



# **SUMMER 2024**

Cruise selection
ARCTIC AND AMERICAN FAR NORTH • ASIA







# Reinventing summer



The most seasoned travellers will tell you: the beauty of travel is the unexpected. That's why vast areas and out-of-the-ordinary discoveries will undeniably be most welcome to guests of our 2024 spring-summer season.

Breathe in the fresh air of Alaska, marvel at the Northern Hemisphere's largest icebergs in the Baffin Sea, cross the iconic Northwest Passage, and escape to the secret fjords of Spitsbergen. The Arctic offers you an endless world of primeval

forests, thousand-year-old glaciers, and authentic experiences. On one side, resplendent nature is punctuated by the cry of a bald eagle. On the other, the serene passage of humpback whales creates calm ripples across smooth waters. And over there, a polar bear strides assuredly across the immaculate landscape.

At the end of winter, *Le Commandant Charcot* is the only ship that can take you to the most isolated regions of Greenland. The east coast of this island country will reveal to you the awakening of nature, still caught up in the transpolar drift. From meetings with the Inuit to polar trekking and dog-sledding, you'll be touched by the power of these places and the friendliness of their inhabitants.

And further east still, get ready to be surprised by a little-known Japan. Discover it with us on the only expedition cruises to the region. Our itineraries include subtropical islands, white sandy beaches and coral reefs, or Christian heritage and unprecedented stopovers in the Koshikishima Islands.

To make your travel dreams come true, take advantage of an exclusive preview offer of 10% off all cruises in this brochure. The summer season has never tasted so delicious!

See you on board soon,

Hervé Gastinel CEO of PONANT

# TEN REASONS

# to sail with PONANT

# Travel is an art

Each season, we design meaningful trips inspired by four major themes: Planet, Culture, Lifestyle, and Geopolitics. In order to provide you with unique experiences, we rely on the expertise of our renowned partners, represented on board by inspiring personalities: artists, historians, curators, researchers, journalists, essayists and others.



# 3

# **Travel expertise**

Our specialists have been exploring the world in search of natural and cultural gems and treasures for thirty-five years. Each itinerary has been designed to offer you the opportunity to discover rich wildlife and extraordinary landscapes, and to meet local cultures. All of this, in complete safety, with the support of our experts: your expedition team or our partners and guests.

# A more sustainable form of tourism

Through our foundation and our PONANT Blue Horizon and PONANT Science programmes, we go to considerable efforts to reduce our impact both on land and at sea (elimination of heavy fuel oils, the use of hybrid propulsion, waste and wastewater recycling and treatment, elimination of single-use plastics, etc.), and to contribute to scientific research (hosting researchers on board *Le Commandant Charcot*).

# **Conscious travels**

In the Arctic and the Antarctic, we are members of IAATO and AECO: regulatory organisations that bring together different stakeholders in the polar regions to promote more responsible tourism. We have earned numerous label, including Bureau Veritas' *Cleanship* certification for our fleet.





# A safe and modern fleet

We are one of the few cruise companies to sail under the French flag, one of the safest in the world. We thus adhere to a range of strict requirements governing the training of our teams and compliance with health and safety protocols. Our intimately sized ships have between 16 and 165 staterooms only and are equipped with the most advanced technologies available to ensure we sail and navigate in a responsible manner.

# Lifestyle

Experience the comfort and elegant design of the public areas on board our ships. The swimming pool (except on *Le Ponant*), the fitness centre, the spa in partnership with famous brands (Clarins, Diptyque, Biologique Recherche, Sothys and Algotherm) and the restaurants and bars all offer you a warm and friendly atmosphere. The onboard theatre also provides a venue for film projections, conferences, and shows.





# On the PONANT table

Prepare to be delightfully surprised by a range of refined cuisine designed and put together by Ducasse Conseil. On the menu: fine breakfasts, 'à la carte' dishes and varied buffets, home-made pastries, bread prepared on board, tea time specialities and luxury food and drink tastings. The service we offer on board *Le Commandant Charcot* now includes Nuna, the only gourmet restaurant at sea by Alain Ducasse featuring a menu devised by the multiply Michelin-starred chef himself

# A complete offer

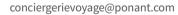
Everything is included on our cruises: full board; drinks (excluding the premium menu); room service; internet access; shows and entertainment: talks and conferences; access to the fitness area, the steam room or the sauna: and sea-based activities (except scuba diving). On expedition cruises, the services of the naturalist-guides. the excursions, the onshore activities and the disembarkations by inflatable boat are all included. In polar regions, we also provide you, on the vast majority of departures, a parka and the loan of boots.



# 9

# Tailor-made journey

With our 'a la carte' service, you can book private excursions, hotel nights or flights with the help of our advisors. For certain hard-to-reach destinations, we offer private flights and land transportation. We have also set up a unique concierge service, dedicated to the future guests of *Le Commandant Charcot*, *Le Ponant* and as well as those of the Owner's Suites aboard our other ships. Your dedicated contact:



Finally, as soon as you make your reservation, you can download the PONANT application to help you prepare for your trip and to use while on board.

# Many advantages

Solo travellers, family and friends, honeymooners, couples celebrating wedding anniversaries, adventurers embarking on backto- back cruises, or people travelling as part of the referral program or the PONANT Yacht Club loyalty program: there are plenty of benefits for every guest.





Discover all our available offers.



The Far North reveals its many beauties, between the snow of the Alaskan peaks, the mythical coasts of the Thule region, and Greenland. Visit the western shores or the expansive pack ice at a time of year when typically inaccessible to traditional ships.





# Alaska, nature on a grand scale

### SEWARD • VANCOUVER or VANCOUVER • SEWARD



This trip takes you right into traditional villages, offering you the chance to plunge into Alaskan history, and admire the diverse landscapes of the "Great Land", as it is known to the Aleuts.





### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Visiting traditional villages and meeting the peoples of the Far North.
- Voyaging to some of Alaska's most beautiful glaciers, particularly in the Tsaa Fjord or Prince William Sound.
- The history of trappers and gold hunters.
- Landscapes: fjords, glaciers, primary forests and temperate rainforests.
- Wildlife: humpback whales, orcas, brown bears, grizzlies, sea otters, Steller sea lions and bald eagles.
- Scenic cruising or hikes, outings in local boats or tender motorboats.
- The knowledgeable support of naturalist guides throughout your cruise.
- 7<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August departures: workshops and conferences with our Photo Ambassador.

Each departure's itinerary is slightly different: see website for more information.

# Included with your cruise, depending on departure (4):

the night in Anchorage before embarkation, the visit of Seward and transfers, or the transfer from Seward to Anchorage airport.



**7<sup>th</sup> August departure:** activities and conferences proposed by an expert from the group of explorers The Explorers Club.

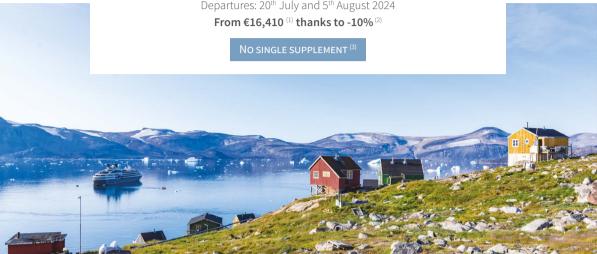


# Expedition to the Thule Region



# KANGERLUSSUAQ • KANGERLUSSUAQ

17 days/16 nights on board *Le Boréal* Departures: 20<sup>th</sup> July and 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024



Explore one of the legendary territories of the Far North, the Baffin Sea. From navigating between drifting icebergs to searching for polar bears, this adventure is a wonder for every traveller.









### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Disko Bay, a UNESCO site, to see the Northern Hemisphere's largest icebergs.
- Sailing between the ice floes and icebergs in the region of Thule.
- Discovering traditional villages among the northernmost in the world.
- Encounters with the Inuit people.
- Landscapes: tundra, ice cap, glaciers, icebergs and ice floe.
- Wildlife: polar bears, humpback whales, Arctic terns, belugas, bearded seals, orcas and narwhals.
- The knowledgeable support of naturalist guides throughout your cruise.

 $\label{eq:continuous} \begin{array}{c} \textbf{Included with your cruise} \ ^{\text{(4)}} : \\ \text{return flights Paris/Kangerlussuaq and transfers.} \end{array}$ 

PLANET

**20**<sup>th</sup> **July departure:** the presence of Laurence de La Ferrière, renowned French adventurer.

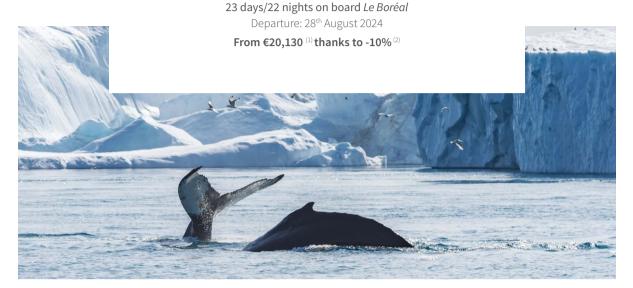
GEOPOLITIC

**5**<sup>th</sup> **August departure:** the presence of Christine Ockrent, journalist specialising in French and international news and geopolitical questions.

# The Northwest Passage, in the wake of Roald Amundsen



# KANGERLUSSUAQ • NOME, ALASKA



Here you are in the very heart of the Arctic! Follow in the footsteps of famed explorer Roald Amundsen for an outstanding crossing of the legendary Northwest Passage, a milestone in the history of polar exploration.

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The meeting the Greenlandic and Canadian Inuit people.
- The discovery of Amundsen's wintering site in Gjoa Haven, near the mythical shipwrecks of John Franklin's HMS *Erebus and HMS Terror*.
- Disko Bay, a UNESCO site, to see the Northern Hemisphere's largest icebergs.
- Landscapes: ice pack, myriads of jagged islands, fjords, glaciers, mountain chains, monumental icebergs as you travel towards Greenland.
- Wildlife: Arctic foxes, sea birds, belugas, narwhals, bowhead whales, humpback whales, muskox, walruses and the possibility of seeing polar bears.
- Workshops and conferences with our Photo Ambassador.









# Included with your cruise (4):

flights Paris/Kangerlussuaq and Nome/Seattle, as well as transfers.

# Fjords and glaciers of Spitsbergen



### LONGYEARBYEN • LONGYEARBYEN

8 days/7 nights on board *Le Boréal* or *Le Lyrial*Departures: 4th, 9th, 11th, 16th, 18th June and 2nd July 2024

From €7,870 (1) thanks to -10% (2)

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (8)

A flight of less than five hours from Paris takes you into the heart of the High Arctic, between the northern latitudes of 76° and 80°, where you'll be captivated by the majestic, tapering mountains of Spitsbergen and its fascinating wildlife.



### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The history of Spitsbergen connected to hunting and fishing, the mining industry and polar exploration, with the possibility of discovering Ny-Ålesund.
- Scenic sailing between dazzling blue sky or mysterious polar mist.
- Landscapes: icebergs, ice caps, striated cliffs, gigantic glaciers, glacier fronts, tundra; possibility of observing the ice floe.
- Wildlife: polar bears, Arctic foxes, Svalbard reindeer, walruses, bearded seals, harbour seals, Arctic fulmars and terns, black-legged kittiwakes, eiders, guillemots, blue whales, minke whales and orcas.
- · The possibility of hiking.
- The knowledgeable support of naturalist guides throughout your cruise.

Included with your cruise (4): return flights Paris/Longyearbyen and transfers.

**CULTURE** 

11<sup>th</sup> June departure: the presence of Géraldine Danon, French actress and cinema director.

# Expedition to the edge of the Ice Sheet

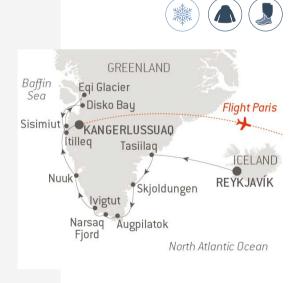
### **REYKJAVÍK • KANGERLUSSUAQ**

14 days/13 nights on board Le Lyrial
Departure: 12th August 2024
From €9,550 (1) thanks to -10% (2)

Journey along the route used by the Vikings, the first Europeans to explore eastern Greenland as far as Nuuk, as you follow in the footsteps of Erik the Red. An exciting adventure awaits you, with extraordinary discoveries along the way.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Visiting traditional villages and Nuuk, the capital of Greenland, and meeting the Inuit people.
- Following in the footsteps of the Vikings, from the east coast of Greenland to Hvalsø, home to ancient remains.
- UNESCO site: observing the largest icebergs in the Northern Hemisphere and the Eqi Glacier in Disko Bay, and Ilulissat icefjord.
- Prins Christian Sund, 100 km narrow passage between cliffs and glaciers.
- · The possibility of hiking.
- Landscapes: fjords, iridescent glaciers and icebergs, wild tundra, lakes, and mountain ranges.
- Wildlife: humpback whales, orcas, seals, musk oxen, Arctic foxes.
- The knowledgeable support of naturalist guides throughout your cruise.



Included with your cruise (4): transfer after disembarkation and single flight Kangerlussuaq/Paris.



# REACHING THE UNREACHABLE

Le Commandant Charcot is the only passenger ship in its class to have reached the geographic North Pole and to be able to travel to the heart of the ice in seasons inaccessible to traditional ships.

# SAILING THROUGH ICE: A CHALLENGE LIKE NO OTHER

The only passenger ship in the world with a **Polar** Class 2 (PC2) hull, she can navigate in multi-year ice for much of the year.

# THE BEST OF THE BEST

With you are around **20 naturalist guides** to explain the history of the polar regions, the landforms, local flora and fauna, and much more. Plus, the crew on the bridge are experienced in sailing through ice.

# COMPLETE EXPERIENCE ON THE ICE FLOE

Polar trekking with Inuit guides, dog sledding, snowshoe trekking, kayaking in icy waters, and encounters with local communities will provide you the experience of a real connection with the powerful nature of the Far North.

# INSIDE - OUTSIDE, THE INVISIBLE FRONTIER

On board, the cabins and communal areas are designed as cocoons that open wide to the grandiose scenery and extreme environments around them.

# THE ONLY ALAIN DUCASSE RESTAURANT

*Nuna* (meaning Earth, in Inuit), one of our onboard restaurants, offers a gourmet menu devised by the Michelin-starred chef, as well as some of his signature dishes.

# **SAILING FOR SCIENCE**

Le Commandant Charcot has two laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment and welcomes researchers from leading institutes on each of its voyages.

# A MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY HYBRID ENGINE

Combining electric propulsion and liquefied natural gas, *Le Commandant Charcot* reduces its emissions of CO2 by 25%, nitrogen oxide by 85%, and fine particles by 95%.

# YOUR DEDICATED CONCIERGE SERVICE

A team of experts is at your service to prepare your trip down to the last detail, with tailor-made services.

Your dedicated team: conciergerievoyage@ponant.com

# MANY ADVANTAGES

Travelling alone, with family or friends, on your honeymoon or anniversary, as part of our loyalty programme PONANT Yacht Club: **PONANT** benefits apply to *Le Commandant Charcot*.

To find out more:

www.ponant.com/ponant-benefits





# Inuit spring of Ammassalik



### **REYKJAVÍK • REYKJAVÍK**



After months of isolation, the Inuit of the Ammassalik region welcome you to the heart of the ice floe at the end of winter. Enjoy the chance to meet locals and take part in activities in a completely immersive setting, in the heart of peaceful, unspoiled landscapes.



### HIGHLIGHTS:

- The opportunity to take part in a polar trek, a signature experience.
- Exploring the Blosseville Coast.
- Discovering the region of Ammassalik.
- Encounters with the Inuit people.
- Wildlife: blue and humpback whales, polar bears, seals and sea birds.
- Landscapes: ice cap, fjords, icebergs caught in the ice, calving glaciers, patches of ice floe drifting from the North Pole and compression ridges.
- The knowledgeable support of a reinforced team of naturalist guides throughout your cruise.
- Workshops and conferences with our Photo Ambassador.
- Many activities: dog sledding, kayaking, hiking or snowshoeing, ice fishing, polar diving.

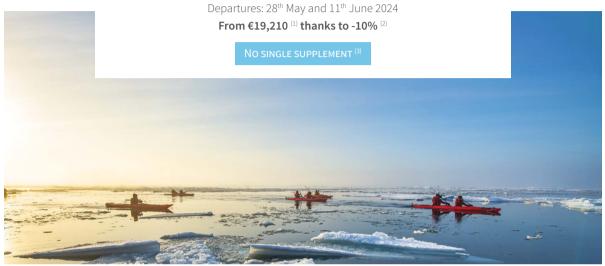
# PLANET THE EXPLORERS CLUB

16<sup>th</sup> April departure: activities and conferences proposed by an expert from the group of explorers The Explorers Club.

# Northeast Greenland's unexplored sea ice

### **REYKJAVÍK • REYKJAVÍK**

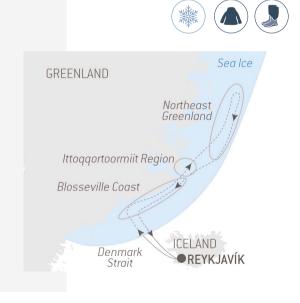
15 days/14 nights on board *Le Commandant Charcot* 



Discover northeast Greenland, one of the most isolated and remote regions of the Arctic. This is your chance to explore places that have rarely been visited, surrounded by ice.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Exploring the coast of Blosseville and the northeast of Greenland, untouched remote region in the early Arctic summer, amid the ice carried along the Transpolar Drift.
- Ittoqqortoormiit, where the last hunters of the polar region live, at the entrance to gigantic Scoresby Sound.
- Landscapes: fjords, glaciers, icebergs, polar ice cap and hummocks.
- Wildlife: blue and humpback whales, polar bears, narwhals, seals, muskoxen, Arctic foxes, orcas and sea birds.
- The knowledgeable support of a reinforced team of naturalist guides throughout your cruise.
- Workshops and conferences with our Photo Ambassador.
- Many activities: kayaking, hiking or snowshoeing, ice fishing, polar diving, dog sledding (28th May departure only).





11th June departure: activities and conferences proposed by an expert from the group of explorers The Explorers Club.

# In the ice of the Arctic, from Greenland to Svalbard

### **REYKJAVÍK • LONGYEARBYEN**

17 days/16 nights on board Le Commandant Charcot



From northeast Greenland to Svalbard, you'll be pushing back the frontiers of exploration to explore iconic destinations where the names of Paul-Emile Victor, Jules de Blosseville, and Jean-Baptiste Charcot still resound.









### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Exploring the ice to the northeast of Greenland, inaccessible to traditional ships in late spring.
- Enjoying the Søraust-Svalbard Nature Reserve, the second largest protected area in Norway.
- Sailing in the Hinlopen Strait, infiltrated by ice and connecting Spitsbergen to Nordaustlandet, Europe's largest ice cap.
- Landscapes: fjords, glaciers, icebergs, ice floes, polar ice cap and tundra
- Wildlife: polar bears, walruses, Arctic foxes, Svalbard reindeer, whales, sea birds.
- The knowledgeable support of a reinforced team of naturalist guides throughout your cruise.
- Workshops and conferences with our Photo Ambassador.
- Many activities: kayaking, hiking or snowshoeing, polar plunge.

# Included with your cruise (4):

transfer from port to airport after disembarkation and flight Longyearbyen/Paris.

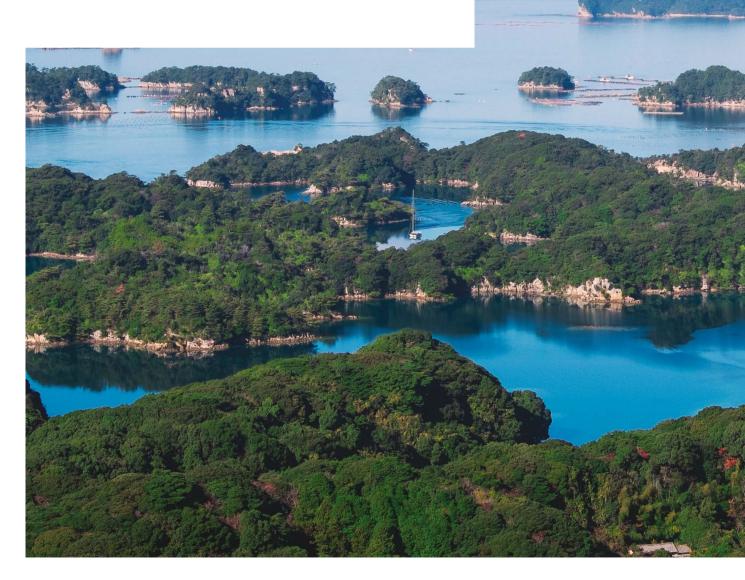


Activities and conferences proposed by an expert from the group of explorers The Explorers Club.



# Japan

The first cruise company to take you to the heart of the subtropical islands of southern Japan, we are also offering you a unique itinerary to the very south of the archipelago. Discover this unusual and little-known land of the Rising Sun, with natural sanctuaries, traditional culture, and unsuspected heritage.





# Japanese subtropical Islands



# NAHA • KEELUNG or FUKUOKA • KEELUNG or KEELUNG • KAGOSHIMA

8 days/7 nights on board *Le Jacques-Cartier*Departures: 16<sup>th</sup> March and 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024

From €4,580 <sup>(1)</sup> thanks to -10% <sup>(2)</sup>

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT <sup>(3)</sup>

For the first time, a cruise company has devised an expedition itinerary to the heart of the subtropical islands of southern Japan. Explore the natural riches and traditional villages of Okinawa and Yaeyama islands, in the Ryūkyū Archipelago.



### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- UNESCO sites: the islands of Yakushima and Iriomot.
- Varied landscapes of the subtropical islands: white sandy beaches, crystal-clear waters, coral reefs, tropical forest, mangroves, rivers, cliffs, caves, waterfalls.
- Exploring the culture of Okinawa: visit to a traditional village in the Iriomote-Ishigaki National Park, traditional Eisa drumming show (Iheyajima).
- Gain an insight into the history, culture and the diversity of flora and fauna.
- The knowledgeable support of naturalist guides throughout your cruise.
- Possibility of diving (PADI Advanced Open Water Diver or equivalent), and of snorkelling with your expedition team.



Every cruise has its own uniqueness! Find out more about each of the three routes.

PLANET

THE EXPLORERS CLUB

**CULTURE** Tallandier 16<sup>th</sup> March departure: activities and conferences proposed by an expert from the group of explorers The Explorers Club.

6<sup>th</sup> April departure in partnership with Les Éditions Tallandier and with the presence of Valérie Niquet, author of numerous books on Asia.

# Kyūshū's secret islands and ancestral heritage

### KAGOSHIMA • FUKUOKA or FUKUOKA • KAGOSHIMA



From the inlets of the Nagasaki prefecture to the bewitching shores of Kagoshima, the west of the island of Kyūshū reveals a surprising Japan, combining wondrous nature with an unexpected Christian heritage.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Discovering the western part of the island of Kyūshū, at the intersection of Western and Japanese traditions.
- UNESCO sites: 'the hidden Christian sites in the Nagasaki region' in Sakitsu and Kamigoto; Yakushima Island, a nature sanctuary.
- Brand-new ports of call in the Koshikijima Islands, on Kamigoto and Jeju, and in the island region of Amakusa.
- The exploration of Japan's Christian history, a religion banned during the Edo period.
- Landscapes: steep cliffs, monumental waterfalls, virgin forests, tea plantations, geological formations and verdant peaks.
- The knowledgeable support of naturalist guides throughout your cruise.
- 20<sup>th</sup> April departure: workshops and conferences with our Photo Ambassador.



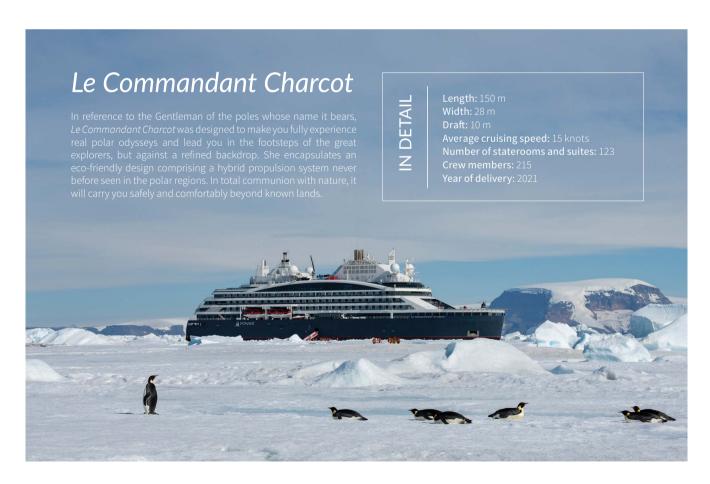
27th April departure: the stop in Iki Island is replaced by a stop in Nagasaki.

# YOUR SHIPS for this selection of cruises 2024

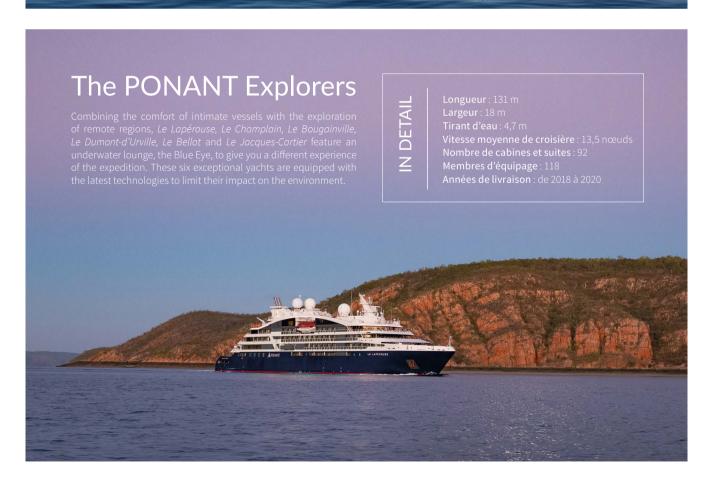
Clean lines and innovative technologies are the strength and uniqueness of our latest generation fleet. With their high level of luxury, our ships contribute to the success of your journey with the greatest respect of the environments visited.



Embark and discover all our ships as if you were there!



# The Sisterships With its slender lines and understated decor, the Sisterships series symbolises the company's wish to propagate the French lifestyle across the world. Being yachts on a human scale, Le Boréal, L'Austral, Le Soléol and Le Lyriol can gain access to isolated places and ports reserved for small vessels. | The Sisterships | Length: 142 m | Width: 180 m | Draft: 4.7 m | Average cruising speed: 14 knots | Number of staterooms and suites: 122 or 132 | Crew members: 145 | Years of delivery: from 2010 to 2015 | Years of delivery: from 2010 to 2015 | Propagate the French Lifestyle | Propagate the French Lifestyle



# PONANT's experience recognised



## 'Best Cruise Ships in the World'

awarded by the Condé Nast Traveler magazine in its Gold List 2023.

**'Best Expedition Ship Line'** and **'Best Small Ship Line'** awarded at the Condé Nast Traveler Reader's *Choice Awards 2022.* 

### Jury Prize in the Maritime category,

awarded by TourMag magazine at the Césars responsible tourism in 2023.

# 'Best Cruise Company'

awarded at the Travel d'Or 2022.

See the complete list of our awards on en.ponant.com.

# The life of a brochure

Did you know? Paper can be recycled up to seven times.

In order to reduce the environmental impact of our brochures, envelopes and letters, we've adopted a range of good practices to ensure a responsible approach all the way to your own letterbox. The items you receive can be recycled to extend their life cycle.

- √ The use of recycled paper for printed materials
- ✓ Replacement of plastic film with recyclable envelopes
- ✓ Optimisation of the way we distribute our media, whilst continuing to listen your needs
- ✓ Forwarding of our outdated media to a sorting centre for transformation and reuse



# INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS

UK: + 44 20 76 60 40 89 | Belgium: +32 (0)2 647 37 05

Asian countries: + 61 2 8459 5000

Rest of the world: +33 4 91 36 41 60

reservation@ponant.com







 $\label{lem:component} facebook.com/ponant\\ facebook.com/LeCommandantCharcot$ 

