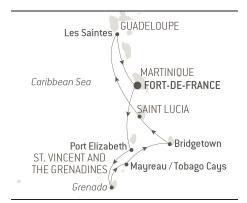
# Pearls of the Caribbean

From **8/3/2022** to **16/3/2022** 

Ship: LE DUMONT-D'URVILLE

From Fort-de-France to Fort-de-France





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

From **Fort-de-France**, the capital of Martinique, **Le Dumont-D'Urville** will set sail to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and **Bequia Island**, the "whale-hunting island," and its wild and unspoiled coastline. You will enjoy the lively atmosphere of Port Elizabeth, the island's main town.

After a call at Grenada, your sailing yacht 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 and its secret coves.

You will then island hop gently towards **Saint Lucia** and its two majestic rocky peaks soaring straight from the sea, a unique location listed as **UNESCO World Heritage site**. You will finally reach Fort-de-France. Make sure to visit one of its renowned rum distilleries!

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 15/3/2021

# Pearls of the Caribbean **YOUR STOPOVERS:**

#### **FORT-DE-FRANCE**

Embarkation 8/3/2022 from 16h00 to 17h00 Departure 8/3/2022 at 21h00

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.

# PORT ELIZABETH, BEQUIA ISLAND

Arrival 9/3/2022 early morning Departure 9/3/2022 evening

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.

## SAINT GEORGE'S, GRENADA

Arrival 10/3/2022 early morning Departure 10/3/2022 early 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.

# **MAYREAU ISLAND**

Arrival 11/3/2022 early morning Departure 11/3/2022 late 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.

#### **TOBAGO CAYS**

Arrival 12/3/2022 early morning Departure 12/3/2022 evening

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.

## **BRIDGETOWN**

Arrival 13/3/2022 early morning Departure 13/3/2022 evening

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.

## **PIGEON ISLAND BEACH**

Arrival 14/3/2022 early morning Departure 14/3/2022 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 14/3/2022 early afternoon Departure 14/3/2022 evening

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.

#### **LES SAINTES**

Arrival 15/3/2022 early morning Departure 15/3/2022 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 16/3/2022 early morning Disembarkation 16/3/2022 at 06h00

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.