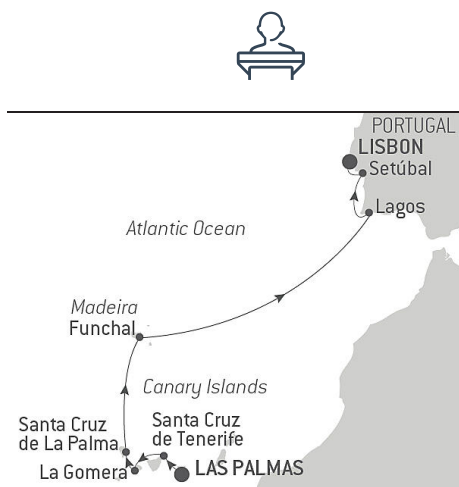


Volcanic islands and historic cities of the North Atlantic

From **8/4/2025**
to **18/4/2025**

Ship: **L'AUSTRAL**

From **Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Canary Islands**
to **Lisbon**



From the volcanic archipelagos of the **Canaries and Madeira** to the southern tip of **Portugal**, PONANT invites you on an unforgettable **11-day** interlude, between **Las Palmas and Lisbon**. This journey aboard *L'Austral* will take you into the heart of uniquely and wildly beautiful landscapes, featuring **majestic volcanos, lush green valleys, isolated inlets, verdant cliffs and historic cities with multiple sources of heritage**.

Throughout your journey, you will benefit from an excursion included per person per port of call, to choose from a selection offered by PONANT. During this cruise, admire the **volcanic and verdant landscapes of** Santa Cruz de La Palma, explore the **Garajonay National Park**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, **from La Gomera**, or discover the oldest banana plantation in Santa Cruz de Tenerife. The diversity of experiences on offer promises you intense and varied moments (to discover the full range of excursions, go to the itinerary tab).

Your cruise will start on the island of **Gran Canaria in Las Palmas**, then *your ship* will take to the sea, sailing west to reach **Santa Cruz de Tenerife**. In these lands of a thousand contrasts, dominated by the emblematic silhouette of the Teide stratovolcano, discover the unique and fascinating landscapes found in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Teide National Park.

L'Austral will then drop anchor at **La Gomera**. This tiny island with lush vegetation is a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to its biosphere reserve. This island is also renowned for its whistling language, *Silbo*, that the inhabitants use to communicate from one valley to another.

Next, **Santa Cruz de La Palma** will invite you to spend a moment suspended in time. Here, the accent is on authenticity and tranquillity as you succumb to the charms of its unspoilt nature and its unusual architectural heritage featuring traditional Canarian houses with brightly-coloured wooden balconies, sumptuous palaces, and religious buildings.

Your ship will then set a course northward to carry you to **Madeira**, a paradise for hiking enthusiasts. On this steep island covered in **luxuriant vegetation**, the variety of landscapes, including **sheer cliffs**, *levadas* (Madeiran aqueducts), banana plantations, and the laurel forest – Laurisilva – listed with UNESCO, never ceases to amaze visitors.

Your exploration will continue in the **Algarve** region at the country's southern tip. Bewitching **Lagos** stands proud like a fortress in hues of ochre and orange, bordered by the turquoise waters of the Atlantic Ocean. **In this town of nature and culture**, stroll in the paved small streets of the historic centre whose Moorish and Portuguese influences create a delightful blend.

Further north, you will head towards the surprising and picturesque mediaeval city of **Setúbal**. Surrounded by vast parks and nature reserves featuring abundant biodiversity, between the Sado Estuary and the Serra da Arrábda whose waters shelter many dolphins, you will also fall under the charm of the historic heritage of this authentic fishing town.

Your cruise will come to an end in **Lisbon**, sitting on the Tagus River, distilling its one-of-a-kind charm imbued with rich history.



The information in this document is valid as of 24/8/2024

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA, CANARY ISLANDS

Embarkation 8/4/2025 From 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Departure 8/4/2025 at 6:00 pm

A stopover of sunny climes, Las Palmas is located on the north-east coast of Gran Canaria. A few streets away from Puerto de la Luz port, you'll discover the vast Las Canteras beach, bordered with the town's characteristic palms. You'll find these palms are all over Las Palmas, in the streets and squares, especially on the **plaza de Santa Ana** in the heart of the historical district. It feels like you've travelled back in time here, as you stand looking at the tall houses beside the Santa Ana cathedral. Very close by, you can visit the **Casa de Colón**, a museum dedicated to the famous explorer. The museum is housed in the palace belonging to the island's former governor. Chances are, you'll be drawn to the covered Vegueta market to partake in some daily life along with the locals and taste some unfamiliar dishes.

SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE, CANARY ISLANDS

Arrival 9/4/2025 early morning

Departure 9/4/2025 late evening

The capital city of Tenerife is located on the north-east coast of the island. Close to the port is the monumental **Plaza de España**, bedecked with a fountain and plant sculptures. Around the plaza, you can admire the white marble Triunfo de la Candelaria obelisk, the historic casino of Santa Cruz and the majestic Guimerà theatre. Not far from here, the picturesque **Iglesia de la Concepción** church features the characteristic traits of Canaries architecture.

SAN SEBASTIAN DE LA GOMERA, CANARY ISLANDS

Arrival 10/4/2025 early morning

Departure 10/4/2025 evening

La Gomera rises from the water like a mirage. This volcanic island in **the Canaries** features jagged cliffs, valleys covered in palm trees, and beaches of black sand bathing in crystal-clear waters. But its greatest treasure lies at its heart: an exceptional *laurisilva*, a laurel forest whose prehistoric vegetation has been preserved thanks to the microclimate on the island. This unique ecosystem, common a few million years ago in the tropics, forms the **Garajonay National Park**, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Like the birds, the Guanches contribute to the poetry of the island too, with their whistled language called **Silbo**. This magical-sounding, melodious language is also listed as World Heritage by UNESCO.

SANTA CRUZ DE LA PALMA, CANARY ISLANDS

Arrival 11/4/2025 early morning
Departure 11/4/2025 mid afternoon

The capital of the island of Palma, **Santa Cruz de la Palma** is the pearl of the Canaries. Founded in 1493 by the conquistador Alonso Fernandez de Lugo, the city has preserved a large and atypical architectural heritage from its colonial past, with its traditional Canarian houses adorned with brightly coloured wooden balconies, its cobbled streets, its sumptuous palaces and its numerous religious buildings. The **Santa Catalina Castle** is the symbol of the city. This 16th century military fortification helped defend the city from repeated attacks by French privateers.

FUNCHAL, MADEIRA

Arrival 12/4/2025 midday
Departure 13/4/2025 late afternoon

This attractive capital of Madeira is located on the southern coast of the island. The walkways of the old town are lined with **azulejos**, or multi-coloured mosaics. If you follow these patterns, they'll lead you to the appetising Mercado dos Lavradores market stands, the **Frederico de Freitas** museum, and the golden panelling of the Cathedral de la Sé. Along the waterfront, the palm tree-shaded promenade leads you to the **teleféricos de Monte**, Madeira's cable cars. Its panoramic cabins transport you over the city to top of Monte, where you can see the picturesque botanical garden.

AT SEA

Arrival 14/4/2025 at night
Departure 14/4/2025 late evening

During your journey 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 journey without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, depending on the activities offered, or 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.

LAGOS

Arrival 15/4/2025 midday
Departure 15/4/2025 evening

There stands a natural paradise called **Lagos**, bordered by the Atlantic Ocean, in the Algarve region of southern Portugal. With its picturesque and age-old town centre, and the **Ponta da Piedade** natural site sheltering paradisiacal beaches protected by captivating limestone cliffs in hues of ochre, Lagos enthral, fascinates and enchants. In this interesting blend between nature and culture, do not miss the chance to stroll along the small paved streets of its historic centre, surrounded by impressive Moorish ramparts and edged with traditional white houses, with decorations sculpted in the stone. In particular, you will be able to admire the Manuelian-style Governor's Castle, the 17th-century Ponta da Bandeira Fort or the Church of Santo António in Baroque architecture.

SETÚBAL

Arrival 16/4/2025 early morning

Departure 16/4/2025 evening

A few kilometres south of Lisbon, **Setúbal**, one of Portugal's most important fishing ports, enjoys an exceptional geographical location. The city is surrounded by vast parks and nature reserves that protect the biodiversity of the **Sado estuary** and the **Arrábida serra**. Don't miss the possibility to discover the magnificent wild and unspoilt expanses that border the peninsula and the estuary, whose waters are home to many **dolphins**, which can easily be observed.

LISBON

Arrival 17/4/2025 early morning

Disembarkation 18/4/2025 at 8:00 am

Portugal's capital city located on the banks of the Tagus, only a few kilometres from the Atlantic coast, is a city of exceptionally rich cultural diversity. At the mouth of the river harbour, impose two UNESCO World Heritage monuments, **Jeronimos monastery** and **Belem tower**. The Alfama hillside is also worth visiting: known for its **fado** bars and its **Moorish streets**, this district is the oldest one of the city and one of the most typical. Not far from there, Chiado's elegant streets are home to big fashion labels and are an invitation to a bit of of luxury shopping.