich variety of cultures that have ruled the island. It is also your gateway to Mt. Etna and the vineyards that thrive in the rich volcanic soils of its slopes. The final day of your voyage is spent in Syracuse, an ancient Greek colony that rivalled the power of Athens. Here, your options include a tour of the small island of Ortygia , the historic center of the city, and exploration of Syracuse's extensive archaeological park , including a 15,000-seat Greek Theater, one of the largest in the Hellenic World. Alternatively, travel to Noto, a city destroyed by a massive earthquake in 1693 and rebuilt in the 18th-century as the quintessential example of Sicilian Baroque




architecture.

## 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 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 - Venice




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### Day 3 - Ravenna

Linked to the Adriatic Sea by a canal, the city of Ravenna and its countless monuments offer you a rich journey back in time. **Roman and Byzantine cultures** intermingle here, and the fruits of this history adorn the interiors of the city s religious buildings: the abundance of classical mosaics is the most stunning witness to Ravenna s glorious past. Eight**UNESCO World Heritage** listed Paleo-Christian sites punctuate your journey into the historic heart of the city. Still very lively despite the weight of its history, **Ravenna** has much to offer to visitors.

### Day 4 - Ancona

Situated on the promontory of Monte Conero, **Ancona** , the capital of the Marche region, offers visitors all the charm of a typical Italian historical city. Founded by the Greeks in 390 BC and conquered by Julius Caesar in 49 BC, Ancona has a long history that was very much shaped by its harbour, a hub attracting different populations and cultures. When your ship calls here, take the time to discover the city's many buildings, such as the **cathedral dedicated to Judas Cyriacus** and its façade made of white and pink marble, the**Arch of Trajan** , which is considered to be the port's main embellishment, or the 15th century mansion where the painter Raphael was raised.

### Day 5 - Bari

Extending out along a fertile plain facing the Adriatic Sea amid infinite landscapes sculpted by the water and wind, **Bari** bears the traces of the peoples which, over the centuries, have conquered it, settled it, or simply visited it fleetingly before making their way to faraway lands. Though its exact origins are lost among the mysteries of archaeology, the many sites here provide evidence of the town's rich past. The Saracens, Byzantines, Normans and Swabians have left a trace here, each bringing their own cultural baggage. During your stop here, stroll along the minuscule streets in **Bari Vecchia** , the historic centre, where you will find small churches and monuments from bygone eras.

### Day 6 - Otranto

Located in the Apulia region, **Otranto** is the easternmost transalpine town. Behind its medieval ramparts, you will taste the sweetlife of Salento, the "heel on Italy's boot". Inhabited since Antiquity, Otrante has today become a very pleasant seaside town. Yet its history is still visible as you meander through the little streets of its old centre. With its magnificent 12th century ornamental mosaic tiling, the **Cathedral** is one of its most beautiful treasures. During a stroll along the ramparts, you can sit and relax at a cafe terrace.

### Day 7 - Taormina, Sicily

Located on Sicily's eastern coast, in the province of Messina, the seaside town of Taormina is Sicily's Saint-Tropez, boasting heritage sites, secluded beaches and luxury shopping. You can visit its medieval centre, suspended 300 metres above sea




level, where terraces offer a spectacular view of the Mediterranean Sea. Another vestige from its past are the ruins of the **Greco-Roman theatre.** This extremely well-preserved site attracts visitors who are fascinated by the natural beauty of the area which overlooks a **turquoise bay.**

### Day 8 - Syracuse, Sicily

Its undulating rocky coastline, the endless sandy beaches, the menacing form of **Mount Etna** which surveys its island like a patriarch, the flowery gardens on the hillside... **Sicily** lays out its varied landscapes like a shopkeeper displays his wares. Described by Cicero as "the most beautiful city in the world", **Syracuse** was one of the most prestigious cities in Sicily and at her height was even a rival for Athens. **A central city of Ancient Greece** , it was home to a succession of civilisations, each of which has left their mark. The blend of Arabic, Roman, Norman, Byzantine and Spanish cultures makes Syracuse a town that is extraordinarily rich in fragrances, colours and flavours.

### Day 9 - Valletta

The whole of the Maltese capital Valletta is **UNESCO World Heritage** listed and occupies a peninsula in the north-east of the island. From the fountain of Tritons to Saint-Elme fort, there are as many majestic streets as there are narrow staircase vennels to explore. The painted loggia and carved corbels on the tall houses will accompany you in your explorations, and you'll rarely be bothered by traffic. You can visit the Grandmasters palace decorated with coats of arms and frescoes. **Saint-John 's cathedral** and the ramparts which have guarded the city since the 16th century are also among the most emblematic sites of the city. Arranged in terraces, the **Barrakka Gardens** will punctuate your promenade with a green and floral experience.

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.

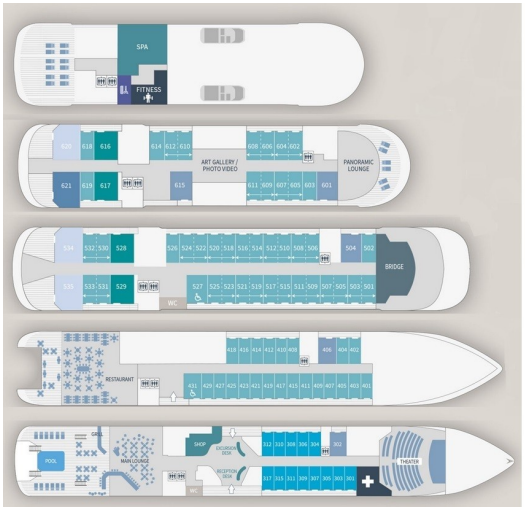
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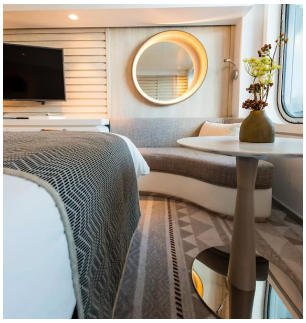



# INSIDE YOUR SHIP




- Owner's Suite — Deck 6
- Privilege Suites — Deck 5-6
- Grand Deluxe Suites — Deck 5-6
- Prestige Suites — Deck 5-6
- Deluxe Suites — Deck 5-6
- Prestige Cabins — Deck 4-5-6
- Deluxe Cabins — Deck 3

Deluxe Stateroom



Deluxe Suite Deck 3



Deluxe Suite Deck 4



Deluxe Suite Deck 5



Deluxe Suite Deck 6



Grand Deluxe Suite

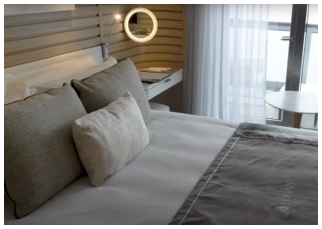




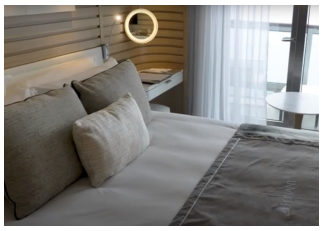

Owner's Suite



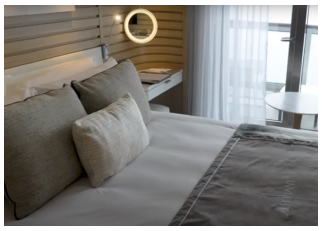
Prestige Stateroom Deck 4



Prestige Stateroom Deck 5



Prestige Stateroom Deck 6



Prestige Suite Deck 5



Prestige Suite Deck 6



Privilege Suite Deck 5



Privilege Suite Deck 6






# PRICING

**27-Sep-2028 to 05-Oct-2028**

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| Deluxe Stateroom | £6115 GBP pp |
| Deluxe Suite Deck 6 | £10115 GBP pp |
| Prestige Stateroom Deck 4 | £6725 GBP pp |
| Prestige Stateroom Deck 6 | £7405 GBP pp |
| Deluxe Suite Deck 3 | £10115 GBP pp |
| Grand Deluxe Suite | £16275 GBP pp |
| Prestige Suite Deck 6 | £14175 GBP pp |
| Privilege Suite Deck 6 | £14855 GBP pp |
| Owner's Suite | £22495 GBP pp |
| Deluxe Suite Deck 4 | £10115 GBP pp |
| Prestige Stateroom Deck 5 | £7035 GBP pp |
| Prestige Suite Deck 5 | £13505 GBP pp |
| Deluxe Suite Deck 5 | £10115 GBP pp |
| Privilege Suite Deck 5 | £14855 GBP pp |