

# Central America Jewels & Panama Canal



Let yourself fall under the spell of an itinerary whose every port of call unveils its finest assets, between the lushness of the Costa Rican jungles and the magic of Panama's crystal-clear waters. During an unforgettable 8-day journey between Colón and Puntarenas, you will discover these wild regions where nature reigns supreme, but also to encounter the ancestral people who are guardians of age-old traditions and this unique biodiversity. Sail between two worlds, where the ocean whispers ancient secrets and the tropical forests shelter an infinity of wonders.



**DATES 2026:** Nov 7\*\*, 14\*\*\*  
**2027:** Jan 15 | Feb 26\*\* | Mar 5\*

**DURATION:** 8-Days/7-Nights

**EMBARK:** COLON, PANAMA  
**DISEMBARK:** PUNTARENAS, COSTA RICA  
\* Reverse itinerary

**SHIPS:** Le Bellot, Le Lapérouse

**FROM:** \$5,410 Double

*After Early Booking Savings  
All-Inclusive*

**\*\*NO Single Supplement on select dates**

## Created especially for like-minded travelers.

At each port of call on your trip, each guest will be able to choose one included activity from the selection offered by PONANT. During this cruise, set off to encounter an **Emberá** community in the heart of the Darien Park jungle, from Playa Muerto; or discover the beauty of the San Blas archipelago, between **idyllic beaches and an encounter with the Kuna community**. The diversity of options on offer promises intense and varied experiences.

You will then sail towards the Panama Canal, the legendary maritime route crossing the Isthmus of Panama and linking the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean. You will navigate the Miraflores locks, which make up the canal's final section before the Pacific Ocean, and arrive in **Fuerte Amador**. On this artificial peninsula on Flamenco Island, you will be captivated by the dense, pristine vegetation and its unique biodiversity.

Cruise to the beautiful Darién National Park in Panama. This little corner of paradise is a **UNESCO World Heritage** site and home to remarkable plants and wildlife. Sandy beaches, rocky coastlines, mangroves, swamps and tropical rainforests vie with each other for beauty. This will also be an exceptional opportunity to journey back in time as you discover **the Embera tribe**. These proud people have successfully preserved their traditions and their ancestral way of life.

Sailing northwest! You will leave the Panamanian shores to head for the Costa Rican coast. In **Golfito**, admire unique tropical vegetation. As the gateway to explore one of Central America's largest primary tropical forests, Golfito represents a veritable enchanted interlude.

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 – COLON, PANAMA

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 – SAN BLAS ISLANDS

Located on the north-east coast of Panama, the San Blas archipelago is a string of coral islands in the heart of the Caribbean Sea. More than 300 islands and cays cover an area of 300 square kilometers, offering travelers a multitude of treasures. Sheltered behind a long coral reef, the San Blas Islands are full of enchanting anchorages. The long sandy white beaches bound by crystal-clear waters will allow you to relax and enjoy incredible marine fauna before engaging with the Kunas Indian community. Still subsisting on hunting and fishing, they will welcome you in their villages of bamboo houses gathered near the beaches.



### DAY 3 - CROSSING THE PANAMA CANAL

Aboard your ship, experience something unique, that has inspired the imagination of numerous adventurers in the 20th century: sailing the Panama Canal. Its construction started in 1880 under the direction of Ferdinand de Lesseps. Abandoned then resumed, this marvel of engineering was completed by the United States and opened in 1914. The canal crosses the Isthmus of Panama and links the Atlantic to the Pacific. Including three levels of locks and by raising ships to the level of



Lake Gatun, almost as if the water was a lift, it allows them to avoid having to round Cape Horn.

#### **DAY 4 - FUERTE AMADOR, FLAMENCO ISLAND**

An artificial peninsula situated at the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal, Fuerte Amador is the gateway to several noteworthy sites. Right near there, the impressive Miraflores Locks are a shining example of the engineering feats deployed during the construction of the Panama Canal. Further north, in villages nestling amid dense vegetation, lives the Embera tribe, guardian of the forest and of the Chagres River. This proud people have successfully preserved their traditions and their ancestral way of life, which predate the colonization of the region by the Spanish.

#### **DAY 5 - PLAYA MUERTO, DARIEN NATIONAL PARK**

The most remote and least developed region of Panama, the province of Darien is an unspoiled land with an extremely rich variety of flora and fauna. Listed by UNESCO as World Heritage, Darien National Park offers its extraordinary scenery of rocky coastlines, mountain ranges, mangroves, rivers and creeks. Discover Playa Muerto, a tiny coastal village home to the Emberas Amerindian community. You will visit the village, attend traditional songs and dances of the locals, and admire beautiful local craft.



#### **DAY 6 - AT SEA**

During your journey 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, depending on the activities offered, or 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 7 – GOLFITO, COSTA RICA**

The town of Golfito lies on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica, in the province of Puntarenas, one of the most humid regions in the world. It was occupied by the indigenous Brunca tribe during the Pre-Columbian era. Once specialized in the export of bananas, Golfito has today become the starting point for visitors who want to reach one of the largest primary tropical rainforests in Central America. Meanwhile, the beaches of Golfo Dulce are some of the most beautiful in Costa Rica, with the lush forest, home to many tropical birds and monkeys as well as a variety of rare species of plants, as their backdrop.



#### **DAY 8 – PUNTARENAS, COSTA RICA**

The capital of the eponymous province, Puntarenas is sometimes called “the pearl of the Pacific”, for its unique charm. It sits on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica, along the Gulf of Nicoya, lined with long expanses of wild natural environments. Further inland, among the countless natural wonders to be found in the generous rainforest of the Costa Rica's national parks, Poas and Arenal volcanoes towers up in all their majestic glory. In this luxuriant natural setting, Costa Rica protects one of the planet's richest biodiversity: monkeys, sloths, tropical birds, iguanas, crocodiles, waterfalls, canyons, and more than ten thousand species of tropical plants.

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



## Le Bellot, Le Lapérouse

### ALL SUITES HAVE PRIVATE BALCONIES

Rates are per person, Double Occupancy

**\*NO Single supplement on select dates**

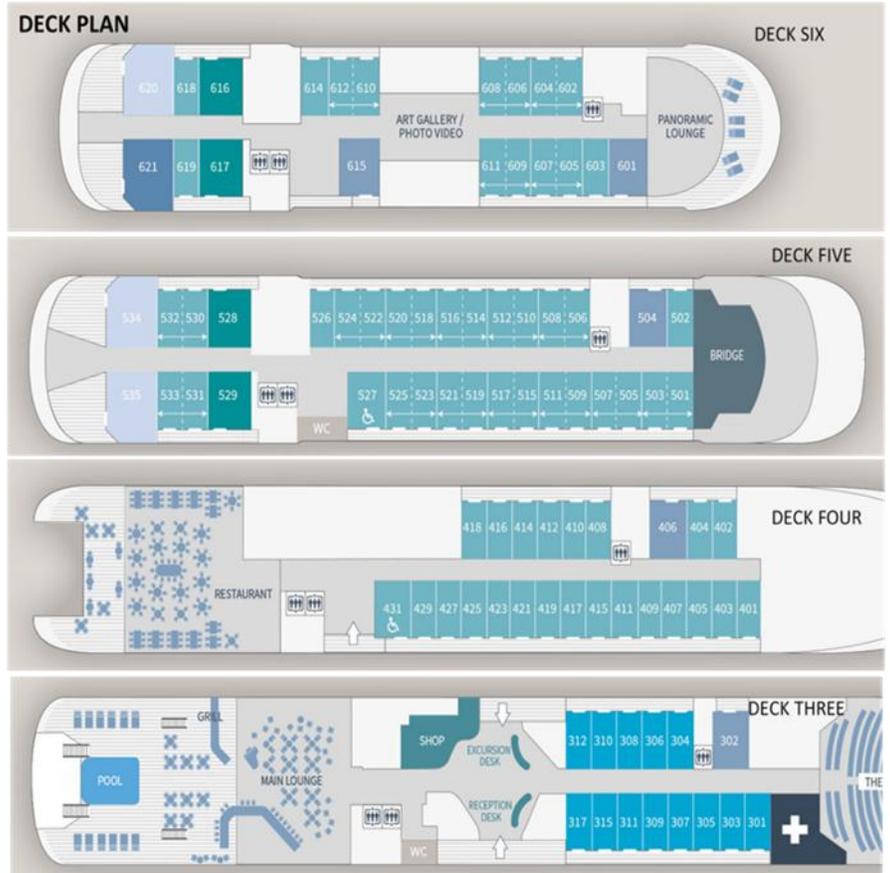
Pre- and Post-Cruise tours are available to suit your interests.

#### Included features: ALL INCLUSIVE

- All accommodations, meals, open bar, and select shore excursions
- Gratuities to ship staff, guides and drivers on included excursions
- Comprehensive 7-night cruise with all the amenities for which Ponant ships are famous.
- Port Charges and taxes
- Unlimited Wi-Fi and internet

#### Not included:

- Air Fare
- Travel insurance
- Optional shore excursions
- Personal expenses (such as laundry, telephone)



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

Email - [info@explorcruises.com](mailto:info@explorcruises.com)  
[www.explorcruises.com](http://www.explorcruises.com)

SUITE – 2026-27 Rates	2026		2027	
	NOV 7*	NOV 14*	JAN 15 FEB 26*	MAR 05
Deluxe – Deck 3	\$5,970	\$5,630	\$6,430	\$5,410
Prestige – Deck 4-6	\$6,610	\$6,230	\$6,990	\$5,960
Deluxe – Suite - 3, 4, 5, 6	\$10,140	\$9,540	\$10,860	\$8,950
Prestige Ste – Deck 5 & 6	\$13,660	\$12,840	\$14,600	\$12,140
Privilege – Deck 5 & 6	\$15,060	\$14,150	\$16,090	\$13,370
Grand Deluxe – Deck 5, 6	\$16,540	\$15,540	\$17,660	\$14,660
Owners Suite	\$21,590	\$21,590	\$21,710	\$21,600

**\*NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT**