

Blue Eye: the genesis of a global first

In a world exclusive, the six ships of the PONANT EXPLORERS series are equipped with an underwater passenger lounge, called Blue Eye, located within the hull beneath the water line.

The design of this technical prowess was entrusted to architect Jacques Rougerie, who is deeply passionate about the sea. Rougerie's mission is to enable PONANT guests to perceive and feel the underwater universe that has never ceased to amaze and inspire him throughout his career.



The Nautilus - 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea - Jules Verne

"In my work, I have always had my heart set on making people aware of the role that the sea has played in the history of humanity. I designed this multi-sensory underwater lounge in order for it to become enshrined at the heart of the PONANT philosophy."

I set out to discover this fragile and exciting ocean world, which covers 71% of the planet's surface and remains a huge mystery for mankind. The destiny of the civilisations to come will be born from the ocean."

The state-of-the-art technology developed with PONANT lets guests become modern-day explorers, following in the wake of Jules Verne, Jacques-Yves Cousteau and the great adventurers. They will be able to observe the fauna and flora of this sub-aquatic universe and discover its sonorities."

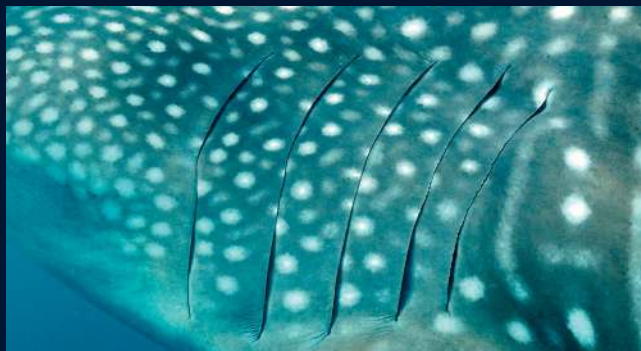
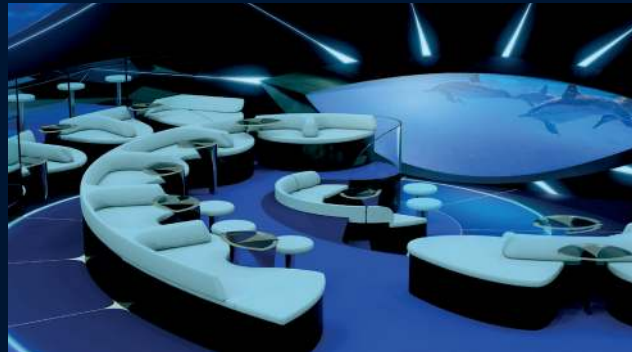
The sound system in the Blue Eye lounge will be installed by Michel Redolfi so as to reveal to the guests the amazing listening capabilities of their bodies. For the first time in the world, the public, during a cruise, will be able to 'feel' and be at the heart of an underwater world. They will need to use all of their senses."



Biography

In 1973, Jacques Rougerie designed the first "Village under the Sea" project in the Virgin Islands, made for living and working beneath the sea. For over 40 years, he has continued his path among those building the future, passionate about the prospective of linking man to his natural setting. He has always designed bionic architecture based on biomimetics. His Blue Eye multi-sensory space concept for the PONANT EXPLORERS is a world-first and a major innovation in man's exploration of the underwater world.

Three innovative concepts for a world-first



Bionic & biomimetic

Jacques Rougerie drew inspiration from his observation of nature in order to determine the key elements that would underpin the design of the underwater lounge.

The space's graphical references evoke cetaceans and jellyfish. This inspiration is evident in the lines of the lounge, the positioning of the body, the furniture and the fittings.

All focus is drawn towards the two portholes, shaped like the eye of a cetacean and looking out upon the subaquatic world.

The lighting in the lounge is developed through touches, disseminated in the space, allowing the spirit and the gaze to dive into the spectacle unfolding outside. The mural décor disappears to make way for the integrated digital screens projecting the images filmed live by three underwater cameras.

Placed at the ship's strategic points, these cameras enable guests to witness, for example, the spectacle of dolphins playing in the bow waves.



Global listening

The sound staging has been entrusted to Michel Redolfi, a contemporary music composer and sound design expert. A result of his research into subaquatic music and his own inventions, the sound design of the underwater lounge develops state-of-the-art technology and offers guests an experience in acoustic immersion that is unique in the world.

Comfortably ensconced, guests can listen to the underwater world thanks to hydrophones, developed in consultation with specialists from the French Research Institute for the Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER), that are integrated beneath the keel. The natural symphony of the deep sea is thus captured across a five-kilometre radius and transmitted live into the lounge in the form of

acoustic waves spreading through the three dimensions of Jacques Rougerie's architecture.

An immersive sound experience can be felt in the Body Listening sofas, which discreetly vibrate in unison while offering unique sensory listening through corporal resonance.

This global listening through the entire body, in harmony with the ocean's natural cycles, will bring guests closer to the marine mammals they might see and hear behind the giant portholes.

This exclusive sound experience is also offered through subaquatic concerts broadcast at sea or in the swimming pool.

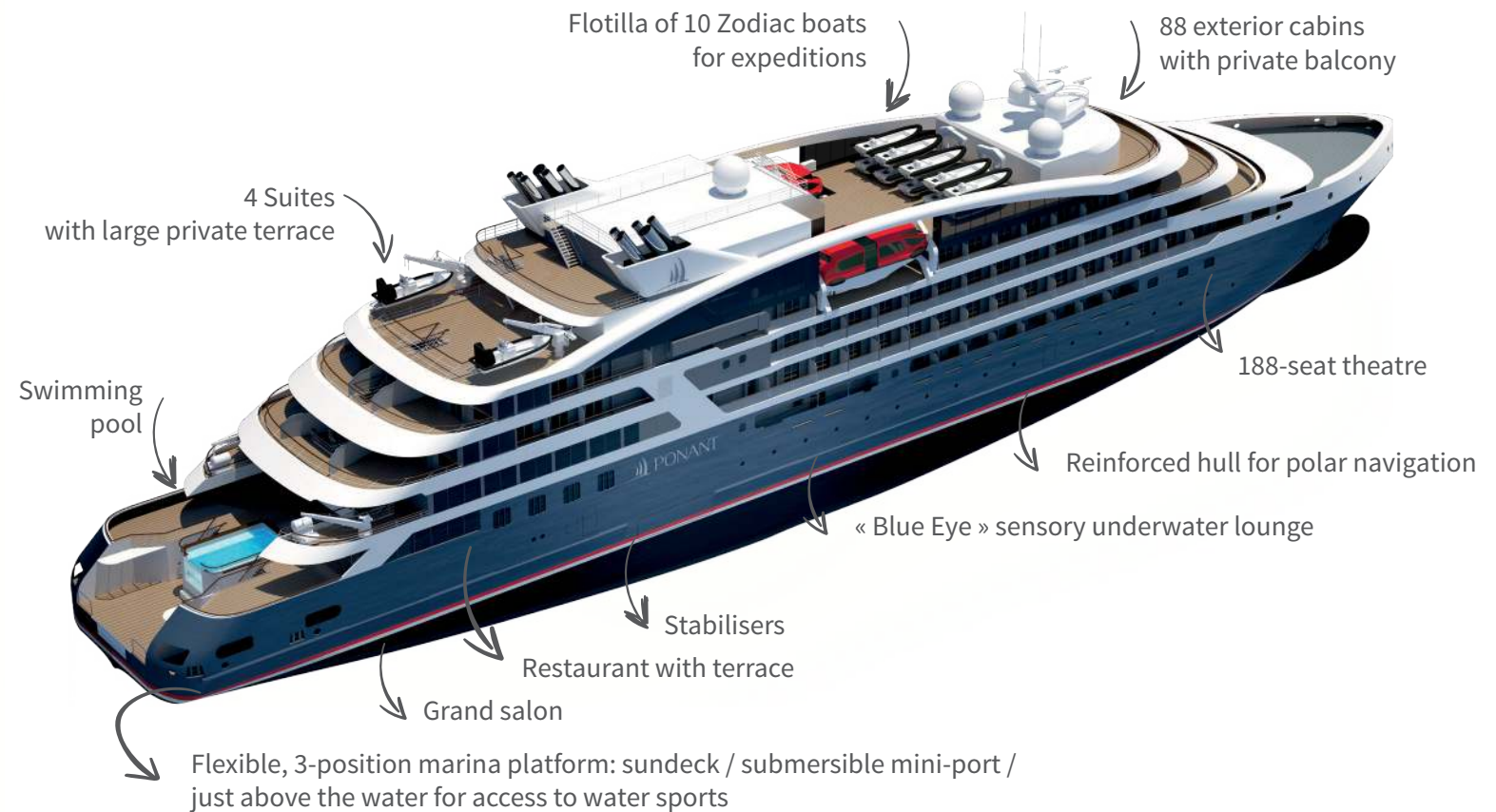
Innovative green equipment:

Advanced "Clean Ship" equipment, in compliance with the most current environmental regulations:

- Wastewater treatment and recycling system in compliance with the most exacting standards
- Catalytic filter on exhaust gases enabling NOX (nitrogen oxides) reduction
- Ballast water treatment system in compliance with international and USCG rules

Fuel economy systems:

- Centralised energy-recovery system
- Extremely precise fuel-measuring and fuel-monitoring system enabling better energy management and savings (the GREENPILOT system)
- Variable-speed electric propulsion combined with controllable pitch propellers enabling the optimisation of propulsive efficiency at all speeds

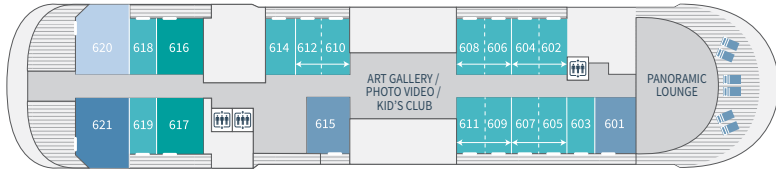


Length.....	131 metres	Classification	Bureau Veritas	Panoramic restaurant	1
Width.....	18 metres	Flag	French	Grill restaurant	1
Water draught.....	4.6 metres	Crew members	110	Spa & Wellness	1
Average cruising speed	15 knots	Cabins with balcony.....	88	On-board expedition Zodiacs.....	10
Ice Class	1C	Suites with windows and private terrace.....	4	On-board launch, Boston Whaler type.....	1

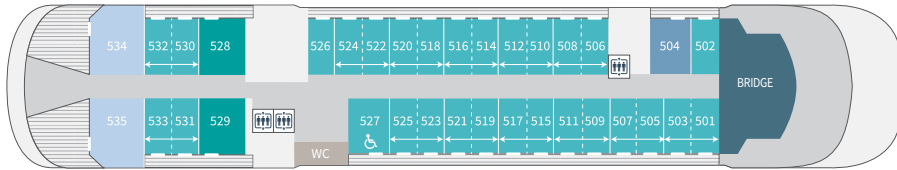
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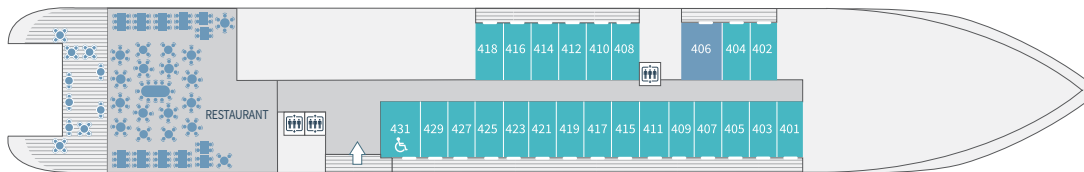
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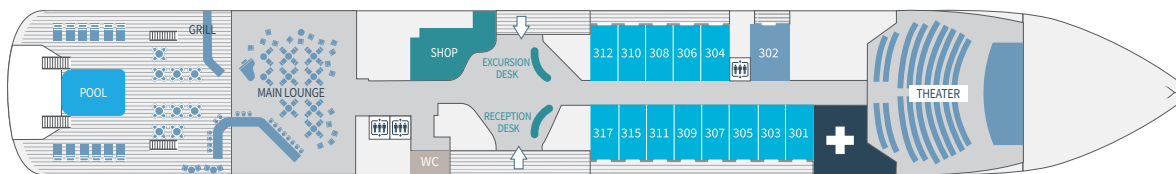
DECK 5



DECK 4



DECK 3



DECK 2



DECK 7

Fitness room - Ponant Yacht Spa (3 treatment cabins and 1 sauna) - Sundeck - Fleet of 10 Zodiacs

DECK 6

Observatory - Art /Photo video gallery - Kid's Club - 14 Prestige Cabins (including 10 Prestige Cabins convertible into 5 Prestige Suites) - 2 Deluxe Suites - 2 Privilege Suites - 1 Grand Deluxe Suite with spa bath and shower - 1 Owner's Suite with outdoor hot tub

DECK 5

Bridge - 29 Prestige Cabins (including 1 for guests with reduced mobility and 26 Prestige Cabins convertible into 13 Prestige Suites) - 1 Deluxe Suite - 2 Privilege Suites - 2 Grand Deluxe Suites with spa bath and shower

DECK 4

Restaurant - 23 Prestige Cabins (including 1 for guests with reduced mobility) - 1 Deluxe Suite

DECK 3

Reception - Excursions Office - Grand Salon - Pool deck with counter-current system and infinity pool - Boutique - Medical center - Theatre - 13 Deluxe Cabins - 1 Deluxe Suite

DECK 2

3-position marina platform - Sundeck

DECK 0

Blue Eye underwater lounge

- Owner's Suite
Deck 6
- Privilege Suites
Deck 5-6
- Grand Deluxe Suites
Deck 5-6
- Prestige Suites
Deck 5-6
- Deluxe Suites
Deck 5-6
- Prestige Cabins
Deck 4-5-6
- Deluxe Cabins
Deck 3

Yachts with cutting-edge technology

The sleek exterior lines of the PONANT EXPLORERS, understated and elegant, were conceived by Stirling Design International.



A fully-equipped sundeck and 3-position marina platform allows access to the sea for swimming and water sports (kayaking, paddle boarding, scuba diving, snorkelling, water-skiing, fishing, etc.)



A submersible mini-port, an original and unique concept, enables direct access to the flotilla of 10 Zodiac boats on board.



Grill restaurant and panoramic pool fitted with counter-current system.



Reinforced hull for polar navigation.