



THE ART OF TRAVEL

THEMED CRUISES • 2026 — 2027

“

*A journey within a journey,
to create emotional, cultural and
experiential breathing space.*

”

“These wonderful themed cruises and this great French institution devoted to art and culture are both excellent. We are so fortunate, I’m thrilled.”

These were words spoken by an enthusiastic guest while on board an unforgettable voyage with the Paris Opera Ballet, and reflect our desire and that of our prestigious partners to co-create unforgettable experiences that broaden horizons and bring people together.

Our ambition? To offer you a *“journey within a journey”*. To exalt our destinations by combining them with bespoke programmes built around your passions. Each voyage showcases exceptional expertise, rare talent and fresh insight. They inspire reflection and imagination, awaken the senses, and create moments of profound shared emotion.

This is the guiding spirit supporting the key moments of the 2026–2027 season. Enjoy inspiring moments on an Italian cruise in the company of representatives from leading Italian luxury and fine craft houses on an



Christel Hancy

Director of Themes & Partnerships,
PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP

exclusive voyage featuring unique experiences never before presented in this manner. Savour moments of grace suspended in time, in the elegant performances of Principal Dancer Roxane Stojanov from the Paris Opera Ballet, concerts by Radio Classique, the *Festival de Pâques* or *Marseille Jazz des cinq continents* festival, and the inspired artistry of guests invited by Pinault Collection or *Connaissance des arts* magazine. Relish exceptional culinary experiences with masters of gastronomy invited by Ducasse Paris, Relais & Châteaux, and *Cuisine et Vins de France* magazine, and, for the first time, by the *Club des Chefs des Chefs*, revealing how gastronomy can be an instrument for cultural dialogue and diplomacy.

A true red carpet of distinguished guests whose company promises lasting impressions and unforgettable emotions.

We look forward to welcoming you on board, alongside them.

5 REASONS TO CHOOSE PONANT EXPLORATIONS



1 • Combine **passion and escape**

Music, opera, gastronomy and oenology, contemporary art, dance, astronomy... Our inspiring journeys allow you to explore the world, combining your passions with a taste for travel. Enjoy special moments, both on board and ashore, in memorable places.

2 • Enjoy **exceptional cultural enrichment**

Our partners celebrate the values around which we build meaningful journeys. Concerts, tastings, intimate performances, private tours and conferences are all opportunities to surprise you and offer you moments of pure grace.

3 • Meet **inspiring individuals**

Each year, our partners invite a number of talented and renowned personalities on board to share their art, their passion or their analysis. Artists, exceptional artisans, writers, journalists, curators, explorers, astronauts and Michelin-starred chefs from a wide range of backgrounds will all provide you with exclusive experiences.



4 • Make **unique connections**

The modest size of our ships allows you to meet these special guests under unique conditions. Formal presentations in the theatre are followed by impromptu, informal discussions at dinners, in the lounges or on the decks of the ships, contributing to the friendly, intimate atmosphere that is characteristic of our fleet.

5 • Benefit from **cutting-edge expertise**

Our specialists are passionate about their fields and share their knowledge and anecdotes during conferences and enlightening moments of conversation. Aligned with your itinerary, their insights on diverse topics offer the perfect opportunity to open yourself up to new perspectives.



Itinerary calendar

We have opened up the pages of this brochure to give a voice to a selection of esteemed partners and distinguished guests. Find details of all the other cruises and how we enrich their themes on our website.

DEPARTURE	GUEST(S)	PARTNER(S)	ITINERARY	SHIP	NIGHTS	PAGE
17/03/26	Vivi Navarro		Cape Town • Brest	<i>Le Commandant Charcot</i>	20	
01/04/26	Élodie Garamond, Helen Haynes and Alexandre Thang		Antalya • Valletta	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	10	49
02/04/26	Alain Duault and a musical line-up	Radio Classique	Tromsø • Glasgow	<i>Le Lapérouse</i>	10	
09/04/26	Xavier Mathieu	Relais & Châteaux	Las Palmas • Lisbon	<i>Le Bellot</i>	10	47
11/04/26	Denny Imbroisi, Laetitia Ouspointour, Fabrizia Lanza and Davide Puca		Valletta • Valletta	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	8	
19/04/26	Normand Laprise, Laetitia Ouspointour and Alexandre Fauché	Prunier • Château Latour	Lisbon • Bordeaux	<i>Le Bellot</i>	10	
08/05/26	Franck Ferrand		Lisbon • Honfleur	<i>L'Austral</i>	11	52
15/05/26	Guy Boyer and Nathalie Talec	<i>Connaissances des Arts</i> magazine	Glasgow • Reykjavík	<i>Le Bellot</i>	10	30
06/06/26	Alain Duault and a musical line-up	Radio Classique	Reykjavík • Reykjavík	<i>L'Austral</i>	7	
13/06/26	Jean-Philippe Blondet	Ducasse Paris	Reykjavík • Reykjavík	<i>L'Austral</i>	7	40
15/06/26	Emma Lavigne and Edith Dekyndt	Pinault Collection • Palazzo Grassi	Dubrovnik • Venice	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	7	29
22/06/26	Alain Duault and a musical line-up	Radio Classique	Venice • Nice	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	10	
01/07/26	Laëtitia Bauduin and Kathryn Widing		Valletta • Venice	<i>Le Bougainville</i>	8	33
02/07/26	Dominique Lory	Ducasse Paris	Nice • Nice	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	8	41
10/07/26	Ottavia Marchitelli, G. Max Bernheimer and Pierre Étienne		Nice • Nice	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	8	33
10/07/26	Dominique Bluzet and a line-up of artists and experts	Festival de Pâques	Athens • Athens	<i>Le Boréal</i>	7	27
27/07/26	Reinhold Messner		Longyearbyen • Longyearbyen	<i>Le Commandant Charcot</i>	15	54
29/07/26	Roxane Stojanov and the dancers of the Ballet	Paris Opera Ballet	Nice • Nice	<i>Le Boréal</i>	8	35
01/08/26	Claudie and Jean-Pierre Haigeneré		Longyearbyen • Reykjavík	<i>Le Lyréal</i>	13	
06/08/26	Serge Brunier and Joe Rao		Nice • Nice	<i>Le Boréal</i>	8	

DEPARTURE	GUEST(S)	PARTNER(S)	ITINERARY	SHIP	NIGHTS	PAGES
10/08/26	Jean-François Clervoy and Louise Harra		Reykjavík • Dublin	<i>Le Lapérouse</i>	8	17
27/08/26	Alban Michon		Kangerlussuaq • Kangerlussuaq	<i>Le Lyréal</i>	13	55
15/10/26	Alain Duault and a musical line-up	Radio Classique	Athens • Athens	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	7	
22/10/26	Guy Boyer and Christelle Téa	<i>Connaissances des Arts</i> magazine	Athens • Valletta	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	7	31
29/10/26	Clint Grech and Laetitia Ouspountour	Relais & Châteaux	Valletta • Málaga	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	9	47
25/11/26	Franck Ferrand		Málaga • Las Palmas	<i>Le Champlain</i>	8	52
03/12/26	Alain Duault, Gautier Capuçon and friends	Radio Classique	Helsinki • Helsinki	<i>Le Commandant Charcot</i>	9	23
07/12/26	Christophe Ono-dit-Biot and Kamel Daoud	<i>Le Point</i> (newspaper)	Fort-de-France • Colón	<i>Le Lapérouse</i>	12	53
16/12/26	Sophie Menut Yovanovitch, Marcel Ravin and Eddie Benghanem	<i>Cuisine et Vins de France</i> magazine	Fort-de-France • Fort-de-France	<i>Le Bougainville</i>	7	45
23/12/26	Alain Duault, Renaud Capuçon and friends	Radio Classique	Fort-de-France • Fort-de-France	<i>Le Bougainville</i>	7	23
15/01/27	Cristeta Comerford, Gilles Bragard, Guillaume Gomez and Sylvie Bermann	Club des Chefs des Chefs	Kemi • Helsinki	<i>Le Commandant Charcot</i>	8	43
23/01/27	Hughes Kieffer and a musical line-up	Marseille Jazz des cinq continents	Helsinki • Bergen	<i>Le Commandant Charcot</i>	10	25
08/04/27	Alain Duault and a musical line-up	Radio Classique	Tenerife • Málaga	<i>L'Austral</i>	8	
25/04/27		Ducasse Paris	Lisbon • Barcelona	<i>Le Boréal</i>	7	38
13/05/27	Alain Duault, Benjamin Bernheim and a lyrical line-up	Radio Classique	Valletta • Venice	<i>Le Bougainville</i>	8	21
05/07/27		Ducasse Paris	Bergen • Fredrikstad	<i>Le Champlain</i>	7	39
20/07/27	Élodie Garamond and Patrick Frapeau		Athens • Venice	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	8	49
31/07/27	Serge Brunier and Joe Rao		Lisbon • Lisbon	<i>Le Lapérouse</i>	7	17
06/08/27	Amandine Albisson and the dancers of the Ballet	Paris Opera Ballet	Lisbon • Bordeaux	<i>Le Boréal</i>	9	35
08/09/27		Gucci, Bottega Veneta, Pomellato, Ginori 1735 and Brioni	Livorno • Venice	<i>Le Boréal</i>	10	11
29/09/27	Alain Duault and a musical line-up	Radio Classique	Athens • Civitavecchia	<i>Le Lapérouse</i>	8	
29/10/27	Alain Duault and 5 pianists – a festival!	Radio Classique	Athens • Valletta	<i>Le Dumont d'Urville</i>	8	21



SEE ALL OUR DEPARTURES
AND OUR PRESTIGIOUS GUESTS
AND PARTNERS ON BOARD.





EVENT CRUISES

An Odyssey of style: Italian elegance

Under the golden September skies, when the light softens and the sea becomes a mirror, a different side of Italy emerges: precious, authentic. From the shores of Tuscany to the Venetian Lagoon, *Le Boréal* sails the waters of the Mediterranean, between Portoferraio and its golden vineyards, east-facing Otranto, and Sorrento looking out to Capri, swathed in its citrus scents. To experience unique moments, embrace Italian excellence: guided strolls through the Tuscan streets, a glimpse into a porcelain factory, meetings with master craftsmen and special visits to Italian luxury archives. While on board, time seems to slow down: Gucci opens its archives, Bottega Veneta sculpts with leather, Pomellato unveils precious gems, Brioni offers made-to-measure refinement, coffee is served by Ginori 1735, the scent of olive oil or basil fills the air, and the Italian soul comes alive in cuisine inspired by the regions we've visited.



Laurent Claquin
Chief Brand Officer, Kering

“For me, Italy is a perpetual invitation to discover beauty: its landscapes, its traditions, its passion. With this cruise, PONANT EXPLORATIONS is setting sail on an odyssey of discovery and adventure: a timeless journey shaped by the excellence of Kering Houses and Italian refinement. Between precise know-how and the emotion of the moment, luxury becomes art.”



| TIMELESS |

Made in Italy: the luxury edition

Livorno • Venice | 11 days/10 nights | *Le Boréal*

Departure on 8th September 2027 | From £8,730 ⁽¹⁾

Highlights

Exclusive encounters with artisans possessing unique skills: gem cutting demonstration with a master craftsman from Pomellato, discussions with a Brioni tailor about the perfect cut • From Florence and Venice, private tours of the Gucci Archive, the historic Ginori 1735 ceramics workshops and an exclusive tour of the Palazzo Van Axel, Bottega Veneta's residence in Venice • Rare and intimate calls: Napoleon's summer residence in Portoferraio, the hanging villages of Tuscany, the golden light on the Venetian lagoon, between sea and living heritage.



Activities must be pre-booked, subject to availability. Itinerary subject to change depending on port availability.

Expertise and excellence

Five Houses, five ways of conceiving the beauty of craftsmanship. *Haute couture*, bespoke creations, the art of porcelain, leather weaving or gemstone setting: artistic craftsmanship combines expertise and excellence to bring creations of unquestionable refinement to life.



GUCCI

Founded in Florence, Italy, in 1921, Gucci is one of the world's leading luxury brands. The House continues to redefine luxury and fashion while celebrating creativity, Italian craftsmanship, and innovation.

Embark on a multi-faceted journey with visits to the Gucci Archive, housed in a 15th century Renaissance palazzo, closed to the public, and to Palazzo Gucci in the heart of Florence. Onboard, the guests will discover an exclusive exhibition devoted to *The Art of Travel*. This sensory immersion celebrates the essence of Italian luxury and the creative excellence that defines Gucci's identity.

BOTTEGA VENETA

Bottega Veneta embodies Italian excellence at its most imaginative and refined. Renowned for its innovative craft and signature *intrecciato* leather weave, the House celebrates understated elegance, individual expression and a tactile luxury that is as much a feeling as an aesthetic.

Guests will experience Bottega Veneta's exceptional artisanship with an insider glimpse at its most iconic craft in the making, in addition to an exclusive itinerary through some of the most hidden treasures of Venice, culminating with a cocktail at the Bottega Veneta in Palazzo Soranzo Van Axel.



Pomellato

The exceptional Milanese jeweller, Pomellato, is the embodiment of Italian elegance, with a craftsmanship of rare finesse and a boldly contemporary aesthetic.

A pioneer of free-spirited, elegant and colourful jewellery, the House brings out the best in precious stones with sensual creations that combine goldsmithing tradition with innovation.

The guests will experience a journey into a refined and captivating universe, with in-depth expertise on gemstones guided by the keen and passionate eye of Stefano Cortecci, Gem Master and Director of Precious Stone Purchasing.



GINORI 1735

Ginori 1735 represents Italian excellence through the art of porcelain, where each piece reflects exceptional savoir-faire. The brand combines creativity and elegance into *objets d'art* merging design with craftsmanship.

The visit to the historic Manufactory will be an authentic journey for our guests; as well as a porcelain painting demonstration, where the hand of Ginori 1735 craftsman, will reveal the beauty of heritage handed down for generations.

Brioni

Born in Rome in 1945, Brioni represents the pinnacle of sartorial excellence, where refined ease and uncompromising craftsmanship define a uniquely modern vision of elegance. The House demonstrates exceptional savoir-faire, combining elegance, refinement and incomparable technical skill to create garments that enhance the silhouette.

During this exclusive journey, guests will attend a presentation of Brioni's expertise by a master tailor, unveiling the secrets of exquisite craftsmanship, where tradition, sophistication and technical perfection meet, and every detail is crafted with precision.







ENHANCE YOUR CRUISE

GUCCI

Immersed in luxury and sensory delights

Before your cruise | From Florence • 2 nights ⁽²⁾

Discover the Gucci universe by exploring the Palazzo and its secret Archives*, indulge in a cocktail while taking in panoramic views of Florence, then enjoy a signature dinner to awaken the senses. The adventure continues in the hills of Chianti, where gastronomy and wine pairings and Tuscan landscapes elevate every moment, before returning to the comfort of a 5-star hotel in the heart of the city.



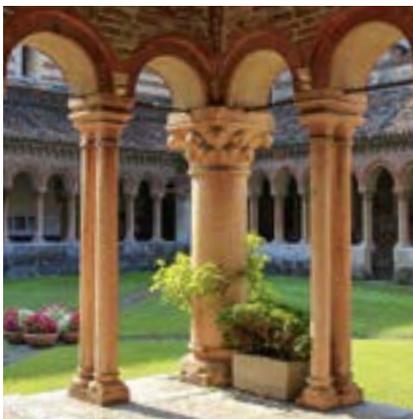
GINORI 1735

ITALIA

Artisan craftsmanship and flavours

Before your cruise | From Florence • 2 nights ⁽²⁾

Immerse yourself in the refined world of Ginori 1735 with a private tour* of its Manufactory, where ancestral know-how and Italian creativity are poured into each piece. Throughout the experience, you can discover Florentine art before enjoying a luxurious dinner. The adventure continues in the hills of Chianti, with a private tour and tastings at a renowned wine estate: a unique sensory journey in the heart of Tuscany.



Elegance and escapism in Verona

After your cruise | From Venice • 2 nights ⁽²⁾

Embark on a getaway to discover the charm and luxury of Verona for three exceptional days. Accompanied by expert guides, discover an exclusive side of Verona and delve into its hidden treasures, from secret alleys to historic palaces, squares and gardens, for a complete immersion in the unique soul of the city.

**This experience, offered alongside other options during your cruise, reveals the art of Italian living. By booking this pre-cruise programme, you are guaranteed a place for this special event, which has limited availability.*

Northern Europe or the Mediterranean: where to see the most beautiful eclipses

In 2026 and 2027, the sky has two exceptional events in store for us: total solar eclipses. Two rare experiences to enjoy at sea with PONANT EXPLORATIONS. Which one to choose? Our onboard experts will help you decide.



Jean-François Clervoy
Astronaut

Iceland, northern setting for the eclipse of 12th August 2026

In the land of fire and ice, it is in the sky that guests aboard *Le Lapérouse* will have the opportunity to observe a rare phenomenon. *“A total solar eclipse occurs on average once a year or every two years, and often in remote locations, where only scientists go”*, explains astronaut Jean-François Clervoy, guest expert on this cruise.

Amid the wild, volcanic landscapes of the North Atlantic, the ship will position itself in the most favourable spot to offer guests a moment of pure intensity. *“A total eclipse is spectacular because you are plunged into complete darkness. One great advantage of observing from the sea is the absence of light pollution. If conditions allow, and with the captain’s permission to dim the deck lights – as we sometimes do aboard our spacecraft – it’s even possible to see the stars in broad daylight”*, he notes.





Serge Brunier
Astrophotographer

Off the coast of Portugal and Spain: the eclipse of 2nd August 2027

In 2027, our skies will witness a new eclipse, as will the privileged guests of PONANT EXPLORATIONS aboard a voyage from Lisbon to the Iberian shores. And what is so special about this eclipse? It will be one of the longest total eclipses of the 21st century. *“Six minutes is an eternity”*, enthuses Serge Brunier, science journalist and eclipse chaser, who will be on board. An exceptional length of time to truly take in each phase of this celestial spectacle: *“As the Moon begins to pass in front of the Sun, you can see the immense plasma flares that surround the solar body in the form of magnificent pink filaments. Then, once the Sun is fully hidden from view, you see the solar corona – its atmosphere: an astonishing phenomenon of magical beauty.”*

| TIMELESS |

Total solar eclipse from Iceland to Ireland

Reykjavík • Dublin | 9 days/8 nights | *Le Lapérouse*

Departure on 10th August 2026 | From £7,900 ⁽¹⁾

The quest for the sixteenth total eclipse of the 21st century, in the presence of astronaut Jean-François Clervoy • Discover the landscapes of Iceland, the Faroe Islands and Scotland, isolated territories renowned for their panoramic views and unique identities, blending Celtic and Viking heritage • **Among your included excursions** ⁽²⁾: a hike in the Faroe Islands; the Eldfell volcano from Heimaey.



| TIMELESS |

Total solar eclipse between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic

Lisbon • Lisbon | 8 days/7 nights | *Le Lapérouse*

Departure on 31st July 2027 | From £4,710 ⁽¹⁾

Lectures and eclipse viewing led by Serge Brunier, astrophotographer • The south of the Iberian Peninsula, between golden beaches and unspoilt nature • Kid Explorers Club for children and teenagers aged 4 to 13, offering tailor-made activities on board and ashore: outings, swimming, workshops, treasure hunts.







CULTURE

Opera Mundi

Once again this year, exceptional artists will give intimate concerts organised during musical cruises, in partnership with Radio Classique, under the artistic direction of Alain Duault.



Alain Duault

Artistic director of the musical cruises in partnership with Radio Classique

"The Piano Festival at Sea has its loyal followers, and this 12th edition will delight them more than ever! And those in attendance for the first time are in for a real treat. I have brought together exceptional talents, from the great Russian virtuoso Nikolai Lugansky to the celebrated Dang Thai Son, the first Vietnamese winner of the Chopin Competition in Warsaw, as well as the Belgian queen of the piano Eliane Reyes, the superb Beethoven specialist François-Frédéric Guy (in Beethoven's bicentenary year), and the ever-fascinating Lise de la Salle. And there's even a surprise... keyboards at the ready!"



Benjamin Bernheim

Tenor

"On board, guests have that special feeling of being close to the artists. I remember a concert in the Adriatic: the ship was rocking and the piano was rolling while I sang Onegin. You have to be able to perform in all circumstances, but the sea air is exceptional for the voice. And then, stepping out of a floating theatre and finding yourself facing the sunset and the stars has something magical about it. It's a way of reconnecting with the long passage of time, of letting yourself be hypnotised by the sea, just like the theme of travel that inspires so many operas."



Visit our website to discover
all our musical cruises

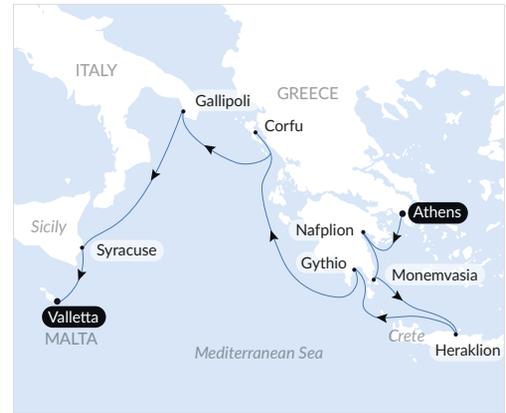


| TIMELESS |

Waves & melodies: 12th Piano Festival at Sea

Athens • Valletta | 9 days/8 nights | *Le Dumont d'Urville*
Departure on 29th October 2027 | From £5,000 ⁽¹⁾

Every evening, enjoy an exclusive concert on board with guest pianists • Mediterranean shores and ancient sites: Peloponnese, Crete, Puglia, Sicily • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the village of Noto (Syracuse), the ruins of Mycenae and Epidaurus (Nafplio), listed by UNESCO.



GUEST
ARTISTS

Nikolai Lugansky, Eliane Reyes, François-Frédéric Guy, Dang Thai Son, Lise de la Salle: pianists.

| TIMELESS |

6th Opera Festival at Sea with Benjamin Bernheim

Valletta • Venice | 9 days/8 nights | *Le Bougainville*
Departure on 13th May 2027 | From £5,000 ⁽¹⁾

Every evening, enjoy an exclusive concert on board with guest artists, including a musical evening dedicated to the opera *Werther* • The jewels of Dalmatia: Dubrovnik and Kotor, listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites; the island of Hvar • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: discover Croatian culinary traditions in Dubrovnik; explore the villages of Lefkes and Naoussa from Syracuse.



GUEST
ARTISTS

Benjamin Bernheim, tenor | Kaarin Cecilia Phelps and Sandra Hamaoui, sopranos
Anna Goryachova, mezzo-soprano | Alexandre Duhamel, baritone | Antoine Palloc, pianist.

Stirring strings

Renaud and Gautier Capuçon are setting sail for two musical cruises: one in the Caribbean, the other in the Baltic Sea – both valuable opportunities to connect with guests, to nurture new inspiration, and to create a dialogue between their music and the landscapes.



Renaud Capuçon
Violinist

What makes performing at sea so special?

RC: When I board a ship, I feel like I'm travelling through time. Everyday life on land pauses, and we play differently, inspired by the sea air, disconnected from what's going on back on terra firma.

GC: Being so close to the guests reminds me of the 18th century, when music was played in salons. This intimacy is part of the challenge. And then there is this total disconnection, the sense of inner peace that one feels at sea.

How do your musical destinations inspire in you?

RC: For me, the Caribbean evokes beauty. Those magnificent coves... Just thinking about it makes me happy! We can create a bridge between music and flavours, the sand, the colours of the water or sky, a bit like a painter would.

GC: As for the Baltic, it immediately brings to mind the sublime Sibelius and Grieg's great sonata. There are many incredible works for us to perform, with the accompanying musicians, echoing these Nordic landscapes, which are even more magical at this time of year.

What would you like guests to remember about this voyage?

RC: That this cruise is a celebration! A week of living our dreams, playing Brahms, Schubert, and Mozart with hand-picked musicians aboard a magnificent ship. I think the guests, like us, will enjoy this incredible opportunity to share these special moments. They listen to the music, we play it: there is a wonderful reciprocity.

GC: Music is an emotional journey that we, as musicians, embark on during every evening concert. At sea, we will experience this voyage through music, which will be a source of inspiration for this Baltic cruise.



Gautier Capuçon
Cellist



Gautier Capuçon's Baltic Symphony at Sea

Helsinki • Helsinki | 10 days/9 nights | *Le Commandant Charcot*
 Departure on 3rd December 2026 | From £8,750 ⁽¹⁾
 No Single Supplement ⁽⁴⁾

Every evening, enjoy an exclusive concert on board with Gautier Capuçon accompanied by outstanding musicians • Discover Scandinavian and Baltic cities rich in heritage, such as Tallinn, Stockholm (with overnight stay), Riga and Gdansk, and magical landscapes, with a cruise through the Stockholm archipelago • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: a Chopin concert; art and architecture in Riga; the Gothic heritage of Tallinn.



GUEST | Gautier Capuçon, cellist | Lise Berthaud, violinist
ARTISTS | Elias David Moncado, violinist | Frank Braley, pianist | Jérôme Ducros, pianist.



Renaud Capuçon's Caribbean Celebration: 50 Years in Paradise

Fort-de-France • Fort-de-France | 8 days/7 nights | *Le Bougainville*
 Departure on 23rd December 2026 | From £5,300 ⁽¹⁾

Every evening, enjoy an exclusive concert on board with Renaud Capuçon accompanied by outstanding musicians • Unique landscapes – coral reefs, lagoons, the rocky peaks of Saint Lucia, listed by UNESCO – and the chance to observe a variety of species, such as turtles, barracudas, parrotfish • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: relaxation and barbecue on Mayreau Island; swimming and exploring Les Saintes by boat; water sports (including diving, level 1 or equivalent).



GUEST | Renaud Capuçon, violinist | Edgar Moreau, cellist
ARTISTS | Arthur Hinnewinkel, pianist | Emmanuel Pahud, flutist | Paul Zientara, violist.

Nordic variations

Director and programmer of the *Marseille Jazz des cinq continents* festival, Hughes Kieffer, will be aboard *Le Commandant Charcot* for a musical cruise from the Baltic to the North Sea, in January 2027.

Here he paints a portrait of a voyage where each stopover will welcome a new tempo.



Hughes Kieffer

Director and programmer
of the *Marseille Jazz des
cinq continents* festival

“If this cruise were a jazz piece, what would it be? I would choose ‘The Girl from Ipanema’, because this piece unites hot and cold, and that is exactly what we will try to do on board, notably by taking with us an American quintet to celebrate the centenary of the meeting between Stan Getz and Antonio Carlos Jobim. A time when bossa nova rocked the planet... When the desire was for movement between worlds and emotions, that’s what we’re looking for.

“If Northern Europe were an artist, it would be Norwegian trumpeter Mathias Eick. His music is atmospheric, almost immaterial, like the frozen expanses and the dusky, silent light we’ll see from the ship. But behind that calm lies true human warmth, an intensity that is almost spiritual.

A sea of improvisation

“If the Baltic Sea and the North Sea were two musicians, they would improvise a dialogue between a piano and a trumpet. Two voices engaged in conversation, with the hypnotic slowness of enclosed seas where everything is shared... and sometimes sudden bursts, like a storm.

“If Le Commandant Charcot were a band, we would find ourselves face to face with a Duke Ellington ‘big band’: a united, solid and energetic ensemble, where everyone, from the artists to the guests and the crew, plays their part... and listens to each other.

“If this cruise were an instrument, it would be a tenor saxophone: broad, powerful and capable of enveloping everyone in the same emotion. This is the collective experience, the story, that we will compose together once on board.”



| TIMELESS |

Jazz Festival, from the Baltic to the North Sea

Helsinki • Bergen | 11 days/10 nights | *Le Commandant Charcot*
 Departure on 23rd January 2027 | From £9,680 ⁽¹⁾

Every evening, a concert and improvisation sessions with pianist Kadri Voorand, followed by a programme organised in partnership with Jazz at Lincoln Centre, 'Celebrating Jobim and Getz: Bossa Nova Meets Swing' • Unique landscapes, ranging from contrasting natural settings – Lysefjorden, the Stockholm archipelago – to Baltic cities with fascinating heritage, including Stockholm, Kristiansand and Skagen • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: Chopin concert in Gdansk, with a tour of the city; a dive into the history and melodies of ABBA in Stockholm.

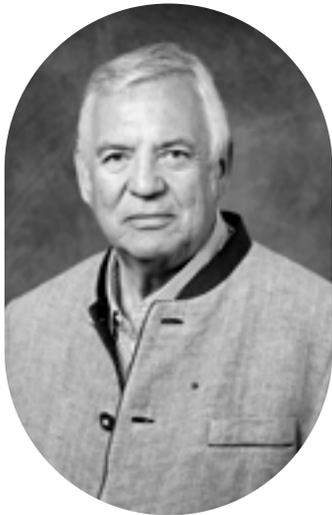


GUEST ARTISTS | Kadri Voorand, pianist | Julian Lee and Mar Vilaseca Quartet.



The stage as a horizon

A theatre artist and executive director of the *Festival de Pâques* (Easter Festival), which he co-founded in 2013 with violinist Renaud Capuçon, Dominique Bluzet will embark on a cruise in the summer of 2026. From the Aegean Sea to the Greek islands, he will celebrate music, true to his conviction that art only exists if it is shared.



Dominique Bluzet

Executive Director of the *Festival de Pâques*

How does your experience as an actor and stage director shape your perspective of music and festival direction?

The theatre is a human space that taught me about relationship with the audience, with emotion and with the collective. When you run a festival, you are above all orchestrating a human adventure, with artists, teams, a venue and an audience. Those experiences extend beyond the framework of programming. In music as in theatre, what interests me is the encounter, that moment in time that moves, connects and gives meaning. A festival is a space for dialogue, for shared emotion.

How did the *Festival de Pâques* come about, and what makes it unique?

Renaud Capuçon and I dreamed of making Aix-en-Provence the French Salzburg, by creating a festival that would be both open and generous, which would establish itself as a place of dialogue between generations and sensibilities. Martha Argerich, Yo-Yo Ma, Maxim Vengerov, and so many others have been involved. Today we bring together great artists and also offer, through the *Musique en Partage* programme (Music for Sharing), free concerts in the streets and various locations. It's this social connection that moves me the most. It's the idea that music can, quite tangibly, make the world a better place.

In 2026, the *Festival de Pâques* will come on board for the first time. What do you hope to share with the guests?

An intimate, emotional experience. On board, proximity changes everything. We share rehearsals, we share emotions, we share silences. The musicians engage with the landscape; the sea plays a role in the performance. I would like guests to feel this magic, the moment when the music matches the movement of the ship, when everything seems to breathe in unison. It will be a voyage of beauty, humanity and light, a reflection of the Festival itself.



| TIMELESS |

At the heart of the Greek islands

Athens • Athens | 8 days/7 nights | *Le Boréal*

Departure on 10th July 2026 | From £4,100 ⁽¹⁾

Three concerts, three singing workshops and opportunities for discussion and reflection bringing together philosophers, anthropologists and theologians • Kid Explorers Club for children and teenagers aged 4 to 13, offering tailor-made activities on board and ashore (outings, swimming, workshops, treasure hunts and more) • A sunset cruise in the Santorini caldera and the discovery of the ancient island treasures of the Cyclades: Amorgos, Milos, Paros, Delos...



GUEST ARTISTS AND EXPERTS

Dominique Bluzet, director and manager of the Théâtres group in Marseille, Aix-en-Provence and Arles | Alain Cabras, lecturer and author specialising in secularism and religion, among other topics | Nicole Corti, award-winning choir director | Manon Galy, violinist, and Jorge González-Buajasan, pianist, members of the Zeliha Trio with cellist Maxime Quennesson | Gérard Kurkdjian, expert in sacred music, author, lecturer, musician and reciter.

When art sets sail

In 2026, an Adriatic cruise will seal the partnership between PONANT EXPLORATIONS and Pinault Collection. Emma Lavigne, who heads this institution, reflects on this project where travel becomes a canvas for creation, dialogue and exchange in the company of guest artist, Edith Dekyndt.



Emma Lavigne
Executive Director of Pinault Collection

What connection do you see between art and travel?

It is often said that travel is an art, but art is also a journey. This cruise will allow us to combine these two aspects. The highlight will be Venice, with the discovery of the exhibitions at the Punta della Dogana and the Palazzo Grassi. For the first time, four artists from Brazil, India, the United States and Kenya will exhibit in these museums, forming an archipelago of works around the theme of travel and the pleasure of a leisurely wandering. On board, I will be hosting talks that give guests insights and establish connections with the Venice Biennale, which will be taking place at the same time.

Why did you choose to invite artist Edith Dekyndt on board?

Edith is an artist very dear to Pinault Collection. Her work is inspired by her travels, the sea, sails and objects collected from around the world. She is not an artist who shuts herself away in a studio: her ideas are born while travelling. This cruise will be like a floating workshop for her, set between the sky and sea. We will share her world through videos, catalogues and books in the ship's library, but the essence will lie in the conversations she sparks and how the crossing inspires her.

How does the crossing itself contribute to this experience?

Each stopover will provide its share of discoveries, from Ravenna to Venice, both splendours born from the sea. But the crossing itself is already a unique experience. When onboard, we reconnect with the elements, with the cycle of day and night, with the air and water. It's like a living canvas, a perpetually evolving performance. We will get the impression that art is everywhere: in the museums we visit and the environment that surrounds us. I want the onboard experience to create a dialogue about art as well as dreams, imagination and beauty.



| TIMELESS |

Artistic Adriatic with Pinault Collection

Dubrovnik • Venice | 8 days/7 nights | *Le Dumont d'Urville*
 Departure on 15th June 2026 | From £5,910 ⁽¹⁾

Discover the contemporary art biennale and enjoy private tours of Palazzo Grassi and Punta Della Dogana with Pinault Collection guides • An exceptional dinner in the majestic atrium of the Palazzo Grassi, where refinement and art combine to create an unforgettable experience • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: discover Zadar, the sites of Split and Diocletian's Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Observe, inspire, create

In 2026, two cruises where exploration and art converse in the company of Guy Boyer, Editorial Director of the magazine *Connaissance des Arts*, along with artists Nathalie Talec and Christelle Téa, all inspired by shared experiences and wonderful landscapes.



Guy Boyer

Editorial Director of *Connaissance des Arts*

“PONANT EXPLORATIONS and Connaissance des Arts share the same passion for travel, heritage and culture. The company approaches each location with respect, blending history and art with sensitivity. From Scotland to Iceland, or along the Mediterranean shores, the aim will be to offer keys to understanding, and to show how landscapes have inspired certain movements and artists. Guests are always curious and insightful, and each cruise becomes a moment of exchange, where one learns as much as one shares.”

| TIMELESS |

Wild lands of Scotland, the Faroe Islands and Iceland

Glasgow • Reykjavík | 11 days/10 nights | *Le Bellot*

Departure on 15th May 2026 | From £8,930 ⁽¹⁾

[No Single Supplement](#) ⁽⁴⁾

The opportunity to witness the creation of a work of art from behind the brush of artist Nathalie Talec • Lectures led by Guy Boyer • Remarkable sites and landscapes: the Jökulsárlón glacier and the Giant's Causeway, both UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the Highlands, the Calanais megalithic site • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: hiking in the Faroe Islands; the three sites of the 'Golden Circle' from Reykjavík; the Eldfell volcano from Heimaey.



“For more than four decades, my work has focused on the cold and the Far North. I’ve spent time in Greenland, working with snow and ice. This voyage is a new expedition for me, a way to extend my fascination while discovering new landscapes. On board, I’d like to share my artistic process with guests, to speak to them about the metaphor at the heart of my exploration and artistic creation. And, in a way, to open the door to my artistic intimacy.”

Nathalie Talec
Visual artist



Christelle Téa
Artist and Illustrator

“My artistic approach is to draw from life, capturing the complexity of the everyday. On a ship, the everyday becomes extraordinary. Details multiply, and straight lines and perspectives unfold. My drawing will reflect the unique character of a cruise – the deck, the machinery, the ropes, the crew, the galleys. I enjoy the exchanges with those who come to watch me draw. I want to depict life on board through a series reflecting this Mediterranean itinerary.”

| TIMELESS |

Ancient cities of the Mediterranean

Athens • Valletta | 8 days/7 nights | *Le Dumont d’Urville*
Departure on 22nd October 2026 | From £4,260 ⁽¹⁾

The opportunity to discover the talents of artist Christelle Téa • Lectures led by Guy Boyer • The gentle Mediterranean lifestyle through picturesque stops in places such as Corfu, Monemvasia and Gallipoli • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the village of Noto; a tour of the UNESCO-listed ruins of Mycenae and Epidaurus.



Art and travel: the same spirit of discovery

The aim of Laëtitia Bauduin, Director of the Contemporary Art Department at Christie's Paris, during a cruise retracing the paths of artists inspired by the Mediterranean, will be to share the emotion of art, awaken curiosity and inspire new perspectives.



Laëtitia Bauduin
Director of the Contemporary Art
Department at Christie's Paris

What connections do you see between art, travel and the destinations of this cruise?

Art, like travel, offers an escape. The guests are sure to be curious minds, lovers of museums and galleries. Sicily, for example, immediately brings to mind Nicolas de Staël, who painted some of his most sought-after works while there. I will also mention *Arte Povera*, a fascinating Italian movement embodied by Burri and Kounellis, and of course, the Mediterranean light, which has inspired so many artists. The journey will conclude at the Venice Biennale, which sees the convergence of the global contemporary art scene.

What convinced you to take part in this voyage?

I have worked at Christie's Paris for over 20 years and currently serve as Chairwoman of 20th and 21st centuries art sales. I now have greater freedom to connect with clients, listen to their interests, and build relationships. This voyage seemed like a wonderful opportunity to meet inquisitive travellers – not necessarily collectors, but people who are sensitive to art and open to discovery. It seems to be the perfect setting to start those conversations, beyond the sometimes-intimidating walls of an auction house.

How do you imagine your interactions with guests?

My goal will be to show that the art market remains accessible. The media tend to highlight works sold for millions, but one can also acquire a work on paper for €2,000. The more we observe, the more we refine our taste, discover what we like, the periods that attract us. I would also like to share insights with guests into how the market really works, give examples of sales or inventories, and make it all more accessible.



A celebration of art featuring the 61st Venice Biennale

Valletta • Venice | 9 days/8 nights | *Le Bougainville*
 Departure on 1st July 2026 | From £5,890 ⁽¹⁾ thanks to -10% Offer ⁽⁶⁾
 No Single Supplement ⁽⁴⁾ | Included in your cruise ⁽⁵⁾: transfer to/from the airport

Two days of access to the Venice Biennale exhibitions and events, including private tours and dinner at the Pinault Collection museums • Fascinating lectures on board led by Christie's international experts in Italian art, including Laëtitia Bauduin • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the archaeological park of Syracuse, discovering the unique architecture of Lecce, visiting Alberobello.

-10% CHRISTMAS OFFER  | TIMELESS |



A celebration of art: the French & Italian Rivas and Corsica

Nice • Nice | 9 days/8 nights | *Le Dumont d'Urville*
 Departure on 10th July 2026 | From £5,360 ⁽¹⁾ thanks to -10% Offer ⁽⁶⁾
 No Single Supplement ⁽⁴⁾ | Included in your cruise ⁽⁵⁾: transfer to/from the airport

A journey between the French Riviera, Corsica and Italy: legendary regions that have always attracted artists and are now home to a unique artistic heritage • Fascinating lectures on board, led by experts from Christie's auction house • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: discovering nature in Portofino; visiting Napoleon's former residence in Portoferraio.

-10% CHRISTMAS OFFER  | TIMELESS |



Grace in motion

Appointed Principal Dancer of the Paris Opera Ballet in December 2024, Roxane Stojanov will set sail aboard *Le Boréal* in summer 2026 for a cruise from Nice to the Italian shores via Corsica.

A unique encounter, of grace upon the open sea. Portrait.



Roxane Stojanov

Principal Dancer of the Paris Opera Ballet

If we were to speak of her origin, it would be twofold – between Gers and North Macedonia, two roots that shaped her, one facing the light of the South-West, the other facing the mountains and the Balkan toughness.

If we were to talk language, it would be a universal one of emotions, which dance translates better than words.

If she were to recall a first memory, it would be a scene from Macedonia, aged nine, enveloped in tulle and dreams playing the role of Tinker Bell. That evening, she discovered the power of expression, capable of evoking emotion and taking you on a journey.

If she were to speak of a step, it would be a *grand jeté*, a leap into the unknown which alone sums up her trajectory of both daring and joy.

If she were to choose a role, she would be Kitri in *Don Quixote*, flamboyant and radiant, a symbol of freedom and movement.

If she were to pick a school, she would walk the corridors of the Paris Opera Ballet School, which she entered at the age of 12, with desire as her compass.

If she were to imagine movement, she would imagine herself an undulation of supple, fluid arms, as depicted in *Swan Lake*, a ballet in which woman, bird, hope and flight are intertwined.

If she were to look to the horizon, she would look to plunge into the changing blue of the Mediterranean, which she is about to rediscover aboard a PONANT EXPLORATIONS ship. *“This will be my first cruise. I can’t wait to discover this new way of travelling and share my daily life with the guests. Taking the time to share, to answer their questions, to meet them, is something rare in our profession.”*

Finally, if she were to fix herself on a photograph, etched into her memory would be the eternal moment of an evening in December 2024, when she was named *Danseuse Étoile* (Principal Dancer) after her masterful interpretation of Paquita.



-10% CHRISTMAS OFFER  | TIMELESS |

Sailing the Mediterranean with the Paris Opera Ballet

Nice • Nice | 9 days/8 nights | *Le Boréal*

Departure on 29th July 2026 | From £5,200 ⁽¹⁾ thanks to -10% Offer ⁽⁶⁾

Performances on board and ashore • Unique moments with dancers during discussions, conferences and screenings • Classical dance classes led by a teacher from the Paris Opera • Discover the pearls of the Mediterranean islands, from iconic cities such as Portofino and Calvi to the rich heritage of Elba and the natural gems of Saint-Florent, Giglio and the Tuscan coast.



2027 DEPARTURE – Explore with the Paris Opera, in the presence of Principal Dancer Amandine Albisson

The Atlantic Coast with the Paris Opera Ballet | Lisbon • Bordeaux | 10 days/9 nights | *Le Boréal*: 6th August 2027.





LIFESTYLE

Culinary excellence

Since 2016, the prestigious partnership between PONANT EXPLORATIONS and Ducasse Conseil has celebrated French haute cuisine on board. A coincidence of travel and gastronomy which is enriched, on certain sailings, by the privileged presence of Michelin-starred chefs from Alain Ducasse’s restaurants.



Jérôme Lacrosonnière
Director of Ducasse Conseil

“Healthy, elegant and gourmet. These three words form the basis of our culinary identity and guide our creations onboard. Our collaboration with PONANT EXPLORATIONS is built on shared values such as a commitment to quality, respect for the environment, and the ambition to showcase the French art of living outside its borders. Our common goal is to create a PONANT moment by sharing new experiences – for example, gastronomic events related to the destination, whether in the islands or on the ice floes.”

| TIMELESS |

Gastronomic journey through Iberian coasts

Lisbon • Barcelona | 8 days/7 nights | *Le Boréal*
Departure on 25th April 2027 | From £3,900 ⁽¹⁾

An unforgettable gastronomic journey inviting you to explore cuisine through unique demonstrations and gala dinners • A getaway to discover the major cities of the Iberian Peninsula: Cadiz, Seville, Málaga, Cartagena • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the picturesque villages of the Cadiz region, a horseback ride on a *finca* in Cartagena.





| TIMELESS |

Gastronomic journey through Norwegian fjords

Bergen • Fredrikstad | 8 days/7 nights | *Le Champlain*
 Departure on 5th July 2027 | From £5,580 ⁽¹⁾

An unforgettable gastronomic journey inviting you to explore cuisine through unique dinners and demonstrations • UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Geiranger Fjord, Bergen and the Hanseatic port of Bryggen • Norway's iconic landscapes: breathtaking fjords, magnificent nature, Viking heritage, picturesque villages with colourful roofs • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the Fjord Centre in Geiranger; the Art Nouveau museum in Ålesund; the Naes Ironworks museum and the fishing village of Tvedestrand from Arendal.





From London to Reykjavík: the Atlantic shared

Jean-Philippe Blondet, Executive Chef at *Alain Ducasse at The Dorchester* in London since 2016, brings a contemporary, refined interpretation of the celebrated chef's cuisine. He will be creating a bespoke culinary experience for guests aboard *L'Austral* in 2026, off the coast of Iceland.



Jean-Philippe Blondet
Executive Chef, *Alain Ducasse at The Dorchester*

"My goal is to bring the world of French gastronomy on board, with a London touch, but also with hints of the destination. The goal is to be as precise as possible, as we do at The Dorchester, so that guests feel the same emotion when they taste each dish. We will certainly offer a Saint-Jacques recipe during the demonstrations, sharing our passion, our craft and the story behind this dish. I enjoy this direct exchange, without barriers."

-10% CHRISTMAS OFFER



| TIMELESS |

Icelandic mosaic

Reykjavík • Reykjavík | 8 days/7 nights | *L'Austral* |
Departure on 13th June 2026 | From £5,190 ⁽¹⁾ thanks to -10% Offer ⁽⁶⁾
No Single Supplement ⁽⁴⁾

A unique gastronomic journey through unforgettable dinners and demonstrations with Michelin-starred chef Jean-Philippe Blondet • Iceland's unique landscapes and panoramas – wild islands, volcanic plateaus, basalt columns, fjords, glaciers, geysers, waterfalls – and the opportunity to observe local wildlife, including seabirds, cetaceans and Irish horses • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the enchanting Snæfellsnes Peninsula; the three sites of the 'Golden Circle' from Reykjavík; the Goðafoss waterfalls.





Riviera and Corsica: sun-drenched cuisine

After more than 10 years alongside Alain Ducasse, Dominique Lory took the reins of the Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo in 2022, where he continues to champion a philosophy of taste and sharing. He will bring this spirit to life aboard *Le Dumont d'Urville* in 2026, during a cruise steeped in the flavours of the Mediterranean.



Dominique Lory
Executive Chef, Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo

“Thoroughness, consistency and sharing: this is what Monsieur Ducasse passed on to me. And it is this legacy that I wish to convey on board. A guest once taught me that the story behind a dish can be even more beautiful than the dish itself. I am also guided by this philosophy. I want my cuisine to be the common thread of this voyage, closely linked to the flavours of the Mediterranean. My ambition is that each moment shared becomes a delicious discovery and an unforgettable memory for our guests.”

| TIMELESS |

Isle of Beauty and Italian shores

Nice • Nice | 9 days/8 nights | *Le Dumont d'Urville*
Departure on 2nd July 2026 | From £5,570 ⁽¹⁾

Celebrating Mediterranean terroirs through unforgettable dinners and demonstrations with Michelin-starred chef Dominique Lory • Discover the pearls of the Mediterranean islands, including iconic towns such as Portofino and Calvi, rich heritage sites, particularly on Elba, and natural gems: Saint-Florent, Giglio and the Tuscan coastline • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the natural beauty of Portofino and Napoleon's former residence in Portoferraio.





Cristeta Comerford: from the White House to *Le Commandant Charcot*

The first Asian–American woman to head the White House kitchens, Cristeta Comerford served four US presidents, from Bill Clinton to Joe Biden. Invited aboard *Le Commandant Charcot* for the *Club des Chefs des Chefs* cruise, created by chef Gilles Bragard, she speaks of the close links between the culinary arts and state diplomacy.



Cristeta Comerford
Executive Chef of the White House
from 2005 to 2024

As someone who orchestrated the White House state dinners for nearly 30 years, how would you define fine dining's place in diplomacy?

If the food is good, the conversation is too. Culinary diplomacy is about showcasing fine American cuisine while paying homage to others' traditions. Every state dinner symbolises a moment of friendship and cooperation between two nations. I have a touching memory of the dinner given for Queen Elizabeth II in 2007: usually, we adapt to the rhythm of the President. But that evening, we kept in step with the Queen.

How do you manage to express your creativity in a setting where every detail must follow a precise protocol?

My role as chef is to satisfy those I'm cooking for. In the White House, those people are the President, the First Lady and their family. Each dish must reflect their personality, tastes and style. Each administration has its own unique way of representing the White House. Under Michelle Obama, we emphasised healthy cooking, with produce from the Presidential garden.

Cooking on board *Le Commandant Charcot* will be very different from the White House kitchens. How are you approaching this experience?

I'm looking forward to it, even though it will be my first experience on a ship. The teams on board are of a very high standard, and I can't wait to work with them. For this cruise, I want to combine dishes served at state dinners at the White House with local produce from the Far North, including regional caviar and seasonal vegetables. I would like these meals to become part of the journey and leave a lasting, heartfelt impression.



| TIMELESS |

The Gulf of Bothnia, at the gateway to the Arctic

Kemi • Helsinki | 9 days/8 nights | *Le Commandant Charcot*
 Departure on 15th January 2027 | From £9,910 ⁽¹⁾ thanks to -10% Offer ⁽⁶⁾
 No Single Supplement ⁽⁴⁾ | Included in your cruise ⁽⁵⁾: flight Paris/Kemi
 and transfer.

A unique partnership with the *Club des Chefs des Chefs*, bringing together the official chefs of world leaders and celebrating gastronomy as a diplomatic tool • The enchanting landscapes of Lapland, in the heart of the northern winter, and the magic of Scandinavian cities • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: a snowshoe hike; a visit to Old Rauma, a UNESCO World Heritage Site; or a reindeer farm in Oulu (European Capital of Culture in 2026).



Creole flavours

Editor of the *Cuisine et Vins de France* magazine, Sophie Menut Yovanovitch embarks on a cruise dedicated to sharing and passing on knowledge about local produce, for a warm and inspiring culinary journey.



Sophie Menut Yovanovitch
Editor of the *Cuisine et Vins de France*
magazine

Sun, Antillean scents and an infinite Caribbean horizon all point to a unique sensory journey for Sophie Menut Yovanovitch, in the company of the guests of PONANT EXPLORATIONS. Originally from the south of France and a keen traveller, she loves “*cuisines that tell the story of a region, its climate and its history*” Martinique, the homeland of Chef Marcel Ravin who will be onboard in 2026, promises just that: a vibrant, generous, family-oriented gastronomy in a cuisine that passes down techniques, secrets, and memories.

Onboard, Sophie embodies “*the bridge between guests and chefs*”. She helps create connections and reveals the stories behind the ingredients. She also supports chefs in sharing their vision of a more responsible, resource-conscious cuisine. “*My role is about more than the food: it’s about highlighting the spirit of the place and sparking an appetite for culture.*”

Reimagined Caribbean accras, cassava taken to new heights, sugarcane-infused boucané (smoked) chicken... **Marcel Ravin** will boldly reinterpret his culinary heritage as only he can. Alongside him, pastry chef **Eddie Benghanem** will bring his signature sweet and voluptuous creations.

Sophie Menut Yovanovitch often talks about food as “*nutraceuticals*” in which taste should bring joy, while also nourishing the body. Travel is what fuels this heartfelt cuisine: “*Each port reveals a new spice, another way of chopping, cooking and smelling.*” On deck, the sea spray, the salty air and the freshly caught fish all become sources of inspiration. “*The sea whets the appetite for curiosity*” she concludes.



Caribbean flavours

Fort-de-France • Fort-de-France | 8 days/7 nights | *Le Bougainville*
 Departure on 16th December 2026 | From £3,740 ⁽¹⁾ thanks to -10% Offer ⁽⁶⁾

Two gala dinners and a cooking demonstration orchestrated by Michelin-starred chef Marcel Ravin and pastry chef Eddie Benghanem, a rum tasting and discussions with Sophie Menut Yovanovitch • Majestic natural surroundings – pristine beaches at White Bay, granite rocks at The Bath, teeming marine life – and iconic historical sites, including Nelson’s Dockyard in Antigua • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: a distillery in Marie-Galante; Deshaies botanical garden.

-10% CHRISTMAS OFFER ❄️



| TIMELESS |



Gourmet memories: the soul of Malta and the Mediterranean

Invited on a voyage in the Mediterranean, Clint Grech, Michelin-starred chef at *de Mondion*, the restaurant of XaraPalace Relais & Châteaux, is preparing to create a unique dialogue between the flavours of Malta, his adopted island, and the generous shores of the Mediterranean.



Clint Grech
 Michelin-starred chef
 at *de Mondion*, the restaurant
 of XaraPalace Relais & Châteaux

How does the memory of an island become the inspiration for your cuisine?

Honouring the seasons and producers is what drives me every day. My inspiration comes from every detail of Maltese life. *De Mondion* is located in the former capital Mdina, a city steeped in history and a constant source of wonder. I draw on local craftsmanship, traditions and *misto*, the blend of flavours inherited from the empires that have impacted the island's past, adding a touch of modernity. In the kitchen, my vision is to showcase this culture.

How will your cuisine dialogue on board with the regions visited?

I want to convey a real spirit of travel and sharing to create a dialogue between Maltese identity and the flavours of each port of call. I like the idea that guests discover both where we are going and where we have come from. To bring this encounter to life, I'll be relying on the purity of the produce: tomato, basil, olive oil, fish... Their flavours embody a promise of freshness and character. Their apparent simplicity is an invitation to take technique and balance to new heights.

What memory do you want to leave with guests?

A discovery through taste, an experience that heightens the senses and connects guests to the spirit of these southern regions. At the end of this adventure, I would like guests to take away with them more than just a dish: a memory that resembles the Mediterranean itself. A tribute to its sea, its flavours and its soul.



Laetitia Ouspointour
Winemaker, oenologist and sommelier,
founder of L.O Wine

Revealing the soul of local terroirs

“A successful food and wine pairing creates a link between the dish, the terroir and the guest’s emotion. Through the richness of Maltese and Sicilian grape varieties, I intend to play my role as ‘guide’ during fun and sensory educational workshops: each wine will enhance Chef Grech’s cuisine and – I hope – reveal the character of our Mediterranean ports of call. My goal? To make each tasting a personal discovery, true to Relais & Châteaux’s spirit of excellence.”

| TIMELESS |

Ancient shores of the Mediterranean

Valletta • Málaga | 10 days/9 nights | *Le Dumont d’Urville*
Departure on 29th October 2026 | From £6,170 ⁽¹⁾

Two gala dinners and a cooking demonstration orchestrated by Michelin-starred chef Clint Grech, workshops led by Laetitia Ouspointour, oenologist and winemaker, including a masterclass on the richness of Mediterranean wines • Iconic UNESCO World Heritage sites, off-season: the ruins of Agrigento, Carthage and Tipasa, the Casbah of Algiers, the Medina of Tunis, the historic centre of Syracuse • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the ruins of Hippo Regius in Annaba or the island of Ortygia.



2026 DEPARTURE – Explore with Relais & Châteaux

Volcanic islands and historic cities of the North Atlantic | Las Palmas • Lisbon | 11 days/10 nights | *L’Austral*
Departure on 28th April 2026.

Wellness cruise: 5 key moments of the day set to the rhythm of the waves

When the ocean becomes a true partner in serenity, every breath becomes a journey. Returning in 2026 and 2027 on select wellness cruises, Élodie Garamond will guide guests toward a deep harmony with the elements.



Élodie Garamond
Yoga teacher, creator of the Tigre Yoga Club

Dawn – waking up in harmony with the sea

At dawn, we meditate with greater peace of mind, with a reassuring feeling of strong connection to the elements, which returns us to something calm and essential. The hypnotic rhythm of the waves soothes the nervous system. Watching the waves is complete relaxation for body and mind and guests are happy to rise early to experience this.

Morning – vitality and horizon

I always start our yoga class with sun salutations, followed by balance postures. It is very beneficial with a moving floor because it engages the core, and tones and strengthens the legs and the abdominal belt. Morning yoga sets the whole body in motion.

Midday – breath and spirit

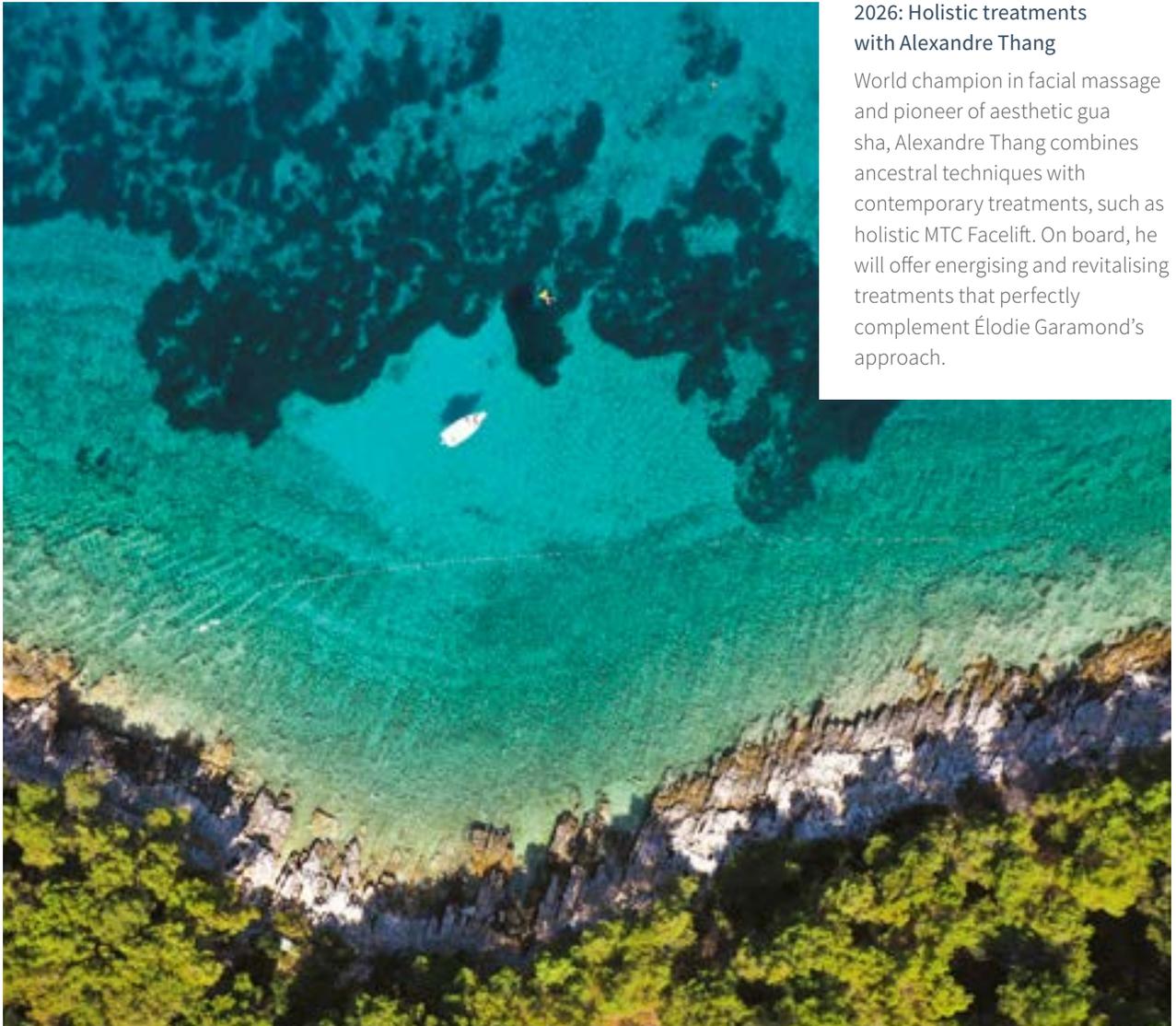
I offer conscious breathing sessions in which everyone can participate. These exercises calm the mind, cleanse the respiratory system, eliminate toxins and rebalance the nervous system. Holistic treatments and Pilates classes are also on the programme to add further depth to the wellness journey.

Afternoon – ocean and release

The ocean is an aide to relaxation: its sway, its sounds and its infinite horizon encourage you to let go. The afternoon yoga sessions are gentle, in tune with the rhythm of the waves and the passing of time, with many long, deep stretches.

Twilight – final routines

Evening is a time of reflection in which everyone considers the connection of sensations and images. This nourishes a deeper sensory memory. Guided meditation, gentle postures, sound bath: the evening session prepares you for sleep. We allow our thoughts and bodies to relax. It is a powerful moment that encourages us to integrate all the impressions of the day.



2026: Holistic treatments with Alexandre Thang

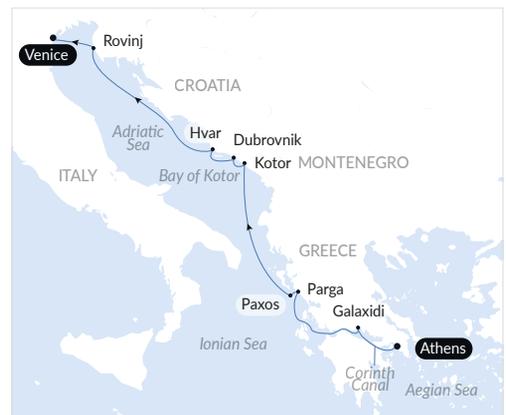
World champion in facial massage and pioneer of aesthetic gushu, Alexandre Thang combines ancestral techniques with contemporary treatments, such as holistic MTC Facelift. On board, he will offer energising and revitalising treatments that perfectly complement Élodie Garamond's approach.

| TIMELESS |

Well-being break in the Mediterranean

Athens • Venice | 9 days/8 nights | *Le Dumont d'Urville*
 Departure on 20th July 2027 | From £4,380 ⁽¹⁾

Yoga classes open to all and for all levels, taught daily by two renowned yoga teachers: Élodie Garamond and Patrick Frapeau • UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the Acropolis of Athens, the archaeological site of Delphi, Dubrovnik, the Bay of Kotor, the Stari Grad Plain on the island of Hvar, Venice • **Among your included excursions** ⁽²⁾: the archaeological site of Delphi; exploring the island of Lokrum; Perast and the island of Our Lady of the Rocks.



2026 DEPARTURE – Explore also on a wellness cruise

The Mediterranean: in the footsteps of great civilisations | Antalya • Valletta | 11 days/10 nights | *Le Dumont d'Urville*
 Departure on 1st April 2026. With the presence of Élodie Garamond and Alexandre Thang.





GUESTS

The historian and the sea

Author and radio and television presenter Franck Ferrand has established himself as one of the leading ‘storytellers’ in the French media landscape. He has already shared his passion on several occasions with guests of PONANT EXPLORATIONS. Focus on the upcoming cruises he will be hosting.



Franck Ferrand
Writer

Radio and television programmes on Europe 1, Radio Classique and CNews have exposed him to a wide audience, making Franck renowned in France. He is also France Télévisions’ ‘Mr Heritage’ for the Tour de France. A member of the founding team of the Cité de l’Histoire, editorial director of *Historia* magazine since 2023 and author of more than 20 books, Franck Ferrand has been leading cultural trips with PONANT EXPLORATIONS since 2018.

-10% CHRISTMAS OFFER ❄️ | TIMELESS |

The Iberian Peninsula and fortified cities of the Atlantic

Lisbon • Honfleur | 12 days/11 nights | *L’Austral*
Departure on 8th May 2026 | From £5,120 ⁽¹⁾ thanks to -10% Offer ⁽⁶⁾
[No Single Supplement](#) ⁽⁴⁾

Lectures led by Franck Ferrand, offering his philosophical perspective on the art of travel, escapism and the search for meaning through exploration of the world • UNESCO sites: the historic centre of Porto from Leixões, the Belém Tower and the Jerónimos Monastery from Lisbon • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the old town of Santiago de Compostela (UNESCO) from Vigo, Mont-Saint-Michel (UNESCO) from Saint-Malo.



2026 DEPARTURE – Explore with Franck Ferrand

Atlantic odyssey from the Iberian Peninsula to the Canary Islands | Málaga • Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
9 days/8 nights | *Le Champlain* | Departure on 25th November 2026.

The writer and the sea

The writer and Deputy Editor of *Le Point*, author of the novel *Mer intérieure*, is also a passionate scuba diver, committed to the issue of ocean protection. A passion he will share on board in 2026, alongside fellow writer Kamel Daoud.



Christophe Ono-dit-Biot
Writer and Deputy Editor of *Le Point*

"I've already been lucky enough to dive in these waters we'll be sailing through. The seabed there is as fantastic as the landscapes that await us on the surface. I am eager to discover Cartagena de Indias, which I only know through literature, and in particular the novels of García Márquez. In the company of Kamel Daoud, winner of the 2024 Goncourt Prize, we will take advantage of this trip to talk about the sea as a 'lifeline'. This cruise offers a perfect opportunity for us to share with guests a unique odyssey exploring the art of writing, freedom and commitment."

Panama, Colombia and the Caribbean Islands

Fort-de-France • Colón | 13 days/12 nights | *Le Lapérouse*
Departure on 7th December 2026 | From £6,040 ⁽¹⁾ | **No Single Supplement** ⁽⁴⁾

Conferences led by Kamel Daoud and Christophe Ono-dit-Biot, sharing their perspectives as writers and journalists on history • UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the fortifications of Portobelo, the Pitons of Saint Lucia, Cartagena de Indias • Paradise islands: San Blas, Mayreau (with private beach)... • **Among your included excursions** ⁽³⁾: the Tayronaka ruins from Santa Marta, La Soufrière in Saint Lucia.



| TIMELESS |



In search of the Pole, on a human scale

Travelling to the far reaches of the Arctic alongside Reinhold Messner means benefitting from his knowledge of extreme environments. The first man to have climbed all 14 peaks over 8,000 metres, and an exceptional mountaineer, Reinhold will share his quest to surpass himself, his humility and relationship with nature.



Reinhold Messner
Mountaineer

“I have already had the opportunity to travel to this extreme region, but sailing to the North Pole remains a very rare experience. It is all the more so when we know that our expedition may be one of the last during which a ship will have to make its way through the summer ice to make progress. On board, I will tell the story of Hjalmar Johansen and Fridtjof Nansen, two legends of exploration. What do I wish for guests? To feel the movement of the ice, the fragility of the Arctic and, above all, to understand the beauty of this world.”



The geographic North Pole

Longyearbyen • Longyearbyen | 16 days/15 nights
 Le Commandant Charcot | Departure on 27th July 2026 | From £34,990 ⁽¹⁾
 No Single Supplement ⁽⁴⁾ | Included in your cruise ⁽⁵⁾: return flights Paris/
 Longyearbyen and transfers.

Navigating the heart of the ice floe in search of the geographic North Pole, following in the footsteps of the great explorers • Diverse landscapes: compression ridges on the ice floe, mountains, steep-sided valleys, vertiginous cliffs, glaciers in Svalbard • The opportunity to observe polar bears, seabirds and cetaceans • A rich programme of activities: the opportunity for zodiac outings and landings, landings on the ice floe, kayaking, hiking or snowshoeing, polar diving.





Science, travel and adventure

In 15 years of exploration, adventurer and diver Alban Michon has taken part in numerous expeditions to the polar regions, including the Biodysseus mission, which enabled scientists to live in the heart of the Arctic Ocean to study the changes taking place there. Join him on board in 2026 to hear his story...



Alban Michon
Polar Explorer

“Sailing in Baffin Sea will be a first for me, and I look forward to sharing this experience with guests. Together, we will meet local communities who live in what I call the heart of the climate reactor, and whose know-how and traditions will teach us a lot. I encourage them to take the time to observe the icebergs, which also tell stories that are sometimes thousands of years old. If the atmosphere is dense enough with ice crystals, we may be lucky enough to see parhelia – optical phenomena where two replicas of the sun appear in the sky. Pure magic.”

-10% CHRISTMAS OFFER ❄️



| EXPEDITION |

Baffin Bay secrets

Kangerlussuaq • Kangerlussuaq | 14 days/13 nights | *Le Lyrial*
Departure on 27th August 2026 | From £12,010 ⁽¹⁾ thanks to -10% Offer ⁽⁶⁾
No Single Supplement ⁽⁴⁾ | **Included in your cruise** ⁽⁵⁾: return flights Paris/
Kangerlussuaq and transfers.

Discussions and lectures with Alban Michon • Spectacular landscapes, such as icebergs, majestic fjords and Disko Bay, and the opportunity to observe a variety of wildlife, including polar bears, cetaceans, musk oxen, seabirds • Encounters with Inuit communities • Activities: the opportunity to go on zodiac trips with your naturalist guides, hiking, kayaking.



OUR FLEET

The Sisterships

With their sleek silhouettes and refined decor, this series of four ships symbolises the Company's mission to share the French art of living across the globe. Human-scale yachts, *Le Boréal*, *L'Austral*, *Le Soléal* and *Le Lyrial* can access secluded locations or ports reserved for smaller vessels.



The PONANT Explorers

With a refined blend of exploration in the world's most remote regions and the refinement of intimate vessels, these six exceptional yachts are crafted to offer a redefined expedition experience.

Each of them – *Le Lapérouse*, *Le Champlain*, *Le Bougainville*, *Le Dumont d'Urville*, *Le Bellot* and *Le Jacques Cartier* – is equipped with state-of-the-art technology designed to minimise environmental impact, including the exclusive Blue Eye underwater lounge.



Le Commandant Charcot

Named after the gentleman of the poles, *Le Commandant Charcot* has been designed to allow you to experience true polar odysseys, taking you in the footsteps of great explorers, all within a refined setting. The ship features a responsible design including a hybrid electric/liquefied natural gas propulsion never before employed in a polar environment.



The entire fleet



Information & Reservations

020 7660 4089

bookings@ponant.com | uk.ponant.com

Or contact your preferred travel expert.



Instagram: @ponant - @lecommandantcharcot • **Youtube:** Ponant_EN

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