

# Musical Adventure in Celtic Lands

From **27/4/2023**  
to **4/5/2023**

Ship: **L'AUSTRAL**

From **Dublin**  
to **Glasgow, Scotland**



In partnership with **RADIO CLASSIQUE**, with the exceptional presence on board of **Alain Duault**.

From **Dublin to Glasgow**, **PONANT** brings you an exceptional cruise to Celtic lands following **an 8-day itinerary** along the magnificent shores of Britain.

From **Dublin**, the Irish capital brimming with convivial atmosphere and authentic charm, *Le Boréal* will take you to Belfast, where you can visit the **Giant's Causeway**. This massive geological formation is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and features over 40,000 basalt columns.

Your ship will reach Wales at **Fishguard**, a small coastal town between two hills that was once a Viking trading post. Then you will set sail for **Liverpool**. A former industrial powerhouse, the city has now been completely redeveloped. Located on the banks of the Mersey, it is famous for being the birthplace of the Beatles.

*L'Austral* will then take you to the Isle of Man, located between the United Kingdom and Ireland. The capital **Douglas** is an authentic postcard from United Kingdom of yesteryear with a Victorian atmosphere.

The Inner Hebrides will then welcome you with **Iona**, the cradle of Christianity in Scotland where the famous *Book of Kells* was written, and **Tobermory**, a charming fishing port with multi-coloured houses whose distillery produces a renowned single malt.

You will then discover **Oban** and its spectacular coastline to the west of the Highlands before you disembark in **Glasgow**, Scotland's warm cultural capital with a rich artistic and architectural heritage.



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

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## YOUR STOPOVERS :

### DUBLIN

Embarkation 27/4/2023 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Departure 27/4/2023 at 6:00 pm

The Irish capital stretches along the banks of the Liffey to Dublin bay, on the East coast of Ireland. Discover Ireland's warm conviviality in the pedestrian district of **Temple Bar**. Its cobbled streets are brimming with fabulous shops, pubs and arts centres. Next to Trinity College, famous for its 18th century library, you can stroll along Grafton Street: in one of its famous tea shops, try a delicious scone and clotted cream served hot and melt-in-the-mouth with jam. Not far from here, the majestic O'Connell bridge leads you to the avenue with the same name, on which **Spire**, a luminous contemporary sculpture presides.

### BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

Arrival 28/4/2023 early morning

Departure 28/4/2023 early afternoon

The capital city of Northern Ireland is located on the very tip of Belfast Lough, in the north-east of the Emerald Isle. Along the waterfront, the building shaped like a fragmented liner is non other than the Titanic Belfast, a homage to the famous transatlantic liner, with full-scale reconstructions making for an insightful experience of the Belle Epoque. In the historical centre, you'll also travel back in time when you see the majestic Edwardian columns of the City Hall, and the imposing neo-gothic towers of Queen's University for example. The carved wooden façades of the Victorian pubs will certainly entice you in for a pint of beer or chilled cider.

### FISHGUARD

Arrival 29/4/2023 early morning

Departure 29/4/2023 early afternoon

A small coastal town located in the South Wales, **Fishguard** will offer you a peaceful stop during your cruise. Nestling in the hollow of two hills, the city, once a Viking trading post, is now the ideal starting point for exploring the **Welsh countryside**. Across its vast expanses of fertile land, its green valleys and its magnificent moors, the region will reveal its **rich historical heritage to you**. Among other things, you will be able to visit **mediaeval Pembroke Castle**, renowned for its impressive architecture and the illustrious people who have lived there, such as Gerald de Windsor.

### LIVERPOOL

Arrival 30/4/2023 early morning

Departure 30/4/2023 evening

The fast-moving and appealing city of **Liverpool** sprawls along the banks of the River Mersey. This former bastion of

industry in England's north-west has found its second wind, thanks especially to the highly successful redevelopment of its docks, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site since 2004. The city, the **Beatles'** birthplace, has lots to offer to its visitors. While a walk down the Waterfront from Pier Head to Albert Dock is a major highlight you'll also love the quality of museums such as the **Walker Art Gallery** and the wealth of architecture in the city. But what will really impress you is the playful and open-minded spirit of its inhabitants, which John Lennon referred to as "positive energy".

## DOUGLAS

Arrival 1/5/2023 early morning

Departure 1/5/2023 early afternoon

**Douglas** is the capital of the **Isle of Man**, a self-governing island in the Irish Sea between England and Ireland. The Isle of Man is best-known for its gruelling annual TT motorbike race but Douglas itself is a charming traditional seaside resort. The stroll along the busy **promenade** is very popular, as well as the visit of the **Manx Museum**, which retraces the island's fascinating Celtic and Viking heritage. It is possible to take a steam train into the mountainous interior, where medieval castles and pretty villages and farms can be observed.

## IONA, HEBRIDES

Arrival 2/5/2023 early morning

Departure 2/5/2023 mid morning

Of all the islands in the **Inner Hebrides**, **Iona** is by far the most conducive to contemplation and meditation. And for good reason... it is here that St Columba landed from Ireland in 563 and undertook to establish Christianity in **Scotland**. Now an abbey, the island's true spiritual centre stands where the ancient monastery founded by the Irish missionary was built. Many kings of Scotland, including the legendary **Macbeth**, are buried in the nearby cemetery. In sunny weather, arriving on the Isle of Iona is a stunningly beautiful experience.

## TOBERMORY, ISLE OF MULL

Arrival 2/5/2023 early afternoon

Departure 2/5/2023 evening

Located at the northernmost tip of the lovely **Isle of Mull**, **Tobermory** has to be one of the most beautiful natural seaports on Scotland's West Coast. Founded in 1788, this ancient fishing village has been converted to a leisure port highly appreciated today for its surroundings and the quiet charm it exudes. You will definitely be won over by the row of many-storied houses on the hillside, illuminating the harbour with their vibrant colours. Although the real spectacle is outdoors, no less interesting are the Mull Museum dedicated to the local history and the exhibitions at the An Tobar art gallery.

## OBAN, SCOTLAND

Arrival 3/5/2023

Departure 3/5/2023 early afternoon

A small Scottish town located on the **west coast of the Highlands**, **Oban** possesses magnificent coastal landscapes and

many cultural riches. Make sure you wander the charming Victorian streets of this renowned seaside resort, which was popular in the past with Queen Victoria herself. Among other things, you will discover the **whisky distillery**: founded in 1794, it is one of Scotland's smallest and oldest. On the heights of the town, **McCaig's Tower** is one of the area's curiosities: this unusual construction, erected by a rich banker at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to provide work for inhabitants during winter, is reminiscent of Roman and Greek architecture and has breathtaking views over the neighbouring islands.

## GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

Arrival 4/5/2023 early morning

Disembarkation 4/5/2023 at 8:00 am

In the heart of the **Clyde Valley**, the bustling city of **Glasgow** contrasts starkly with the wild beauty of the surrounding countryside. Scotland's biggest city overflows with landmarks from its extensive artistic heritage and outstanding architectural tradition. The city's chequerboard layout makes walking through the major pedestrian thoroughfares easy: go with the flow and let the lively street atmosphere take you past the many Victorian monuments. Don't miss the collections on display in the numerous museums and art galleries. The Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum is an outstanding example.