

TREASURES OF THE CARIBBEAN SEA



From Panama to the United States, **PONANT** is inviting you to discover no fewer than 7 countries during a single cruise. Join us aboard **Le Boréal** for an all-new and exciting **12-day itinerary**.



DATES: 2020 – APR 14

Duration: 12 days / 11 nights

Embark: COLON, PANAMA
Disembark: MIAMI, FLORIDA

Ship: Le Boreal

FROM: \$5,240*

**First Time Ponant Cruisers receive \$600 off these fares
Book and deposit by Mar 31, 2019
\$950 flight credit per person on select cruises. This offer is valid until June 30, 2019*

On the first leg of your trip, you will sail up the east coast of **Central America** from **Colon**, at the Atlantic entrance to the mythical **Panama Canal**.

From your port of call in **Santo Tomás de Castilla** in **Guatemala**, don't miss your chance to visit the Mayan site of Tikal. There, you will be able to admire superb temples, palaces and pyramids nestling amid lush vegetation.

Discover **Belize**, a small paradise covered in tropical rainforest. Its coast gives onto the **Caribbean Sea** and is home to a very large barrier reef, as well as the spectacular **Blue Hole**, one of the world's top scuba diving spots.

Le Boréal will then sail northward to call at **Progreso**, the departure point of an unforgettable excursion to **Chichen Itza** or **Uxmal**, two sites with must-see vestiges of Pre-Columbian civilization.

In **Key West**, stroll through the lively streets of this island which Ernest Hemingway used to visit, and enjoy the bohemian atmosphere of this wonderful place, which boasts idyllic beaches.

Your unforgettable trip will end in **Miami**, Florida.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visiting 7 countries on a single cruise from Panama to the United States.
- Before your cruise, the possibility of visiting the mythical Panama Canal.
- From Santo Tomás de Castilla, an extension is possible to visit the famous Tikal pyramids, incredible vestiges of the ancient Mayan civilization, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- An overnight stay in Progreso, with an exceptional visit to the many Mayan sites, including Chichen Itza and Uxmal, and with the visit of Merida.
- From Half Moon Caye, the possibility of heading out to the mythical Blue Hole, one of the world's top 10 diving sites.
- Discovering Key West, the southernmost island in the United States, and the closest to Cuba.
- Lecturer chosen for his/her area of expertise.

ITINERARY:

Day 1 – COLON

Colón is the second largest city in **Panama**, at the Caribbean

entrance of the **Panama Canal**. Colón is today an important port, and the free trade zone created in 1953 contributed greatly to the development of the city. Colón was founded in 1850 by Americans working on the Panama railroad connecting the Atlantic and Pacific coasts through the isthmus of Panama; the city rapidly overshadowed the older **Caribbean** ports of Panama when the canal opened.

Day 2 – CORN ISLAND

A little slice of paradise lying off the coast of Nicaragua, in the warm waters of the **Caribbean Sea**, the Corn Islands are an



invitation to leisure as well as exploration. The **long white sandy beaches** lined with coconut palms promise enjoyable moments of relaxation while the hills, covered with thick tropical forest, and the surrounding turquoise waters, teeming with life, will delight hikers and divers. Countless multicolored fish, nurse sharks, sand tiger sharks, rays and barracudas can be seen in the **sumptuous coral reefs and underwater caves**.

Day 3 – 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 center. 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 4 – PUERTO CORTÉS

In the hollow of the **Gulf of Honduras**, Puerto Cortés is the largest seaport in this country, which only recently opened up to tourism but possesses many natural and cultural riches. Its 650 km of coastline on **the Caribbean Sea** are bordered with sandbanks and deltas of small coastal rivers, while its waters

have **many reefs and cays** to explore. Puerto Cortés is the departure point for discovering the impressive **San Fernando de Omoa fortress**, which was built in brick and coral by the Spanish authorities in the middle of the 18th century and is now a museum of history and archaeology.

Day 5 - SANTO TOMÁS DE CASTILLA

A port city located in the north-east of **Guatemala**, on the coast of the Amatique Bay, Santo Tomás de Castilla offers exceptional access to the **fabulous Mayan archaeological site of Quiriguá**. Listed as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** since 1981, this place takes you back in time, deep into a décor of ruins and vestiges from the 8th century. Another unmissable visit is to the San Felipe fortress. Built at the end of the 16th Century by the Spanish to protect the villages on the shores of Lake Izabal from pirate attacks, it offers the opportunity to discover an example of colonial military architecture and to enjoy **unspoiled views over the Dulce River and the surrounding environment**.

Days 6 – HALS MOON CAYE

The tropical green crescent of Half Moon Caye is a natural monument of Belize stretching out over crystal-clear waters. The appeal of the oldest protected marine and ornithological area in Central America stems from its beaches lined with coconut trees, but most importantly from its incredible underwater world, which you will be able to explore with fins, mask and snorkel. Corals, sponges, sea turtles, spotted eagle rays, eels and groupers live in the turquoise waters, while on land the coastal forest is home to amusing geckos and a large colony of red-footed boobies, spectacular divers that penetrate the water at high speed to feed on small fish and squid.



Day 7 – AT SEA

Day 8 & 9 – PROGRESO

On the **Yucatan Peninsula**, the charming seaside town of Progreso will delight visitors seeking authenticity. In addition to its magnificent sandy beaches and pleasant seafront promenade, the town offers ideal access to the **former**

Mayan cities of Chichen Itza and Uxmal. **UNESCO World Heritage sites**, they allow visitors to be truly immersed in Pre-Columbian Mexico, discovering one of the world's most mysterious civilizations. In the surroundings, be sure to visit **Mérida**, capital of the Mexican state of Yucatán. Called **"the White City"** due to the color of the limestone used to build its dwellings, this old colonial city, built on the ruins of a Mayan site, offers a mix of tradition and modernity, colonial architecture and Mayan heritage.

Day 10 – AT SEA



Day 11 – KEY WEST

Lying between Florida and the Antilles, the Keys are an ideal place for all those who want to spend a moment in a bohemian and artistic environment. Key West, the best-known island in the archipelago, is the perfect example. A former refuge for pirates, it has played host to Ernest Hemingway and Tennessee Williams, who wrote some of their best works there. Set out to discover its residential districts, a peaceful collection of wooden homes in the Georgian or Caribbean style, in the midst of a plethora of buskers, artists and open-air cafés and an extraordinary atmosphere.

Day 12 – MIAMI

The ultimate symbol of Florida if ever there was one, to this day Miami remains a must-see city. The home of what is considered to be the world's busiest cruise ship port, this multicultural city where the sun rules supreme has a lot more to offer than just long beaches and glamour. Miami is also worth visiting for its Art Deco district in South Beach, home to pastel-coloured buildings and to hotels with eccentric shapes. Artists, designers and top couturiers enliven this multifaceted city of skyscrapers, boutiques, frescoes and turquoise water. Not far from there is Everglades National Park, the largest subtropical wilderness reserve in North America, listed with UNESCO.

NOTE- Pre- and post-cruise activities can be added – let us know what you would like to do and see!



Rates are per person, Double Occupancy
Pre- and Post-Cruise tours are available to suit your interests.

Included features:

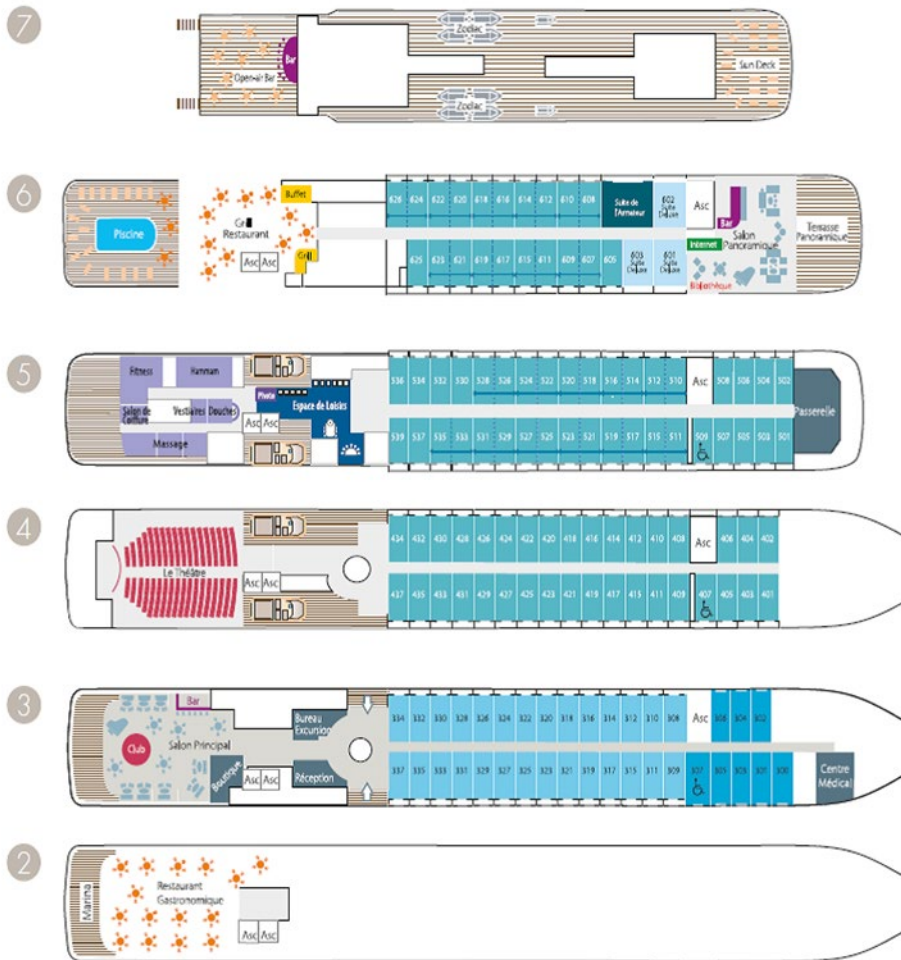
- All accommodations, meals, and excursion described above
- Gratuities to crew guides and drivers on
- included excursions
- Comprehensive 12-night cruise aboard the deluxe *Le Boreal*, with all the amenities for which Ponant ships are famous.

Not included:

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

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| SUITE | 2020 Rates |
|---------------------|------------|
| Superior – Deck 3 | \$5,240 |
| Deluxe – Deck 3 | \$5,630 |
| Prestige – Deck 4 | \$5,950 |
| Prestige – Deck 5 | \$6,110 |
| Prestige – Deck 6 | \$6,290 |
| Deluxe Ste – Deck 6 | WL |
| Prestige Ste – Dk 5 | \$9,020 |
| Prestige Ste – Dk 6 | \$9,270 |
| OWNER SUITE | WL |



Reservations & Information
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