

Treasures of India

From **23/1/2023**
to **1/2/2023**

Ship: **LE CHAMPLAIN**

From **Mumbai (ex Bombay)**
to **Colombo**



PONANT invites you to discover the wonders of **India** and **Sri Lanka**, during a **10-day cruise** from **Mumbai to Colombo**. Let yourself fall under the spell of these eastern lands bordered by the Indian Ocean and influenced by Buddhist and Hindu traditions.

You will board *Le Champlain* in **Mumbai**, India's cultural and economic capital. Make sure you visit the **Elephanta Caves**, a Hindu sanctuary on an island off the coast, and the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus **railway station** (formerly known as Victoria Terminus), a remarkable example of Victorian **neo-gothic** architecture: both sites are UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Then, you will discover **Goa**, a former colony of the Portuguese Indies. Goa is prized for its **beaches** and its rich **cultural heritage**, in particular a collection of late 16th-century churches and convents, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Your ship will then arrive in **Kerala**, on Malabar Coast, in south-western India. From **Cochin**, a former royal town where the air is rich with the aroma of cardamom and cloves, this port of call will also be the opportunity to discover, aboard **traditional boats, the fishing villages** settled along the banks of the "**backwaters**", a network of lakes and canals that criss-cross the **lush landscapes of Kerala**. Then you will set sail towards **Trivandrum**, where you will have the opportunity to visit Padmanabhapuram Palace, one of the finest examples of traditional Kerala architecture.

In **Galle**, you will be able to admire the **fortifications** of the old town, testimony to its Portuguese and Dutch heritage and a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Finally, *Le Champlain* will call at **Colombo**, the Sri Lankan capital located at the crossroads of the sea trade between Europe and Asia.



The information in this document is valid as of 4/12/2021

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

MUMBAI (EX BOMBAY)

Embarkation 23/1/2023 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Departure 24/1/2023 at 6:30 pm

Mumbai, a fascinating city located on the Arabian Sea, will give you a real immersion in Hindu culture. You will be able to discover the **Elephanta Caves** that are home to collection of rock art typical of the cult of Shiva. Don't miss out on visiting the **Gandhi Museum and House**, dedicated to the memory of the man who played a vital role in the emancipation and independence of India, or the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus railway station (formerly known as **Victoria Terminus**), the finest example of Victorian architecture in India. In the **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya museum**, you will find very fine collections of sculptures, miniatures and portraits of the man who would become King George V.

AT SEA

Arrival 25/1/2023

Departure 25/1/2023

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.

MARMUGAO (GOA)

Arrival 26/1/2023 early morning

Departure 26/1/2023 late afternoon

Marmugao is a sub-district of **South Goa** located in the **state of Goa**, in India. This is where the state's main maritime port is to be found. Renowned around the world for its climate, the beauty of its beaches, its rice paddies and its waterfalls, Goa will surprise you with the **cultural and religious heritage of its old town**. It has a great many 16th- and 17th-century churches, making up a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, including the **Basilica of Bom Jesus** but also Hindu temples and mosques. The **Goa Chitra Museum, Goa's main ethnographic museum**, is also worth a visit.

AT SEA

Arrival 27/1/2023

Departure 27/1/2023

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.

COCHIN

Arrival 28/1/2023 early morning

Departure 29/1/2023 late afternoon

An important port in the South-West of India, **Cochin** (Kochi) is one of the most beautiful on the Malabar Coast where the scent of cardamom mingles with cloves. It was here that **Vasco de Gama** disembarked over 500 years ago. But how many Phoenicians, Greeks, Arabs and Romans dropped anchor before him in the turquoise waters of the Arabian Sea? So many nations, at a time when **pepper from Malabar** was almost as precious as gold, left these shores laden with precious spices. Today, the city, a surprising metropolis with multiple identities, has a rich cultural and natural heritage combining former colonial residences, ancestral fishing methods and **charming landscapes in the backwaters**.

TRIVANDRUM

Arrival 30/1/2023 early morning

Departure 30/1/2023 early afternoon

Capital of the State of Kerala, **Trivandrum** boasts a rich and colourful past. Constructed on seven hills, the "**green city of India**", as **Gandhi** called it, is home to sumptuous Victorian buildings, vestiges of British colonisation. You will also be able to admire superb examples of traditional architecture, such as **Padmanabhapuram Palace**. A former residence of Kerala princes, this elegant wooden palace from the 16th century is composed of three levels evoking the shape of a Far Eastern pagoda. Entering and roaming its maze of galleries, halls and corridors is like plunging into the lavish life of the Travancore kings.

GALLE

Arrival 31/1/2023 midday

Departure 31/1/2023 early evening

Discover Galle, **one of Sri Lanka's oldest cities**. Thanks to its commercial port, from which were exported spices and precious stones, Galle was once the country's most major city. Colonised by the Portuguese and later by the Dutch, today it still bears traces of this colonial past. When your ship calls here, have a wander around **the old town and its fortifications, which are listed as UNESCO World Heritage**. Built by the Portuguese at the end of the 16th century, they are perfectly preserved. To learn more about daily and rural life in Sri Lanka, do not miss the visit to the **Martin Wickramasinghe Folk Art Museum in Koggala**

, not far from Galle.

COLOMBO

Arrival 1/2/2023 early morning

Disembarkation 1/2/2023 at 7:00 am

A former trading post along the **Silk Route**, the old quarter of Colombo offers you the fabulous sight of its picturesque streets. The city was known to Arab, Persian and Chinese traders as early as the 8th century and this former village, nestled between two dunes, was a trading post on the mythical **Spice Route**. Today the **economic capital of Sri Lanka**, the city offers picture-postcard scenery with its **beaches** stretching languorously along the south-western coast of the country. Here the sand dazzles you and the sea invites you to dream...