

# Cities & Island Jewels of the Mediterranean

From **27/03/2022**  
to **03/04/2022**

Ship: **LE BOUGAINVILLE**

From **Valletta**  
to **Málaga**



**PONANT** invites you to discover the wonders of the Mediterranean during an extraordinary cruise between Malta, Italy and Spain. Enjoy this unforgettable **8-day trip** aboard *Le Bougainville*, with sumptuous landscapes and exceptional moments exploring fascinating sites.

Your cruise will start in **Valletta**, the capital of the island of Malta, and former stronghold of the Knights of the Order of Malta.

You will start your cruise in Sicily with a stopover in **Trapani** to visit the charming village of **Erice**. 750 metres (2,460 feet) up, perched on a high triangular plateau sloping down to the sea, this medieval city is a labyrinth of polished, paved narrow streets and alleyways with superb views over the Aegadian Islands and the valley.

*Le Bougainville* will then arrive in **Cagliari**, capital of **Sardinia** and one of the largest natural harbours in the Mediterranean; its historic centre is full of charm, with shaded stairs, small squares inundated with light and remains conjuring up its medieval grandeur.

You will continue your cruise with the visit to the Balearic Islands with the discovery of the well-preserved **Menorca. Mahon**, the island's capital, will charm you with its age-old history and its exceptional port, which, at 6 kilometres (3.7 miles) long, is the biggest in the Mediterranean!

After a call at **Palma de Majorca**, one of the jewels of the **Balearic Archipelago**, known for its four main islands that are charming, picturesque and discreet, sitting atop the clear waters of the Mediterranean like grains of sand, you will join **Valencia**, with its remarkable architectural splendours.

Your last port of call will be **Cartagena**, an ancient walled city with a remarkable architectural heritage, lying in the heart of a rolling landscape. Finally, you will sail to **Malaga**, the bustling cultural capital of the *Costa del Sol*, where you will disembark.



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

# Cities & Island Jewels of the Mediterranean

## YOUR STOPOVERS :

### VALLETTA

Embarkation 27/03/2022 from 15:30 to 16:30

Departure 27/03/2022 at 18:00

The whole of the Maltese capital Valletta is **UNESCO World Heritage** listed and occupies a peninsula in the north-east of the island. From the fountain of Tritons to Saint-Elme fort, there are as many majestic streets as there are narrow staircase vennels to explore. The painted loggia and carved corbels on the tall houses will accompany you in your explorations, and you'll rarely be bothered by traffic. You can visit the Grandmasters palace decorated with coats of arms and frescoes. **Saint-John's cathedral** and the ramparts which have guarded the city since the 16th century are also among the most emblematic sites of the city. Arranged in terraces, the **Barrakka Gardens** will punctuate your promenade with a green and floral experience.

### TRAPANI, SICILY

Arrival 28/03/2022 early morning

Departure 28/03/2022 early afternoon

Bathed in the cobalt waters of the **Tyrrhenian sea**, Trapani is the former port of the Greek city of **Erice**, boasting a privileged natural position in western **Sicily**. As you wander through its little streets, you will discover a secular cultural heritage, bearing witness to the many influences of civilisations that came here: **San Lorenzo Cathedral**, Maria Santissima Annunziata sanctuary, the fountain of Triton. On the shaded restaurant terraces, savour some fresh fish from the morning's catch. Or else you can opt for a seafood couscous, a culinary legacy from their Arab neighbours.

### CAGLIARI, SARDINIA

Arrival 29/03/2022 early morning

Departure 29/03/2022 midday

The capital of Sardinia, **Cagliari**, like Rome, is built on seven hills. Its Sardinian name means "castle", in reference to the citadel, its historic centre, which dominates the city. The old ramparts are now pleasant panoramic terraces bordering picturesque streets. The city hosted the Nuragic, Phoenician, Roman and Byzantine civilisations before the rein of the Spanish Hapsburgs and the House of Savoy. The monuments of Cagliari bear the traces of these successive dominations, such as the Bastion of Saint-Rémy or the **Sainte-Marie Cathedral**. On the sea front, Art Nouveau-style public monuments give way to the Poetto beach, a magnificent stretch of sand that is 8 kilometres long.

### MAHON, BALEARIC ISLANDS

Arrival 30/03/2022 midday

Departure 30/03/2022 early evening

You will be welcomed by the colourful houses of **Mahon**, its narrow streets and pretty squares that appear as you stroll around this richly contrasting city. Mahon reveals its different neighbourhoods, alternating between monuments, villas and white buildings. Discover the **Santa Maria church**, a building of neo-gothic inspiration, rebuilt in the 18th Century. It is worth a visit to see its monumental organ with more than 3,000 pipes and four keyboards. Around the Carmen church you will find a **local market**, full of stands selling *avarcas*, typical Menorcan sandals originally made by peasants. Let yourself fall under the spell of this Mediterranean treasure.

## PALMA DE MALLORCA, BALEARIC ISLANDS

Arrival 31/03/2022 early morning

Departure 31/03/2022 late afternoon

**Palma de Mallorca** will reveal its many treasures: idyllic coves, majestic limestone cliffs that plunge into the clear sapphire- and turquoise-coloured waters of the Mediterranean, and vast plains planted with almond trees, olive trees and vineyards. When your ship calls at the capital of the Balearic Islands, take a walk to discover its emblematic monuments, such as its **famous cathedral**, and amble through its old streets. Here, like a painting, the island's historical heritage forms a backdrop to the lively and warm cosmopolitan atmosphere of the Mediterranean.

## VALENCIA

Arrival 01/04/2022 early morning

Departure 01/04/2022 late afternoon

**Valencia** - the city of Art and Sciences. Two hearts beat in this Spanish city: one is modern, avantgarde and almost futuristic; the other is more provincial, more traditional and nostalgic. Valencia has the temperament of a great Mediterranean city whose wide avenues form a border around the old town. The city has an abundance of architectural styles that coexist harmoniously, but above all it resolutely embraces the 21st Century with the futuristic structures of its Agora congress centre and City of Arts and Sciences, emerging from a crystal blue pool.

## CARTAGENA

Arrival 02/04/2022 early morning

Departure 02/04/2022 early afternoon

Surrounded by hills, the natural site of the **Bay of Carthage** presided over the fate of this **former fortress** which has been home to the greatest European civilisations. Today, these Phoenician, Roman, Carthaginian, Moorish and Christian influences form a rich architectural heritage. Its **Roman theatre** is one of the most significant and best conserved in Spain. You will also be able to cross the landscapes of vines and citrus groves stretching endlessly towards **Murcia**, to visit this dynamic regional capital.

## MÁLAGA

Arrival 03/04/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 03/04/2022 at 08:00

A historical and festive town, Malaga is located in Andalusia, on the Costa del Sol. Between the marina and the beaches, the seaside promenade of La Farola offers an ideal setting for strolling and relaxing. Set slightly further back,

the Malagueta bullring is one of the emblematic sites of the city. From the hill overlooking the old town, one can see **Gibralfaro castle** and **the Alcazaba**, two fortified ensembles rising out from the cypresses and maritime pines. To visit **Pablo Picasso's birthplace**, you will go first to the courtly plaza de la Merced. A few streets back from here, you can explore the museum dedicated to the artist, in the Buenavista palace.