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Mediterranean

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Package #255

Discover the beauty of Croatia's turquoise waters, ancient fortresses and breathtaking waterfalls with a gorgeous 7 night cruise aboard Ponant's Le Lyrial.

Beginning in romantic Venice, you'll wave the interlacing streets and canals goodbye as you relax in comfort on board.

Le Lyrial will then call at Korčula, full of olive groves, vineyards and ancient buildings. An island marked by history, the birthplace of the explorer Marco Polo.

Next, we head to the aptly named "Pearl of the Adriatic", Dubrovnik, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Surrounded by medieval ramparts, its terracotta-tiled roofs, its palaces, cloisters and fountains are bound to impress you and will plunge you into the heart of Croatian history.

Your ship will then set sail towards Montenegro, for an unforgettable cruise in the Bay of Kotor. This impressive gash between two mountain ranges is home to a veritable inland lake with a magical atmosphere; the medieval city of Kotor and its many historical monuments are its jewels.

Your exploration of the Croatian coastlines will conclude with visits of Hvar, Pula and Rovinj, before you head back to Venice. (See below for more details on ports of call)

**Cruise departure dates: 2020: 29 May, 05 June, 12 June, 19 June, 28 August, 04 September**

Your 8 night cruise/stay package includes:

- Arrival transfer in Venice
- 1 night accommodation pre-cruise in Venice
- Transfer to port
- 7 night Venice-Venice cruise on board Ponant's Le Lyrial
- All meals on board including room service
- Wide selection of drinks (mineral water, soft drinks, wine, beer, Henri Abelé BRUT champagne, spirits, coffee, tea) is served on request and at any time of the day. Certain premium alcoholic beverages on the menu are not included in the Open Bar.
- Free Wi-Fi internet access 24 hours a day
- Pre-paid port taxes

**Please contact us for latest pricing and best available fares.**

Note: Additional nights accommodation and other touring are also available – please discuss with our reservations team.

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## Le Lyrial

Le Lyrial, like her sisterships, embodies the subtle alliance between luxury, intimacy and wellbeing which is PONANT's signature. The elegance of her exterior and interior lines and her intimate size (only 122 staterooms and suites) make this a rare and innovative yacht on the cruise market. Inspired by the destinations Ponant visits, the interior design is a subtle variation around a palette of blues. Ranging from the luminous delicate grey-blue of the Polar ice to splashes of the vivid turquoise blue found in Mediterranean coves, it also includes the blue light of the future pole star.

On-board, you will find a gastronomic restaurant, Grill, fitness centre, beauty corner, swimming pool, medical centre, theatre, lounges, bars and more.

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## Cruise Highlights

Venice

Proud and eternal, Venice has reigned on its lagoon ever since the 6th century. You may think you know this city before even setting

foot here. You will inevitably fall in love with the charm of the innumerable treasures of the Serenissima: Saint Mark's square, the basilica, Doges palace, the Grand Canal and the gondolas. Yet, secret Venice is also waiting for you to explore its little interlacing streets and canals, to ramble through its squares and to push open the doors of its churches. The city's extraordinary heritage shouldn't stop you from enjoying a glass of Spritz and a few tramezzini.

#### Korcula

This harbour town has a very special location, presiding on a spur on the north-eastern coast of the island of Korčula. The ramparts in its medieval district provide perfect vantage points over the Pelješac peninsula. To get there, you can take the monumental staircase in the Revelin Tower. Another way is to climb the steps in the shade of palm trees from the Morska Vrata (Marine portal). As you make your way through the little streets, you'll see the bell-tower of Saint-Mark's cathedral rise above you. This landmark will help you locate the house where Marco Polo was born. The island also has some of its own famous wines like the red Plavac and the white Posip.

#### Sibenik

Located at the heart of central Dalmatia, Sibenik is proud of its pure Croatian architecture, unlike its neighbours which were founded by the Romans. Behind its walls, along its steep narrow streets with their almost Italian charm, the old town has conserved a prestigious built heritage of churches and palaces dating from the 15th and 16th centuries. The magnificent Cathedral of Saint James is one of the emblematic sites of the city. The remarkable ornate frieze of 71 sculpted portraits of women, men and children, illustrates the successful merger of Gothic and Renaissance art.

#### Split

On the Dalmatian coast, the town of Split offers cultural visits in a seaside atmosphere. Close to the seafront shaded by palm trees, the historical centre listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, boasts a unique building: the Diocletian's Palace. Here you will explore its galleries, courtyards with carved columns, as well as a former mausoleum converted into a church, namely Saint Domnius Cathedral. If you get peckish, stop off at a terrace in the Pjaca, the main square in the old town, where you can try a palacinka, a kind of pancake topped with melted cheese.

#### Dubrovnik

Emblem of the Dalmatian coast, Dubrovnik is magnificently positioned on a rocky spur. History is sovereign here, in this ancient city, now a listed UNESCO World Heritage site. You will perhaps be surprised by the proportions of La Placa, the central drag through the city. The sheer width of it can be explained by the fact that it straddles a former lagoon. The elegant houses along La Placa are built in the legendary travertine stone. At Pile gate, you will be greeted by the statue of the patron saint of Dubrovnik, and you can admire the coastline as you walk along the ramparts. But what's inside Fort Saint John, adjoining the outer walls? A maritime museum and an aquarium featuring rare fish from the Adriatic.

#### Kotor

Situated in one of Montenegro's most beautiful bays, the medieval city of Kotor is a small town full of charm, truly imbued with the traditions and stories of another time. Built between the 12th and 14th centuries, this village, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, has preserved many historical monuments from this epoch. During your stop, be sure to admire the impressive castle that dominates the town, and let yourself fall under the charm of its maze of small streets and intimate squares on which folk festivals featuring magnificent colourful costumes are often organised.

#### Hvar

Off the coast of Split, Hvar will surprise you by its traditions that haven't changed since Antiquity. The country's oldest town, Stari Grad, is here on this Dalmatian Island. The town nestles by a cove on the north-west coast, surrounded by dry stone wall structures on the Stari Grad plains. These have been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site because they were built in the time of the Ancient Greeks. From these parcels of land come wines and olive oil manufactured manually. In the upper part of town, it is possible to discover hams and cheeses made by local producers. The picturesque village of Vrisnik is also a good place to try some of local produce.

#### Pula

The Pearl of the Adriatic, lying at the southern tip of the Istrian Peninsula, Pula is undoubtedly the most Roman of all Croatian towns. Some of the greatest pages in history were written here, as the breathtaking ancient remains testify. Take your pick exploring the amphitheatre, the Twin Gates, the Gate of Hercules and the triumphal Arch of the Sergii. Stroll through the busy lanes in the old town, enjoying the warm welcome of the locals, and perhaps you will be tempted to try the famous Kvarner scampi or Istrian ham.

#### Rovinj

Rovinj is located in Istria, a region bordering Slovenia. This becomes apparent as you walk through its old cobblestoned town. There are many monuments of Venetian influence here. If you study the Balbi arch, you will see the winged lion, symbol of Venice. The bell-tower erected beside Saint Euphemia Cathedral was designed like the bell of St. Marc in Venice. From the top of the tower, you can scan the entire historical district. To absorb its quaint atmosphere, take a walk in the ochre and sepia-coloured streets leading to bustling squares and terraces shaded by canvas awnings.

#### Terms and Conditions

Conditions Apply: All prices shown here are per person share twin (unless stated as single) in AUD, based on best available cruise fare at time of publication (19Sep19). All prices based on cash payment - credit card fees may apply. \*\*All airfares/taxes are based on 2020 rates/schedules and subject to change until bookable approx 10 months prior. Once booked, all airfare/taxes are due in full 24 hours from reservation and strict cancellation/change fees apply. Cruise deposit, amendment and cancellation conditions apply. Travel agent service fees may apply. Special conditions apply - please ask for full details at time of enquiry. All passports, vaccinations and visas are the responsibility of the travelling guest to secure prior to departure from Australia. While we endeavour

to keep our pricing as up-to-date as possible, the advertised prices shown here may differ from the prices in our booking system at time of reservation. Offer end when sold out/withdrawn and is subject to availability at time of booking.

## Cruise Category

- Luxury Expedition

## Onboard Features

- All meals
- Boutique &/or Salon
- Drinks All Day
- Pool &/or Spa

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trip itinerary

Day 1

Venice

Day 2

Korcula

Day 3

Sibenik & Split

Day 4

Dubrovnik

Day 5

Dubrovnik & Kotor

Day 6

Hvar

Day 7

Pula & Rovinj

Day 8

Venice

□ The Vessel

## Technical Details

- Built Date 2015
- Crew 139
- Capacity 264
- Length 142M

## Cruise Category

- Boutique Style
- Classical Luxury

Le Lyrial

Sailing under the French flag, this magnificent yacht of only 122 staterooms and Suites, with balconies, exudes a refined ambiance, enhanced by the quality of the workmanship and materials. images courtesy Ponant

## Vessel Features

- All meals
- Pool &/or Spa

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