

Gastronomy, Vineyards & Grands Crus

From **4/11/2020**
to **4/19/2020**

Ship: **L'AUSTRAL**

From **Lisbon**
to **Lorient**

In partnership with **Ducasse Paris, Château Latour and Le Point**. With the exceptional presence on board of **Jocelyn Herland and Cédric Grolet**, chefs of the **Meurice restaurant**.

From Lisbon to Lorient, **PONANT** invites you to join an exceptional **gastronomic and oenological cruise** in partnership with **Ducasse Paris** and **Château Latour**.

Board *L'Austral* for a 9-day cruise to the land of rich flavours and discover all the know-how and excellence of **Alain Ducasse's** teams during **prestigious gala dinners**.

From the port of Leixões, you will first visit **Porto**. Capital of the northern region of Portugal, this "city of granite", the centre of which is a UNESCO World Heritage site, is renowned for its wine.

You will then chart a course for **Bilbao**, not far from the La Rioja winemaking region, whose reputation goes before it.

L'Austral will then make its way up the Gironde estuary for a first stop in **Pauillac**, will several visits and wine tastings at some very beautiful wine estates in the Saint-Estephe, Margaux and Pauillac appellations. In the evening, the moored ship will have Château Latour as a backdrop: in this magnificent setting, a gala dinner held on board will enchant you with its wine and dish pairings.

Two days in **Bordeaux**, the wine capital of the world, will follow. You will be captivated by its rich wine-making tradition and have the opportunity to visit the **Cité du Vin**, the medieval village of Saint-Émilion, and other châteaux.

Finally, you will call at the **Ile d'Aix** before disembarking at **Lorient**, the conclusion of a unique cruise combining refined gastronomy, vineyards and ocean.





The information in this document is valid as of 2/20/2020

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

LISBON

Embarkation 4/11/2020 from 16h00 to 17h00

Departure 4/11/2020 at 18h00

Portugal's capital city located on the banks of the Tagus, only a few kilometres from the Atlantic coast, is a city of exceptionally rich cultural diversity. At the mouth of the river harbour, impose two UNESCO World Heritage monuments, **Jeronimos monastery** and **Belem tower**. The Alfama hillside is also worth visiting: known for its **fado** bars and its **Moorish streets**, this district is the oldest one of the city and one of the most typical. Not far from there, Chiado's elegant streets are home to big fashion labels and are an invitation to a bit of luxury shopping.

LEIXÕES - PORTO

Arrival 4/12/2020 midday

Departure 4/12/2020 early evening

Located at the mouth of the Douro River, the port of Leixões lies less than 10 kilometres from Porto. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the historic centre of Porto is worth a visit for its famous **Ribeira district**, the metallic silhouette of the Dom-Luis bridge looming over its ancient houses, its richly decorated Baroque churches and its national **Soares dos Reis** museum. The **São Bento station** is also interesting for its typically Portuguese decoration, using *Azulejos*, blue square ceramic tiles decorated with geometric patterns or figurative scenes.

AT SEA

Arrival 4/13/2020

Departure 4/13/2020

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.

BILBAO

Arrival 4/14/2020 early morning

Departure 4/14/2020 late afternoon

Bilbao, capital of the Spanish Basque country, is one of the most avant-garde cities in Europe. Its architectural audacity as well as its ancient built heritage will take you on a journey between traditions and innovations. An unusual cable car will allow you to reach the magnificent **Guggenheim Museum**, a unique construction of stone, glass and titanium, designed by the architect Frank Gehry and home to a collection of modern art and contemporary monumental sculpture. The narrow streets of the **old city** and the unmistakable **Ensanche district** are also worthy of a visit, as is the **Vizcaya bridge**, the world's first ever transporter bridge, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

PAUILLAC

Arrival 4/15/2020 mid morning

Departure 4/15/2020 late afternoon

Discover **Pauillac**, a town in southwestern France located a few kilometres away from Bordeaux, stretching along the Gironde. The undisputed capital of Médoc, Pauillac will open up its magical universe for you, from **culture and heritage to vineyards and châteaux**. This stop will be a voyage of myriad flavours, particularly during the tasting of the region's wines, revealing their soft ruby colours and reflections turning amber with time. Enjoy both a **sensorial adventure** and an adventure into the heart of the town. Don't miss the visit of Saint Martin's Church or the mysterious **grotto of Artigues**, dominated by a statue of the Virgin Mary. As for the **Aspic Tower**, it is topped with a dome from which the harvesters' work used to be overseen.

BORDEAUX

Arrival 4/16/2020 at night

Departure 4/17/2020 evening

Bordeaux stretches along the banks of the Garonne river, in South-West France. Its rich wine tradition makes it the **world capital of wine**. You can uncover this city's secrets in the Bordeaux Wine and Trade museum as well as in the bars housed in the historical wine cellars of the old city centre. Let yourself be carried away by the history of the made a UNESCO World Heritage site for its prestigious classical architecture. On the famous Place de la Bourse, the past and the present unite: here you can observe the majestic old buildings reflected in the contemporary **Miroir d'eau** creation.

ÎLE-D'AIX

Arrival 4/18/2020 early morning

Departure 4/18/2020 late afternoon

A small crescent of land, 3 kilometres long, the **Île d'Aix** is a fragile area listed as an outstanding natural site. The use of cars here is restricted, thereby enabling nature to reign supreme. Set off to discover the treasures of the island by using the "sentier des douaniers" (Customs officer path). Between **marshes, vines, creeks and cliffs**, you will quickly become aware of this stretch of land's exceptional heritage. This enchanting place invites you to visit its village and its museums, the **Napoléon Museum or the African Museum**. A fine diversity of landscapes of small pastel-coloured houses adorned with multi-coloured shutters and hollyhocks... It's just like a postcard.

LORIENT

Arrival 4/19/2020 early morning

Disembarkation 4/19/2020 at 00h00

Rebuilt after the bombings of the Second World War, Lorient is known as the town of five ports: the military port (the Keroman submarine base is designed to hold twenty or so submarines and their crew), a pleasure port, a fishing port which is the second largest in France, a commercial port and a passenger port. There are two unmissable visits: the museum space dedicated to submarines, home to a submarine named Flore and located in the former German military base, and the **Cité de la Voile Éric Tabarly**, an interactive sailing museum about yachting and the great sea races. Let yourself fall under the charm of the view from the **Port-Louis citadel** and the quays, evoking the prosperous past of this Breton town, coloured with silks and spices.