

From Greek coasts to Atlantic shores

From **7/10/2022**
to **21/10/2022**

Ship: **LE LYRIAL**

From **Athens**
to **Lisbon**



PONANT invites you to discover gorgeous landscapes and exceptional cities during a **15-day cruise** between Greece, Italy, Spain and Portugal. This unforgettable journey aboard *Le Lyrial*, from the shores of the Mediterranean to the Atlantic coast, will captivate you.

From **Athens**, you will follow a memorable crossing of the **Corinth Canal** and call at **Itea**, not far from the marvellous **Delphi** archaeological site, on the slopes of Mount Parnassus.

Le Lyrial will then arrive in the magnificent **Sicily**. You will first make a stop in **Palermo**, its capital, you will be able to visit emblematic landmarks such as the **12th century cathedral** and **Teatro Massimo**, one of the largest theatres in Europe.

Your exploration of the Mediterranean islands will continue as you discover **Cagliari**, capital of **Sardinia** and one of the largest natural harbours in the Mediterranean; its historic centre is full of charm, with shaded stairs, small squares inundated with light and remains conjuring up its medieval grandeur.

Your cruise will then stop in the **Balearic Islands** on the well-preserved island of **Menorca**. **Mahon**, the island's capital, will charm you with its age-old history and its exceptional port, which, at 6 kilometres (3.7 miles) long, is the biggest in the Mediterranean!

After a first call at **Palma de Majorca**, one of the jewels of the **Balearic Archipelago**, known for its four main islands that are charming, picturesque and discreet, sitting atop the clear waters of the Mediterranean like grains of sand, you will join **Valencia**, with its remarkable architectural splendours.

Le Lyrial will then sail on to **Málaga**, the lively cultural capital of the *Costa del Sol*, before travelling onward to **Marbella**. From the Paleochristian and Roman remains, in the area around this famous seaside resort, to the heart of the old town, its history can be read in its buildings, in particular the 10th century castle built by the Moors. You will also have the

possibility of strolling through the picturesque town of **Ronda** and discovering its famous **Puente Nuevo**.

Then, you will discover **Cadiz**, one of the country's oldest cities, built on a rock and surrounded by the sea. This call will allow those who wish to visit the superb city of **Seville**.

Your journey around the Atlantic will conclude with a visit to **Lisbon**. This city with its nostalgic charm has a unique personality, a blend of tramways, museums and listed buildings.



The information in this document is valid as of 20/5/2022

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

ATHENS

Embarkation 7/10/2022 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Departure 7/10/2022 at 6:00 pm

The Greek capital city is located on the edge of the Saronic gulf, in the east of the country. It bears a plural name in reference to the first villages that surround the **Acropolis**. You will be enchanted by the rocky plateau presided by its monuments listed as UNESCO World Heritage. In the city below, you can visit some of the liveliest districts in Athens: **Plaka**, with its maze of colourful streets, and where, in the evenings the drifting aroma of moussaka and garlic prawns will tickle your taste buds. The **National Archaeological museum** and the Cycladic Art Museum are also some of the city's key attractions and allow visitors to discover Athens' cultural past.

CROSSING THE CORINTH CANAL

Arrival 7/10/2022

Departure 7/10/2022

The Corinth Canal cuts through the Isthmus of Corinth, turning the Peloponnese into an island as it separates the region from the Greek mainland. Inaugurated in 1893, the canal is a little over six kilometres long and enables merchant vessels and passenger to avoid a long 400-km detour around the peninsula. The two sides of the canal reach a height of approximately fifty metres. From the exterior decks, don't miss this unique opportunity to watch the ship as it navigates along the narrow strip of water encased between tall, ochre cliffs. What an experience!

ITEA

Arrival 8/10/2022 early morning

Departure 8/10/2022 early afternoon

Tucked away in the Gulf of Corinth, this **little port** is situated in continental Greece, north-west of Athens. Take an easy stroll along the old cobblestone quays, while gazing at the summits encircling the **Bay of Itea**. We wouldn't be surprised if you are tempted by a visit to the **Delphi Sanctuary**. The sanctuary is located on a plateau on the slope of Mount Parnassus, just ten kilometres from Itea. A listed UNESCO World Heritage site, this is a once-in-a-lifetime experience whose ancient ruins are surrounded by steep mountains.

AT SEA

Arrival 9/10/2022

Departure 9/10/2022

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the

swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

PALERMO, SICILY

Arrival 10/10/2022 early morning

Departure 10/10/2022 midday

Palermo is the guardian of the Sicilian soul. Many have been attracted to this city, the largest capital of the Italian islands. Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans... Palermo is a rich culmination of so many cultural influences as seen in the Moorish designs on the **cathedral**, and the Byzantine mosaics of the **Palatine chapel**, which is itself housed within the precincts of the **Norman palace**. You will fall under the spell of the palaces, **baroque splendours** that grace the town with their obsolete beauty. It is thrilling to stumble upon one of those fabulous markets, high in colour, and headily picturesque.

CAGLIARI, SARDINIA

Arrival 11/10/2022 early morning

Departure 11/10/2022 midday

The capital of Sardinia, **Cagliari**, like Rome, is built on seven hills. Its Sardinian name means "castle", in reference to the citadel, its historic centre, which dominates the city. The old ramparts are now pleasant panoramic terraces bordering picturesque streets. The city hosted the Nuragic, Phoenician, Roman and Byzantine civilisations before the rein of the Spanish Hapsburgs and the House of Savoy. The monuments of Cagliari bear the traces of these successive dominations, such as the Bastion of Saint-Rémy or the **Sainte-Marie Cathedral**. On the sea front, Art Nouveau-style public monuments give way to the Poetto beach, a magnificent stretch of sand that is 8 kilometres long.

MAHON, BALEARIC ISLANDS

Arrival 12/10/2022 midday

Departure 12/10/2022 early evening

You will be welcomed by the colourful houses of **Mahon**, its narrow streets and pretty squares that appear as you stroll around this richly contrasting city. Mahon reveals its different neighbourhoods, alternating between monuments, villas and white buildings. Discover the **Santa Maria church**, a building of neo-gothic inspiration, rebuilt in the 18th Century. It is worth a visit to see its monumental organ with more than 3,000 pipes and four keyboards. Around the Carmen church you will find a **local market**, full of stands selling *avarcas*, typical Menorcan sandals originally made by peasants. Let yourself fall under the spell of this Mediterranean treasure.

PALMA DE MALLORCA, BALEARIC ISLANDS

Arrival 13/10/2022 early morning

Departure 13/10/2022 late afternoon

Palma de Mallorca will reveal its many treasures: idyllic coves, majestic limestone cliffs that plunge into the clear sapphire- and turquoise-coloured waters of the Mediterranean, and vast plains planted with almond trees, olive trees and vineyards. When your ship calls at the capital of the Balearic Islands, take a walk to discover its emblematic monuments, such as its **famous cathedral**, and amble through its old streets. Here, like a painting, the island's historical heritage forms a backdrop to the lively and warm cosmopolitan atmosphere of the Mediterranean.

VALENCIA

Arrival 14/10/2022 early morning

Departure 14/10/2022 early evening

Valencia - the city of Art and Sciences. Two hearts beat in this Spanish city: one is modern, avantgarde and almost futuristic; the other is more provincial, more traditional and nostalgic. Valencia has the temperament of a great Mediterranean city whose wide avenues form a border around the old town. The city has an abundance of architectural styles that coexist harmoniously, but above all it resolutely embraces the 21st Century with the futuristic structures of its Agora congress centre and City of Arts and Sciences, emerging from a crystal blue pool.

AT SEA

Arrival 15/10/2022

Departure 15/10/2022

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

MÁLAGA

Arrival 16/10/2022 early morning

Departure 16/10/2022 late evening

A historical and festive town, Malaga is located in Andalusia, on the Costa del Sol. Between the marina and the beaches, the seaside promenade of La Farola offers an ideal setting for strolling and relaxing. Set slightly further back, the Malagueta bullring is one of the emblematic sites of the city. From the hill overlooking the old town, one can see **Gibralfaro castle** and **the Alcazaba**, two fortified ensembles rising out from the cypresses and maritime pines. To visit **Pablo Picasso's birthplace**, you will go first to the courtly plaza de la Merced. A few streets back from here, you can explore the museum dedicated to the artist, in the Buenavista palace.

MARBELLA

Arrival 17/10/2022 early morning

Departure 17/10/2022 late afternoon

In the province of **Malaga, Marbella** is a renowned seaside resort on the **Costa del Sol**. The remains of early Christian and Roman sites around this former mining town, located at the foot of the **Sierra Blanca** mountains, bear witness to a rich history. With its white houses on flowery little streets, the old town is perfect for a pleasant stroll. The **Plaza de los Naranjos**, former focal point of the city, is near the 10th-century Arabic castle and the **Church of Santa María de la Encarnación**. Not far from here, you'll be able to discover the magnificent viewpoints offered by **Ronda**, a picturesque town perched 700 metres (2,296 feet) high. Its **Puente Nuevo** bridge majestically crosses the gorges of the Guadalevin River that cuts the town in two.

CADIZ

Arrival 18/10/2022 early morning

Departure 18/10/2022 evening

Andalusia's Cadiz is located on the **Costa de la Luz**, in the south-west of Spain. From the beaches of Cortadura, to the flamenco bars of Santa Maria, through the colourful streets of la Viña, you will be amazed by this city, which is both steeped in history and extremely festive. In the medieval **El Pópulo** district, you will stroll along covered passages in the narrow gaps between houses. You will also be able to mosey around the lush Mina square. The star of the show is the magnificent cathedral and its dome crowned with yellow porcelain, presiding above the Ocean.

AT SEA

Arrival 19/10/2022

Departure 19/10/2022

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

LISBON

Arrival 20/10/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 21/10/2022 at 7:00 am

Portugal's capital city located on the banks of the Tagus, only a few kilometres from the Atlantic coast, is a city of exceptionally rich cultural diversity. At the mouth of the river harbour, impose two UNESCO World Heritage monuments, **Jeronimos monastery** and **Belem tower**. The Alfama hillside is also worth visiting: known for its **fado** bars and its **Moorish streets**, this district is the oldest one of the city and one of the most typical. Not far from there, Chiado's elegant streets are home to big fashion labels and are an invitation to a bit of luxury shopping.