world.
JOURNEYS

CRUISE JAPAN

Bespoke charter cruises
revealing the true Japan
March & April 2027

BOOK NOW AND SAVE ON 2027 DEPARTURES!

ESSENCE OF JAPAN

13 DAYS/ 12 NIGHTS

DEPARTS:

- Kobe to Yokohama 13 March 2027
- Yokohama to Kobe 25 March 2027

Embark on an expertly curated expedition-style charter cruise between Yokohama and Kobe, with Ponant.

Explore Japan's cultural treasures, scenic coastlines and lesser visited gems, with special experiences designed to reveal an authentic Japan. Discover bustling seafood markets and tranquil tea plantations, ancient Zen Buddhist shrines, and the stunning Setouchi Islands of the Seto Inland Sea. Stroll the Old Town streets of some of Japan's UNESCO World Heritage Sites and visit the vibrant port city of Busan for a taste of South Korea.

These cruises offer unique access to rural villages and off-the-beaten-track places that larger ships just can't reach.

EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES:

At select ports of call enjoy cultural experiences, connect with locals and savour regional cuisine. Some highlights include:

- Sample sake from local breweries at the ship's bar.
- Witness the carving of freshly caught tuna, and taste the results.
- Enjoy live performances of folk music.
- Onboard, take part in a tea ceremony, or learn how to wear a kimono.

ITINERARY:

DAY 1 YOKOHAMA: Embark this afternoon and settle into life aboard Le Jacques-Cartier.

DAY 2 TAGONOURA: Enjoy stunning views of Mt Fuji and learn about Japan's deep connection to the sea.

DAY 3 YAIZU: Coastal scenery combined with the tranquility of ancient tea plantations.

DAY 4 TOBA: Discover beautiful forests and small islands and visit the venerated Ise Shrine.

DAY 5 KATSUURA: See local fishermen at work and visit the sacred sites of the Kumano Kodo pilgrimage way.

DAY 6 AT SEA: Relax onboard as you sail southwest to the Seto Inland Sea.

DAY 7 HAGI: Explore the Old Town, the 17th century castle and well-preserved samurai residences.

DAY 8 BUSAN (SOUTH KOREA): Bustling Busan offers the Gamcheon Cultural Village and local markets.

DAY 9 SHIMONOSEKI: Under samurai rule for 700 years, discover history at every turn.

DAY 10 MIYAJIMA: Visit the Shinto Grand Sanctuary with its picturesque sacred torii (gate).

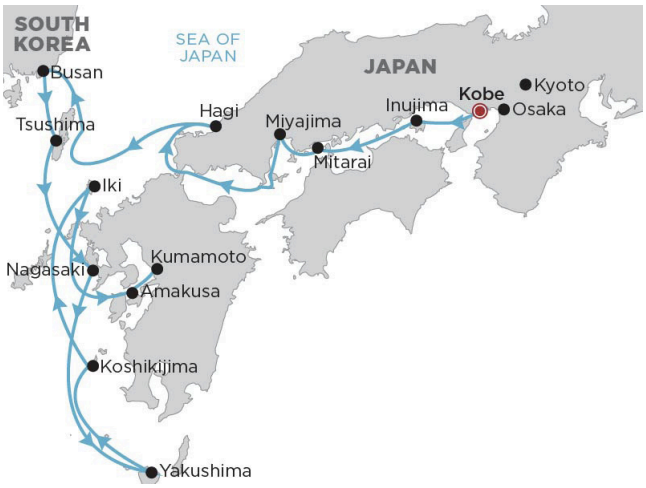
DAY 11 MITARAI: A charming fishing village with an Edo-period Old Town. Enjoy live music performances.

DAY 12 INUJIMA: This small island with traditional wooden houses is now a hub for contemporary art.

DAY 13 KOBE: Your journey ends today in the port city of Kobe on the main island of Honshu.

HIDDEN GEMS IN JAPAN

13 DAYS /12 NIGHTS



DEPARTS: Kobe to Kumamoto 6 April 2027

An inspiring exploration aboard an expertly curated expedition-style charter cruise from Kobe to Kumamoto, with Ponant.

Discover the very essence of Japan's sacred sites, dramatic landscapes and warm hospitality. Begin in the port city of Kobe, before venturing into the breathtaking Seto Inland Sea to discover charming fishing villages. Visit Miyajima's famed floating torii gate and travel to the rugged, cliff-lined beauty of Koshikijima Island and the ancient forests of Yakushima. The journey also provides a glimpse into South Korea's vibrant port city of Busan. Back in Japan, uncover layers of history and traditions.

These cruises offer unique access to rural villages and off-the-beaten-track gems that larger ships just can't reach.

EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES:

At select ports of call enjoy cultural experiences, connect with locals and savour regional cuisine. Some highlights include:

- Walk among Yakushima Island's ancient Yakusugi cedars - a memorable experience for all.
- At Hagi Fishing Port, a hot spot for fresh seafood, enjoy unique dishes and other activities showcasing local culture.
- Enjoy live performances of Japanese court music and Japanese harp, seeing music and history intertwine.
- Onboard, take part in a tea ceremony, or learn how to wear a kimono.

ITINERARY:

DAY 1 KOBE: Embark this afternoon and settle into life aboard Le Jacques-Cartier.

DAY 2 INUJIMA: Contemporary art is showcased at the Seirensho Art Museum and the Art House Project.

DAY 3 MITARAI: A charming fishing village with an Edo-period Old Town. Enjoy live music performances.

DAY 4 MIYAJIMA: Witness the iconic vermillion torii gate and the UNESCO-listed Itsukushima Shrine.

DAY 5 HAGI: Explore this well-preserved castle town with its samurai district and fresh seafood.

DAY 6 TSUSHIMA: This forested island lies between Japan and Asia. Explore its seaside shrine and lush coast.

DAY 7 BUSAN (SOUTH KOREA): Bustling Busan offers the Gamcheon Cultural Village and local markets.

DAY 8 NAGASAKI: Discover Dutch influences and the poignant Atomic Bomb Museum and Peace Park.

DAY 9 YAKUSHIMA: Enjoy a walk through ancient cedar forests on this picturesque island.

DAY 10 KOSHIKIJIMA: An island of dramatic cliffs, lush greenery and ancient samurai history.

DAY 11 IKI: A captivating paradise of natural beauty, history, spirituality and culinary traditions.

DAY 12 AMAKUSA: A verdant archipelago with a fascinating Christian heritage.

DAY 13 KUMAMOTO: Your journey ends in spectacular fashion with an exclusive private cocktail party in Kumamoto's hilltop castle.

ABOUT CRUISE JAPAN

PONANT

Founded in 1988 by French mariners, PONANT creates an ambiance reminiscent of a private yacht, with warm, attentive service and unparalleled comfort. Le Jacques Cartier is a new-generation expedition vessel offering genuine luxury. Launched in 2020, and accommodating up to 184 guests, this intimate ship allows access to locations inaccessible to larger vessels.

CABINS

Each elegantly appointed stateroom boasts a private balcony, ensuite bathroom, air-conditioning, mini-bar, a Nespresso machine and 24-hour room service. Choose from seven cabin categories to suit your needs.

DINING

Breakfast and lunch are lavish buffets with mains ordered a la carte, while dinners are a la carte, complemented by curated wine pairings, in the dining room or al fresco under the stars.

EXCURSIONS

Embark on tenders or Zodiac craft for landings at unique destinations often beyond the reach of standard tours. Ponant's Head of Far East, a seasoned Expedition Leader, will ensure a journey of unparalleled discovery, while onboard naturalists enrich your journey with their insights.

2027 Pricing *(per person, NZD)*	**Twin** *from*	**Special Offer**	**Single** *from*	**Special Offer**
Deluxe Stateroom	~~$28,990~~	$27,410	~~$52,235~~	$49,340
Prestige Stateroom	~~$33,660~~	$31,795	~~$60,590~~	$57,230
Deluxe Suite	~~$49,910~~	$47,145	~~$89,840~~	$84,860

Offer is subject to availability at time of booking. Please enquire about pricing of other cabin categories.

INCLUSIONS

All onboard meals; all beverages (excluding premium brands); Expedition Team and onboard naturalists; excursions with sightseeing and entrance fees; access to the spa and fitness room facilities; port taxes.

NOT INCLUDED

Gratuities; pre- and post-cruise touring and accommodation; port transfers; premium alcohol; laundry; spa services/ treatments; visas (if applicable).

TO NOTE

Prices may change due to currency fluctuations. A deposit of 25% is due upon booking, with final balance due 90 days prior to sailing. As these cruises are private charters, special cancellation conditions apply; and the PONANT Yacht Club program does not apply. Please enquire for full terms and conditions.

Ask us about adding further travel in Japan before and/or after your cruise.

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR TRAVEL PROFESSIONAL