

info@small-cruise-ships.com

# THE IBERIAN PENINSULA AND FORTIFIED CITIES OF THE ATLANTIC - FRANCE, Portugal & Spain Cruise

Set off to discover the Portuguese, Spanish and French Atlantic shores, veritable treasure chests of natural beauty and history. As you glide along the water, you will see cliffs shaped by the wind, lively fishing ports and historic cities all reveal themselves, immersing travellers in a marine heritage nurtured by Latin and Celtic influences. In these seaside territories, marked by the great sagas of the Atlantic route, each port of call unveils its jewels: secular architecture, the authentic charm of the corsair cities, spectacular coastal walks, and so on. An elegant marine adventure, featuring wild nature, a rich past and a gentle European way of life.

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### ITINERARY

#### Day 1 LISBON

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Day 2 LEIXÕES - PORTO

Located at the mouth of the Douro River, the port of Leixoes lies less than 10 kilometres from Porto. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the historic centre of Porto is worth a visit for its famous Ribeira district, the metallic silhouette of the Dom-Luis bridge looming over its ancient houses, its richly decorated Baroque churches and its national Soares dos Reis museum. The Sao Bento station is also interesting for its typically Portuguese decoration, using Azulejos, blue square ceramic tiles decorated with geometric patterns or figurative scenes.

Day 3 VIGO - SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

Portugal's capital city located on the banks of the Tagus, only a few kilometres from the Atlantic coast, is a city of exceptionally rich cultural diversity. At the mouth of the river harbour, impose two UNESCO World Heritage monuments, Jeronimos monastery and Belem tower. The Alfama hillside is also worth visiting: known for its fado bars and its Moorish streets, this district is the oldest one of the city and one of the most typical. Not far from there, Chiado's elegant streets are home to big fashion labels and are an invitation to a bit of of luxury shopping. Nestling on the Atlantic coast, in the south of Galicia, the former fishing port of Vigo is now the region's largest municipality. Its old town, more commonly known as O Berbes, will unveil its many historical monuments and the unusual architectural style of its homes. Off the coast, the Cies Islands, declared a Nature Reserve and located in the Atlantic Islands of Galicia National Park, offer truly splendid landscapes and exceptional biodiversity. Further north, make sure you visit Santiago de Compostela, which welcomes many pilgrims from all over the world every year. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, its historical centre has significant architectural heritage.

#### Day 4 AT SEA

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dedicated to the sea. Its beaches with peaceful waters, protected from the wind, offer one of the most beautiful sea fronts with a succession of Belle Époque buildings.

Days 6 - 7 BORDEAUX

During your journey 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 journey without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, depending on the activities offered, or 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 5 SANTANDER**

Facing the Bay of Biscay, its backdrop a natural setting that combines sea and mountain, Santander rolls out along a huge bay on the northern coast of the peninsula. A city of maritime tradition, it has a century-old touristic vocation. It is home to two treasures that are UNESCO World Heritage Sites: a part of the Way of Saint James and the Cave of Altamira. Its Prehistory and Archaeology Museum houses one of the most valuable Palaeolithic collections in Europe and the Maritime Museum of Cantabria is one of the most comprehensive museums in Spain Bordeaux stretches along the banks of the Garonne river, in South-West France. Its rich wine tradition makes it the world capital of wine. Let yourself be carried away by the history of the Port de la Lune, made a UNESCO World Heritage site for its prestigious classical architecture. On the famous Place de la Bourse, the past and the present unite: here you can observe the majestic old buildings reflected in the contemporary Miroir d'eau creation.

#### Dav 8 AT SEA

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#### Day 9 SAINT - MALO

fifteen years in exile in Guernsey. His home, Hauteville House, preserves his memory. The incredible richness of the decoration gives a clear illustration of the creative genius of this great man.

Day 10 DOUARNENEZ

The mere mention of Saint-Malo's name is enough to plunge us back into the richness of its past. The fortifications stand as testimony to the Malouins' determination to defend their citadel, fought over by France and Britain in turn. When we drop anchor here, immerse yourself in the diversity of its heritage: the time when privateers sailed the oceans in search of trade and victories; the legendary yacht races the port city is still famous for, such as the Route du Rhum; and the final resting place of the French writer François-Rene de Chateaubriand, who was born here and chose to be buried here anonymously.

Day 10 GUERNSEY

Nestling in the hollow of a pretty bay in the Finistere department which smells nicely of sea spray, Douarnenez bears both its Breton identity and its reputation as an important sardine port as a source of pride. The surrounding grandiose nature, with its wild coastlines and fine sandy beaches, offers a fine setting with the crystal-clear waters of the ocean. You'll enjoy a walk to take in the atmosphere of its lively quays and discover fishermen's houses of picturesque charm as you stroll through its small streets. You'll then visit Locronan, listed as one of "the most beautiful villages of France". The granite city, with its fine Renaissance-era houses, found fame as a setting for the films Tess, by Roman Polanski, and Chouans!, by Philippe de Broca.

#### Day 11 HONFLEUR

Guernsey is an atypical and unforgettable port of call. This Channel Island will delight you with its mild, iodic climate and its green and floral landscapes. Don't be surprised to come across dolmens and menhirs here and there, testifying to the long history of the island and its rich heritage. The attractive capital of St. Peter Port is characteristic of the delightful British atmosphere that gives the island its charm. The memory of the great writer Victor Hugo is also very present, as he lived for

A treasure of the Cote Fleurie, Honfleur is located on the edge of la Crique de Rouen in Normandy. You will no doubt admire the historical ships moored in its old port. With its tall, slate-covered houses, the quays provide a great setting for a very nice walk. In the streets behind the harbour, you will see many timber houses. These picturesque places were the cradle of several

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pre-impressionist painters. You can see their works in the Eugene Boudin museum. Exhibited works represent scenes of medieval streets and the coastline as it used to be, as illustrated by the Butin beach and its lush green hillsides.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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### YOUR SHIP: L'AUSTRAL

**YOUR SHIP:** 

LENGTH:

L'Austral

VESSEL TYPE:

142 metres. Passenger Capacity: 264 (200 in Antarctica). Built: 2011

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:** 

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Luxury Expedition / Cruise Ship This superb mega-yacht with 132 cabins is the result of the expertise of the Italian Fincantieri shipyard and French sophistication, as interpreted by designer Jean-Philippe Nuel. L'Austral has a unique atmosphere, a subtle blend of luxury, intimacy and well-being. A sleek silhouette softened by elegantly smooth contours and large, arched windows opening up to the sea and the light: so many features come together to give L'Austral her distinctive shape. Precious materials, discreet elegance and a perfect balance between chic and casual, combine to make you feel as if you are on your own private yacht. A design blending tradition and innovation, where a nautical mood has been subtly recreated. Precious materials in smoothing neutral tones are brought to life with splashes of cheerful reds. So many personal touches create the spirit of a "private yacht". Suites and staterooms You can expect magnificent ocean views as 124 staterooms and suites have balconies. Individually-controlled airconditioning · Cabin layout: kingsize bed, or twin beds, communicating cabins available (children welcome) · Minibar · Flat screen satellite TV · IPod™

players · Desk with stationery · Electronic safe · French bath products · Dressing table and hairdryer · Bath robes · Satellite direct line telephone · 110/220 volts · 24hr room service · WiFi · Balcony Cuisine Loyal to the great French tradition, the haute cuisine on board is worthy of the finest restaurants, where discreet, attentive service is the hallmark. Choose from two restaurants for breakfasts, lunch and dinner. The Gastronomic Restaurant is situated on Le Liberte Deck and serves you French and international cuisine accompagnied by fine wine. On the Grill Restaurant, you have the opportuniny to eat outside and enjoy buffet lunch and themed dinner. Life On Board Whether you want to join other guests in the theatre or games area (Wii™ consoles, etc), or relax on your own in a quiet corner of the library, L'Austral has been designed to meet the needs of every guest. Everything has been done to preserve the independence of each guest to suit their personal tastes: lounges for lectures and shows, a spa in partnership with Sothys<sup>™</sup>, but also more intimate spaces such as the library and internet corner. Comfortable cabins, nearly all with private balcony, are available for families either as triples or as communicating cabins. There is also a games area with Wii™ consoles, children's menus, and a baby-sitting service. Just as if you were on a private yacht, your time is your own to do as you please. Fitted with the latest equipment (Kinesis Wall, running machine) and in partnership with the famous Sothys™ brand, the Beauty Centre on L'Austral welcomes you for some unforgettable moments of relaxation and pampering (beauty treatments, hairdresser). Wheelchairs 3 specially adapted wheelchair cabins (Deck 3 = Superior cabin no. 307, no balcony, Deck 4 = Prestige Cabin no. 407 - with

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balcony and Deck 5 = Prestige Cabin no 509, with balcony) and lifts to all decks/areas. Details Please click the following links to read more about Ponant and the other Ponant

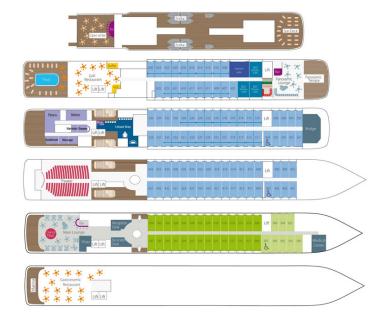


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## **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**



#### **Deluxe Stateroom**





Deluxe Suite Deck 3



Prestige Deck 4

Deluxe Suite Deck 5 Deluxe Suite Deck 6 Grand Deluxe Suite Grand Deluxe Suite Deck 5 Grand Deluxe Suite Deck 6 Grand Privilege Suite Prestige Deck 5 Prestige Deck 5 Suite Prestige Deck 6 Prestige Deck 6 Suite Privilege Suite Deck 5 Privilege Suite Deck 6 Privilège Suite

**Deluxe Suite Deck 4** 

**Deluxe Suite** 

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## **PRICING**

08-Ma	v-2026	to 19-Ma	v-2026
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Superior Stateroom	£5189 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£9639 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 6 Suite	£13719 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 6	£6925 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 5 Suite	£13045 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 4	£6245 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 5	£6549 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£5625 GBP pp
22-Apr-2027 to 02-May-2027	
Prestige Deck 4	£5115 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite Deck 3	£7875 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£4615 GBP pp
Privilege Suite Deck 6	£11735 GBP pp
Privilege Suite Deck 5	£11735 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 6 Suite	£11189 GBP pp

£5669 GBP pp

£12895 GBP pp

£12895 GBP pp

£7875 GBP pp

£7875 GBP pp

£7875 GBP pp

£10635 GBP pp

£5365 GBP pp

Superior Stateroom	£4259 GBP pp
Privilège Suite	£11189 GBP pp
Grand Deluxe Suite	£12849 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£7875 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£4615 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 6	£5669 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 5	£5365 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 4	£5115 GBP pp
Grand Privilege Suite	£15205 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 5 Suite	£10635 GBP pp

24-Apr-2027 to 04-May-2027

**Prestige Deck 6** 

**Grand Deluxe Suite Deck 6** 

**Grand Deluxe Suite Deck 5** 

**Deluxe Suite Deck 6** 

**Deluxe Suite Deck 5** 

Deluxe Suite Deck 4

**Prestige Deck 5 Suite** 

**Prestige Deck 5** 

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### PRICING

#### 08-May-2027 to 18-May-2027

Superior Stateroom	£4259 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 6 Suite	£11189 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 5 Suite	£10635 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 6	£5669 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 5	£5365 GBP pp
Prestige Deck 4	£5115 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£7875 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£4615 GBP pp

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