

TREASURES OF THE BLACK SEA



Departing from Istanbul, PONANT brings you a brand-new itinerary along the coastlines in the Black Sea, to discover the Turkish, Romanian, Bulgarian and Ukrainian shores. During this 10-day cruise, *Le Bougainville* will take you to exceptional natural and historic sites.



DATES: 2020 – July 10-19

DURATION: 10-DAYS / 9-NIGHTS

EMBARK: ISTANBUL, TURKEY

DISSEMBARK: ISTANBUL, TURKEY

SHIP: LE BOUGAINVILLE

FROM: \$6,850*

First Time Ponant Cruisers receive \$600 off
***Book and deposit by Mar 31, 2019**

HIGHLIGHTS

- A brand-new itinerary along the coastlines in the Black Sea, to discover four countries: Turkey, Romania, Bulgaria and Ukraine.
- UNESCO sites: the ancient city of Nessebar, the Danube Delta, the city of Safranbolu.
- Sailing along the Sulina Channel.
- From Trabzon, Altindere National Park and the Sumela Monastery.
- The possibility of visiting Istanbul before or after your cruise.

ITINERARY

We can arrange pre- and post-cruise tour programs for you – see more while you are here! It is always advisable to arrive at least one day early, two or more is preferable.

DAY 1 – ISTANBUL, TURKEY



Located on the Bosphorus, Istanbul is one of the most beautiful of all Turkish cities. Named Byzantium when founded by the Greeks, and then Constantinople under the Roman Empire, this city is steeped in history and, for this reason, is a listed UNESCO World Heritage site. On Sultanahmet hill, you'll see the great Blue Mosque, the mysterious Hagia Sophia and the vast Topkapi palace and its countless mosaics. In the Beyazit district, you can admire the elegant covered passages of the Grand Bazaar. A little further away, the delicate aroma of loukoum and spices will draw your attention at the Egyptian Bazaar.

DAY 2 – NESSEBAR, BULGARIA

Built on a peninsula on the south-west coast overlooking the Black sea, the town of Nessebar possesses age-old history. Founded by the Greeks and

then colonised by the Romans and the Ottomans, it is a listed UNESCO World Heritage site. You can ramble in the historical district without worrying about cars, because the area is fully pedestrian. As you mosey through the streets, look out for the houses with wooden corbels, and, in the squares, admire the Byzantine sanctuaries and their astonishing multi-colored adornments, like Saint-Paraskevi church. The Archaeological Museum has a very rich collection of ancient vestiges. Don't forget to try the local speciality, touloubitchki dipped in syrup.



DAY 3 – SULINA, ROMANIA

Today we will visit Sulina, a town in Tulcea County, Romania, at the mouth of the Sulina branch of the Danube. It is the easternmost point of Romania. During the mid-Byzantine period Sulina was a small cove and in the 14th century a Genoese port inhabited by a handful of sailors, pirates and fishermen. In the 18th century the Ottomans built a lighthouse there in order to facilitate communication between Constantinople (Istanbul) and the Danubian Principalities, the main breadbaskets for the Ottoman capital.

DAY 4 – ODESSA, UKRAINE

Odessa is the third most populous city of Ukraine and a major tourism center, seaport and transportation hub located on the northwestern shore of the Black Sea. It is



also the administrative center of the Odessa Oblast and a multiethnic cultural center.

In 1794, the city of Odessa was founded by a decree of the Russian empress Catherine the Great. From 1819 to 1858, Odessa was a free port. During the Soviet period it was the most important port of trade in the Soviet Union and a Soviet naval base.

During the 19th century, Odessa was the fourth largest city of Imperial Russia, after Moscow, Saint Petersburg and Warsaw. Its historical architecture has a style more Mediterranean than Russian, having been heavily influenced by French and Italian styles. Some buildings are built in a mixture of different styles, including Art Nouveau, Renaissance and Classicist.

DAY 5 – DAY AT SEA

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.



DAY 6 – SAMSUN, TURKEY

Samsun is situated between two river deltas jutting out into the Black Sea, north of Turkey. West of the town the Kizilirmak (the Red River), one of the longest rivers of Anatolia, produced its fertile delta, East of the town the Yesilirmak (the Green River), a river that passes

some remarkable towns on its way to the sea, did the same.

DAY 7 – TRABZON, TURKEY

Trabzon is a city on the Black Sea coast of northeast Turkey. Built as a church in the 13th century, the city's Hagia Sophia has served as a hospital and a museum, but today is a mosque with restored ceiling frescoes. The Trabzon Museum, set in an early-20th-century mansion with rococo and art-nouveau elements, traces the city's history with archaeological and ethnographic exhibitions.

DAY 8 – DAY AT SEA

DAY 9 – BARTIN



Bartın is a city in northern Turkey and the central district of the province of Bartın. Formerly a district of Zonguldak Province, Bartın was made into a province seat in 1991 with the constitution of its province, including four districts: Central Bartın, Amasra, Kurucaşile, and Ulus. The city, with a population of c. 48,000, is situated 14 kilometers inland on the Bartın River that is navigable for vessels between the city and the Black Sea coast. Bartın River is the only navigable river for vessels in Turkey.

DAY 10 – ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Disembark, and stay on to see more of this remarkable city, or continue to other destinations in Europe. We can plan a memorable experience for you!



ALL SUITES HAVE PRIVATE BALCONIES

Book early to get UP TO 30% Savings. Rates are per person, Double Occupancy
Pre- and Post-Cruise tours are available to suit your interests.

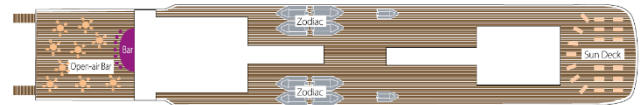
Included features:

- All accommodations, meals, and excursion described above
- Gratuities to crew, guides and drivers on included excursions
- Comprehensive 9-night cruise aboard the deluxe LE BOUGAINVILLE, with all the amenities for which Ponant ships are famous.

Not included:

- Meals and beverages other than those specified above
- Optional excursions
- Personal expenses (such as laundry, telephone, Internet, etc.)
- Travel Insurance
- Air fare

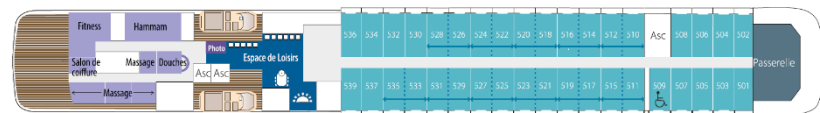
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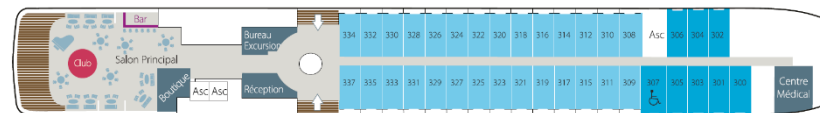
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Reservations & Information
1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)
 Email - info@explorcruises.com

www.explorcruises.com

SUITE –	July 10, 2020
Superior – Deck 3	WAITLIST
Deluxe – Deck 3	WAITLIST
Prestige – Deck 4	WAITLIST
Prestige – Deck 5	\$6,850
Prestige – Deck 6	\$7,180
Deluxe Ste – Deck 6	WAITLIST
Prestige Ste – Dk 5	\$13,490
Prestige Ste – Dk 6	\$14,170
Privilege Ste – Dk 5/ 6	\$14,860
Grand Deluxe – Dk 5/6	\$16,330
OWNER SUITE	\$18,000