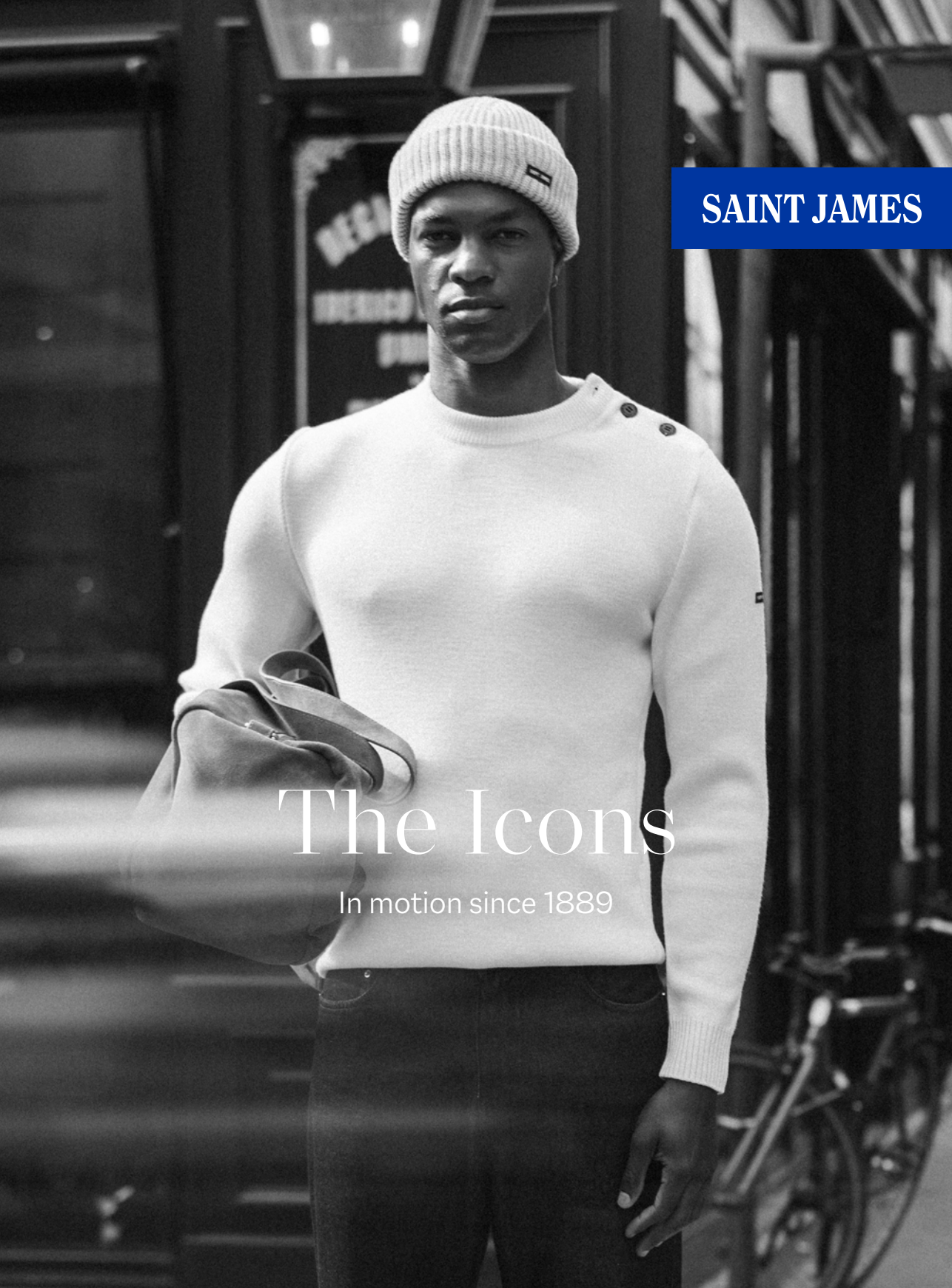




SAINT JAMES

The Icons

In motion since 1889



Where it all began

From this land of sailors—facing the open sea and battered by the winds, nestled between Normandy and Brittany, just a stone's throw from Mont Saint-Michel—that SAINT JAMES has drawn its inspiration for over a century.

Carrying on a thousand-year-old textile tradition, SAINT JAMES began knitting the famous sailor sweater in the 19th century. This sweater, made from local wool and knit so tightly that it was said to be “waterproof,” protected sailors from the cold and inclement weather as they set out to fish in the cold waters of the North Atlantic.

Over the decades, fishermen, sailors, and boaters have turned the authentic sailor sweater into a cult classic, elevating SAINT JAMES to the status of a major French brand with unique expertise.

A story to wear

There are some items that stand the test of time without ever going out of style. Pieces that are passed down, that we recognize, that we rediscover. The SAINT JAMES sailor sweater is one of them.

That is why we say a SAINT JAMES sweater is for life. Because a well-made piece ages beautifully and, over the years, becomes a reflection of the person wearing it.



SAINT JAMES

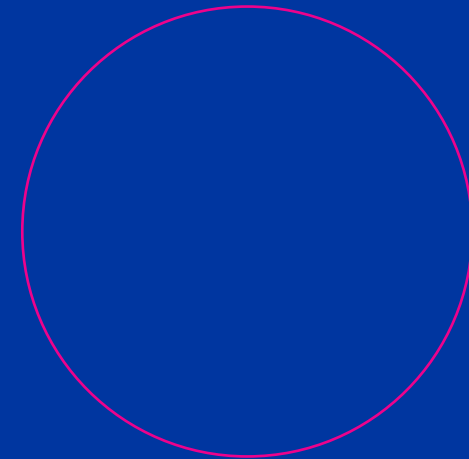
French savoir-faire

For over 135 years, the SAINT JAMES workshops have upheld a level of craftsmanship that cannot be improvised. Here, an appreciation for beauty and fine craftsmanship is deeply ingrained in the company's DNA. From one generation to the next, we pass down the precision of a tight knit, the precision of each stitch, and the commitment to a flawless finish. Every piece that leaves the workshop carries within it the legacy of a promise more than a century old: never to compromise on quality. Nothing is left to chance; nothing is done the easy way.

It is this commitment and this unique expertise that have earned SAINT JAMES the French government's "Entreprise du Patrimoine Vivant" label, the official recognition of unparalleled textile excellence.



SAINT JAMES®
a reçu le label d'État
Entreprise du
Patrimoine Vivant



ON THE LEFT SLEEVE OF EVERY SWEATER, SAILOR SHIRT, AND
PEACOCK, THE ICONIC RECTANGULAR SAINT JAMES LABEL
IS SEWN ON IN CAPITAL LETTERS. DISCREET YET INSTANTLY
RECOGNIZABLE, IT MARKS EACH PIECE AS A TESTAMENT TO
OVER A CENTURY OF CRAFTSMANSHIP.



SAINT JAMES

On the left sleeve of every sweater, sailor shirt, and peacoat, the iconic rectangular SAINT JAMES label is sewn on in capital letters. Discreet yet instantly recognizable, it marks each piece as a testament to over a century of craftsmanship.





One of the largest knitting workshops in Europe

Masters of knitwear, the artisans at SAINT JAMES oversee one of Europe's largest knitting workshops in Europe: more than 92 knitting machines operating day and night, six days a week.

Their craft, that of knitwear-making, dates back to the Middle Ages, but their commitment to quality remains unchanged. Every stitch is adjusted, monitored, and checked by hand, because at SAINT JAMES, it is people who bring the yarn to life.

The Making of an Icon

THE KEY STEPS IN THE MAKING OF A SAILOR SWEATER

KNITTING

Before being fed into the knitting machines, the wool undergoes a series of rigorous tests—the first step in ensuring uncompromising quality. The body, sleeves, collar, and trims are knitted separately using yarn from the same dye lot. The resulting panels are then dimensionally stabilized through steaming—a crucial step in setting the final shape of each garment.

CUTTING

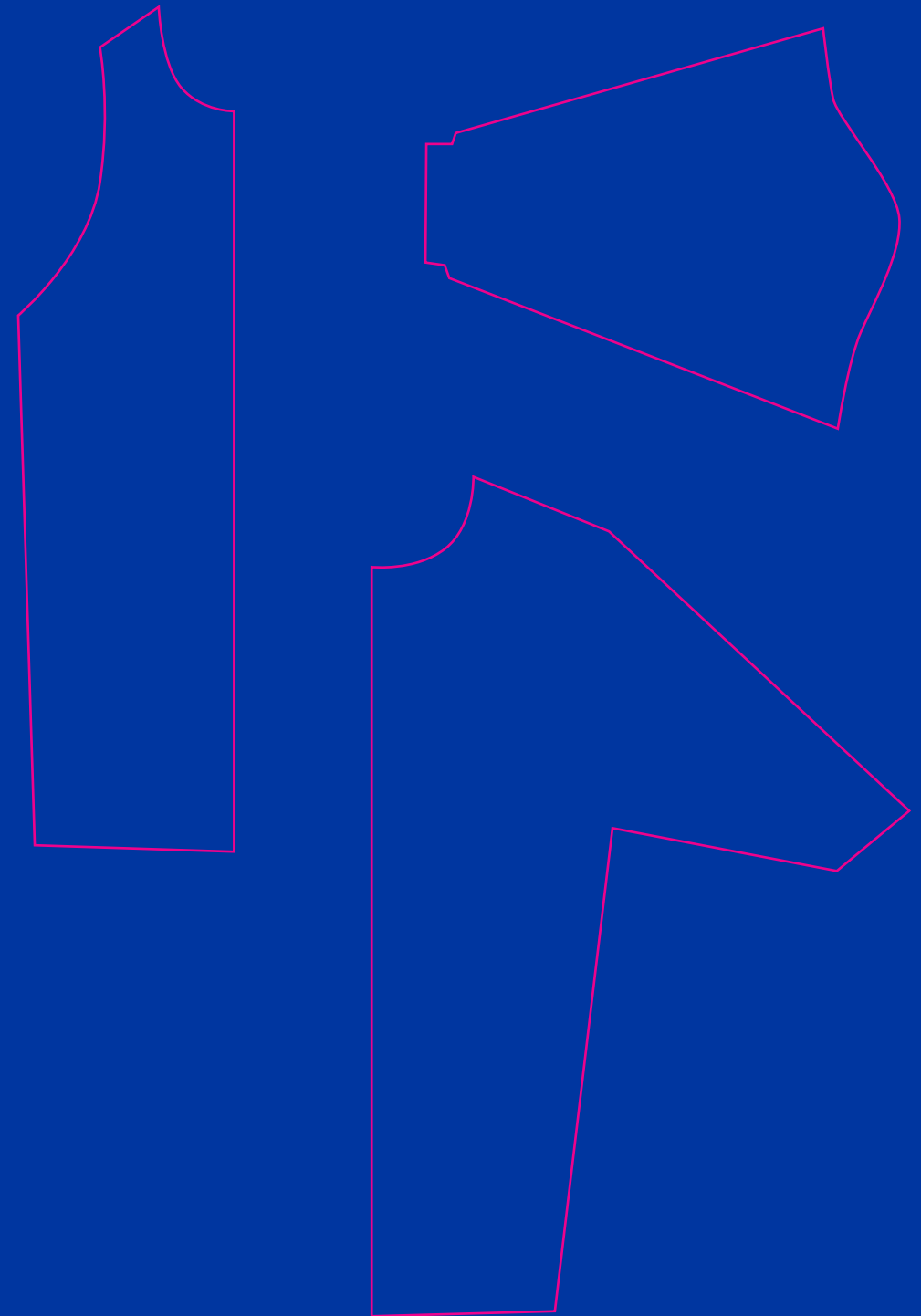
The panels are cut according to precise templates tailored to the specific features of each model, ensuring a flawless cut.

ASSEMBLY

It is during the assembly process that the garment truly comes to life. Whether through stitching, overlocking, or re-seaming, each panel is assembled with precision before the addition of trims gives the garment its final shape and unique character.

FINISHING

Before any final finishing touches are applied, each garment undergoes a strict and uncompromising quality control process. Only once these standards have been met are the buttonholes sewn, the buttons attached, and the “SAINT JAMES” label affixed: the final touch, the ultimate signature.







Garment manufacturing, the art of assembly

At the heart of our workshops in Normandy, more than 100 seamstresses practice their craft with precision and passion. They assemble each garment by hand, using precise techniques inherited from high-precision garment-making techniques. Overlocking, serging, topstitching, hemming, and re-seaming—each technique has its own specific requirements.

Stitch-by-stitch linking, an iconic specialty of the House, deserves special attention. Performed stitch by stitch on circular needles, it allows the collar to be attached to the neckline with extreme precision. The knit remains supple, the garment retains its elasticity and shape, and never loses its form over time.

Striped shirt, sailor sweater, peacoat

TIME SUITS THEM SO WELL

The striped shirt, the sailor sweater, and the peacoat—these three iconic pieces at the heart of the SAINT JAMES universe have stood the test of time without ever succumbing to the whims of fashion.

Their story is one of an unstoppable rise. First worn on the decks of ships, they conquered ports, beaches, and then cities.

These are pieces you adopt once and never part with—and that is precisely what defines an icon: not following the times, but standing the test of time.

The SAINT JAMES striped shirt, sailor sweater, and peacoat now belong to that select circle of pieces that are instantly recognizable and passed down from generation to generation.



The SAINT JAMES signature

WHAT THE SEA HAS GIVEN US

“Born of the sea”: the signature of our SAINT JAMES brand encapsulates our origins and our philosophy.

In an era when clothing had to withstand the wind, salt, humidity, and cold of the open sea above all else, SAINT JAMES turned this necessity into a mission: to create pieces built to last.

It is this founding necessity that has shaped the identity of each piece through a tight, dense, and protective knit, considered the sailor’s second skin. So distinctive that connoisseurs recognize it at a glance and by touch.



THE BUTTONED COLLAR

one of the most recognizable features
of the Matelot sweater.

SAINT JAMES

THE LABEL

the brand's most iconic
visual signature.



THE KNIT

a natural barrier against the elements
that makes the sweater virtually waterproof.

The art and the matter

100% VIRGIN WOOL, WOOL AND COTTON FABRIC: THE BASICS

The quality of a SAINT JAMES garment begins with the choice of material. To craft our sailor sweaters, cardigans and peacoats, we use only pure virgin wool, sourced exclusively from the shearing of healthy, live sheep. This commitment ensures that every garment offers unparalleled warmth, durability, and comfort.

The raw wool is washed to remove the natural grease, carded to separate the fibers, combed to remove any remaining impurities, then dyed and spun.

Dense, structured, and luxurious, wool cloth is the material used for the peacoat, giving it its unmistakable silhouette and distinctive drape. Made to last, our wool fabric is crafted in France, woven, fullered, and brushed until it achieves a smooth, windproof surface.

Finally, cotton gives the sailor shirt its lightness. Soft, breathable, and comfortable to wear in all seasons, cotton is the material that has allowed the sailor shirt to conquer the world far beyond the shores.



The sailor sweater

THE SPIRIT OF THE SEA
RIGHT ON YOUR SKIN

From its famous local wool sweater to its authentic sailor sweaters, with a knit so tight that it's said to be waterproof, SAINT JAMES has been the undisputed specialist in sailor sweaters for over 135 years.

No fewer than 23 kilometers of yarn and 18 production steps are required to make a single Matelot sweater.

In total, 18 pairs of hands will have knitted, cut, assembled, and inspected each piece.

A staple of contemporary wardrobes, it has established itself today as an essential of urban chic style.

Worn over raw denim, slipped under a peacoat, or paired with tailored trousers, it embodies the effortless elegance found only in truly iconic pieces.

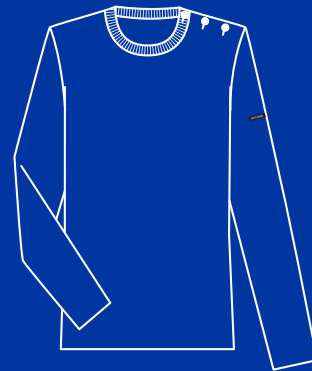


Solid Matelot sailor sweater



MARÉE II R

A women's version of the iconic sailor sweater, the Marée is knitted from pure virgin wool. With a re-knitted crew neck, shoulder buttons, and a slim fit, it embodies the SAINT JAMES aesthetic with a softness and elegance that is distinctly feminine.



BRÉGANÇON

The Brégançon captures the essence of the sailor sweater in a straight, roomier, and more comfortable fit. Its elbow patches and decorative sailor-style button add a touch of understated originality. A subtly reimagined SAINT JAMES classic.



CANCALE

The Cancale Femme is a women's version of the sailor sweater, knitted in a 1x1 rib stitch using the iconic Marée yarn—warm, soft, and cozy. Its silver anchor buttons on the left shoulder give it that nautical touch that makes the piece so elegant.





Solid Matelot sailor sweater



Binic striped Sailor sweater



Solid Cancale sailor sweater



Cancale striped Sailor sweater

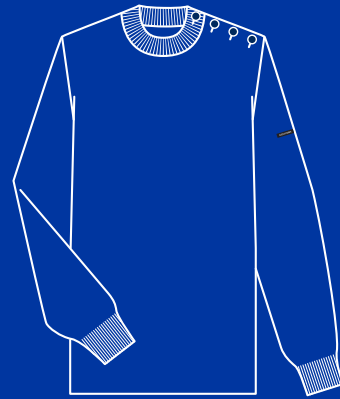


Solid Cotentin sweater



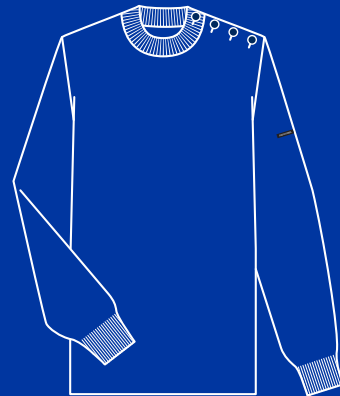
MATELOT

A signature piece of the brand, the Matelot is the sailor sweater in its most authentic form. With its tightly knit, nearly waterproof fabric, shoulder buttons, protective length, and pure virgin wool, every detail stays true to the classic Newfoundland sailor sweater.



ROCHEFORT

The Rochefort combines the classic style of a traditional sailor sweater with the comfort of soft, warm, and breathable merino wool. With a ribbed crew neck, shoulder buttons, and a fitted cut with a protective length, it embodies all the hallmarks of a sailor sweater, enhanced by an exceptional fabric.



COTENTIN

A favorite among fishermen for its protection against cold winds, the trucker neck naturally found its place in the SAINT JAMES collection. Knitted in an English rib stitch from pure, soft, and cozy wool, the Cotentin combines freedom of movement with warmth. A functional classic, true to the brand's spirit.



CANCALE H

The Cancale reimagines the classic sailor sweater with a comfortable, roomier, and more generous fit. The ribbed hem adds volume and movement, making it suitable for all body types.



The Breton shirt

**ELEVATED
TO THE STATUS
OF FRANCE'S
CLOTHING HERITAGE**

It all began in 1858, when a military order introduced the nautical striped shirt into the official uniform of French Navy sailors, little knowing that it would endure through the centuries to become a universal fashion icon.

Adopted by artists, embraced by intellectuals, and elevated by fashion, the sailor top has broken free from its original uniform origins to rise to the status of a French sartorial heritage.

A symbol of simple, timeless elegance, worn in all seasons and available in lightweight cotton or heavy jersey, it remains what it has always been: a model of art de vivre and freedom.



Minquiers Breton shirt

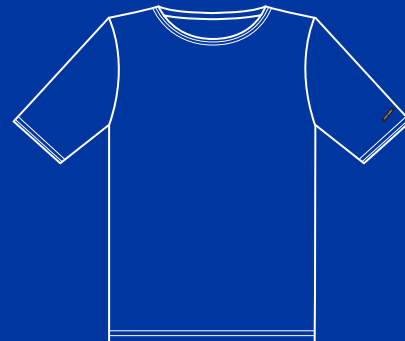
MINQUIERS

Made from lightweight, soft, and comfortable combed cotton, Minquiers striped shirts suit every style and are perfect for every season. A pleasure to wear from the first warm days of the season, they combine the lightness of a fine fabric with the timeless appeal of an iconic piece you'll never want to take off. The women's version is the Minquidame (see p. 38)



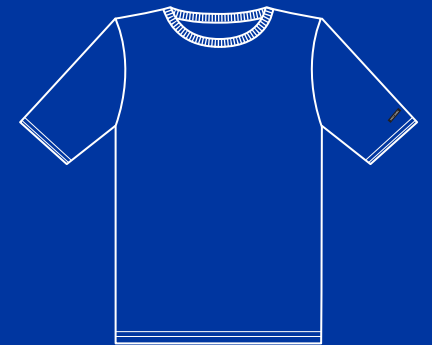
LEVANT

With its summery, seaside vibe, Levant reimagines the iconic sailor shirt in a short-sleeved version, paying homage to the sailors who, back when the shirt was first adopted by the navy, didn't hesitate to cut off the sleeves themselves for greater freedom of movement. Crafted from lightweight combed cotton, it embodies the spirit of a French summer.



PLOUIDER

Some pieces are summer wardrobe staples, and the Plouider striped shirt perfectly embodies this concept. It is made from the same 100% cotton jersey as our famous Minquiers striped shirt. Its straight cut and round neckline finished with a ribbed trim give it a polished look. With its short sleeves, it's a versatile, easy-to-wear staple for sunny days.





NAVAL

This is THE original SAINT JAMES sailor shirt. The one that has moved beyond its maritime roots to become an icon of French style. The Naval captures the essence of the iconic sailor shirt in its most recognizable form: Royal Blue stripes on a white background, a boat neck, and side slits that define its unique character. Made from soft, lightweight combed cotton, it's perfect for any season—whether worn under a blazer or on the deck of a sailboat—for both men and women.



MÉRIDIEN

With its heavyweight, 100% cotton carded-yarn jersey, the Méridien striped shirt exudes authenticity. Its dense, substantial fabric, a legacy of Normandy's rich textile traditions, is instantly recognizable both to the eye and to the touch. Building on this identity, this staple comes in seasonal colors and is reinvented with each new collection. It is available in a unisex cut, but for those who prefer a more fitted silhouette, Saint James has designed the Méridame (see page 39), tailored just for them.





GALATHÉE

A 3/4-sleeve version of the iconic sailor top, the Galathée is the perfect choice as the weather warms up. Made from the same lightweight cotton jersey as the Minquiers and Minquidame, it offers the same softness, comfort, and lightness.



MINQUIDAME

The Minquidame is the women's version of the Minquiers, featuring a fitted, feminine silhouette. Made from lightweight, soft combed cotton, it embodies all the hallmarks of the iconic sailor top with its long sleeves and round neckline. A timeless piece, its classic stripes pair just as well with jeans as they do with a dressier outfit.



MÉRIDAME II

The Mérédame, the women's version of the Méridien, stands out for its thick, authentic carded cotton, which is denser and more textured than lightweight cotton. Its cut is tailored to the female figure, with a slightly defined waist and a flared hem. It's the perfect piece for between seasons or to wear under a wool jacket.



The peacoat

**TIMELESS CHIC,
BUILT TO LAST**

Its name in French (caban) comes from the Arabic word *qaba*, a cape worn by Barbary pirates as early as the 15th century. Adopted by European sailors, the peacoat became a staple with its turn-up collar, double-breasted design that could be adjusted to the wind, and dense, water-resistant wool fabric. A garment designed by the sea, for the sea.

Adopted by all generations, it has established itself as one of the most elegant pieces in both men's and women's wardrobes.

At SAINT JAMES, the peacoat is made in France, using a wool fabric selected with the same exacting standards as the wool for our sailor sweaters.

Worn over raw denim, a striped shirt, or a suit, it embodies maritime heritage and elegance. Another piece designed to last and stand the test of time.



Voilure peacoat



GALION II

Crafted from exceptional wool fabric, the Galion is the quintessential SAINT JAMES peacoat in its purest and most timeless form. With a double-breasted design featuring embossed anchor buttons, a tailored collar, piped pockets, and a monogrammed lining, every detail reflects an uncompromising commitment to craftsmanship.



VOILURE II

A women's version of the iconic Galion, the Voilure is a wool-blend peacoat crafted with the same commitment to quality. Its gold buttons add a touch of elegance and femininity to this wardrobe staple. It embodies all the hallmarks of an authentic classic with its tailored collar, straight cut, decorative back belt, and tone-on-tone lining.



Galion peacoat



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