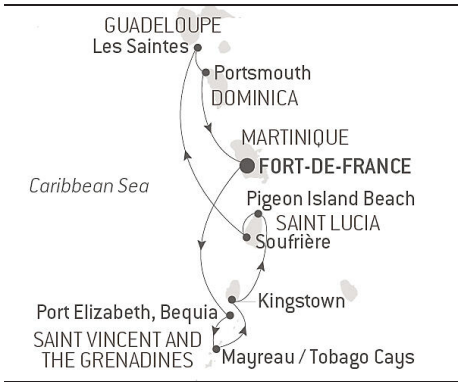
Pearls of the Caribbean

From **5/11/2023** to **13/11/2023**	Ship: ***LE BELLOT***	From **Fort-de-France** to **Fort-de-France**



PONANT brings you an itinerary to the heart of the most enchanting islands in the Caribbean Sea. Board on ***Le Bellot*** for a **9-day cruise** combining long white-sand beaches and the easy Creole way of life.

From **Fort-de-France**, the capital of Martinique, ***Le Bellot*** will set sail to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and **Bequia Island**, the 'whale-hunting island', and its wild and unspoiled coastline. You will enjoy the lively atmosphere of Port Elizabeth, the island's main town.

After a call at **Mayreau**, your sailing yacht will anchor in the **Tobago Cays National Park**. This rosary of islands, bound together by the most beautiful coral reef in the West Indies, will reveal its incredible underwater wildlife and its secret coves.

You will then island hop gently towards **Saint Lucia** and its two majestic rocky peaks soaring straight from the sea, a unique location listed as **UNESCO World Heritage site**.

You will sail towards the enchanting setting offered by **the island of Dominica** - the Nature Island - before you finally reach Fort-de-France.

An **experienced diving instructor** is on board for the entire cruise, enabling you to safely enjoy swimming and scuba diving.



The information in this document is valid as of 29/3/2024

Pearls of the Caribbean

YOUR STOPOVERS :

FORT-DE-FRANCE

Embarkation 5/11/2023 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Departure 5/11/2023 at 10:00 pm

Located on the western coast of Martinique, Fort-de-France will amaze you by the splendour of its bay, a magnificent cut-out in the coastline, considered as one of the most beautiful in the world. At the harbour mouth, on its strip of land, **fort Saint-Louis** overlooks the capital city of Martinique. If you climb up to it, you can see some breath-taking views. **Saint Louis Cathedral** and the Schoelcher library bear witness to a secular history, intimately linked to the island's story. Why not try some fresh coconut at the colourful Grand Marché. Two really pleasant places you can take a breather in, right in the heart of the city, are the garden of Balata and the Aimé Césaire park.

PORT ELIZABETH, BEQUIA ISLAND

Arrival 6/11/2023 midday
Departure 6/11/2023 late evening

In the heart of the **Caribbean**, **Bequia** is the second-largest of 32 islands that make up the country of **St Vincent and the Grenadines**. You will love the lively and picturesque atmosphere of **Port Elizabeth**, the island's main town. From the port, a promenade lined with beautiful traditional houses, landscaped gardens and small restaurants runs along the shoreline. It leads to Princess Margaret Beach, a wild beach where Princess Margaret herself has stayed and which seems to emerge directly from the tropical forest. From rainforest to lush meadows and long stretches of sand, Bequia will offer you a natural setting that is conducive to lovely walks and to spending time on the beach.

MAYREAU ISLAND

Arrival 7/11/2023 early morning
Departure 7/11/2023 late evening

Among the string of paradisiac islands with their sandy beaches that form the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines archipelago, Mayreau is the smallest. Its **peaceful and idyllic atmosphere**, far from the madding crowd, invites you to relax. On shore, enjoy a **shaded and fully equipped beach** from which to go snorkelling if you'd like to observe the colourful fish around the coral sitting at the foot of the rocks that stretch across the bay.

TOBAGO CAYS

Arrival 8/11/2023 early morning
Departure 8/11/2023 evening

Scattered between **St Vincent and Grenada**, the **Tobago Cays** comprises five little islands: Petit Rameau, Petit Bateau, Baradal, Petit Tabac and Jamesby. This rosary of uninhabited cays in the **southern West Indies** is a **marine park** whose

turquoise lagoons provide a home and safe haven for some outstanding marine fauna, **including peaceful green turtles** . Girded and united by a coral reef, these secluded islands are a peaceful paradise for divers, swimmers and snorkellers.

KINGSTOWN

Arrival 9/11/2023 early morning
Departure 9/11/2023 early evening

Kingstown is the capital of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, independent since 1979 but still a member of the British Commonwealth. Some of the 32 islands of the Grenadines are inhabited, like Mustique, some are not, like Tobago Cays. But they are all renowned for **crystal clear, calm waters,** and some of the **best snorkeling and diving in the world**. The **Botanic Garden** in Kingstown is the oldest of its kind in the Western Hemisphere and well worth a visit, as is **Fort Charlotte**, featuring panoramic views of the archipelago. **La Soufrière**, Saint Vincent's active volcano, dominates the northern end of the island, where it periodically erupts (most recently in April 2021), scarring the surrounding land with lava and ash.

PIGEON ISLAND BEACH

Arrival 10/11/2023 early morning
Departure 10/11/2023 midday

Linked to **St Lucia** by a sand causeway, **Pigeon Island** has been a designated National Park since 1979. On this wild and pristine land, you will be inspired to take pleasant walks amid the tropical vegetation and through a **magnificent tree-filled garden**. You will also be irresistibly drawn to the two pretty little sandy beaches nestling on the southern side and bathed by crystal-clear waters. While snorkelling, be sure to explore the underwater world that is teeming with life, along the rocks lining this peninsula's coast. You will thoroughly enjoy the calm and beauty of this place, which is really conducive to simply relaxing.

SOUFRIÈRE

Arrival 10/11/2023 early afternoon
Departure 10/11/2023 evening

Nestled in the crook of a breath-taking bay, the former capital of **St Lucia** is brimming with attractions. **Soufrière** is famous for The **Pitons**, volcanic spires that tower over the entrance to the town. In the vicinity of the lush botanical gardens, you will be able to enjoy the curative powers of the **Diamond Falls mineral baths**. From the beach at the north end of the bay, you can set off to explore the reefs that are home to stunning gardens of sea fans at the foot of the cliffs that plunge into the sea.

LES SAINTES

Arrival 11/11/2023 early morning
Departure 11/11/2023 evening

During the feast of All Saints in 1493, **Christopher Columbus** discovered this archipelago of nine islands that he named "The Saints". Today, only two of them are inhabited. Terre de Haut, in the east, is dominated by the Morne Mire hill; at

the summit stands **Fort Napoleon**, paying homage to the islands' history. In the heart of the **botanical garden**, shared by iguanas and cacti, there is an exceptional view of the **Baie des Saintes**, one of the most beautiful in the world. The long shady beach of Pompierre, where it is forbidden to drop anchor, is a peaceful place for a swim, while Pain de Sucre Beach offers wonderful opportunities for snorkelling. On the island, don't forget to taste the local speciality, the "tourment d'amour", a cake made with coconut.

PORTSMOUTH

Arrival 12/11/2023 early morning
Departure 12/11/2023 early evening

With its mountainous terrain, vast tropical forest, hot springs, rivers and spectacular waterfalls, **Dominica** is undoubtedly **the wildest island** in the Caribbean. Protected by several **national parks**, this little-known land, located in the heart of the Caribbean Sea, between Guadeloupe and Martinique, will inspire adventure and exploration. During your port of call, do not miss out on discovering the enchanting landscapes of the **Indian River**: navigating through this dense mangrove, in which creepers, ferns, forest trees and giant roots are interweaved, is a magical experience, a fascinating voyage into the heart of an almost mystical natural universe.

FORT-DE-FRANCE

Arrival 13/11/2023 early morning
Disembarkation 13/11/2023 at 8:00 am

Located on the western coast of Martinique, Fort-de-France will amaze you by the splendour of its bay, a magnificent cut-out in the coastline, considered as one of the most beautiful in the world. At the harbour mouth, on its strip of land, **fort Saint-Louis** overlooks the capital city of Martinique. If you climb up to it, you can see some breath-taking views. **Saint Louis Cathedral** and the Schoelcher library bear witness to a secular history, intimately linked to the island's story. Why not try some fresh coconut at the colourful Grand Marché. Two really pleasant places you can take a breather in, right in the heart of the city, are the garden of Balata and the Aimé Césaire park.