

Caribbean Odyssey

From **22/11/2022**
to **06/12/2022**

Ship: **LE BELLOT**

From **Fort-de-France**
to **Cozumel**



Transfer from Cozumel to Playa del Carmen

From **Fort-de-France** to **Cozumel**, succumb to the charms of the Caribbean aboard a **15-day cruise** with PONANT. Between beaches and turquoise waters, bays edged with palm trees, and lush tropical forest, this **all-new circuit** from the **Lesser Antilles to the Greater Antilles** aboard *Le Bellot* will be an opportunity for swimming and unforgettable discoveries in an exceptional setting.

You will board *Le Bellot* in **Fort-de-France**, the capital of Martinique.

First of all, your ship will reach the charming shores of **Guadeloupe**. You will discover the ravishing **Baie des Saintes**, a very popular spot for mooring, with crystal clear waters and fabulous seabeds.

You will then sail towards the island of **Antigua**. The naval dockyard dating back to Georgian times, sheltered in the hollow of a bay protected from this island with craggy coastlines, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Your ship will then set sail for the famous island of **Saint-Barthélemy**, renowned for its wild coves and its elegant little shopping streets.

Located between the Lesser Antilles and the Greater Antilles, the **British Virgin Islands** are composed of some sixty islands, most of which are uninhabited. Discover on **Virgin Gorda**, The **Baths National Park** and its huge blocks of granite, surrounded by caves and rock pools, before a stop in **Jost Van Dyke** for a relaxing swim.

You will finish your journey in the Caribbean Sea on the island of the **Dominican Republic**. There will be a port of call in the charming bay of **Santa Bárbara de Samaná**, which is edged by creole houses, from where you will be able to go and discover the caverns and mangrove of Los Haitises National Park. Then, you will be able to appreciate the charms of **Santo Domingo**, the oldest capital of the “New World”, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

At the end of a magnificent cruise, *Le Bellot* will finally reach the island of **Cozumel**, located off the coast of the Yucatán Peninsula. In an idyllic setting, you will be able to enjoy the treasures of lush nature between swimming, snorkelling and exploring exceptional sites.



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

Caribbean Odyssey

YOUR STOPOVERS :

FORT-DE-FRANCE

Embarkation 22/11/2022 from 18:00 to 19:00

Departure 22/11/2022 at 20:00

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.

LES SAINTES

Arrival 23/11/2022 early morning

Departure 23/11/2022 late afternoon

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.

ANTIGUA

Arrival 24/11/2022 early morning

Departure 24/11/2022 evening

Between white sandy beaches and lush tropical forest, you will discover Antigua, the largest of the two islands that make up **Antigua-and-Barbuda**, a sovereign **Commonwealth** state. From its British colonial heritage, this picture-postcard island has kept English as its official language and a pronounced taste for **cricket!** The steep hillsides of the south of the island offer splendid vistas over **English Harbour** and the **Antigua shipyard**, a building dating from the 17th century and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and over Indian Creek, where the first Awarak Indians settled. To the east, the clear waters of the village of Seatons are the ideal site for **snorkelling alongside the rays.**

GUSTAVIA

Arrival 25/11/2022 early morning

Departure 25/11/2022 evening

Lovers of this island call it **Saint-Barth**. This French island in the Lesser Antilles was discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1493. Ever since, this tiny **mountainous volcanic gem** with its **unspoilt nature** has been enchanting visitors. You will enjoy the beauty of its large paradisiacal beaches, plus the charm and refinement of its old wooden houses and its sumptuous **colonial manors**. Although, as you saunter through the rues de **Gustavia** or **Saint-Jean**, you'll come across jewellers, top fashion boutiques and fine restaurants, there is also a simplicity that money can't buy...

VIRGIN GORDA

Arrival 26/11/2022 early morning

Departure 26/11/2022 late evening

Virgin Gorda is one of the British Virgin Islands archipelago's largest islands. There, you will discover The Baths National Park and its well-renowned picture-postcard beaches. Gigantic volcanic boulders sit surrounded by the turquoise waters of the Caribbean, creating spectacular geological formations. Indeed, over the years a network of basins, caves and natural pools has formed, resulting in a sublime aquatic maze in which it is enjoyable to lose oneself before heading to the stunning Devil's Bay Beach. On the island's south-eastern tip, Copper Mine National Park is still home to many ruins of an abandoned copper mine that looks out over the sea.

JOST VAN DYKE

Arrival 27/11/2022 early morning

Departure 27/11/2022 evening

During your cruise, discover the pearl of the British Virgin Islands, said to have been named after a fearsome Dutch pirate from long ago. The hilly landscape offers travellers beautiful wild expanses lined with immaculate beaches where the breeze gently caresses the coconut palms. In this slice of heaven with crystal-clear waters, **you will be able to enjoy the lively atmosphere of White Bay**. As for the wildlife, iguanas, mongooses, pelicans and blue herons have taken up residence on these islands, much to the delight of our passengers who love a good holiday snap!

AT SEA

Arrival 28/11/2022

Departure 28/11/2022

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.

SANTA BÁRBARA DE SAMANÁ

Arrival 29/11/2022 early morning

Departure 29/11/2022 late afternoon

Founded in honour of Barbara de Braganza, wife of the Spanish king Ferdinand VI, the town of **Santa Barbara de Samaná** is located on the south coast of the Samaná Peninsula, in the **Dominican Republic**. Along the seafront, in a bay renowned for the passage of humpback whales during the first months of the year, charming Creole-style houses display their colourful facades. When your ship calls here, don't miss the chance to visit Los Haitises National Park. There, you will navigate through a stunning landscape of tropical **rainforest** and discover caves that were once occupied by the Taino Indians. If you prefer to stay on land, the El Limon **waterfall** in the centre of the Samaná Peninsula is also worth a visit.

SAONA ISLAND

Arrival 30/11/2022 early morning

Departure 30/11/2022 evening

Soana Island is located in the **Cotubanamá National Park**, at the extreme south-east tip of the **Dominican Republic**. Imagine a deep blue sky coupled with the infinite turquoise shades of the sea surrounding this palm-tree lined island that is like a **taste of Paradise**. Its stunning coral reefs are home to a rainbow of **tropical fish**. A veritable protected nature reserve, it is home to a **sea turtle sanctuary**. In **Mano Juan**, the pastel-coloured wooden huts give this charming fishing village a warm and friendly atmosphere. Don't miss the chance to discover the cultural heritage of Saona, such as the **Cotubanamá cave**, painted by the **Taino Indians** before the Spanish conquest.

SANTO DOMINGO

Arrival 01/12/2022 early morning

Departure 01/12/2022 late afternoon

Capital of the Dominican Republic, located on the south coast of Hispaniola, **Santo Domingo** is also the oldest town in the Caribbean and the New World. Officially founded at the end of the 15th Century by the older brother of Christopher Columbus, and named after Saint Dominic, founder of the Dominican order, the city boasts an immense historical heritage. At the heart of **the colonial district**, a **UNESCO World Heritage site**, you can admire the oldest Spanish constructions in the Americas.

BAHIA DE LAS AGUILAS

Arrival 02/12/2022 early morning

Departure 02/12/2022 midday

South-west of the Dominican Republic, along the Pedernales Peninsula, renowned for its particularly rich biodiversity, discover Bahia de las Aguilas, literally meaning the Bay of Eagles. A true paradise on earth, the site offers a magnificent expanse of white sand and warm, crystal-clear waters: an almost desert-like setting that contrasts with the dense vegetation of the Sierra de Bahoruco. Considered to be one of the most beautiful beaches in the Dominican Republic, it is also one of the most unspoiled. Integrated into the Jaragua National Park and the Jaragua-Bahoruco-Enriquillo Biosphere Reserve, it is notably renowned for the sea turtles that lay their eggs here.

AT SEA

Arrival 03/12/2022

Departure 04/12/2022

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.

COZUMEL

Arrival 05/12/2022 midday

Disembarkation 06/12/2022 at 07:00

Off the Riviera Maya, **Cozumel** is Mexico's second largest island. Located at the northern extremity of the **Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System**, the island is renowned for its snorkelling and diving sites and the incredible **clarity of its waters** protected by a marine park. The island's coasts and interior are also full of treasures: sacred Maya sites devoted to medicine, love and fertility; cenotes; a museum; an ecological reserve; mangroves; lagoons; coastal dunes; long unspoiled beaches. Don't hesitate to climb to the top of the lighthouse in the Punta Sur Nature Reserve in the island's south, to admire the panorama of these **wild expanses** from above.