

# Napoleon Bonaparte : history and heritage

From **14/10/2023**  
to **3/11/2023**

Ship: **LE LYRIAL**

From **Dakar**  
to **Santos**



**With the exceptional presence of Franck Ferrand, Thierry Lentz and Jean Tulard.**

More than two centuries after his death, there is still a key figure, a myth to which we constantly return. Political genius, feared war leader or despot? Napoleon Bonaparte continues to raise questions, to appeal and to fascinate, well beyond French and European borders. On the occasion of the bicentenary of his death, whose commemorations were celebrated in May 2021, PONANT invites you on an exceptional 20-night cruise following in the footsteps of the first French emperor.

Aboard *Le Lyrial*, leaving from Dakar, the bustling Senegalese capital, you will sail south on the maritime route taken by *HMS Northumberland*, the ship that escorted Napoleon to Saint Helena, in 1815. You will then head towards your first port of call: **Ascension Island**. On this desert island, the British created a garrison to counter any hope of escape by the Emperor. Today the island is a veritable sanctuary for birds, marine mammals and green turtles.

You will then call at the mythical and emblematic island of Saint Helena. Although this British territory, the site of his last exile, houses his tomb, it remains above all the place where Napoleon dictated his memoirs and sealed his legend. Offering an intimate and moving testimony of his last moments on the island, the **Longwood Residence** and the Emperor's furniture have been preciously maintained and preserved by the French authorities and the Fondation Napoléon. During your visit, you will travel through history in a luxuriant and bucolic setting, far from the sombre image of the island.

After a few days at sea, punctuated by several conferences on-board about the life of "the little corporal", *Le Lyrial* will set sail for the Brazilian coastline. Following ports of call at **intoxicating Rio de Janeiro** and **authentic Paraty**, this marvellous trip will end in **Santos**, one of the first Portuguese colonies to be established in the New World, famous for its picturesque historical centre.



The information in this document is valid as of 7/7/2022

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## YOUR STOPOVERS :

### DAKAR

Embarkation 14/10/2023 from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Departure 14/10/2023 at 5:30 pm

On the tip of the African continent, the buzzing capital of **Senegal** stretches along the narrow **peninsula of Cape Verde**. You may be overwhelmed by its sheer size, but **Dakar** will win you over with its richly diverse districts, appealing cultural scene and rich natural surroundings. In the historic centre, you'll enjoy the pell-mell of colours and tasty delights in **Kermel market**. Far from the effervescence of the city, **Gorée Island**, a **UNESCO** World Heritage Site, is known as a place of remembrance, having once been a slave trade outpost. On the other side of the plateau, the wild Madeleine islands are protected by a national park.

### AT SEA

Arrival 15/10/2023

Departure 18/10/2023

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.

### GEORGETOWN, ASCENSION ISLAND

Arrival 19/10/2023 early morning

Departure 19/10/2023 early evening

Lost in the heart of the Atlantic, this arid island with a lunar landscape is not as deserted as we may believe. Its position has made it a **military base and strategic air bridge** for the British and the Americans. The first garrison was established in 1815 to prevent any escape attempt by Napoleon, who was exiled nearly 1,000 kilometres away on the island of Saint Helena. The forts and barracks of the **Royal Navy** from those times can be visited. **Intense marine biodiversity** surrounds this island. It is one of the most important breeding sites for **tropical marine birds** and **green turtles**, which leave their footprints on the island's magnificent beaches before heading to the Brazilian coastlines.

## AT SEA

Arrival 20/10/2023

Departure 21/10/2023

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.

## JAMESTOWN, SAINT HELENA ISLAND

Arrival 22/10/2023 early morning

Departure 24/10/2023 mid afternoon

**Nestling in the hollow of a volcanic valley, Jamestown** retains the charm of a small **English village** in the tropics. A centre of **Napoleonic legend**, the French authorities preciously conserved **evidence of the Emperor's exile** on the island, including the Briars and Longwood House pavilions, the "valley of the tomb" and Bertrand's Cottage. Escorted to Saint Helena by the British aboard *HMS Northumberland* in 1815, Napoléon died there in 1821. Far removed from the arid hell he described in the memoirs dictated to his faithful companions, you will discover that this **natural fortress** offers a very diverse landscape, from steep cliffs to fertile lands covered with **lush nature**.

## AT SEA

Arrival 25/10/2023

Departure 30/10/2023

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.

## RIO DE JANEIRO

Arrival 31/10/2023 midday

Departure 1/11/2023 late evening

Famed for its colourful Carnival and now as host of the 2016 Summer Olympics, Brazil's former capital is dubbed the **City of Marvels** by locals. You can't help being astounded by the panorama that opens up to you from the summit of Corcovado, the rocky peak where the giant **statue of Christ the Redeemer** has stood for nearly a century. In downtown Rio historic monuments such as the National Museum of Fine Arts sit side-by-side with modernistic buildings such as the cathedral of São Sebastião. On the seafront, Atlântica Avenue runs alongside **Copacabana Beach**; enjoy a bird's eye

view from the **cable car ride to the top of Sugarloaf Mountain.**

## PARATY

Arrival 2/11/2023 early morning

Departure 2/11/2023 late afternoon

To the South of Rio, you will discover the charming village of **Paraty**. Bathed in the emerald waters of the **Ilha Grande Bay**, surrounded by verdant hills and islets, it is one of the jewels of Brazil's **Costa Verde**. Here, time seems to have stopped in the time of the conquistadors and their gold-laden galleons. You will love the splendour of Paraty's heritage — its maze of paved streets, the historic beauty of its colonial houses, its **baroque churches**. Above all, you will be enchanted by its lively terraces where locals and visitors enjoy grilled fish accompanied by glasses of cachaça. It is, quite simply, a little taste of paradise on Earth!

## SANTOS

Arrival 3/11/2023 early morning

Disembarkation 3/11/2023 at 7:00 am

Not far from São Paulo, **Santos** is one of Brazil's most important and oldest cities. Founded by the Portuguese in 1546, this city in south-eastern Brazil established itself as the economic leader of the time thanks in particular to its coffee trade. However, **Santos** is far removed from the image we may have of huge port cities surrounded by vast hangars and maritime containers. Crossed by many small bays with emerald water, Santos is enchanting and invites all who venture into its small picturesque streets, whose dwellings still bear traces of its colonial past, on a journey back into time.