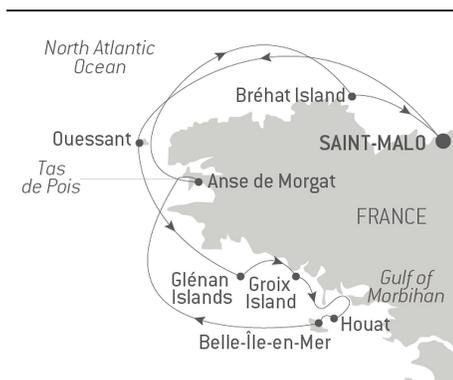


Brittany: between wild coasts and lighthouses

From **7/18/2020**
to **7/25/2020**

Ship: **LE JACQUES CARTIER S20**

From **Saint-Malo**
to **Saint-Malo**



France is beautiful from the sea...

PONANT invites you to take to the sea, without a care in the world, to enjoy a break from reality in a privileged setting, and cast a fresh eye over the infinite riches of the French coastline. As your journey unfolds and depending on the elements, you will enjoy magnificent moments as unique as they are unexpected.

From **Saint-Malo**, recharge your batteries during this authentic 7-night journey aboard the *Jacques-Cartier** to discover the natural wonders of the **Breton coast** and its **lighthouses**.

You will discover the Ponant Islands, which owe their name to the westerly location: **Ponant means literally “where the sun sets”**.

One of our favourite destinations is **Bréhat Island**. Also known as the **Island of flowers** for the wide variety of flora there, it will surprise you with the beauty of its landscapes, alternating rich vegetation and pink granite rocks. Made up of two islets, the northern part has a wild coastline, the extreme tip of which is marked by the **Paon lighthouse**. A crowd-free visit to one of the uninhabited **Glénan Islands** will offer you a picture-postcard setting: its white sandy beaches and emerald green waters evoke the exoticism of the distant Seychelles. To the north of the aptly named **Belle-Île-en-Mer** [*Beautiful Island in the Sea*] the **Pointe des Poulains** headland offers a natural and inhabited panorama with unspoiled beauty: eroded schist cliffs, caves, fine sandy beaches and heather-strewn moors form a setting that is ripe for exploration.

After an escapade in **Douarnenez Bay** and before the **Tas de Pois** at the furthest tip of the **Crozon peninsula**, you will reach **Saint-Malo** for the conclusion of this journey to the heart of wild and majestic Brittany.

The conditions will be ideal for nautical activities such as kayaking, **far from the crowds**, allowing you to enjoy these moments in peace and quiet. You will sail to the heart of bucolic and unique landscapes, discovered at high tide, which encourage contemplation and observation

of nature.

This itinerary is given as an indication only. Based on tide times and weather conditions, the Captain and the Expedition Leader may need to change the order of certain ports of call to ensure guests have the best possible experience.

Encounters with wildlife are possible but cannot be guaranteed.

**Or another ship in the Explorer series*



The information in this document is valid as of 8/6/2020

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

SAINT-MALO

Embarkation 7/18/2020 from 16h00 to 17h00

Departure 7/18/2020 at 18h00

The mere mention of Saint-Malo's name is enough to plunge us back into the richness of its past. The fortifications stand as testimony to the Malouins' determination to defend their citadel, fought over by France and Britain in turn. When we drop anchor here, immerse yourself in the diversity of its heritage: the time when privateers sailed the oceans in search of trade and victories; the legendary yacht races the port city is still famous for, such as the Route du Rhum; and the final resting place of the French writer François-René de Chateaubriand, who was born here and chose to be buried here anonymously.

OUESSANT

Arrival 7/19/2020

Departure 7/19/2020

Chart a course towards the sentinel island, the most westerly point of mainland France, recognised as a **UNESCO Biosphere Reserve** since 1988. Some 7 km long, **Ouessant** boasts a wild and bitter beauty. Its landscapes carved by the sea and the wind, the vegetation of the moors and the heather, the rocks ceaselessly whipped by the Atlantic waves, are the home to thousands of sea birds. The island has been continuously inhabited since prehistoric times, with women dedicating themselves to farming while the men were fishermen and sailors. From Lampaul, the "capital", you can admire the powerful lighthouses that adorn the Ouessant coastline, including the Créac'h lighthouse, which stands out from the rest with its black and white stripes!

GLÉNAN ISLANDS

Arrival 7/20/2020

Departure 7/20/2020

A little like the Seychelles...**The Glénan archipelago** and its string of islets offer you a magical spectacle with their white sand beaches and emerald green waters, evoking the exoticism of distant islands. Located around 10 nautical miles from the French mainland, the Glénans are a succession of **seven islets**, coiled around an interior sea with a paradisiac decor. To the east, Penfret shelters the lighthouse. Further on is the island of Loch, the largest one, recognisable by its chimney stack. Then come Cigogne with its fort, Drevec, Bananec, Guéotec, and finally Saint-Nicolas. **The daffodil** is the emblematic flower of the Glénan Islands; these pretty white flowers decorate the idyllic landscape of the archipelago in springtime ... A waking dream.

GROIX ISLAND

Arrival 7/20/2020

Departure 7/20/2020

“*Qui voit Groix voit sa joie*” (“*Whoever sees Groix will see its glee*”) — this proverb will make perfect sense as soon as your ship reaches **Groix Island**. Located around 4 nautical miles from Lorient, Groix stretches 8 kilometres long and is home to **pretty low houses** and **colourful gardens**. There is much contrast in the panorama: mainly wild and craggy landscapes to the west, and long beaches to the east, inviting conviviality and relaxation. At the beginning of the 20th century, Groix was the leading tuna port in France and the tuna-shaped weathercock, perched atop the church belfry, illustrates this activity.

GULF OF MORBIHAN

Arrival 7/21/2020

Departure 7/21/2020

To the south of Brittany, the **Gulf of Morbihan** is the heart of a little paradise of land and sea, embellished by the subtle variations in the light throughout the day. You will chart a course towards this veritable inland *Small Sea* (from the Breton *Mor-Bihan*) spanning some 12,000 hectares where the Atlantic Ocean penetrates, at **Port Navalo**, far inland, sheltered from the sea winds. Created in 2014, the **Gulf of Morbihan regional natural park** is home to a rich and varied biodiversity, largely thanks to the many natural habitats of the site. Blessed with a mild micro-climate, this charming landscape will reveal around forty islands including **l'île aux Moines**, “jewel of the gulf” which is one of the **Ponant Islands**.

HOUAT

Arrival 7/22/2020

Departure 7/22/2020

Located between Belle-Île-en-Mer and the golfe of Morbihan, near Hoëdic, the **island of Houat** is home to less than 200 inhabitants all year round. It belongs to **Mor Braz**, a vast body of water that includes the peninsulas of Quiberon, Rhuys and Guérande. Houat is immediately striking thanks to its immaculate appearance and its sandy creeks bathed by emerald waters. If you walk briskly, it's possible to get around the island in a couple of hours, admiring its landscapes, which are a **paradise for amateur botanists**, honeysuckle, tamarix, everlastings, sea pink, and more.

BELLE-ÎLE-EN-MER

Arrival 7/22/2020

Departure 7/22/2020

Lying to the South of Brittany, Belle-Île is very aptly named. The largest of the Ponant islands, it owes its glowing reputation to its exceptional environment and generous natural attributes: pristine moors and dunes, headlands and cliffs cut into granite points, rocky inlets, and sheltered bays with sandy or pebble beaches. Aboard your ship, let the

wild coastline of Belle-île-en-Mer surprise you, this little speck of land lying on the ocean, sparkling with colours in the morning light.

SAILING ALONG TAS DE POIS

Arrival 7/23/2020

Departure 7/23/2020

The Pointe de Pen Hir is reputed for the six rocks that prolong it, known as **the Tas de Pois**. Each of them bears a pretty Breton name. To the west, you will see **Bern-Id**, meaning 'mound of wheat', the most charming of them because of its pointed shape like a Chinese hat. Then there are **Ar Forc'h** and **Chelott, Pen Glaz, Petit Daouët** and finally, **Grand Daouët**, which connects to the French mainland. Legend has it that they were built by Titans... The spectacle of the waves coming crashing against the rocks and the very particular and ever-changing light are what make the Tas de Pois so beautiful.

ANSE DE MORGAT

Arrival 7/23/2020

Departure 7/23/2020

Located between the Crozon peninsula to the north and the Raz headland to the south, **Douarnenez Bay** forms a vast arc more than 16 kilometres wide and 20 kilometres long. To the north, on the Crozon Peninsula, lies **anse de Morgat** with its beautiful sandy beach between two rocky outcrops.

BRÉHAT ISLAND

Arrival 7/24/2020

Departure 7/24/2020

The **island of Bréhat**, which has banned cars from its streets, became **France's first classified natural site** in 1907. As it's 3.5 km long and 1.5 km wide, the island promises a change of scenery, one imbued with the maritime and military history which marked it from the Middle Ages. Its nickname is the **Island of Flowers** for the variety of its flora with agaves, echium, hydrangea, mimosa, mulberry trees, eucalyptus, aloes, camellias and the emblematic agapanthus. All year round, it enjoys the influence of the **Gulf Stream** which gives it a particularly mild microclimate, even in winter. It's also a paradise for birds, with 120 different species identified.

SAINT-MALO

Arrival 7/25/2020 early morning

Disembarkation 7/25/2020 at 07h00

The mere mention of Saint-Malo's name is enough to plunge us back into the richness of its past. The fortifications stand as testimony to the Malouins' determination to defend their citadel, fought over by France and Britain in turn. When we drop anchor here, immerse yourself in the diversity of its heritage: the time when privateers sailed the

oceans in search of trade and victories; the legendary yacht races the port city is still famous for, such as the Route du Rhum; and the final resting place of the French writer François-René de Chateaubriand, who was born here and chose to be buried here anonymously.