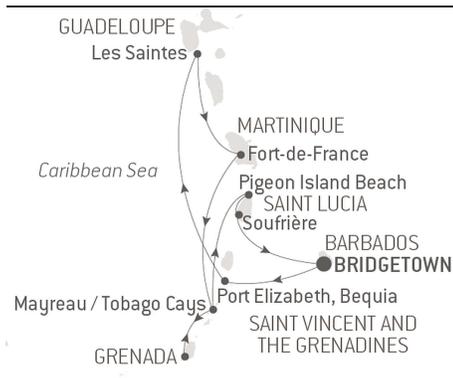


Pearls of the Caribbean

From **20/02/2022**
to **28/02/2022**

Ship: **LE DUMONT-D'URVILLE**

From **Bridgetown**
to **Bridgetown**



PONANT brings you an itinerary to the heart of the most enchanting islands in the Caribbean Sea. Board on *Le Dumont-d'Urville* for a **9-day cruise** combining long white-sand beaches and the easy Creole way of life.

After boarding your ship in **Barbados** at the port of **Bridgetown**, whose UNESCO-listed historic centre shows the extent of British colonial presence here, you will head for one of the pearls of the **Grenadines**: the island of Bequia. Small picturesque villages and brightly coloured coral reefs are some of its attractions...

Your ship will then sail to **Les Saintes**, a highly popular anchorage site with crystal-clear waters and fabulous seabeds, before making its way to **Fort-de-France**. The capital of Martinique fosters a dynamic Creole culture. Make sure to visit one of its renowned rum distilleries !

Further south, *Le Dumont-d'Urville* will reach the magnificent beach of the island of **Mayreau** in the **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines archipelago**. After a call at **Grenada**, your ship will anchor in the **Tobago Cays National Park**. This rosary of islands bound together by the most beautiful coral reef in the West Indies, will reveal its incredible underwater wildlife.

You will then sail towards **Saint Lucia** and its two majestic rocky peaks soaring straight from the sea, a unique location listed as UNESCO World Heritage site.

An experienced diving instructor is on board for the entire cruise, enabling you to safely enjoy swimming and scuba diving.



The information in this document is valid as of 28/01/2022

Pearls of the Caribbean

YOUR STOPOVERS :

BRIDGETOWN

Embarkation 20/02/2022 from 19:00 to 20:00

Departure 20/02/2022 at 21:00

Bridgetown, the bustling capital of Barbados, is located on the island's south-west coast. Its **historic quarters** are **UNESCO World Heritage sites** and contain prime examples of British colonial architecture, which you will see between the postcard-perfect fishing harbour and St Ann's Fort. Streets shaded by palms and flamboyant trees lead you to the Anglican cathedral church of St Michael, built from coral stone, the Barbados Museum and George Washington House, a Georgian-style mansion. There'll be plenty of time to relax on the Caribbean beaches of **Carlisle Bay**, a few paces from the old town centre.

PORT ELIZABETH, BEQUIA ISLAND

Arrival 21/02/2022 early morning

Departure 21/02/2022 late afternoon

In the heart of the **Caribbean**, **Bequia** is the second-largest of 32 islands that make up the country of **St Vincent and the Grenadines**. You will love the lively and picturesque atmosphere of **Port Elizabeth**, the island's main town. From the port, a promenade lined with beautiful traditional houses, landscaped gardens and small restaurants runs along the shoreline. It leads to Princess Margaret Beach, a wild beach where Princess Margaret herself has stayed and which seems to emerge directly from the tropical forest. From rainforest to lush meadows and long stretches of sand, Bequia will offer you a natural setting that is conducive to lovely walks and to spending time on the beach.

LES SAINTES

Arrival 22/02/2022 late morning

Departure 22/02/2022 early evening

During the feast of All Saints in 1493, **Christopher Columbus** discovered this archipelago of nine islands that he named "The Saints". Today, only two of them are inhabited. Terre de Haut, in the east, is dominated by the Morne Mire hill; at the summit stands **Fort Napoleon**, paying homage to the islands' history. In the heart of the **botanical garden**, shared by iguanas and cacti, there is an exceptional view of the **Baie des Saintes**, one of the most beautiful in the world. The long shady beach of Pompierre, where it is forbidden to drop anchor, is a peaceful place for a swim, while Pain de Sucre Beach offers wonderful opportunities for snorkelling. On the island, don't forget to taste the local speciality, the "tourment d'amour", a cake made with coconut.

FORT-DE-FRANCE

Arrival 23/02/2022 early morning

Departure 23/02/2022 evening

Located on the western coast of Martinique, Fort-de-France will amaze you by the splendour of its bay, a magnificent cut-out in the coastline, considered as one of the most beautiful in the world. At the harbour mouth, on its strip of land, **fort Saint-Louis** overlooks the capital city of Martinique. If you climb up to it, you can see some breath-taking views. **Saint Louis Cathedral** and the Schoelcher library bear witness to a secular history, intimately linked to the island's story. Why not try some fresh coconut at the colourful Grand Marché. Two really pleasant places you can take a breather in, right in the heart of the city, are the garden of Balata and the Aimé Césaire park.

MAYREAU ISLAND

Arrival 24/02/2022 mid morning

Departure 24/02/2022 early evening

Among the string of paradisiac islands with their sandy beaches that form the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines archipelago, Mayreau is the smallest. Its **peaceful and idyllic atmosphere**, far from the madding crowd, invites you to relax. On shore, enjoy a **shaded and fully equipped beach** from which to go snorkelling if you'd like to observe the colourful fish around the coral sitting at the foot of the rocks that stretch across the bay.

SAINT GEORGE'S, GRENADA

Arrival 25/02/2022 early morning

Departure 25/02/2022 late evening

Delicately set in the curve of a bay on the west coast of Grenada, **Saint George's** lively commercial fishing harbour is especially colourful when the boats are being loaded with fruit and vegetables destined for neighbouring islands and when all the little fishing boats return from their day out at sea. This "**spice island**" capital is an excellent base for visiting the surrounding natural sites: its picturesque coast or the artisanal producers of chocolate and nutmeg, Grenada's gold. Five kilometres (3 miles) to the south, you will be able to visit Grande Anse and Morne Rouge, two long sandy beaches.

TOBAGO CAYS

Arrival 26/02/2022 early morning

Departure 26/02/2022 late afternoon

Scattered between **St Vincent and Grenada**, the **Tobago Cays** comprises five little islands: Petit Rameau, Petit Bateau, Baradal, Petit Tabac and Jamesby. This rosary of uninhabited cays in the **southern West Indies** is a **marine park** whose turquoise lagoons provide a home and safe haven for some outstanding marine fauna, **including peaceful green turtles**. Girded and united by a coral reef, these secluded islands are a peaceful paradise for divers, swimmers and snorkellers.

PIGEON ISLAND BEACH

Arrival 27/02/2022 early morning
Departure 27/02/2022 midday

Linked to **St Lucia** by a sand causeway, **Pigeon Island** has been a designated National Park since 1979. On this wild and pristine land, you will be inspired to take pleasant walks amid the tropical vegetation and through a **magnificent tree-filled garden**. You will also be irresistibly drawn to the two pretty little sandy beaches nestling on the southern side and bathed by crystal-clear waters. While snorkelling, be sure to explore the underwater world that is teeming with life, along the rocks lining this peninsula's coast. You will thoroughly enjoy the calm and beauty of this place, which is really conducive to simply relaxing.

SOUFRIÈRE

Arrival 27/02/2022 early afternoon
Departure 27/02/2022 late afternoon

Nestled in the crook of a breath-taking bay, the former capital of **St Lucia** is brimming with attractions. **Soufrière** is famous for The **Pitons**, volcanic spires that tower over the entrance to the town. In the vicinity of the lush botanical gardens, you will be able to enjoy the curative powers of the **Diamond Falls mineral baths**. From the beach at the north end of the bay, you can set off to explore the reefs that are home to stunning gardens of sea fans at the foot of the cliffs that plunge into the sea.

BRIDGETOWN

Arrival 28/02/2022 early morning
Disembarkation 28/02/2022 at 07:00

Bridgetown, the bustling capital of Barbados, is located on the island's south-west coast. Its **historic quarters** are **UNESCO World Heritage sites** and contain prime examples of British colonial architecture, which you will see between the postcard-perfect fishing harbour and St Ann's Fort. Streets shaded by palms and flamboyant trees lead you to the Anglican cathedral church of St Michael, built from coral stone, the Barbados Museum and George Washington House, a Georgian-style mansion. There'll be plenty of time to relax on the Caribbean beaches of **Carlisle Bay**, a few paces from the old town centre.