



WORLD AFFAIRS
COUNCIL OF
PHILADELPHIA
& PARTNERS

America's 250th by Sea: A Voyage Through the Nation's Founding Cities

Aboard the Deluxe *L'Austral*
October 6–13, 2026





Statue of Liberty, New York

Dear Curious Travelers,

We invite you to embark on an 8-day voyage from Halifax, Nova Scotia to Baltimore, Maryland, honoring the 250th anniversary of the American Declaration of Independence. Aboard the luxurious *L'Austral*, journey along the Eastern Seaboard through storied ports, iconic landmarks, and breathtaking coastlines that reflect the enduring spirit of the American experience.

This special journey will feature **Martin Luther King III** and **Arndrea Waters King**, renowned civil rights leaders and global humanitarians. We are also honored to welcome **Dr. Scott Stephenson, President and CEO of the Museum of the American Revolution**. Their perspectives on leadership, equality, preservation, and national identity will add meaningful depth throughout the journey.

Begin in **Halifax**, a city rich in maritime heritage, before sailing along the rugged coast of Nova Scotia and across the Gulf of Maine. Dock in **Boston Harbor**, where the echoes of revolution still resound. Walk the **Freedom Trail** to explore Boston's central role in the nation's founding, stroll through elegant **Beacon Hill** and **Quincy Market**, or cross the Charles River to **Harvard Yard** before visiting **Copley Square** and the **Boston Public Library**, the first free municipal library in the United States.

Continue to **Newport, Rhode Island**, a summer retreat of Gilded Age magnates. Visit the grand "cottages" of the Vanderbilts and Carnegies or take in sweeping ocean views along the **Cliff Walk**. You may also choose to experience Newport's sailing heritage on a sailing through **Narragansett Bay**, home of the famed America's Cup, or set off on an **African American History tour** and trace the rich Black history of Newport.

Sail into **New York Harbor** past the **Statue of Liberty**. Spend a full day exploring the city: walk across the **Brooklyn Bridge** and browse the boutiques and galleries of **DUMBO**; visit the **September 11 Memorial & Museum** and nearby landmarks; trace your heritage at **Ellis Island** or the **Tenement Museum**; learn about Indigenous history in **Central Park** and at the **National Museum of the American Indian**; or follow a Pride tour that highlights LGBTQ history from the Stonewall Uprising to today.

Organized by the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, experience an exclusive tour of the **Museum of the American Revolution** and learn more about the founding fathers on a walk featuring the **Liberty Bell** and **Independence Hall**. You can also take a deep dive into Philly's food scene, visit the **Philadelphia Black Metropolis** to learn about its history and role in the civil rights movement, or travel west to the **Amish Country of Lancaster County** to see working farms, visit the **Amish Village Museum**, and shop for local crafts.

Your voyage concludes in **Baltimore**, a city that has long stood at the crossroads of commerce and culture; a fitting finale to a journey celebrating 250 years of resilience, progress, and hope.

Space is limited, and we encourage you to reserve your place soon for this unforgettable exploration where history, culture, and the elegance of PONANT EXPLORATIONS come together in honor of America at 250.

We look forward to welcoming you aboard,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Haught". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a mix of upper and lowercase letters.

Sincerely,
Andrew Haught
Director of Travel, World Affairs Council of Philadelphia

GUEST SPEAKERS



Martin Luther King III



Arndrea Waters King

Renowned civil rights leaders and global humanitarians



Dr. Scott Stephenson is President and CEO of the Museum of the American Revolution, where he has led since 2018 after more than a decade shaping its acclaimed exhibitions, collections, and programs. A Pittsburgh native with a Ph.D. in American History from the University of Virginia, he brings nearly thirty years of public history experience. He has developed award-winning exhibits and interpretive projects for leading institutions including Colonial Williamsburg, the Smithsonian, and George Washington's Mount Vernon, and under his leadership the Museum has earned national and international acclaim.

BRIEF HIGHLIGHTS

- Special content arranged in Philadelphia by the World Affairs Council to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our nation.
- A voyage specially-tailored to include discussions with experts, transfers before and after your cruise, and an included excursion in each port of call.
- Engaging discussions on board with civil rights leaders and global humanitarians Martin Luther King III and Arndrea Waters King as our special guests of honor.

OPTIONAL PRE- AND POST-TRIP EXTENSIONS

Enhance your journey with curated extension programs designed to deepen your experience.

Pre-Voyage Extensions We will be offering optional pre-voyage programs in Halifax, Nova Scotia (two nights) and at the iconic Fogo Island Inn, Newfoundland (four nights). Additional details, including pricing and inclusions, will be provided by our Guest Services Specialist.

Post-Voyage Extension Expand your exploration of the nation's history from the Revolution, through two and a half centuries of diverse communities shaping the country's narrative, to the present-day political landscape with our optional Baltimore & Washington, D.C. post-voyage program (two nights). Additional details, including pricing and inclusions, will be provided by our Guest Services Specialist.

ITINERARY

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner



Tuesday, October 6, 2026

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA | EMBARK
Arrive at Halifax Stanfield International Airport (YHZ), where you will be met by your driver and transferred to the pier to embark your ship, *L'Austral*. Halifax, a historic port city on Canada's east coast, is surrounded by stunning natural beauty and serves as the cultural heart of Nova Scotia. Once the largest Royal Navy base during the American Revolutionary War and the Napoleonic Wars, Halifax also played a pivotal role in both World Wars and remains a city steeped in maritime heritage. (D)

We recommend arriving in Halifax the night before embarkation. An optional à la carte hotel package is available for your convenience and can be reserved through Guest Services.

Wednesday, October 7

AT SEA

Spend a relaxing day at sea enjoying the many comforts aboard *L'Austral*. Attend enriching lectures and briefings, take advantage of the ship's elegant amenities, or simply unwind on deck as you sail the open ocean. Indulge in a treatment at the spa, stay active in the fitness center, or relax in your luxurious stateroom or suite. Browse the boutique or visit the onboard photography studio for expert tips and inspiration. With luck, you may even spot dolphins or seabirds from the upper decks. This tranquil interlude offers the perfect balance of rest, enrichment, and discovery. (B,L,D)

Thursday, October 8

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.

Known as "America's Walking City," Boston is the cradle of American independence

and one of the country's most walkable destinations. Follow the Freedom Trail to explore landmarks of the Revolution, enjoy fresh lobster at Quincy Market, or stroll through Beacon Hill with its gas-lit streets and elegant brick homes. Cross the Charles River to visit Harvard Yard, or explore the grand architecture of Copley Square and the historic Boston Public Library. (B,L,D)

Friday, October 9

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

Continue to Newport, Rhode Island, a storied seaside retreat of America's Gilded Age elite. Tour magnificent mansions such as The Breakers and stroll the dramatic Cliff Walk with sweeping ocean views, or sail Narragansett Bay aboard a classic vessel celebrating Newport's legacy as the world capital of sailing, or opt to explore the city's powerful history of enslaved and free Black communities that shaped its past. (B,L,D)



Saturday, October 10

NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

The largest city in the United States dazzles with its energy and diversity. See the Statue of Liberty as you sail into New York Harbor, then spend the day exploring this dynamic metropolis. Walk through Central Park, visit Ground Zero and the 9/11 Memorial, or the Tenement Museum. Whether your interests lie in museums, architecture, or cuisine, the Big Apple offers endless discoveries. (B,L,D)

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

- Comprehensive 7-night cruise aboard the deluxe *L'Austral*
- One exclusive World Affairs Council of Philadelphia hosted cocktail reception on board
- Panel lectures in the ship's theater and additional informal discussions will be presented by the host of the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, Dr. Scott Stephenson
- Insightful talks and conversations on board with guests of honor Martin Luther King III and Arndrea Waters King
- One included shore excursion in each port of call led by expert English-speaking guides, one per port of call
- Captain's gala dinners and cocktail receptions aboard ship
- All meals aboard ship including early riser's coffee & pastry, breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner
- Open bar aboard ship, including select wines with lunch and dinner
- 24-hour complimentary room service
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials and dedicated Guest Services Specialist
- Unlimited WiFi (as available via satellite)
- Transfers and luggage handling from the airport in Halifax to the ship on the day of embarkation only
- Group transfer from the ship to the airport in Baltimore at the end of the cruise on the morning of disembarkation only
- Port taxes and charges
- Gratuities to shipboard personnel, porters, guides, and drivers on tours

Sunday, October 11

AT SEA

Another day at sea offers time to relax and enjoy the many comforts aboard *L'Austral*. (B,L,D)

Monday, October 12

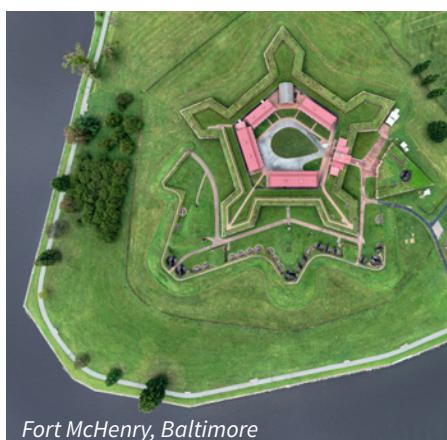
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Known as the "Birthplace of America," Philadelphia offers a rich variety of excursions. Choose to travel to the Amish Country of Lancaster County for a visit to working farms and the Amish Village Museum. Or stay in the city and select from three distinct tours: an in-depth exploration of the American Revolution and the nation's founding at the Museum of the American Revolution, Elfreth's Alley, Independence Hall, and the Liberty Bell; a guided experience focused on the history and legacy of the Philadelphia Black Metropolis; or a culinary walking tour sampling local favorites, including the iconic Philly cheesesteak. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, October 13

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND | DISEMBARK

After breakfast on board, disembark and transfer to Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI) for flights homeward. Baltimore offers a fitting finale to your journey, known for its proud maritime heritage and vibrant neighborhoods. The city's Inner Harbor is home to historic ships, engaging museums, and the acclaimed National Aquarium. Nearby, Fort McHenry stands as the birthplace of "The Star-Spangled Banner," while the cobbled streets of Fells Point and Mount Vernon reveal Baltimore's enduring character, where history, art, and culture meet the charm of the Chesapeake. (B)



EXCLUSIONS Airfare; airport taxes; passport and visa fees and/or immigration reciprocity taxes (if applicable); trip cancellation and baggage insurance; medical and repatriation insurance; meals and beverages other than those specified above; personal expenses (such as telephone, laundry service, hair salon services, a la carte spa treatments, etc.); gratuities to drivers of transfers from/to airport; transfers outside of official arrival/departure dates

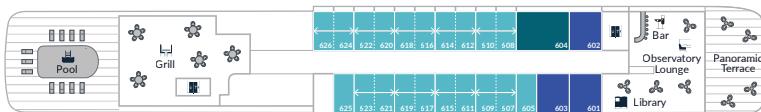
L'AUSTRAL



First introduced in 2011, *L'Austral* is the very embodiment of PONANT EXPLORATIONS' generation of intimately sized ships. The exterior and interior lines, all understatement and refinement, make this a yacht of a rare and innovative kind. The wellness area offers a spa with massage and beauty treatments, as well as a fitness area and steam room. Plus, with just 132 staterooms and suites, each with a sea view, guests will enjoy the subtle combination of luxury, intimacy, and well-being.

DECK PLAN

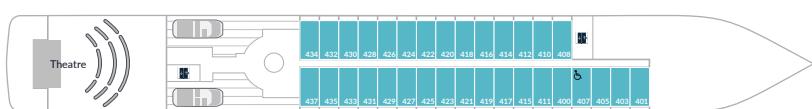
DECK 6



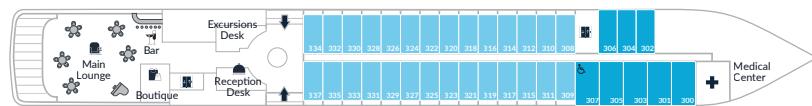
DECK 5



DECK 4



DECK 3



■ Superior Stateroom
Deck 3

■ Deluxe Suite
Deck 6

■ Deluxe Stateroom
Deck 3

↔ Prestige Suite
Decks 5-6

■ Prestige Stateroom
Decks 4-5-6

■ Owner's Suite
Deck 6

CABIN CATEGORIES & RATES ON L'AUSTRAL

All accommodations aboard *L'Austral* are outside staterooms and suites, and feature a private balcony. All cabins include either two beds or a king-size bed, mini bar, safe, spacious closets, climate control, telephone, WiFi access, TV with movies on demand, Bose Bluetooth Speaker, and private bathroom with fine amenities. **Fares are per person, double and single occupancy.**

	DOUBLE	SINGLE
■ SUPERIOR STATEROOM, DECK 3	\$5,800	N/A
■ DELUXE STATEROOM, DECK 3	\$6,240	\$6,240
■ PRESTIGE STATEROOM, DECK 4	\$6,880	\$6,880
■ PRESTIGE STATEROOM, DECK 5	\$7,200	\$7,200
■ PRESTIGE STATEROOM, DECK 6	\$7,590	\$7,590
■ DELUXE SUITE, DECK 6	\$10,400	\$10,400
■ PRESTIGE SUITE, DECK 5	\$13,910	\$13,910
■ PRESTIGE SUITE, DECK 6	\$14,600	\$14,600
■ OWNER'S SUITE, DECK 6	\$16,710	\$16,710

Single occupancy staterooms, subject to availability.

DELUXE STATEROOM





Boston's Beacon Hill neighborhood

TERMS & CONDITIONS | WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA | AU061026 | HALIFAX • BALTIMORE | OCTOBER 6-13, 2026

Compagnie du PONANT, PONANT Group USA, LLC, and PONANT USA, LLC are hereinafter collectively referred to as "PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP" or "PONANT" is the tour Operator/Organizer of this cruise and has invited members of the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia (Sponsor) to participate. Please carefully read this information as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms & Conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the passenger and PONANT GROUP and the tour's sponsoring organization.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: To secure a booking, the guest is required to pay a 25% deposit of the tour fare. Final payment is due by July 8, 2026, or 90 days prior to departure. Checks and credit cards are accepted.

CANCELLATION, MODIFICATION PENALTIES & REFUNDS: All cancellations or modifications must be in writing. Any and all guests not reporting for departure or prevented from reporting for departure or waiving for any reason whatsoever the benefit of services included in the program cannot claim any refund. PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP shall not be required to refund any monies to any guests who must leave the cruise prematurely for any reason, nor shall PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP be held responsible for any costs, fees, damages or causes of action which result from the transportation expenses incurred by guest's early departure. For any deposited or fully paid booking, cancellation penalties will be assessed as noted below. These cancellation penalties are applicable on all services booked with PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP.

- From confirmation of booking date up to July 7, 2026, (91 days prior to departure): 10% of deposit to be kept by PONANT
- From July 8, 2026, (90 days prior to departure): 100% of full fare to be kept by PONANT

RATES: The prices given at the time of booking are based on economic conditions known on November 10, 2025, and are subject to change. These conditions are, amongst others, the cost of transport and fuel, relevant dues, and taxes for the proposed operation (port taxes, embarkation and disembarkation taxes, entrance costs to tourist sites), currency exchange rates relevant to the pricing of these programs. PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP reserves the right within the legal limits of applicable laws to vary the prices if necessary. All variation of the cost of transport, fuel, taxes, dues, and visa costs will be passed on within the voyage cost. Any change in fare cannot be imposed less than 60 days prior or August 7, 2026, to departure.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Passengers shall be responsible for subscribing to cancellation/luggage/assistance repatriation/medical insurance(s).

ITINERARY: PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP reserves the right to withdraw and/or cancel a sailing to make changes in the itinerary whenever, in its sole judgment, or in the judgment of the vessel owner or operator, conditions warrant it.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS/LIMIT OF LIABILITY: The passenger agrees that PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP and World Affairs Council of Philadelphia acts as agents and/or trustees for any person, ground and maritime agents and subcontractors, who provide any service forming, or in connection with, any part of the cruise. Transportation services to the port of departure, transfers to the ship, including, as applicable, hotel room and restaurant bookings or guided tours, are performed by independent suppliers who are not employees of PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP nor World Affairs Council of Philadelphia. In this respect, PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP and World Affairs Council of Philadelphia acts only as an agent and shall not be held liable for said services or for the acts or omissions of subcontractors or other contractors. PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP and World Affairs Council of Philadelphia shall not be held liable for bodily injury to, or death of passengers, or for loss of, or damage to luggage or other personal belongings, unless it is proved that the carrier has infringed statutory obligations or that it or one of its employees or agents has committed gross negligence. However, in the event the liability of PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP and World Affairs Council of Philadelphia is incurred, such liability is limited (details available upon request). PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP and World Affairs Council of Philadelphia shall in any case not be liable for failure of an improper performance when the same is due to or caused by the fault

of the passenger; the unforeseeable or unavoidable fault of a third party unconnected with the provision of any services to be provided under the contract; unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond the control of PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP and World Affairs Council of Philadelphia; an event of "Force Majeure" such as a war, threat of war, riots, civil commotion, acts of God, terrorist activities, natural and nuclear disaster, fire, technical problems with transport, closure of ports, strikes and any industrial action, or any other event beyond the control of PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP or World Affairs Council of Philadelphia.

ACCESSIBILITY & MOBILITY REQUIREMENTS: In reserving a PONANT cruise passengers declare they are aware of the physical and medical demands that may be entailed by our excursions, particularly & non-exhaustively, stepping into and out of a tender (assisted by the crew on board) at certain ports of call where we are anchored and not docked in port. Passengers must be fit enough to both physically and psychologically stay for several days at sea in the closed environment of a cruise ship. Passengers must respect the captain's and the crew's orders in case of bad weather or any other incident while at sea or in port.

PERSONS WITH REDUCED MOBILITY: Report any physical conditions and dietary or treatment requirements to the PONANT and World Affairs Council of Philadelphia in writing at the time of booking. PONANT will try to accommodate special needs where possible, but any extra costs associated with special accommodation is the responsibility of the passenger. For limited mobility, wheelchair users, or conditions requiring assistance, it is required to inform PONANT and World Affairs Council of Philadelphia in writing as soon as possible, but at least within 30 days (September 6, 2026), before the service starts. Despite these arrangements, each passenger should be able to be independent or travel with a close family member or friend who can give them whatever assistance they require during their trip. If a person has not been judged suitably fit for travel in complete safety, the company reserves the right to refuse their embarkation. Disembarkation in difficult places or in a tender is subject to the approval of the captain, who will always have the safety and wellbeing of the passenger in mind. Should a World Affairs Council of Philadelphia passenger not be able to participate on the shore excursions, passengers may independently make private touring arrangements at the scheduled ports of call.

ACTIVITY LEVEL DESCRIPTION: This journey features a range of activity levels to suit various preferences and physical capabilities. Most excursions are moderate, typically involving about 1 to 2 miles of walking on a mix of cobblestone, paved, or uneven surfaces, with some stairs or inclines. While some tours are gentle, others are not recommended for guests with limited mobility. These specifications will be shared in an upcoming mailing in the Shore Excursions Descriptions document. In certain ports of call, we will use a tender to disembark and get to shore and then again to embark back onto the ship - this requires stepping down into the tender assisted by your crew onboard.

JURISDICTION: These terms & conditions are subject to and interpreted according to international regulations and concern the transportation of passengers and their luggage from the time of boarding the ship to the moment of disembarking, as well as at ports of departure, destination, or stopover. PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP shall incur no liability outside this period. Without prejudice to required legal regulations, any actions related either to the interpretation, or execution of this agreement shall be brought before the competent courts of Marseille-France. PONANT is not responsible for omissions, printing and/or presentation errors and reserves the right to make corrections as required.

SHIPS' REGISTRY: France FL Seller of Travel Ref No ST37706 CA Seller of Travel Ref No 2120712-40

COMPLETE TERMS: For complete Terms & Conditions applicable to these cruises, please see *Particular Terms & Conditions PONANT* | <https://us.ponant.com/terms-conditions>. By registering for this program, the passenger agrees to the Terms & Conditions herein.

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