

Jewels of the Italian Riviera

From **29/05/2023**
to **08/06/2023**

Ship: **LE LYRIAL**

From **Nice**
to **Venice**



Discover a PONANT itinerary in the heart of Italy on an exceptional **11-day cruise**. Aboard **Le Lyrial**, you will discover natural wonders and cultural treasures of the Tyrrhenian and Adriatic coasts.

You will board in **Nice**, then you will set sail to the region of **Cinque Terre**. From the sea, you will discover **the landscapes of villages perched along the rugged coast** of the Italian Riviera before calling at Portofino. Built in a natural harbour protected by a pine forest, it is a picturesque and lively port that has successfully retained its authenticity and traditions.

Your cruise will continue along the Tuscan shoreline to **Livorno**, a port city famous for its Renaissance fortifications. The Little Venice district, as it is known, offers a picturesque setting in which to enjoy fish and seafood.

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

You will then head to **Taormina**, overlooking Etna's blanket of snow. Its streets will lead you to its famed ancient Greek theatre, where the quality of the acoustics is exceptional.

After calls in **Otranto and Ancona**, **Le Lyrial** will reach **Ravenna**. Capital of the Roman Empire in the 5th century, the city bears witness to a thousand-year-old history where **Roman and Byzantine cultures mingled** and which can be seen today inside the **city's religious buildings through its ancient mosaics**.

The trip will end with a visit to the Serenissima **Venice** and its lagoon.



The information in this document is valid as of 10/08/2022

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

NICE

Embarkation 29/05/2023 from 16:00 to 17:00

Departure 29/05/2023 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.

SAILING OFF CINQUE TERRE

Arrival 30/05/2023

Departure 30/05/2023

The **Ligurian coast** will reveal the splendour of its contours as you sail along its abrupt landscapes facing the Mediterranean Sea. Listed as a **UNESCO World Heritage site** and a **national park** since 1999, the five villages of Riomaggiore, Manarola, Corniglia, Vernazza et Monterosso distil their charm and their uniqueness.

PORTOFINO

Arrival 30/05/2023 midday

Departure 30/05/2023 late evening

Close to the Cinque Terre, **Portofino** is the jewel of the **Ligurian Riviera**. This "small village that stretches like a half moon around a silent basin", described by Guy de Maupassant, is today a pretty, lively little port that has managed to preserve the authenticity of its maritime traditions, which have been recognised since Ancient times. Built in the hollow of a small natural cove sheltered by the pine forest, the village is at the heart of a **protected maritime reserve**. The shimmering colours of its house fronts and the exceptional location of this village have inspired many authors and artists. You will also see the **Portofino lighthouse**, immaculate in its green setting. Perched on the **Punta del Capo**, it watches over the peninsula and its postcard setting.

LIVORNO

Arrival 31/05/2023 early morning

Departure 31/05/2023 late afternoon

On the ligurian coast, **Livorno** invites us to **Tuscany**, a charming region offering **archaeological vestiges**, **Renaissance** treasures, undulating landscapes and a pleasant way of life. When the **Medicis** arrived in the 16th century they developed the city, which became **one of the most important ports in the Mediterranean**. Cosmopolitan and multireligious, Livorno has welcomed many immigrants and is a wonderful example of cultural diversity. Built during

that period, **Fortezza Vecchia** and **Fortezza Nuova** attest to the city's power. At the foot of the new fort, **Nuova Venezia** is an enchanting district with small canals and streets to stroll along to discover a few architectural treasures, such as the magnificent Santa Caterina da Siena church in the Tuscan baroque style.

PORTO SANTO STEFANO

Arrival 01/06/2023 early morning

Departure 01/06/2023 early 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 02/06/2023 early morning

Departure 02/06/2023 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 03/06/2023 midday

Departure 03/06/2023 early evening

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**.

OTRANTO

Arrival 04/06/2023 midday

Departure 04/06/2023 evening

Located in the Apulia region, **Otrante** is the easternmost transalpine town. Behind its medieval ramparts, you will taste the sweet life of Salento, the "heel on Italy's boot". Inhabited since Antiquity, Otrante has today become a very pleasant seaside town. Yet its history is still visible as you meander through the little streets of its old centre. With its magnificent 12th century ornamental mosaic tiling, the **Cathedral** is one of its most beautiful treasures. During a stroll

along the ramparts, you can sit and relax at a café terrace.

AT SEA

Arrival 05/06/2023

Departure 05/06/2023

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.

ANCONA

Arrival 06/06/2023 early morning

Departure 06/06/2023 late afternoon

Situated on the promontory of Monte Conero, **Ancona**, the capital of the Marche region, offers visitors all the charm of a typical Italian historical city. Founded by the Greeks in 390 BC and conquered by Julius Caesar in 49 BC, Ancona has a long history that was very much shaped by its harbour, a hub attracting different populations and cultures. When your ship calls here, take the time to discover the city's many buildings, such as the **cathedral dedicated to Judas Cyriacus** and its façade made of white and pink marble, the **Arch of Trajan**, which is considered to be the port's main embellishment, or the 15th century mansion where the painter Raphael was born and raised.

RAVENNA

Arrival 07/06/2023 early morning

Departure 07/06/2023 late afternoon

Linked to the Adriatic Sea by a canal, the city of Ravenna and its countless monuments offer you a rich journey back in time. **Roman and Byzantine cultures** intermingle here, and the fruits of this history adorn the interiors of the city's religious buildings: the abundance of classical mosaics is the most stunning witness to Ravenna's glorious past. Eight **UNESCO World Heritage** listed Paleo-Christian sites punctuate your journey into the historic heart of the city. Still very lively despite the weight of its history, **Ravenna** has much to offer to visitors.

VENICE

Arrival 08/06/2023 early morning

Disembarkation 08/06/2023 at 07:00

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.