



90° North:

Expedition to the North Pole and the Arctic

Aboard the Deluxe *Le Commandant Charcot*
August 27 – September 11, 2026



Longyearbyen,
Spitsbergen



Dear Dartmouth Alumni, Family, and Friends,

We invite you to be among the few in the world to embark on a once-in-a-lifetime journey—an extraordinary expedition to the Geographic North Pole aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*, the world's only luxury icebreaker powered by hybrid-electric propulsion.

We will sail into the vast silence of the High Arctic, navigating ice floes and shifting seascapes as we attempt to reach 90° North—the elusive pinnacle of polar exploration. Along the way, witness a dynamic world of polar bears, seals, whales, and ivory gulls, and engage in optional adventures such as kayaking, snowshoeing, and even a polar plunge.

This is more than a voyage—it is an exploration in the spirit of great adventurers like Amundsen and Peary, an encounter with raw beauty few ever experience, and an opportunity to travel in comfort and camaraderie with fellow Dartmouth alumni. **It is also a continuation of Dartmouth's deep tradition of Arctic exploration and research, which began with early 20th-century expeditions and continues today through world-renowned polar scholars.**

With celebrated American Photo Ambassador Cindy Miller Hopkins as a featured guest, this voyage also promises the chance to sharpen your photography skills through expert-led workshops, lectures, and personal guidance.

Throughout the journey, you'll enjoy enriching lectures from an expert team of naturalists and expedition leaders.

We hope you will join us on this very special exploration of the Arctic, traveling in comfort and camaraderie with fellow Dartmouth travelers and our faculty host and lecturer, Professor Don Perovich. Joining us on this program are alumni from Harvard, Stanford, and Brown. Space is limited for this extraordinary Dartmouth Alumni Travel experience. We encourage you to reserve your place soon and join us for a truly unforgettable adventure at the top of the world.

Warm regards from Hanover,

Robin K. Albing, TU'81
Executive Director, Lifelong Learning
and Advancement Special Projects
Dartmouth College

Candice Day
Assistant Director of Lifelong Learning



Svalbard, Norway

SPECIAL GUEST LECTURERS



Don Perovich is a Professor of Engineering at Dartmouth College. He is a geophysicist studying Arctic sea ice, the frozen ocean at the top of the world. His work focuses on the interaction of sunlight with sea ice, determining how sunlight is reflected to the atmosphere, absorbed in the ice, and transmitted to the ocean. He has explored how this partitioning affects summer sea ice melt, ecosystem productivity, and the role of sea ice in the climate system. Don has participated in numerous Arctic field studies, including a trans-Arctic icebreaker expedition to the North Pole, as well as a year-long drift experiment where he served as Chief Scientist. He has developed and deployed autonomous sensor systems that are part of the Arctic Observing Network. He is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union.



Join PONANT Photo Ambassador **Cindy Miller Hopkins**—an award-winning professional travel and wildlife photographer—for expert-led workshops, lectures, and personalized tips to help you capture the Arctic's stunning beauty. With over 25 years of experience, her work has appeared in thousands of textbooks, travel brochures, calendars, magazines, and newspapers worldwide. She has photographed all seven continents and visited over 150 countries. Her rare 2018 image capturing five penguin species in one frame is the lead visual in a global campaign to protect South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. Cindy teaches digital photography, leads photo safaris, and lectures aboard expedition ships. A past president of the NANPA Foundation Board, she's been an active board member for over two decades. Based in Colorado Springs, she travels internationally more than 200 days a year with her husband.

To book your space: Please contact Dartmouth College Alumni Travel at 603-646-9159 or reach out to PONANT at 877-415-0407, or email AffinityGuests@ponant.com

ITINERARY

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



Wednesday, August 26, 2026

ARRIVE PARIS, FRANCE

We kindly recommend that all guests plan to arrive in Paris, France on August 26, 2026, as the charter flight from Paris Charles de Gaulle (CDG) to Svalbard Airport (LYR) in Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen, Norway is scheduled for an early morning departure on August 27. For added ease, we offer a convenient à la carte hotel package that you may book through Guest Services.

Thursday, August 27

CHARTER FLIGHT FROM PARIS TO LONGYEARBYEN, SPITSBERGEN | EMBARK

Arrive at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG), where a warm welcome awaits before transferring to the group charter flight to Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen for embarkation. Longyearbyen, the northernmost capital on Earth, lies on Norway's Svalbard archipelago. This former mining town offers stunning Arctic landscapes—towering glaciers, endless mountains, and untouched wilderness—that evoke the feeling of venturing into uncharted territory. (L,D)

Friday, August 28

AT SEA ALONG SPITSBERGEN

Spitsbergen, the largest island in the Svalbard archipelago, means “pointed mountains” in German and is the last land before the Arctic ice floe. As you sail along its dramatic, fjord-carved coastline, you'll encounter ancient glaciers, jagged peaks, and pristine wilderness. Home to rich birdlife, this remote landscape offers extraordinary opportunities for photography and unforgettable views from the deck of your ship. (B,L,D)

Saturday - Wednesday, August 29 - September 2

NAVIGATING THROUGH THE SEA ICE

Sail into the heart of the Arctic ice floe, a vast, pristine expanse of ever-changing landscapes—smooth plains, fractured ice, and open water channels. Navigating where the frozen layer is thinnest, your ship offers magical moments amid drifting sea ice. This rare journey also brings the chance to observe wildlife uniquely adapted to life on the floe, making for a truly unforgettable experience. Through onboard lectures and workshops, learn about the region's geology, history, wildlife, and ever-changing ice formation. On deck, our naturalists will guide you in spotting albatross, northern fulmars, ivory gulls and other seabirds as they glide over the icy waters. (B,L,D)

Thursday, September 3

GEOGRAPHIC NORTH POLE

Located at 90° North, the Geographic North Pole marks Earth's rotational axis where all meridians converge. Shrouded in six months of darkness and six months of sunlight, this icy, remote landmark has captivated explorers for centuries. Until now, only a select few have reached it—an extraordinary achievement now within your reach aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*. (B,L,D)



North Pole Sea Ice

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Friday - Tuesday, September 4 - 8

NAVIGATING THROUGH THE SEA ICE

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Wednesday & Thursday, September 9 & 10

AT SEA ALONG SPITSBERGEN

Enjoy your time at sea, gazing out at the endless sea ice, with all the amenities *Le Commandant Charcot* has to offer. (B,L,D)

Friday, September 11

DISEMBARK LONGYEARBYEN, SPITSBERGEN | CHARTER TO PARIS, FRANCE | DEPART FOR HOME

After breakfast, disembark and take the group charter flight to Paris, France to connect with your departure flight homeward. (B,L)



**Scan the QR code
to learn about this
expedition, PONANT
EXPLORATIONS, and
much more.**

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

- Comprehensive 15-night cruise aboard the deluxe *Le Commandant Charcot*
- One PONANT Tour Director
- One exclusive cocktail reception on board
- Complete program of outings and shore visits in Zodiacs with a team of experienced naturalist guides
- 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
- Expedition activities aboard *Le Commandant Charcot* are included: Kayaking, Snowshoeing, Polar Plunge - subject to weather and ice conditions and medical requirements met
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials
- Unlimited WiFi (as available via satellite)
- Airport/hotel/pier transfers and handling of luggage on official arrival and departure days
- Group charter flights from Paris, France/ Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen/ Paris, France on August 27, 2026, and September 11, 2026, respectively
- Port taxes and charges
- Gratuities to shipboard personnel, porters, and guides
- Offered on board: Complimentary water-resistant polar parka for adult travelers, to keep
- Offered on board: Complimentary boot rental of half calf rubber boots for adult travelers, for use during voyage

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.); transfers outside of official arrival/ departure dates.

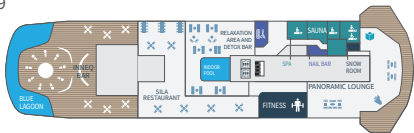


LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT

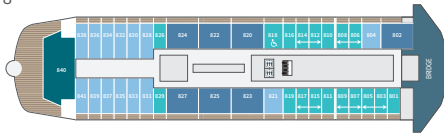
As the world’s first hybrid electric liquefied natural gas polar exploration ship, *Le Commandant Charcot* encapsulates an eco-friendly design never before seen in the polar regions. Provided with 123 staterooms, in total harmony with nature, it will carry you safely and comfortably beyond known lands. Two research laboratories on board enable scientists to collect data that will increase our knowledge of the poles.

DECK PLAN

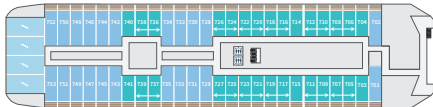
DECK 9



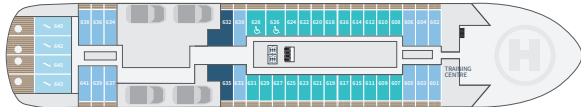
DECK 8



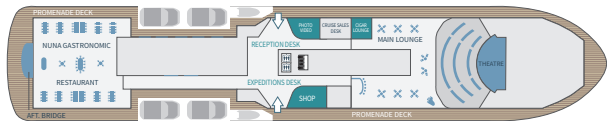
DECK 7



DECK 6



DECK 5



- Owner's Suite
- Duplex Suites
- Privilege Suites Deck 8
- Grand Prestige Suites Deck 6
- Prestige Suites Deck 7 - 8
- Deluxe Suites Deck 6 - 7 - 8
- Prestige Staterooms Deck 6 - 7 - 8

CABIN CATEGORIES & RATES ON LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT

All accommodations aboard *Le Commandant Charcot* 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
PRESTIGE STATEROOM, DECK 6	\$38,440	\$38,440
PRESTIGE STATEROOM, DECK 7	\$38,890	\$38,890
PRESTIGE STATEROOM, DECK 8	\$39,350	\$39,350
DELUXE SUITE, DECK 6	\$40,030	\$40,030
DELUXE SUITE, DECK 7	\$41,170	\$41,170
DELUXE SUITE, DECK 8	\$42,080	\$42,080
PRESTIGE SUITE, DECK 7	\$49,850	\$49,850
PRESTIGE SUITE, DECK 8	\$50,990	\$50,990
GRAND PRESTIGE SUITE, DECK 6	\$52,130	\$52,130
PRIVILEGE SUITE, DECK 8	\$54,410	\$54,410
DUPLEX SUITE, DECK 6	\$69,240	\$69,240
OWNER'S SUITE, DECK 8	\$170,950	\$338,300

Single occupancy staterooms, subject to availability.



TERMS & CONDITIONS • LONGYEARBYEN – LONGYEARBYEN

AUGUST 27 – SEPTEMBER 11, 2026 (CC270826)

Compagnie du PONANT, PONANT EXPLORATIONS GROUP USA, LLC, and PONANT USA, LLC are hereinafter collectively referred to as «PONANT» is the tour Operator/Organizer of this cruise and has invited members of Dartmouth College Alumni Travel (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 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 November 27, 2025 (9 months 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 shall not be required to refund any monies to any guests who must leave the cruise prematurely for any reason, nor shall PONANT 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.

- From confirmation of booking date up to August 27, 2025 (365 days prior to departure): 10% of deposit to be kept by PONANT
- From August 28, 2025 up to November 27, 2025 (364 days up to 9 months prior to departure): Deposit of 25% of deposit to be kept by PONANT
- From November 27, 2025 up to February 27, 2026 (9 months up to 6 months prior to departure): Deposit of 50% of full tour fare to be kept by PONANT
- From February 27, 2026 (within 6 months prior to departure): 100% of full tour fare to be kept by PONANT

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Passengers shall be responsible for subscribing to cancellation/luggage/assistance repatriation/medical insurance(s). Travel insurance information will be mailed to you by Dartmouth College Alumni Travel upon registration.

PONANT offers coverage through Allianz.

We encourage all travelers to purchase travel insurance. Questions about coverage should be asked directly to the insurance provider.

ITINERARY: PONANT 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 and Dartmouth College Alumni Travel 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 nor Dartmouth College Alumni Travel. In this respect, PONANT and Dartmouth College Alumni Travel 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 and Dartmouth College Alumni Travel 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 and Dartmouth College Alumni Travel is incurred, such liability is limited (details available upon request). PONANT and Dartmouth College Alumni Travel 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 and Dartmouth College Alumni Travel; 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 or Dartmouth College Alumni Travel.

RATES: The prices given at the time of booking are based on economic conditions known on June 9, 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 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 June 28, 2026, to departure.

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. 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 Zodiac® is subject to the approval of the Captain, who will always have the safety and wellbeing of the passenger in mind.

PERSONS WITH REDUCED MOBILITY: Report any physical conditions and dietary or treatment requirements to PONANT and Dartmouth College Alumni Travel 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 Dartmouth College Alumni Travel in writing as soon as possible, but at least within 30 days (July 28, 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 Dartmouth College Alumni Travel 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. On shore, travelers will encounter uneven terrain in nature preserves where paths can be rocky or slippery. Some of our walks, up to two or three miles in a day, may involve ascents or descents on steep hills and standing for long periods of time. Opportunities for kayaking, snowshoeing, or polar plunges may be offered during the cruise, depending on conditions. Travelers should be prepared for cold temperatures, and a packing list provided will detail mandatory protective clothing. PONANT will provide a complementary Parka to keep, and a complementary boot rental on board. Wildlife observation requires time spent on small excursion boats (Zodiacs®) that do not provide protection from the elements in the Arctic. Participants must be physically fit, active, and in good health.

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 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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Alumni Travel

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