

ALASKA

IN THE WAKE OF PIONEERS



Visit remote territory still unknown and wild, landscape from wide spaces to gigantic glaciers, steep mountains, infinite tundra and glittering lakes - Alaska invites you to follow the steps of trappers and gold miners. During your trip, discover the unique wildlife at some of the sites that have marked the history of Alaska.



DATES: 2020 - SEP 19-OCT 03

DURATION: 15 DAYS/14 NIGHTS

EMBARK: NOME, ALASKA, USA

DISEMBARK: VANCOUVER, CANADA

SHIP: L'AUSTRAL

FROM: \$10,720

(Including Air Seattle to Nome)

Expedition Highlights

- Marvel at spectacular Arctic scenery, the remote Bering Sea and the popular Inside Passage to Vancouver, Canada
- Great opportunities for viewing the Northern Lights, far, far away from city lights
- Watch for whales – humpback, gray, orca, and porpoise

ITINERARY

Day 1 —NOME, ALASKA



Located along the Bering Strait at the westernmost point of Alaska, Nome offers the rustic charm of a former gold-mining town, set in the middle of magnificent wilderness. As you weave in and out of the brightly colored houses, you will discover the pioneering legacy that still marks local traditions. Fishing, reindeer herding, sled dog-racing and gold mining are still practiced here. The surrounding plains provide stunning vantage points for observing Arctic fauna.

Days 2 – DAY AT SEA

Day 3 - ST MATTHEWS ISLAND

Part of the earth's history was written between Alaska and Russia. Aboard your ship, we invite you to discover the origins of the world, a unique environment that seems to stretch out to infinity. Lost in the middle of the Bering Sea, the Pribilof archipelago is made up of four volcanic islands where nature has crafted exquisitely beautiful landscapes. Here, on the islands, you will find majestic volcanoes, lava deserts and crater lakes, offering travelers a magnificent vantage point from which to observe a fauna composed of numerous bird species and fur seals.



Day - 4 - ST PAUL ISLAND (PRIBILOFS)

Located in the middle of the Bering Sea, Saint-George Island is the second largest island of the Pribilof archipelago. A special atmosphere emanates from this landscape of volcanic craters and tundra: wild lands surrounded by a sumptuous coastline of majestic cliffs. You may very well spot some migratory birds that come and settle here all year round, making this a perfect place for observing many different species. Fur seals, also called Pribilof seals, have made this haven of peace their home with its rich biodiversity.

Day 5 – DUTCH HARBOR & UNALASKA BAY

Clinging to the southwestern tip of Alaska, between the Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea, the port of Dutch Harbor offers a delightfully different stopover at the heart of the Aleutian Islands archipelago. A single bridge connects the port to the small town of Unalaska, founded in the 18th century by pioneering Russian fur trappers. With gentle valleys nestling between volcanic peaks, Dutch Harbor reveals a primitive natural beauty waiting to be explored.

Day 6 - DELAROF HARBOR/UNGA ISLAND

Originally called Ougnagok by the Aleuts, this small hamlet, which was home to some 100 inhabitants in the 19th century, was renamed Delarof, after Evstratii Ivanovich Delarov. While working for the Shelikhov-Golikov Company, he was the first Greek mariner to discover the Aleutian Islands. These days, this small ghost-village now overrun by willowherb is called Unga.

Day 7 - CHANKLIUT ISLAND, ALASKA

Off the Alaska Peninsula hides a small gem: Chankliut. From mountainous terrain to flowery moors and valleys covered in sea lyme-grass, this island, which is part of

the Aleutian archipelago, offers landscapes with a unique charm. During your walk around a lake, you will cross a sumptuous meadow where beautiful aconite and willowherb vie for attention. The more courageous will venture onward to the neighbouring valley and its ancient calderas to admire the splendour of the scenery. This totally uninhabited island bears no trace of any past settlement. Small, curious heads will catch your attention, however: crested puffins and horned puffins bask on the water near spotted seals.

Day 8 - AT SEA - CROSS THE GULF OF ALASKA

Day 9 - ICY BAY

Formed by the retreat of the Guyot, Yahtse and Tyndall glaciers over the past 100 years, Icy Bay is one of those timeless places where silence reigns supreme. Let yourself be enthralled by landscapes of breathtaking beauty, enhanced by magnificent views over the Saint Elias Mountains, visible in the background. The bay, several kilometers wide, is often scattered with icebergs sliding on clear and deep waters. It will let you access several sounds, among which are the Tsaa fjord, very close to the Guyot glacier. Many marine mammals and sea birds have chosen to live on this territory with very few visitors in the south of Alaska.

Day 10 - SITKA, ALASKA

Former Russian colony and capitol of Russian America, which stretched as far south as central California, Sitka is brimming with history. The historical national park of Sitka shelters totems carved out of red cedar. These totems are testimonials of the former presence of Tlingit Indians. This place is full of natural wonders too. You just have to look up to admire the mountain range around the port. In the distance, the snow-peaked Mt. Edgecumbe volcano stands majestic.



Day 11 – KAKE, ALASKA

Discover the small Tlingit village of Kake, around 60 kilometres west of Petersburg. Located on Kupreanof Island, it houses a community of over 500 inhabitants. Kake is paradise for salmon, which spawn in the Gunnuk River near the village. Bald eagles often make an appearance, as do black bears, which come to enjoy the fish. Another singularity of these parts: the presence, on a hill, of a totem pole standing over 60 metres tall, considered the highest in the world.

Day 12 – PRINCE RUPERT, CANADA

Wild and extraordinary, Prince Rupert is a dynamic town where the open spaces are “larger than nature”. Located on the remote Kaien Island, off the coast of British Columbia, this little town founded in 1910 witnessed the history of the North West Pacific with the birth of American Indian nations, such as the Haida and Gitksan. During this port of call, make a point of admiring its grandiose landscapes where more than 300 pairs of bald eagles have made a home here; its picturesque residential districts where the sea mist often lingers; and its famous Museum of Northern British Columbia, home to a large collection of ancient totems.

Day 13 – CRUISE THE INSIDE PASSAGE

Day 14 – ALERT BAY, CANADA

Right near the north coast of Vancouver Island, in British Columbia, hides the small wooded island of Cormorant. Surrounded by pebble beaches, it offers wonderful opportunities for hikes and for whale watching. The surrounding waters are also home to harbour seals, orcas, Steller sea lions, dolphins, and a multitude of seabirds. When your ship calls at Alert Bay, a small sheltered fishing port located in the island’s south, set off to discover the indigenous culture and its traditions. The ‘Namgis community, which is part of the Kwakwaka’wakw First Nations, lives here in harmony with the other village inhabitants.

Day 15 – VANCOUVER, CANADA - DISEMBARK

Verdant and cosmopolitan, Vancouver is one of Canada’s most multi-cultural cities.



L'Austral

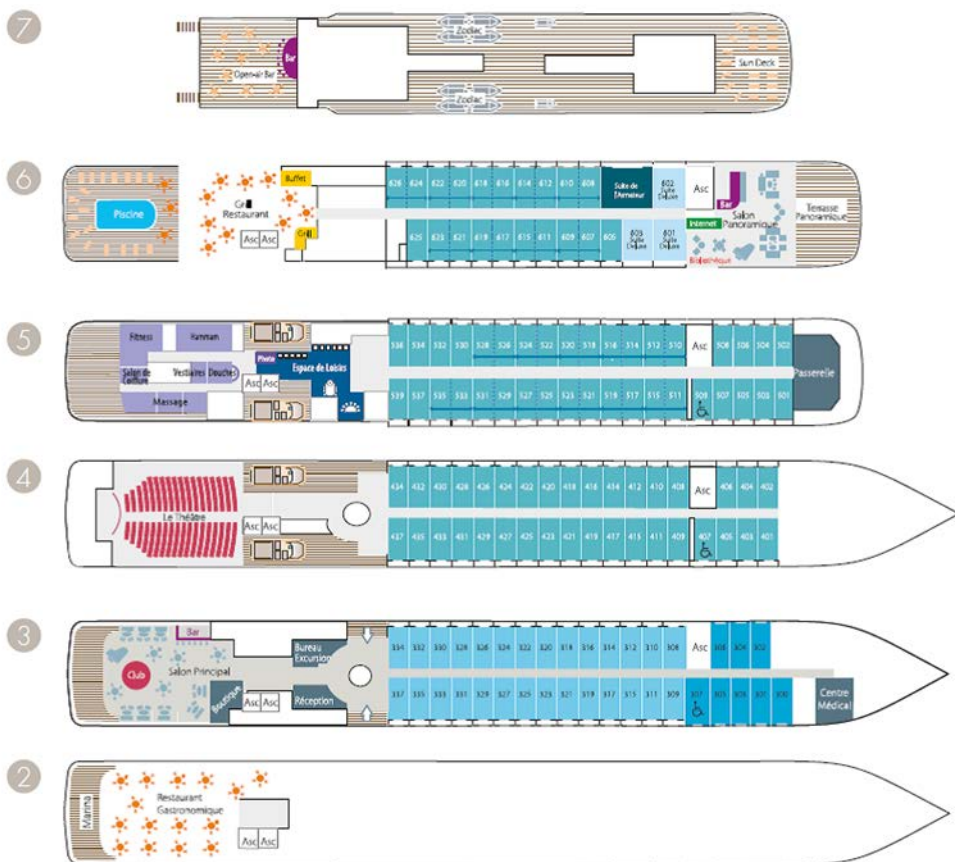
GUESTS: 268

ABOUT THE SHIP

L'Austral, embodies the subtle alliance between luxury, intimacy and wellbeing which is PONANT's signature. The elegance of her exterior and interior lines and her intimate size (only 132 suites) make this a rare and innovative yacht on the cruise market.

Interior Design

Superior materials, discreet elegance and a tasteful décor reflect a nautical mood subtly revisited. Aboard, soothing neutral grey tones are enlivened by splashes of red, our signature theme linking tradition and innovation to create personal touches in the spirit of a "private yacht".



Reservations & Information
1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)

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www.explorcruises.com



SUITE –	2020 RATES
Superior – Deck 3	\$10,720
Deluxe – Deck 3	\$11,370
Prestige – Deck 4	\$12,440
Prestige – Deck 5	\$12,950
Presitige – Deck 6	\$13,470
Deluxe Ste – Deck 6	\$22,820
Prestige Ste – Dk 5	\$23,450
Prestige Ste – Dk 6	\$23,450
Privilege Ste – Dk 5/ 6	\$31,646
OWNER SUITE	\$36,060