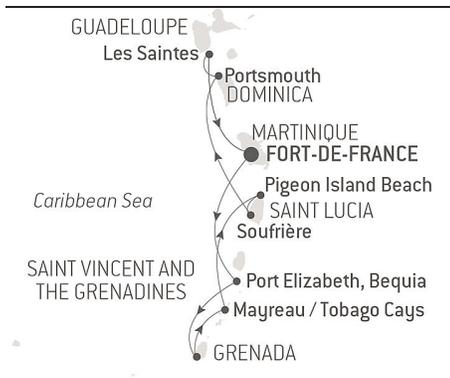


Treasured Islands & Reefs of the Western Caribbean

From **15/12/2022**
to **23/12/2022**

Ship: **LE DUMONT-D'URVILLE**

From **Fort-de-France**
to **Fort-de-France**



In partnership with **LE POINT** and with the exceptional participation of **Christophe Ono-Dit-Biot**, deputy editor of **LE POINT**.

PONANT brings you an itinerary to the heart of the most enchanting islands in the Caribbean Sea. Board on **Le Dumont-D'Urville** 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 Dumont-D'Urville** 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 Grenada, 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 finally reach Fort-de-France. Make sure to visit one of its renowned rum distilleries!

You will sail towards the enchanting setting offered by **the island of Dominica**, known as the Nature Island, before reaching Fort-de-France, your disembarkation port.

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 6/7/2022

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

FORT-DE-FRANCE

Embarkation 15/12/2022 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Departure 15/12/2022 at 9:00 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 16/12/2022 early morning

Departure 16/12/2022 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.

SANDY ISLAND, GRENADA

Arrival 17/12/2022 early morning

Departure 17/12/2022 late afternoon

Off the north-eastern shores of Grenada, discover **Sandy Island**. Famous for its beaches of fine white sand, its crystal-clear lagoon and its barrier reef, this wild islet dotted with coconut trees provides an ideal natural setting for swimming and snorkelling. The abundant and colourful marine life promises memorable and thrilling encounters. **Listed as a marine protected area**, the site is also a hunting ground for numerous pelicans. Enjoy a fascinating show as they circle above the water before diving suddenly to catch their prey.

MAYREAU ISLAND

Arrival 18/12/2022 early morning

Departure 18/12/2022 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 19/12/2022 early morning

Departure 19/12/2022 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.

PIGEON ISLAND BEACH

Arrival 20/12/2022 early morning

Departure 20/12/2022 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 20/12/2022 early afternoon

Departure 20/12/2022 early 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.

PORTSMOUTH

Arrival 21/12/2022 early morning

Departure 21/12/2022 late afternoon

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.

LES SAINTES

Arrival 22/12/2022 early morning

Departure 22/12/2022 early 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.

FORT-DE-FRANCE

Arrival 23/12/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 23/12/2022 at 7:00 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.