

Explore
TO
UNDERSTAND



 **PONANT**
EXPLORATIONS



Dear Explorer,

At PONANT EXPLORATIONS, we believe that travel—when approached with curiosity and care—has the power to transform not only the traveler, but the world. Through our alliances with Smithsonian Journeys and The Explorers Club, we bring together leading voices in science, culture, research, and conservation to help illuminate both the beauty and importance of the places we visit.

These voyages go beyond the traditional lens of leisure travel. They are journeys of understanding—designed to foster dialogue, support ongoing scientific research, and spark a deeper connection to the natural world. On board and ashore, we invite our guests to learn about the places we visit, engage with cultures, witness progress, and imagine new possibilities.

We are happy to introduce to you purposeful exploration that is elevated by our French style and flair, enriched by global perspective, and guided by a belief that knowledge deepens wonder, and wonder inspires change.

We hope to welcome you aboard soon,

Samuel Chamberlain

Chief Executive Officer,
PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP, Americas



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Welcome to PONANT EXPLORATIONS

The world reimagined
for those who seek more

Discover PONANT EXPLORATIONS: an extraordinary way to travel for those who seek depth over distance, meaning over motion. With sophisticated ships purpose-built for exploration, expert-led enrichment, and rare access to remote destinations, we connect discerning travelers with the world at its most astonishing.



What defines us

EDUCATION / SCIENCE

We believe the more we know, the better we protect



Voyages are led by experts—scientists, naturalists, historians—who bring insight and context to every landing. Whether tracing the migration of emperor penguins or decoding ancient civilizations, your travels will be enriched by understanding, and inspired by the chance to contribute to ongoing global research.

FRENCH FLAIR

From gastronomy to design, our French spirit is ever-present



Our heritage is reflected in every refined detail, from cuisine created with Ducasse Conseil to Diptyque bath amenities and Pierre Frey fabrics. French service, *savoir-faire*, and style elevate the everyday—afternoon tea with Hermé macarons, champagne toasts, and a décor of elegant restraint, all distinctly PONANT EXPLORATIONS.

HUMAN CONNECTION

A world of perspectives—on board and ashore



With an international crew and guests from across the globe, every voyage is a meeting of minds and cultures. Conversations span continents. Curiosity is shared. Our ships are true global salons—intimate settings where different viewpoints spark richer travel experiences and deeper human connection.

EXPLORATION

For those who still believe in the unknown

Whether navigating the drifting pack ice of the Weddell Sea or landing on hidden atolls in the Pacific, our itineraries reach the farthest edges of the Earth. Led by skilled expedition teams and guided by purpose, each journey is immersive, daring, and deeply rewarding—for those curious enough to go.



Life on board

The Art of French Hospitality

On every voyage with PONANT EXPLORATIONS,
elegance is effortless, service is intuitive,
and every space is designed to restore your
sense of wonder—and your sense of self.







ALL-INCLUSIVE LUXURY

Every voyage includes elevated comforts—so the only thing you'll need to consider is what to explore next.

- All gourmet meals aboard ship, featuring French-inspired menus crafted with Ducasse Conseil
- Unlimited Champagne, premium wines, international spirits, beers, and more
- 24-hour room service
- Guided excursion or curated activity in each port of call
- Zodiac landings and coastal cruising on expedition voyages
- Unlimited WiFi throughout the ship
- All gratuities for onboard crew, local guides, and drivers
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Cocktail Receptions
- A Gala Dinner (on trips 7 nights or longer)
- Evening entertainment and events
- Baggage handling from pier to the ship and ship to the pier on days of embarkation and disembarkation
- Park entrance fees and exclusive access into protected sites
- Port taxes and fees

Book early to take advantage of inclusive Bonus Savings of up to 30%.



On select departures, you may also enjoy the added presence of lecturers, naturalists, expedition leaders, or theme programming. Select sailings include charter flights and transfers.



For polar expeditions, guests receive a complimentary parka to keep and use of insulated boots on board—ensuring warmth, comfort, and ease ashore.



Whether traveling solo, with family, or as part of a back-to-back adventure, PONANT offers generous benefits for all guests—including exclusive rewards through our referral program.



After your first sailing, you'll become a member of the PONANT Yacht Club, our loyalty program that offers exclusive savings and special benefits.

To see what's included on each of our immersive journeys, visit us.ponant.com.



CUISINE

A Table Worth Traveling For

Guided by Ducasse Conseil, our chefs transform every meal into a refined expression of place and season.

With French culinary technique, regional ingredients, and sustainable sourcing wherever possible, dining aboard is not just elevated—it's part of the journey itself.



LEISURE & WELLBEING

Wellness That Moves With You

From serene spa rituals to open-air sun decks and sea-view saunas, each ship invites you to unwind deeply and fully. Lounge beside a heated seawater pool. Indulge in French spa treatments. Or simply inhale the horizon—where the line between sea and sky disappears.



CD DUCASSE
CONSEIL

SERVICE & COMFORT

Tailored by Intuition

Service on board is seamless, intuitive, and unmistakably personal. With a near 1:1 guest-to-staff ratio, every need is met with grace. A warm gesture. A remembered preference. A quiet moment anticipated. This is hospitality that feels less like service—and more like belonging.



Voices from the helm

CAPTAIN PATRICK MARCHESSEAU

A seasoned polar navigator with
a poet's eye for the ice.

With unmatched expertise in the planet's most remote waters, the captains of *Le Commandant Charcot* guide each voyage with precision, deep knowledge, and a strong command. Whether threading through polar ice or navigating the silence of the Southern Ocean, their stories and commentaries bring rare destinations vividly to life—enriching every moment of your expedition.



“In spring, we’ll sail Greenland’s wild western coast—still cloaked in ice and perfectly suited to the capabilities of Le Commandant Charcot. There, we deepen ties with Inuit communities and continue our immersive work in regions few have seen, and even fewer understand.”

CAPTAIN ÉTIENNE GARCIA

Guided by the northern lights
and a lifetime at sea.



CAPTAIN STANISLAS DEVORSINE

Where the sea ice shifts,
he finds the way forward.



“Each year, we become a true ‘winter ship,’ charting courses through the snowbound Baltic and frozen St. Lawrence.

Even for me, these are new frontiers—Scandinavia under snow, Québec beneath ice. It’s a dream realized, and I look forward to sharing it with you.”

“No two polar seasons are alike. When we reached the emperor penguin colony in Antarctica—earlier than ever—it was a moment of quiet awe. These journeys invite us to understand the rhythm of polar life, from the first ice of the Arctic to the last echoes of Antarctic winter.”

A photograph of a forest path with stone steps, two hikers, and large trees. The scene is filled with lush green foliage and sunlight filtering through the trees. Two hikers are walking away from the camera on a stone staircase that winds through a dense forest. The trees are tall and have thick trunks, with sunlight creating a dappled effect on the ground and leaves. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

Our *alliances*

A Shared Passion for Discovery
In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys,
we offer voyages guided by scholars
and storytellers—enriching every
exploration with depth, context,
and a spirit of curiosity.



For 179 years, the Smithsonian Institution has upheld its enduring mission: to “increase and diffuse knowledge” and foster global learning. Today, in alliance with Smithsonian Journeys—the Institution’s distinguished travel program—PONANT EXPLORATIONS presents immersive voyages shaped by deep expertise and cultural insight.

Aboard our intimate ships, you’ll travel alongside renowned Smithsonian Journeys Experts—historians, anthropologists, naturalists—whose perspectives spark meaningful engagement with the places you explore. From casual conversations to curated lectures, each journey offers a dynamic exchange of ideas, perspectives, and discoveries.

Whether sailing the fjords of Iceland, the classical coasts of the Mediterranean, or the fall-kissed harbors of New England and Canada, these voyages awaken the senses and stir the intellect. This collaboration between PONANT EXPLORATIONS and Smithsonian Journeys frames extraordinary discovery with unparalleled knowledge. It’s travel that informs, inspires, and reveals more than a destination—it reveals the world through a richer lens.



Scottish Isles & Norwegian Fjords

with Smithsonian Journeys Expert
Colleen Batey, Archaeologist

Neolithic relics and castle ruins. The echo of Vikings and the wonder of glacier-carved landscapes. With perspective that spans millennia, this journey invites conversation on how place, myth, and geography intertwine across rugged northern shores shaped by nature and legend alike.

JUNE 21–28, 2026
Aboard *Le Lapérouse*



London to Lisbon

with Smithsonian Journeys Expert
Ralph DeFalco, Historian

This cultural passage reveals layers of meaning, from the solemn shores of Normandy to the sacred streets of Santiago de Compostela, each illuminated with insight that brings history into sharper, more meaningful focus.

SEPTEMBER 5–14, 2026
Aboard *Le Champlain*



Iceland Voyage

with Smithsonian Journeys Expert
Kirt Kempter, Volcanologist

From shifting tectonic plates to soaring seabird cliffs, volcanic landscapes to Arctic waters, Iceland's elemental forces are experienced through the lens of science, story, and tradition—offering new ways of understanding a land in constant motion, and the people who thrive within it.

JUNE 1–8, 2026
Aboard *Le Bellot*



LEARN MORE



 **PONANT**
EXPLORATIONS

 **Smithsonian**
JOURNEYS

True Exploration, Led by
Those Who've Lived It

In alliance with The Explorers Club,
PONANT EXPLORATIONS invites you to
sail alongside legendary adventurers,
scientists, and pioneers—those who've
ventured where few ever will.





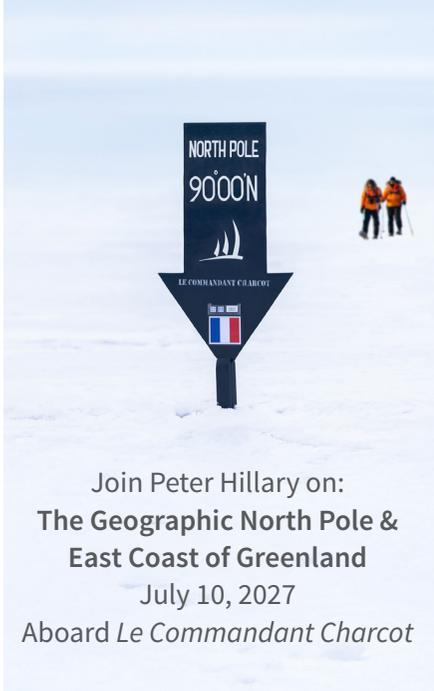
THE EXPLORERS CLUB



Since 1904, The Explorers Club has advanced the frontiers of human knowledge—supporting history-making expeditions to the North Pole, South Pole, Everest, the ocean’s depths, and beyond. Now, in alliance with PONANT EXPLORATIONS, esteemed members of The Explorers Club bring their spirit of discovery aboard select global voyages.

On these remarkable journeys, you’ll sail with mountaineers, deep-sea divers, filmmakers, and conservationists—experts who not only interpret the world’s wildest places, but have shaped how we understand them. Their stories animate each landscape. Their presence elevates each day.

From the pack ice of the Geographic North Pole to the jungle-fringed isles of Papua New Guinea, these journeys invite you to engage with the world alongside the people who know it most intimately—and who are still uncovering its secrets.



Join Peter Hillary on:
**The Geographic North Pole &
East Coast of Greenland**
July 10, 2027
Aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*



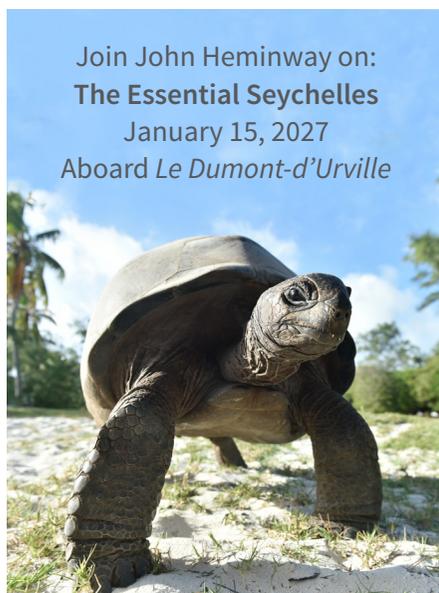
Peter Hillary, Mountaineer & Writer

Peter is a mountaineer and the son of Sir Edmund Hillary, the first man who, along with his climbing partner Tenzing Norgay, climbed Mt. Everest. He has been on more than 50 mountaineering expeditions around the world including five on Mt. Everest, climbing the Seven Summits—the highest mountain on each continent—and more than 40 trips to Antarctica.

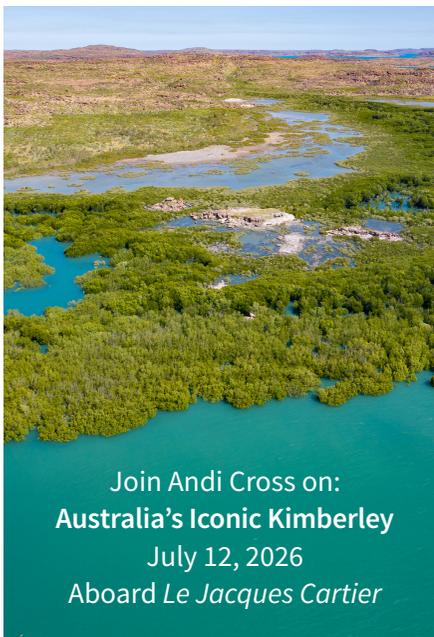


John Heminway, Explorer

John's life of travel and scholarship includes stories in both books and films—such as *The Voyage of the Mir El Lah* documenting a voyage from the Persian Gulf, around the Arabian Peninsula, and down the coast of Africa. It tells of how the Indian Ocean has been circumnavigated for the last 2,000 years.



Join John Heminway on:
The Essential Seychelles
January 15, 2027
Aboard *Le Dumont-d'Urville*



Join Andi Cross on:
Australia's Iconic Kimberley
July 12, 2026
Aboard *Le Jacques Cartier*



Andi Cross, Strategist & Expeditionist

Andi Cross is an international strategist, professional diver, and writer leading a global multi-year Explorers Club Flag Expedition to document climate solutions and ocean conservation successes. Her talent lies in bridging corporate strategy with frontline conservation to drive real-world environmental and social impact.



Our Alliance With:



**WOODS HOLE
OCEANOGRAPHIC
INSTITUTION**

Founded in 1930, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution is among the world's leading centers for marine science and innovation. From discovering species at deep-sea vents to exploring the Titanic, WHOI has shaped how we understand—and protect—Earth's last true frontier: the ocean.



On select voyages, WHOI scientists come aboard to share their research on ocean currents, climate change, and marine biodiversity. Guests enjoy rare access to groundbreaking science, with opportunities for meaningful interaction and conversation.



Together, we transform our explorations into something deeper: a floating classroom, a front-row seat to discovery, and a chance to engage with the planet's most vital ecosystems—guided by those who dedicate their lives to studying and safeguarding the sea.

Tourism done right is education

We explore to understand.
To learn, to share, and to help protect.



PONANT SCIENCE: Supporting Discovery at Sea

Through PONANT SCIENCE, researchers from around the world embark our ships to study the ocean—Earth's least understood ecosystem. With two onboard labs and rare polar access, *Le Commandant Charcot* enables vital work in regions once considered unreachable. Travel and science move forward together.



A Historic First at the Top of the World

In September 2024, *Le Commandant Charcot* became the first passenger ship to reach the North Pole of Inaccessibility—1,000+ kilometers from any landmass. Alongside this landmark navigational achievement, 20 international scientists collected critical data in support of polar climate research, aided by our low-impact hybrid vessel.

Meet Dr. Megan Clampitt, Responsible Science Manager / Coral Biologist



Not all scientists wear lab coats—and not all discoveries are made in a lab. As Head of Science for PONANT EXPLORATIONS, Dr. Megan Clampitt leads the company's science program to advance knowledge and environmental stewardship while creating immersive, educational experiences for guests in remote ecosystems.

Megan collaborates with three independent scientific boards to select projects aligned with the company's mission. She works with researchers, ship crews, and shore teams to embed science seamlessly into voyages. Her responsibilities include guiding research, managing data collection, and building strategic partnerships—all to heighten the scientific impact of each journey.

As a marine biologist, Megan's own research focuses on applying machine learning to coral surveillance—pioneering new ways to monitor reef health with greater accuracy and speed. And from time to time, Megan steps away from her desk to join our ships at sea, engaging scientists and guests alike as they explore the planet.

Breaking stereotypes and advancing science, Megan is part of a new generation redefining what it means to be a modern explorer.



Sarah Porter/ PONANT expedition

Science in Real Time with Dr. Ulyana Horodyskyj Peña

Aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*, glaciologist Ulyana Horodyskyj Peña studied light-absorbing particles and shared her findings in real time. From tracking pollutants to fielding questions on deck, she embodied how scientific discovery and guest engagement come together—thoughtfully and powerfully.

PONANT EXPLORATIONS: committed to science



Explore to *understand*

Over the last few years, PONANT EXPLORATIONS has been actively supporting scientific research, offering its vessels to field projects in some of the most inaccessible regions of the globe, especially in the polar areas.

This support has enabled the development of numerous studies across a wide range of disciplines, from geophysics to ecology and marine pollution. Thanks to its regular presence in the Arctic and Antarctic, **PONANT EXPLORATIONS has become a vital link between science and the poles.**

- In the fields of **Earth and atmospheric sciences**, several major projects have taken shape: the study of deep-sea pressure to develop long-term recording systems, or research on freeze-thaw cycles in the Arctic to better anticipate sea-level rise linked to melting ice—cycles that, in some cases, are compared to those observed on Mars. Other initiatives aim to improve satellite navigation tools in high latitudes or to locate caves using thermal remote sensing technologies.
- In terms of **biology and ecology**, research conducted on board covers diverse topics such as the genomic adaptation of seabirds to extreme environments, airborne microbial invasions in the Arctic, and the turnover of bird communities in the Southern Ocean—all indicators of ongoing climate change.
- PONANT EXPLORATIONS also supports programs on **marine pollution**, helping to improve understanding of human impacts in fragile and remote ecosystems

But PONANT EXPLORATIONS is no longer simply a logistical partner. The company is now **directly involved in scientific production, funding two PhD projects:** one on the spatial distribution of seabird communities in Antarctica, and another on microbial communities and methane cycling in polar waters.

A postdoctoral project is also underway, focusing on the impacts of expedition cruises on the environment and local communities.

Beyond scientific support, PONANT EXPLORATIONS seeks to **engage and educate its guests.** On board, researchers share their work, present their tools and methods, and demonstrate how science is conducted in the field—outside the traditional lab setting. These exchanges help forge a direct connection between exploration, understanding, and environmental protection.

In this spirit, “Explore to Inspire”—the company’s appeal to global travelers—finds a scientific counterpart in “Explore to Understand.” Understanding the ecosystems we travel through, identifying the pressures they face, and proposing concrete conservation strategies: this is the vision PONANT EXPLORATIONS aims to support as a responsible and forward-thinking actor in the preservation of cruise destinations.

Finally, this commitment is part of a broader dynamic of research and environmental innovation. Science is embedded in the ships themselves, with a continuous search for technical solutions that minimize environmental impact while allowing continued exploration of some of the **most fascinating and vulnerable regions of our planet.**



A curated collection of voyages

Explore a handpicked selection of voyages that go beyond boundaries, and beyond the expected. Whether tracing ancient trade routes, engaging with global experts, or immersing yourself in natural and cultural wonders, these journeys are designed to inspire, enlighten, and inform.

Antarctica: The White Continent*



USHUAIA • USHUAIA | January 8-19, 2026 | 12 days/11 nights | Aboard *L'Austral*

Cross the legendary Drake Passage to reach Antarctica's untouched wilderness, where towering glaciers, drifting icebergs, and sculpted ice floes set the stage for daily exploration. Encounter colonies of penguins, breaching humpback whales, and curious seals. From Zodiac landings to quiet moments on deck, each day reveals a new facet of this vast polar world—raw, remote, and breathtaking. In a realm where nature writes the script, every sighting and stillness becomes a memory of a lifetime.

In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys

Zanzibar, Aldabra & the Treasures of the Indian Ocean



MAHÉ • ZANZIBAR | February 2-14, 2026 | 13 days/12 nights | Aboard *Le Bougainville*

Journey from the Seychelles to Tanzania through some of the Indian Ocean's most pristine and storied locales. Begin with La Digue's granite-framed beaches and continue to Saint François Atoll and Astove for snorkeling amid vivid reefs. Visit UNESCO-listed Aldabra, home to giant tortoises, then explore Assumption Island. In Tanzania, discover the ancient Swahili ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani, the coral-ringed islet of Misali, the spice-laden hills of Pemba, and the cultural crossroads of Zanzibar's Stone Town.

In alliance with The Explorers Club

Panama & Costa Rica by Sea*



COLÓN • PUNTARENAS | February 19-26, 2026 | 8 days/7 nights | Aboard *Le Champlain*

Swim and snorkel in the turquoise waters of Panama's San Blas Islands before transiting the iconic Panama Canal. In Panama City, visit the Frank Gehry-designed Biomuseo and enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. Venture deep into UNESCO-listed Darién National Park to meet Emberá communities and spot rare wildlife. In Costa Rica's Manuel Antonio National Park, explore lush rainforest trails alive with monkeys, sloths, and brilliantly colored birds.

In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys

Treasures of Japan & South Korea by Sea*



OSAKA • BUSAN | April 5-13, 2026 | 9 days/8 nights | Aboard *Le Soléal*

Explore the cultural heart of Japan, from feudal gardens and floating shrines to steaming onsen towns and samurai-era streets. Wander Hiroshima's Peace Memorial and Hagi's beautifully preserved castle town. In South Korea, visit cliffside temples, World Heritage sites in Gyeongju, or experience an intimate Korean tea ceremony. Along the way, admire Zen temples, masterful gardens, sake districts, and the artistry of washi paper—each day revealing centuries of tradition and a deep reverence for beauty.

In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys

Inuit Spring of Ammassalik

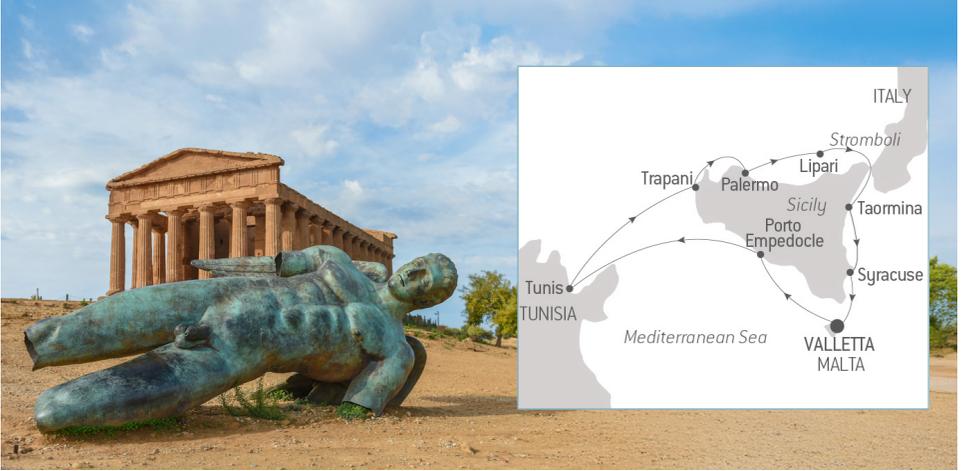


REYKJAVIK • REYKJAVIK | May 4-14, 2026 | 11 days/10 nights | Aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*

In Greenland's remote east, the ice is both boundary and invitation. Navigate into the Ammassalik and Blosseville regions at the edge of springtime, where Inuit communities welcome you with warmth and tradition. Explore frozen fjords by kayak or Zodiac, look for a glimpse of polar bears and blue whales, and glide across ancient snows by dog sled. Beneath the midnight sun, shifting icescapes unfold in all their raw, fragile beauty—an ever-changing wilderness where each moment carries its own quiet awe.

In alliance with The Explorers Club

A Circumnavigation of Sicily*



VALLETTA • VALLETTA | May 5-13, 2026 | 9 days/8 nights | Aboard *Le Bougainville*

Trace the footsteps of empires on a remarkable journey around Sicily and into Tunisia. Explore Agrigento's legendary Greek temples, Palermo's dazzling Norman mosaics, and Lipari's volcanic legacy. In Tunisia, visit the ruins of ancient Carthage and the Bardo Museum's spectacular Roman mosaics. Discover Segesta and Erice, sail past Stromboli's smoking peak, and sip wine on the slopes of Mount Etna. In Syracuse, wander historic theaters and the Baroque beauty of Ortygia—timeless layers of Mediterranean history.

In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys

Scottish Archipelagos & the Faroe Islands

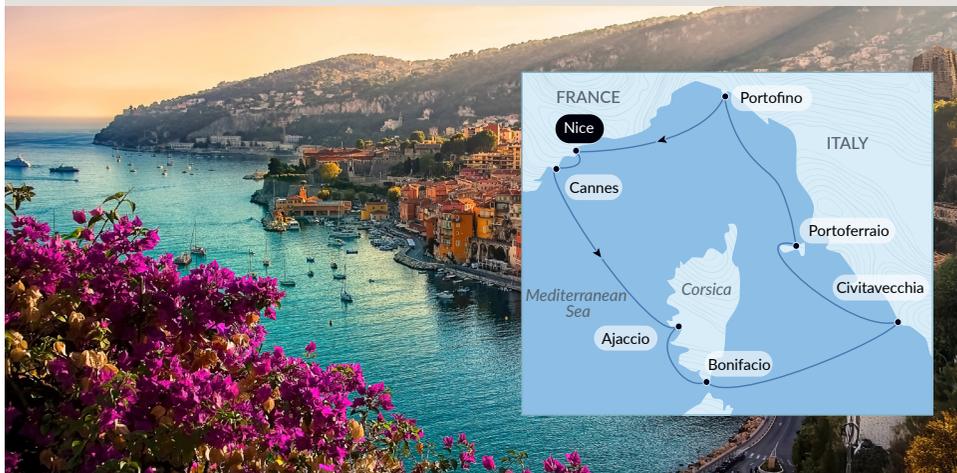


GLASGOW • GLASGOW | May 22-31, 2026 | 10 days/9 nights | Aboard *Le Lyrial*

Chart a path through Scotland and the Faroe Islands, where Viking lore and Celtic roots shape rugged shorelines. Explore vibrant Tobermory, walk subtropical Inverewe Gardens, and explore seabird-covered cliffs. Discover remote St Kilda and Shetland's wind-swept edges before reaching the Faroes, where Suduroy's grassy plateaus and Strey moy's basalt walls rise from the sea. From prehistoric stones at Callanish to the dramatic peaks near Fort William, each stop reveals nature's power and history's depth.

In alliance with The Explorers Club

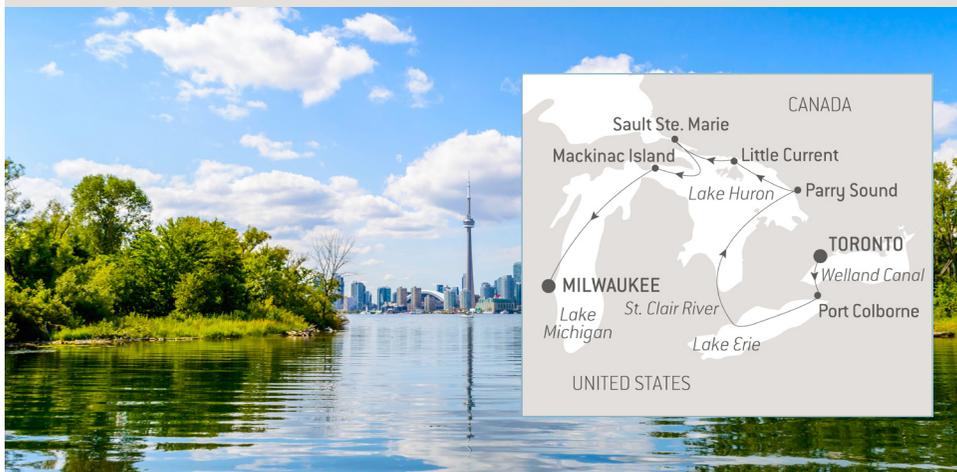
A Celebration of Art: The French & Italian Rivieras and Corsica



NICE • NICE | July 10-18, 2026 | 9 days/8 nights | Aboard *Le Dumont-d'Urville*

From Riviera villages to Rome's museums, this voyage celebrates art from the Renaissance to today. Discover Picasso's studio in Antibes, Corsica's Fesch Museum, Vatican treasures, and Bernini at Villa Borghese. In Elba, trace Napoleon's exile. In St.-Paul-de-Vence, marvel at the Maeght Foundation's modernist masterpieces. Along the way, explore seaside towns, Baroque gardens, and the legacies of Chagall, Miró, Caravaggio, and more—every day offers an artistic, curated experience.

A Voyage Along the Great Lakes*



TORONTO • MILWAUKEE | August 11-19, 2026 | 9 days/8 nights | Aboard *Le Bellot*

Explore North America's legendary inland seas on this voyage to all five Great Lakes. Witness the power of Niagara Falls, explore the white granite cliffs of Georgian Bay—a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve—and visit Manitoulin, the world's largest freshwater island. Discover Lake Superior via the Soo Locks, ride a horse-drawn carriage on storybook Mackinac Island, and trace Lake Michigan's shoreline past forested coasts and historic settlements. From urban culture to wild shores, this journey reveals it all.

In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys

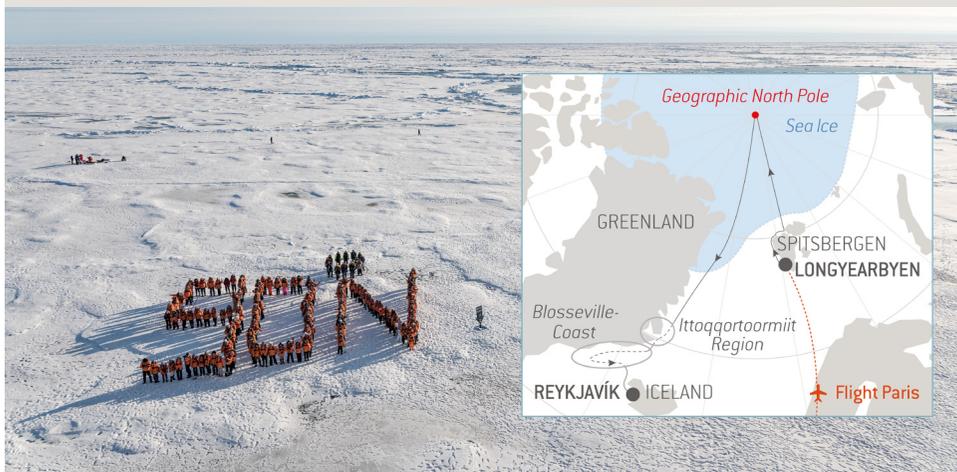
A World Affairs Voyage from Copenhagen to London



COPENHAGEN • LONDON | Aug. 26–Sept. 5, 2026 | 11 days/10 nights | Aboard *Le Champlain*

Sail in the company of Admiral James Stavridis, former NATO Supreme Allied Commander, on a voyage through Europe’s modern and medieval crossroads. Visit Hanseatic cities, the world’s largest steam-powered pumping station, and the Peace Palace in The Hague. Explore WWII strongholds in Dunkirk, Atlantic Wall bunkers, and the Dutch Resistance Museum. With daily insight into the forces shaping international cooperation, this is a journey through conflict, diplomacy, and the architecture of peace.

The Geographic North Pole & the East Coast of Greenland*



REYKJAVIK • REYKJAVIK | Sept. 11-27, 2026 | 17 days/16 nights | Aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*

Venture through the drifting ice in search of the Geographic North Pole, a legendary point 700 km from any land. Navigate Nordaustlandet’s towering ice cap, then follow the Transpolar Drift to Greenland’s remote coast. In Ittoqqortoormiit, experience authentic moments with Inuit communities. Witness calving glaciers, mirrored fjords, and—if conditions align—the shimmering aurora borealis. Amid vast silences and shifting icescapes, you’ll feel the humbling wonder of true polar exploration.

In alliance with The Explorers Club

*These itineraries have multiple departures; please visit us.ponant.com for details.





OUR FLEET

Aboard a fleet of 13 French-flagged small ships, fitted with the latest environmental technologies, the journey of exploration is always elegant, authentic, and inspiring. Purpose-built for navigating remote destinations and smaller ports, these sleek small ships combine cutting-edge design with the elegance and intimacy of a private vessel. The result is a seamless blend of comfort and access—ideal for clients seeking adventure without sacrificing refinement.

Le Commandant Charcot



Le Commandant Charcot, the world's only luxury icebreaker, is hybrid-electric, powered by liquified natural gas (LNG) and electricity. Launched in 2021, this cutting-edge vessel offers less than 250 guests the chance to follow in the wake of history's great polar explorers—while surrounded by unmatched luxury. From panoramic restaurants and full-width lounges to the promenade deck and lofty observation areas, every detail reflects PONANT EXPLORATIONS' vision of combining adventure with elegance. *Le Commandant Charcot* brings the most remote corners of the planet within reach, delivering an experience that is both pioneering and refined.

LEARN MORE





1. The sauna in the wellness area | 2. The Observatory Lounge | 3. The Atrium | 4. The Owner's Suite

The PONANT Explorers

*Le Bellot, Le Bougainville, Le Champlain,
Le Dumont-d'Urville, Le Jacques-Cartier & Le Lapérouse*



At 430 feet in length, these intimate vessels accommodate up to 184 guests, offering a 1:1.5 crew-to-guest ratio and all-balcony staterooms and suites for uninterrupted ocean views. The PONANT Explorers combine cutting-edge design with elegant comfort, featuring refined accommodations and inviting lounge areas that connect seamlessly to the sea. Exclusive to PONANT EXPLORATIONS, the Blue Eye Lounge is an underwater panoramic lounge, a world-first in its design. Its bold architecture features sleek curves inspired by the underwater world. Beyond the exceptional experience of being below the waterline, the most mesmerizing aspect is watching the swirling currents through the portholes when the ship is sailing.

[LEARN MORE](#)





1. The Spa | 2. The Owner's Suite | 3. Le Diamant restaurant | 4. The Theater

The Sisterships

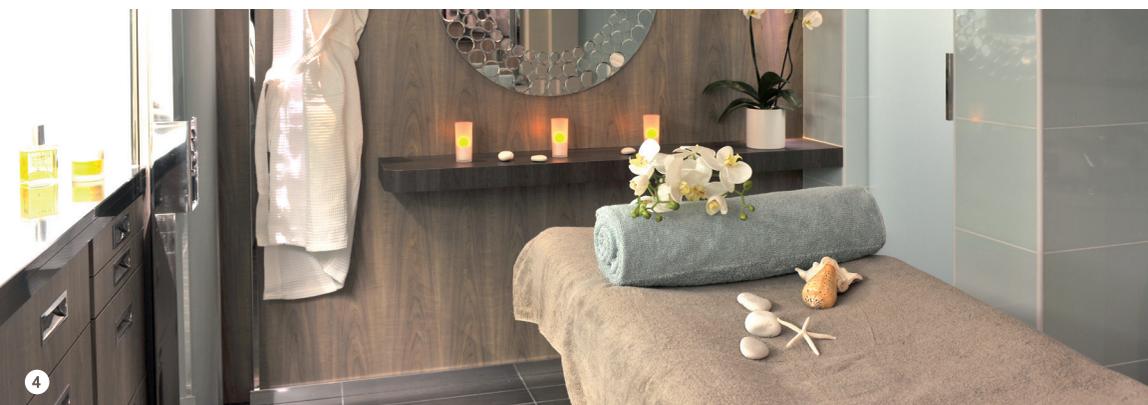
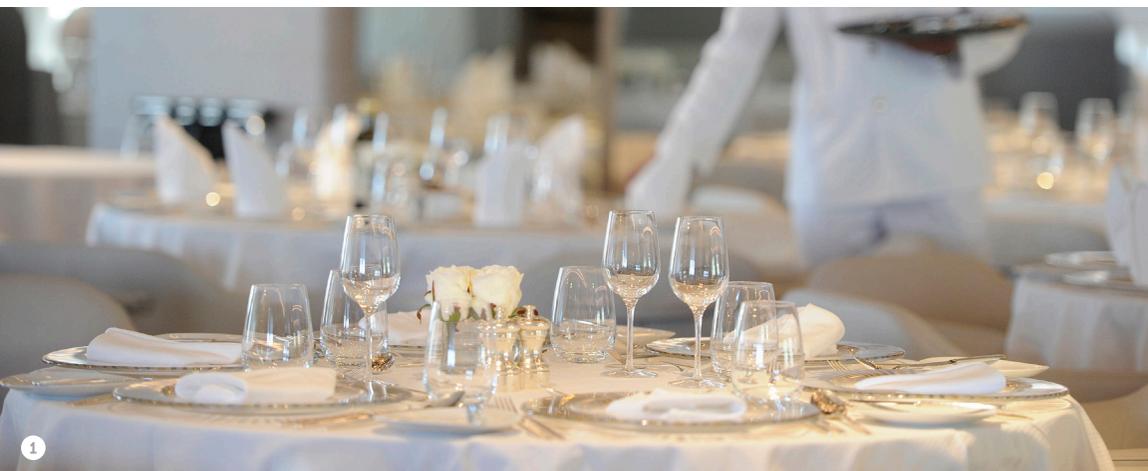
L'Austral, Le Boréal, Le Lyrial & Le Soléal



PONANT EXPLORATIONS' four Sisterships embody the perfect balance of intimacy and elegance. With up to 130 staterooms and suites—95% of which feature private balconies—they offer an atmosphere of refined comfort and understated luxury. Designed in France and built in Italy, each ship reflects a unique color palette and motif while maintaining a shared aesthetic of European sophistication and craftsmanship. Discreet yet attentive service from the impeccably trained staff creates an atmosphere of relaxed elegance, capturing the essence of the French art of living well. Aboard the Sisterships, life feels effortless... like sailing on a private yacht among friends.

[LEARN MORE](#)





1. Gastronomic Restaurant | 2. Panoramic Lounge | 3. The pool deck | 4. The Spa



THE PONANT FOUNDATION FOR A MORE RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

Advancing the company's commitment to a more sustainable form of tourism, the PONANT Foundation supports concrete initiatives that contribute to conserving and restoring ecosystems, acquiring and sharing scientific knowledge, and developing local communities.



CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION The oceans cover nearly 70% of the Earth's surface, provide over 50% of the oxygen we breathe, and absorb over 30% of CO₂ emissions. Helping to conserve this extraordinary environment is one of the PONANT Foundation priorities.



INNOVATION AND AWARENESS From marine researchers to grassroots organizations, we support initiatives that share a common goal: to develop, test, and promote pioneering solutions that enhance sustainability and bring meaningful change to communities worldwide.



TAKING ACTION FOR PEOPLE Cultural heritage, artistic expression, and local knowledge are powerful ways to connect people and preserve identity. This is why the PONANT Foundation is committed to promoting, safeguarding, and enriching cultural heritage.

Projects Supported by The Foundation



ANTARCTICA

Understanding humpback whales with Conservation International



BISSAGOS ISLANDS, GUINEA-BISSAU

Promoting access to education with the ESCAMA Foundation



FRANCE

Protecting the Mediterranean coastline with The City of Marseille



ARGENTINA

Combining culture with eco-responsibility with Tierra del Fuego Alliance Française



INTERNATIONAL

Combating plastic pollution with Plastic Odyssey



NEW CALEDONIA

Protecting the world's largest lagoon with Conservation International



AUSTRALIA

Supporting the restoration of coral reefs with Pure Ocean



INTERNATIONAL

Supporting the guardians of the oceans with Blue Nature Alliance



THE SEYCHELLES

Cleaning-up the Aldabra coral archipelago with Oxford University

Every journey with PONANT EXPLORATIONS is a chance to engage with the world more thoughtfully. The Foundation ensures your travels help protect what matters—supporting a vision of tourism that gives back to the people and places that inspire us most.

Did you know?

The European association ARICE (Arctic Research Icebreaker Consortium), funded by the European Commission, is leading the calls for projects initiated by PONANT. Made up of experts from the international scientific community, it assesses applications according to two main criteria: the quality of the project and the associated scientific research program, and also the impact on society.

"We send them our itineraries, departure dates, the number of staterooms available and ARICE has almost carte blanche," explains Vladislav Sidorenkov-Duprez. As the seasons go by, a common thread emerges, namely the study of climate change. "Of the 96 scientists on board, some are part of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change," says the coordinator of the PONANT Science project.

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