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A SOLAR ECLIPSE AT SEA: VOYAGE ACROSS THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN – WITH SMITHSONIAN JOURNEYS

In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys. _This cruise is part of a collection of PONANT voyages that are specially-tailored for English-speaking travelers who want to engage with the world. In addition to the usual elements of the PONANT experience, the listed price for these voyages includes transfers to and from the ship, talks and discussions aboard ship by world class experts, and a shore excursion or activity in each port of call that encourages guests to embrace the sights, sounds, tastes, and smells of the local environment and culture._ On August 12, 2026, a total solar eclipse will begin over Palma de Mallorca, Spain, at 7:38 p.m., reach totality at 8:31 p.m., and end as the sun disappears over the horizon at 8:49 p.m. This voyage aboard _Le Dumont-d'Urville_ offers you the chance to witness the extraordinarily rare setting of the sun just moments after totality, followed by an exploration of the natural beauty and cultural history of the islands of the western Mediterranean. Begin in Barcelona and set sail in time to arrive in Palma de Mallorca at midday on the day of the eclipse. You will have time to enjoy a tour of some of the city's landmarks, including Bellver Castle and Palma's Cathedral , the second largest in Spain, before returning to the ship to prepare for the evening's eclipse. With the experience of the eclipse behind you, attention turns to the islands themselves, which despite differences, share a history of successive waves of civilizations--Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Spaniards, Arabs, Byzantines, the French, and Italians--washing over them and leaving marks on language, art, architecture, and cuisine. From Menorca's port of Mahon, drive across the island to Ciutadella , which was founded by the Carthaginians and served as the island's capital until 1772. A

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walking tour of the city's old town reveals a treasure trove of architectural styles, including a gothic cathedral and well-preserved palaces belonging to British nobility. Alternatively, you may travel inland to Binissies to visit a living museum of Menorcan rural life, where actors recreate traditional farm life on the estate of the local lord. Whichever excursion you choose, you may want to sample a Pomada, Menorca's signature frozen cocktail of gin and lemon soda. The fishing port of Alghero on Sardinia's northern coast is a quaint old city known as "Barcelonetta" because of its strong Catalan legacy from the Middle Ages. Explore its picturesque cobblestoned streets, old walls and towers, and flamboyant churches, including the 14th-century Church of San Francesco and the Cattedrale di Santa Maria, before boarding a coach for a panoramic drive along the coast to Capo Caccia. These stunning limestone headlands jutting into the sea are an impressive sight, and the area is dotted with nuraghi, the prehistoric monumental towers that are found all over the island. The port of L'Île-Rousse on the northern coast of Corsica serves as your gateway to Calvi, once a Genoese stronghold and now a picturesque vacation getaway. A guided walking tour includes the Citadel, with stunning views over the sea and the houses below, the Place d'Armes, and the Cathedral Saint Jean Baptiste. Also visit the house of Christopher Columbus, who is believed to have been born in Calvi. Then make your way to the lower town and the Quay Landry, featuring a lovely marina and a cafe-lined promenade. Continue your discovery of these islands in Portoferraio, the main harbor of the island of Elba. Most famous as the site of Napoleon Bonaparte's exile in 1814-15, Portoferraio was founded by the Medicis in the 16th century. A tour of Villa San Martino, Napoleon's summer residence during exile, is followed by a visit to the charming village of Porto

Azzurro and a wine tasting and sampling of Tuscan mezze at a local vineyard. Porto Ercole on the Italian mainland is a seaside resort less well-known than some. But nestled between the lush green vegetation of Monte Argentario and the surreal blue of the Tyrrhenian Sea, it is a marvelous place to explore on foot. You may choose among options for walking tours on a variety of trails that lead to great views and to fortifications built by the Spanish to protect Tuscany from Ottoman attacks. The small Italian fishing village of Portofino, now a favored haunt of the rich and famous, welcomes you on the final day before disembarkation in Nice, France, for a relaxing afternoon and evening of leisurely browsing through its shops and galleries, as well as a chance to sample the local cuisine



and wines.

ITINERARY

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Day 1 - Barcelona

Located on the seashore between the mountains of Montjuic and Tibidabo, Barcelona offers its many visitors a perfect blend of tradition and modernism. Truly an open-air museum, the "prodigious town" reveals an astonishing range of artistic treasures and museums, combining Roman ruins, medieval districts and a number of avant-garde elements from the 20th Century. Over the years, it has been marked by some of the greatest artists, such as Picasso, Miro or Gaudi, most of whose work has been listed as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO. Take the time to stroll along the Ramblas and enjoy the gentle, typically Mediterranean lifestyle of the capital of Catalonia.

You will be welcomed by the colourful houses of Mahon, its narrow streets and pretty squares that appear as you stroll around this richly contrasting city. Mahon reveals its different neighbourhoods, alternating between monuments, villas and white buildings. Discover the Santa Maria church, a building of neo-gothic inspiration, rebuilt in the 18th Century. It is worth a visit to see its monumental organ with more than 3,000 pipes and four keyboards. Around the Carmen church you will find a local market, full of stands selling avarcas, typical Menorcan sandals originally made by peasants. Let yourself fall under the spell of this Mediterranean treasure.

Day 2 - Palma de Mallorca, Balearic Islands

Palma de Mallorca will reveal its many treasures: idyllic coves, majestic limestone cliffs that plunge into the clear sapphire- and turquoise-coloured waters of the Mediterranean, and vast plains planted with almond trees, olive trees and vineyards. When your ship calls at the capital of the Balearic Islands, take a walk to discover its emblematic monuments, such as its famous cathedral, and amble through its old streets. Here, like a painting, the island's historical heritage forms a backdrop to the lively and warm cosmopolitan atmosphere of the Mediterranean.

Day 4 - Alghero, Sardinia

Located on the north-west coast of Sardinia, Alghero offers you traces of Sardinian culture combined with vestiges from a Catalan past. Here, many inhabitants speak the Algherese dialect, a variant of Catalan, as well as Catalan itself. A walk along the well-preserved medieval ramparts will give you a panoramic view of the town. The streets in the historical centre bear witness to its rich past, from Santa Maria Cathedral to numerous palaces dating from different eras.

Day 3 - Mahon, Balearic Islands

Day 5 - L'île-Rousse, Corsica

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Overlooking a wide crystalline bay to the north of Corsica, the port of Ile-Rousse offers the charm of an historical town in the heart of spectacular natural surroundings. You will be able to admire the white facades of the famous Paoli square, the busy hub of the old town centre, where restaurants lay out their terraces in the shade of plane trees. Make sure you take a look at the statue of Pasquale Paoli, known as "Babbu", father of Corsica. Amateurs of fine sandy beaches will find fulfilment at Napoleon beach, located near the centre, or the calmer Caruchettu beach. There are a plethora of hiking paths from which to choose.

Day 6 - Portoferraio, Elba

In the elbow of a creek on the northern coastline of Elba Island, a small corner of paradise awaits in the form of Portoferraio. As you approach its coastlines, you will make out the powerful and majestic contours of its Medici fortresses. Napoleon Bonaparte spent many of his 300 days in exile here. The Palazzina dei Mulini, his first imperial residence, whose gardens offer outstanding views of the sea, is a must-see. Historical treasures are followed by another kind of treasure, namely white sand beaches, and equally tempting local specialities including gurguglione and rice with cuttlefish ink.

Day 7 - Porto Ercole

With its landscapes of undulating hills covered in lush meadows, narrow streets with colourful houses, and picturesque paths shaded by pines... Porto Ercole is a concentration of all of Tuscany's beauty. And what would it be without a fascinating, mystery-filled history? Overlooked by its 16th century fortress, this small village is renowned for having witnessed the final days of the famous painter Caravaggio, said to be buried there. On the Monte Argentario peninsula, you might have the chance to meet the fishermen of the Orbetello Lagoon, classed as a natural reserve, who perpetuate traditional fishing methods, or meet local wine, olive oil and cheese producers. For our sportier guests, the surrounding wild and pristine nature will provide the opportunity for a hike along the island's heights to enjoy breathtaking views.

Day 8 - Portofino

Close to the Cinque Terre, Portofino is the jewel of the Ligurian Riviera. This "small village that stretches like a half moon around a silent basin", described by Guy de Maupassant, is today a pretty, lively little port that has managed to preserve the authenticity of its maritime traditions, which have been recognised since Ancient times. Built in the hollow of a small natural cove sheltered by the pine forest, the village is at the heart of a protected maritime reserve. The shimmering colours of its house fronts and the exceptional location of this village have inspired many authors and artists. You will also see the

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Portofino lighthouse, immaculate in its green setting. Perched on the Punta del Capo, it watches over the peninsula and its postcard setting.

Day 9 - Nice

Capital of the Cote d'Azur, Nice is surrounded by an amphitheatre of hills and mountains that protects it from the wind. You will probably want to explore the Promenade des Anglais, where you can sit on one of the famous blue chairs laid out opposite the baie des Anges. The Chateau hill is also a very pleasant place to walk. This is the entrance to the old city, with its bustling markets and regional products along the main street, the Cours Saleya.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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YOUR SHIP: LE DUMONT D'URVILLE

YOUR SHIP: Le Dumont d'Urville

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

Featuring innovative and environmentally-friendly equipment, elegantly designed staterooms, spacious suites with large windows, and lounge areas that open onto the outside, this new limited-capacity yacht boasting just 92 staterooms and suites will offer you a truly unique cruising experience. As the first ship in a new series that remains true to the Ponant spirit, Le Dumont d'Urville will embody the unique atmosphere that is the cruise line's hallmark: a subtle blend of refinement, intimacy and comfort. Aboard this ship that flies the French flag, you will experience the incomparable pleasure of an intimate cruise, with the possibility of exploring an ever-increasing range of destinations in an ethnic-chic ambiance with luxury service. Experience a luxurious setting where the accent is on authenticity and passion for travel. **RESTAURANTS** As it is an essential part of French culture, gastronomy will naturally have pride of place aboard this new ship. Through its two restaurants, Le Dumont d'Urville will invite you on a journey to elegance and epicureanism. In a relaxed atmosphere, a first dining area located on Deck 3 and able to seat 70 will serve grilled meats daily, along with a variety of salads and desserts. To the back of Deck 4, you will find a 260 m² panoramic restaurant which can

accommodate all of our passengers in a single sitting. Designed differently to that on our other ships, this dining area, which opens onto the outside, will have a buffet of salads, desserts and cheeses at your disposal. Our discreet and attentive crew will provide table service for hot meals. **PUBLIC AREAS** Like Le Boreal and its sisterships, Le Dumont d'Urville has many common areas that are designed and equipped to meet all of your needs while preserving the intimacy of each passenger. A 140 m² reception area includes: A reception/concierge desk, An excursions desk, The ship's administrative services, The sales office, manned by our Guest Relations Officer, Our 50 m² boutique which sells clothing, jewellery, beauty products, postcards and various accessories, Toilets accessible to passengers with reduced mobility. A new hydraulic platform with adjustable height provides: Easier boarding than on any other cruise ship, Easier Zodiac embarkation and disembarkation for expeditions, Easier access to the sea for swimming and practising various water sports such as kayaking or paddle-boarding. A pool deck offering: A pool with a panoramic view, equipped with a counter-current swimming system, A pleasant solarium, An outdoor bar and lounge with armchairs and sofas. A 200 m² main lounge which can accommodate all of our passengers to share convivial moments and to host activities organised during the day or evening. Lastly, a theatre that seats 188, equipped with: The latest sound and lighting technology, A LED wall as the stage backdrop, for the projection of high-resolution images and videos. Please click the following links to read more about Ponant and the other Ponant

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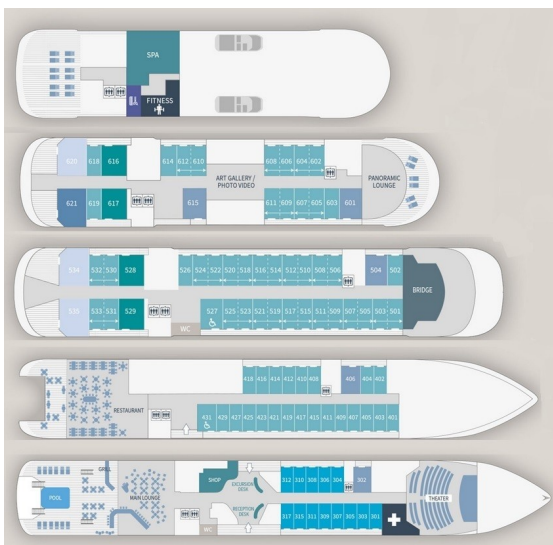
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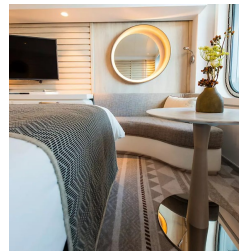
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INSIDE YOUR SHIP



- Owner's Suite Deck 6
- Privilege Suites Deck 5-6
- Grand Deluxe Suites Deck 5-6
- Prestige Suites Deck 5-6
- Deluxe Suites Deck 5-6
- Prestige Cabins Deck 4-5-6
- Deluxe Cabins Deck 3

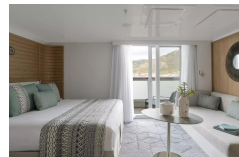
Deluxe Stateroom



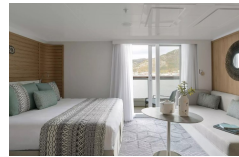
Deluxe Suite Deck 3



Deluxe Suite Deck 4



Deluxe Suite Deck 5



Deluxe Suite Deck 6

Grand Deluxe Suite Deck 6

Prestige Deck 4

Prestige Deck 5 Suite

Prestige Deck 6 Suite

Grand Deluxe Suite Deck 5

Owner's Suite

Prestige Deck 5

Prestige Deck 6

Privilege Suite Deck 5

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11-Aug-2026 to 19-Aug-2026

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Prestige Deck 6 Suite	£16565 GBP pp
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