

Mediterranean Odyssey

From **27/06/2022**
to **10/07/2022**

Ship: **LE BOUGAINVILLE**

From **Nice**
to **Istanbul**



From the capital of the Côte d'Azur to the beautiful city of Istanbul, this brand-new and unforgettable 14-day cruise is bound to surprise you. As you sail aboard *Le Bougainville*, admire the magnificent cities and Mediterranean islands with an age-old history.

Setting sail from **Nice**, your ship will make its way to **Calvi**, at the heart of the **Balagne** region on the Isle of Beauty, Corsica. Between steep peaks and sublime beaches with turquoise waters, you will experience a wild and authentic Corsica.

You will then stop at **Porto Santo Stefano**, a town built along a hillside and surrounded by a 17th century fortress. Then, you will visit **Amalfi** and its coast, which are magnificent **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**. Perched between sky and sea, Amalfi presents amazing landscapes.

In **Taormina**, the streets will lead you to the impressive **ancient theatre**, where the quality of the acoustics is exceptional. And as a constant backdrop: the majestic Mount Etna!

Your ship will then sail along the astonishing **Corinth Canal**, a famous sea channel dug out by men in the 19th century, and will join **Hydra**, a small island of old-worldly charm where motorised traffic is banned.

Next comes **Mykonos**, its beaches and windmills, with **Alefkandra**, a district that is typical of the island, with houses built right on the water's edge. You will then reach **Symi**. Covered with vines, olive trees and cypress trees, this island is one of the most beautiful in the Dodecanese archipelago.

You will discover **Patmos**, known as the "Jerusalem of the Aegean Sea".

Le Bougainville will then head towards **Paros**. Nestling in the heart of the Cyclades archipelago, this island reputed for its sublime white marble offers a real concentration of Greek beauty, from whitewashed houses to olive groves to ancient monuments.

Your trip continues with a stop on the volcanic island of **Limnos**, near the Dardanelles Strait.

Then you will reach **Istanbul**, a rich historical UNESCO listed site, at the end of a magnificent cruise.



The information in this document is valid as of 25/01/2022

Mediterranean Odyssey

YOUR STOPOVERS :

NICE

Embarkation 27/06/2022 from 16:00 to 17:00

Departure 27/06/2022 at 18:00

Capital of the Cote d'Azur, Nice is surrounded by an amphitheatre of hills and mountains that protects it from the wind. You will probably want to explore the Promenade des Anglais, where you can sit on one of the famous blue chairs laid out opposite the baie des Anges. The Château hill is also a very pleasant place to walk. This is the entrance to the **old city**, with its bustling markets and regional products along the main street, the Cours Saleya.

CALVI, CORSICA

Arrival 28/06/2022 midday

Departure 28/06/2022 late afternoon

Nestled on a rocky spur in the north-west of Corsica, the port of **Calvi** offers its whiteness between two sapphire-coloured bays. Capital of the **Balagne** region, the Genoese city benefits from an exceptional natural setting between the abrupt relief of the central chain, fertile hills and long sandy beaches. From the promontory of the **Notre-Dame-de-la-Serra chapel**, built in the 19th century on the ruins of a 15th century sanctuary, you will not miss the sublime panorama of the seaside, the mountains and the Calvi citadel. A little further west, you will have the opportunity to discover with the **peninsula of Revelatta**, a wilder and more preserved part of Corsica.

PORTO SANTO STEFANO

Arrival 29/06/2022 early morning

Departure 29/06/2022 late afternoon

In Southern Tuscany, **Porto Santo Stefano**, a charming seaside resort located on the Monte Argentario peninsula, is renowned for its enchanting setting. Nestling on the side of a hill, the small town offers beautiful sandy beaches with crystal-clear water and a picturesque town centre. Stroll around its steep alleyways lined with coloured houses and discover **La Rocca**, a Spanish fortress built in the 17th century to protect the town against pirate attacks. There, you can enjoy a stunning view over the port and the **Gulf of Talamone**.

AMALFI

Arrival 30/06/2022 midday

Departure 30/06/2022 late afternoon

The little town of Campania gives its name to the region containing the magnificent, UNESCO World Heritage listed, **Amalfi coast**. And for good reason. Located at the foot of Mount Cerreto, against a rock face of a gorge that opens onto the sea, Amalfi's absolutely splendid natural scenery alone is enough to feast your eyes on before making for the

medieval streets to explore some of its history. The mix of cultural influences from the Mediterranean Rim is omnipresent here.

TAORMINA, SICILY

Arrival 01/07/2022 midday

Departure 01/07/2022 late afternoon

Located on Sicily's eastern coast, in the province of Messina, the seaside town of Taormina is Sicily's Saint-Tropez, boasting heritage sites, secluded beaches and luxury shopping. You can visit its medieval centre, suspended 300 metres above sea level, where terraces offer a spectacular view of the Mediterranean Sea. Another vestige from its past are the ruins of the **Greco-Roman theatre**. This extremely well-preserved site attracts visitors who are fascinated by the natural beauty of the area which overlooks a **turquoise bay**.

AT SEA

Arrival 02/07/2022

Departure 02/07/2022

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.

CROSSING THE CORINTH CANAL

Arrival 03/07/2022

Departure 03/07/2022

The Corinth Canal cuts through the Isthmus of Corinth, turning the Peloponnese into an island as it separates the region from the Greek mainland. Inaugurated in 1893, the canal is a little over six kilometres long and enables merchant vessels and passenger to avoid a long 400-km detour around the peninsula. The two sides of the canal reach a height of approximately fifty metres. From the exterior decks, don't miss this unique opportunity to watch the ship as it navigates along the narrow strip of water encased between tall, ochre cliffs. What an experience!

HYDRA

Arrival 03/07/2022 early afternoon

Departure 03/07/2022 evening

This unusual gem belonging to the Saronic islands is located to the east of the Peloponnese. There are no cars here. Named after the island, the harbour town is layered up the slopes of a mountainous bay. You may be surprised to see beautiful **stone mansions**. These are traditional here, as are the multi-coloured *caïques* along the quays. Further along the shore, you will discover the Historical Archives Museum. Collections from Athens National History Museum are

exhibited in the elegant **villa Koundouriotis**.

NAFPLION

Arrival 04/07/2022 early morning

Departure 04/07/2022 late afternoon

The engaging town of Nafplion is staggered up green hillsides of the Argolic Gulf, to the east of the Peloponnese. Do not be surprised by its extremely varied cultural heritage. Some of the must-see visits are the ancient agora on the plateau of Akronafplia, Italianate arcades in **Syntagma square** as well as the baroque fortress of **Palamidi** on a hillside of the same name. At the top of the hill, views of the gulf and the surrounding mountains are simply awesome. If you want to chill out by the water's edge, walk along the **Arvanitia promenade** to a beautiful creek in the shade of cedars and cypresses.

DELOS

Arrival 05/07/2022 early morning

Departure 05/07/2022 midday

This legendary Cyclades island of Delos stands just a few miles southwest of Mykonos. The ceremonial solemnity of this **ancient holy sanctuary** will not leave you indifferent. The sheer size and importance of this UNESCO World Heritage site which covers over half of the island is thrilling in itself. From the Stoa of Antigonos, the **Terrace of the Lions**, to the carved marble animal statues, you will make discovery after discovery, against a backdrop of the Aegean stretching to the horizon. The theatre steps on the hillside are a particularly good place from which to enjoy the expansive view.

MYKONOS

Arrival 05/07/2022 early afternoon

Departure 05/07/2022 evening

Nicknamed "little Venice", Mykonos is famous for its **Alefkandra** district where houses are built right on the water's edge. Their multi-coloured loggias are emblematic of this Cyclades island, as are the **pelicans** and **windmills**. You can get close up to the birds on the quaysides of the old port. Up on the hillside, you can see the windmill sails turning. In the cobbled streets of the pedestrian centre, bougainvillea bedeck immaculate facades. As you weave in and out of the little streets, snatches of coastline will undoubtedly call you to the island's beaches, the quietest of which can be found on the northern coast.

SYMI

Arrival 06/07/2022 midday

Departure 06/07/2022 evening

A simply ravishing gem in the Dodecanese, Symi is located north-west of Rhodes. This island of cypress forests, vineyards and olive orchards, possesses a capital city of the same name that is as colourful as the surrounding countryside. The charm of the port district of **Gialos** is not to be missed: its quaysides are lined with picturesque houses with multi-coloured facades. You can get to the upper town by car or climb the 500 steps up the **Kali Strata**

ramp. The second option offers superb viewing points of the coast and gorgeous turquoise waters.

PATMOS

Arrival 07/07/2022 early morning

Departure 07/07/2022 evening

Patmos is one of the legendary must-see islands in the Dodecanese. This is where Saint John resided, presumed author of the last book in the Bible. The **cave of the Apocalypse** and the **Saint John Monastery** are dedicated to him. These sites, which are listed by UNESCO as World Heritage, are located at the top of a hillside planted with vines and orchards. On the shore, the crystalline coves of Kambos and Lampi offer absolutely gorgeous swimming areas.

PAROS

Arrival 08/07/2022 early morning

Departure 08/07/2022 midday

Famous for its white marble, the island of Paros is located in the Cyclades. Along the quays of **Parikia**, its main town, you'll see Byzantine churches and neoclassical buildings. To make the most of the turquoise waters, you can stop over in **Naoussa**. This little fishing port is bounded by a very beautiful cove.

LIMNOS ISLAND

Arrival 09/07/2022 early morning

Departure 09/07/2022 midday

A **volcanic island** located near the Dardanelles Strait, **Limnos** was venerated during Antiquity. Legend has it that Hephaestus, the god of fire, had his forge here. Now one of Greece's major seaside resorts, Lemnos offers its visitors many **superb sandy beaches**. It is also home to several **archaeological sites**, such as the towers of Kastro, an ancient acropolis fortified by the Venetians, or the neolithic site of Poliochni and the city of Hephaestia. Renowned for its olives, fruits, wheat and honey, and for the authenticity of its inhabitants, Lemnos is also known for the quality of its **restaurants**, ideal for tasting typical Greek dishes.

SAILING IN THE DARDANELLES

Arrival 09/07/2022

Departure 09/07/2022

The **Dardanelles Strait** is an emblematic, 61 km-long waterway connecting the **Aegean Sea** with the **Sea of Marmara**. It is strategic for controlling passage between the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea. Like the Bosphorus, or Strait of Istanbul, it separates Europe from Asia. A surface current flows along it, while a more saline undercurrent flows in the opposite direction. Along the strait, you will be able to admire **hilly landscapes** and arid lowlands brightened by **fields and groves of olive trees**.

ISTANBUL

Arrival 10/07/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 10/07/2022 at 07:00

Located on the Bosphorus, Istanbul is one of the most beautiful of all Turkish cities. Named Byzantium when founded by the Greeks, and then Constantinople under the Roman Empire, this city is steeped in history and, for this reason, is a listed UNESCO World Heritage site. Located on Sultanahmet hill, the great **Blue Mosque**, the mysterious **Hagia Sophia** and the vast **Topkapi palace** and its countless mosaics, dominate the Marmara Sea. In the Beyazit district, the **Grand Bazaar** allows to discover elegant covered passages. A little further away, delicate aroma of **louloum** and spices will draw the visitors' attention at the Egyptian Bazaar.