

VIETNAMESE SHORES LUXURY SMALL SHIP CRUISE

Along the legendary South China Sea , take in the dazzlingjewels of Vietnam , blending exuberant nature with a fascinating history. At each stop, the scenery reveals striking contrasts: the peaceful fishing villages of the C on Dao Islands lie alongside wild beaches lapped by turquoise waters; ancient towns , home to temples and imperial remains, emerge from the lush vegetation; and coastal cities stretch along vast expanses of golden sand. On the Saigon River , the atmosphere feels almost cinematic: the water becomes a mirror reflecting the city's lights and movement, while in Halong Bay , the mist blurs all contours before suddenly revealing a mineral silhouette, creating the impression of sailing through an ancient painting. This promises to be an unforgettable journey into a world of contrasts and mystery.



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Singapore

Nicknamed the Garden City, Singapore stretches across Malaysia's southern-most region. Experience the vibrant hustle and bustle of this city-state for yourself at the **Marina Bay**. No too far away is the historic centre, offering up a unique smorgasbord of neoclassical buildings and contemporary towers. Decked out in topiary, the pavements of Orchard Road are also home to countless shopping centres. The colourful markets in **Chinatown** and **Little India** are the perfect opportunity to quell hunger pangs in a hawker centre, one of the city's traditional snack bars. Between the two districts, get a slice of history with a trip to the **Raffles dock**. It was here that Englishman **Sir Raffles** , the founder of the city, is said



to have arrived one fateful day in January 1819.

Day 2 - At sea

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 3 - Côn Dao Islands

To the south of Vietnam, the archipelago of the **C on Dao Islands,**located in the South China Sea, is composed of sixteen rocks covered in lush vegetation**.** A regular stopover on the Maritime Silk Road connecting China to Europe between the 2nd and 13th centuries, the islands were mentioned by Marco Polo during his voyage from China to India in 1294. A former English and French trading post, the archipelago became a French colony in 1861 using the name**Poulo Condor**. A penitentiary centre was built there and used to imprison opponents of the colonial regime. During the Vietnam War, the Saigon regime and the United States locked up communist enemies there until 1975. In its idyllic natural setting, Con Dao has become a memorial site and a symbol of the fight for independence.

Day 4 - Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon)

Located near the **Mekong delta, Ho Chi Minh City** is the largest city in Vietnam. It is both the historic heart and economic hub. Formerly Saigon, the city is an imposing avant-guard metropolis. You can admire its famous central post office and its emblematic **Reunification Palace.** From 95 years of French presence, the city has kept some remarkable monuments, like the **Cath edrale Notre-Dame** with its neo-Gothic façade built in 19th century red brick. You'll succumb to the magic of this hectic city, where everything is about contrast, like the very brightly-coloured district of **Cholon,** Saigon's "Chinatown".

Day 5 - Sailing Saigon River

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Day 6 - At sea

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Day 7 - Quy Nhon

When your ship calls at **Quy Nhon** you will be able to discover the **Ganh Da Dia** , an area of impressive basalt rock formations created by a volcanic eruption that occurred 200 million years ago. When the blocks of lava came into contact with the freezing water, neat vertical fissures appeared, forming an amalgam of columns whose surface, once cooled, became square, round or hexagonal. Some are vertical, others oblique, and in places they are of different sizes. Some of the structures almost look like piled up dishes. You will be able to discover this surprising rock formation which, although made entirely by nature, seems to have been perfectly designed by man.

Day 8 - Da Nang

Mid-way between Ho Chi Minh City to the south and Hanoi to the north, **Da Nang** enjoys an ideal location in Vietnam. The old colonial town has skilfully navigated the transition to economic growth, becoming a wealthy tourist destination. With its five **Marble Mountains** , its 72-metre high Buddha and white sand beach, Da Nang will create some magical memories, made sublime by a secular culinary tradition that has nothing left to prove. It is also the gateway to the country's treasures, including the cities of Hoi-An and Hue, which are both UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Day 9 - Chan May

To the south-east of Thua Thuen-Hue province, **Chan May harbour** was developed around its industrial activity, but has since opened up to cruise tourism. This harbour enjoys an exceptional location on the Vietnamese coast, not far from Chan May, the doorway into the **imperial city of Hue,** the ancient capital of the country and listed by UNESCO as World Heritage site. Its royal citadel dating from the 19th century, inspired by the Forbidden city of Beijing, is a gem of architecture and history.

Day 10 - At sea

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Day 11 - Ha Long

Shielded by majestic karstic peaks, Halong reveals itself through a string of spectacular landscapes. Known the world over for its bay, listed with UNESCO, this city in northern Vietnam is lesser known for its heritage. That is a shame, as the authenticity and cultural richness of Halong is surprising. Boasting a unique mix of modern architecture and heritage from the dynasty of the



Hung kings, the tourism capital of the Quang Ninh province promises unexpected moments in its bustling streets and breathtaking panoramas of one of the most beautiful bays in the world.

Day 12 - At sea

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Day 13 - Hong Kong

Hong Kong, known as the "Fragrant harbour", bordered by the South China Sea, is a heady place attracting tourists from the world over. This former British colony today combines ultramodern shopping malls and authentic markets like the **Ladie 's Market** or the night market on **Temple Street.** At first sight, you'll be overwhelmed by the city's architecture which, because of lack of ground space, reaches skywards, with its **1,250 skyscrapers** and other towers. Believing is seeing, so if you go up to **Victoria Peak,** the highest point on the island, you'll see a dizzying and unforgettable view of the bay.

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Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: L'AUSTRAL

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VESSEL TYPE:

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

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

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™, 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

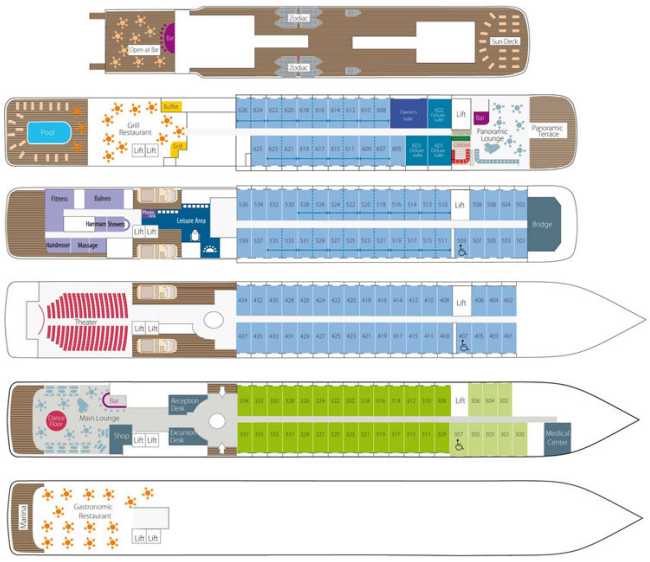
balcony and Deck 5 = Prestige Cabin no 509, with balcony) and lifts to all decks/areas. Details Please click the following links to read more about Ponant and the other Ponant



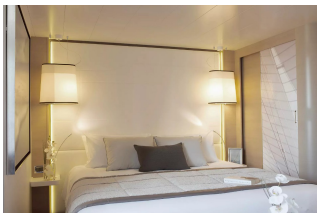
cruise ships.



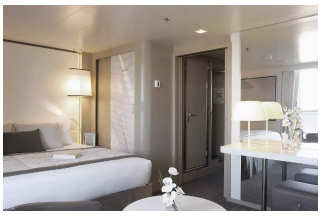
INSIDE YOUR SHIP



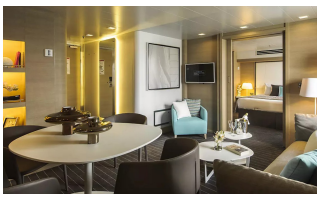
Deluxe Stateroom



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





Superior Stateroom





PRICING

27-Dec-2027 to 09-Jan-2028

Prestige Suite Deck 6	£17735 GBP pp
Owner's Suite	£26775 GBP pp
Superior Stateroom	£6985 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£7525 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 5	£8695 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 5	£16875 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 4	£8305 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£12595 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 6	£9165 GBP pp

09-Jan-2028 to 22-Jan-2028

Prestige Stateroom Deck 4	£8305 GBP pp
Deluxe Suite	£12585 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 5	£8695 GBP pp
Owner's Suite	£26775 GBP pp
Deluxe Stateroom	£7525 GBP pp
Superior Stateroom	£6985 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 6	£17725 GBP pp
Prestige Stateroom Deck 6	£9165 GBP pp
Prestige Suite Deck 5	£16875 GBP pp