

# Welcome, in T<mark>ahit</mark>ian The story behind the image The cover of this brochure features a photograph by Jules Roques, from Studio Gauguin: "We were about to arrive at the Rangiroa channel. I'd been warned that dolphins are often seen there. The show was on: there were lots of them that day! So I opened a hatch just above the bulb of the ship to photograph them, arms outstretched in the air. The difficulty was to get the shot without dropping the equipment into the water. It was the first time in my life that I had photographed dolphins, and it was an unforgettable moment."

#### Beyond the postcard



Mount Otemanu, *motu* Mahana, Cook's Bay, Ōpūnohu and Rōtui bays, Rangiroa's "infinite lagoon", Takuvaine valley, Taiohae petroglyphs – there are so many names that make you dream. So many reminders of inspiring places, scattered all around and set among enchanting waters.

From Bora Bora to Moorea, from the Tuamotus to the Cook Islands via the Marquesas, in 2026, go beyond the picture postcard image and plunge right into the heart of French Polynesia and the islands of the South Pacific. Its 25 years in the region make *Le Paul Gauguin* the authentic way to discover every nook and cranny.

You'll find sites steeped in history and legend, atmospheric sacred places, seabeds teeming with life, craftsmanship of rare finesse, and a people who have made hospitality a veritable art of living. On board, your Polynesian hosts, the *Gauguins* and *Gauguines*, share this wonderful spirit and traditional customs with you.

Discover what the islands have to offer at each port of call through the many immersive activities available. Canoeing, snorkelling, cycling and walking all provide plenty of opportunities to discover lush valleys, tropical forests, dramatic mountains, isolated atolls, lagoons inhabited by sharks and rays, traditional arts, black pearl and vanilla cultivation, and local gastronomy.

A trip to Polynesia will see you return charmed and amazed, if not charged with the positive energy known as *mana*, so dear to its inhabitants. A state of mind and serenity that we invite you to embrace as you turn the pages of this brochure.

See you on board soon,

Hervé Gastinel
CEO OF PONANT

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# Explore the South Pacific aboard *Le Paul Gauguin*

Shades of blue and green come to life in the lagoons, the beaches, the forests, the mountainous landscapes, and the ocean where the protective barrier reef embraces teeming sealife. Now all that remains is to associate these images with the names that whisper through your heart.



IMMERSION
Discover Polynesia
and all our destinations
as if you were there.

#### MAROUESAS ISLANDS





# The spirit of Paul Gauguin CRUISES

Embark on a true immersion in the South Pacific and an unforgettable initiation into the rich traditions of Polynesia. In a relaxed and cosmopolitan atmosphere, different from other ships in the PONANT fleet, Le Paul Gauguin embodies the Polynesian spirit on voyages where relaxation and a sense of discovery are the order of the day.



## 5 reasons to sail aboard Le Paul Gauguin

#### Polynesian expert

In 1891, the painter Paul Gauguin settled in Tahiti in search of a "sky without winter". For more than 25 years, the ship named in his honour – designed to navigate the shallow waters of the South Pacific and its isolated islands – has taken guests on voyages of discovery to this faraway part of the world where time seems to stand still. Wild islands with dramatic volcanic peaks, deep valleys, lush jungles, precious lagoons and secluded coves, seabeds teeming with life and colour... There's so much to explore on a voyage with *Le Paul Gauguin*.

#### Unprecedented routes

All Le Paul Gauguin itineraries have been designed to offer you an authentic experience of Polynesia and the islands of the South Pacific – Tahiti, Moorea, Bora Bora, the Tuamotus, the Marquesas and the Cook Islands. Lasting from seven to 14 nights, our sailings offer you both an introduction to these enchanting archipelagos and time to get to know their different cultures and traditions. The many excursions and activities offered at every port of call, both on land and at sea, offer incredible opportunities to explore natural wonders and meet local communities.

#### A ship with the personal touch

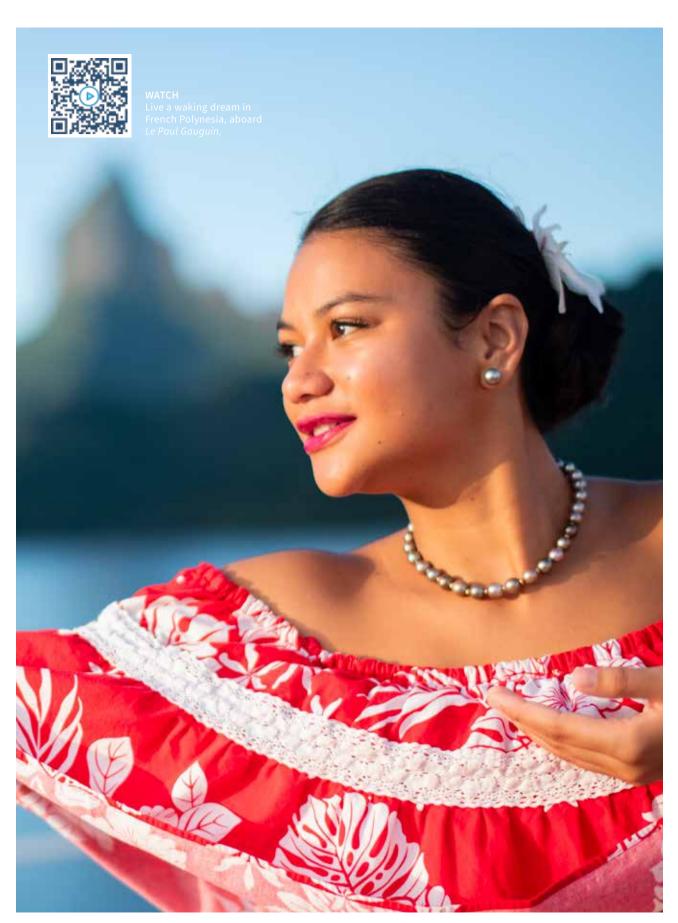
Le Paul Gauguin has 165 staterooms and suites, each offering its own view of the incredible surroundings. To make sure you enjoy your trip with complete peace of mind, the ship has two crew members per three guests, one of the best ratios in the cruise industry. The service provided by our Polynesian hosts, the Gauguins and Gauguines, is professional and friendly and an integral part of the ship's warm, intimate atmosphere.

#### An all-inclusive experience

Taking advantage of an all-inclusive offer on board means everything is taken care of so you can enjoy your holiday to the full. Meals and snacks, a wide selection of drinks, room service, butler service for certain suites and staterooms, watersports equipment (masks and snorkels, stand-up paddleboards), entertainment and exclusive access to a private islet in French Polynesia are included in the price of your cruise. Every day, let us surprise you with gourmet international cuisine, inspired by local products and flavours, in the laid-back setting of our three elegant restaurants.

#### A pioneering commitment

Exchange, cooperation, mutual aid – this is the spirit underpinning Paul Gauguin Cruises' commitment to French Polynesia. We do our utmost to develop more sustainable tourism, for the benefit of the communities that welcome our guests each season. Our excursion programmes are developed directly with local, family-run structures. In 2023, we joined forces with the Polynesian government to provide medical care in the most remote, isolated islands. The medical teams on board Le Paul Gauguin will now be able to count on the support of Tahitian doctors who will travel to the islands free of charge on our ship. During ports of call, local residents can have free consultations with the ship's doctors and benefit from access to some of the ship's medical equipment, such as X-ray and ultrasound machines.





Services, life on board, activities... the PAUL GAUGUIN Cruises experience is regularly rewarded.

2023

'Best Small-Ship Cruise Line' awarded for the sixth consecutive year during the Leisure Lifestyle Awards by Global Traveler magazine

'Best Small Cruise Ship' and 'Best Luxury Ship-Itinerary' awarded during the Travel Weekly Magellan Awards

2022

'Best Luxury Cruises in Tahiti' awarded during the Luxury Lifestyle Awards

'Best Small Ships Cruise Line' awarded by World Luxury Travel Awards

Second in the 'Best Small Ships' category, awarded by the 800,000 voters of the Condé Nast Traveler Reader's Choice Awards

– first prize awarded to PONANT ships

2021

'World's Best Cruises' awarded during the Gold List Awards by Condé Nast Traveler magazine

See the complete list of our awards on en.ponant.com.







Le Paul Gauguin's relaxed, international atmosphere, friendliness and attentive service make every moment of your cruise memorable.



From the moment you arrive in Polynesia, the *Gauguines* and *Gauguins*, our local hosts, will be with you every day. There are songs, cultural exchanges, pareo knotting and wreath weaving workshops, Polynesian dance classes and more. You will be able to enjoy an authentic immersion in this rich culture through these interactions.

The **pool** is the perfect spot for leisurely dips, reading and taking in the beautiful scenery.





Located on the pool deck, close to **the Grill restaurant**, **La Palette** is the ideal place to relax or enjoy a lively evening. Guests like to linger on its open terrace to listen and dance to the artists who take turns to perform there.

The **Algotherm spa** offers a wide choice of massages and treatments, based on marine cosmetics.

The **fitness room** offers the full range of machines and weight training equipment to help you to stay in shape.

The **shop** features a collection of gift items, clothing, and jewellery made with Tahitian pearls.









Near the restaurant **L'Étoile**, the piano bar is a favourite place for drinks before or after dinner.

There is **entertainment** every day, including local artists invited on board, jazz bands, piano concerts and dance evenings. The pleasure of the discoveries made on land continues with engaging lectures given by the experts who accompany you during your shore excursions.

#### A day on board Le Paul Gauguin

Enjoy every moment of your voyage on board Le Paul Gauguin and during stopovers, enhanced by Polynesian gentleness. The day unfolds effortlessly and as you're surrounded by idyllic landscapes, the ship's cosy living spaces become increasingly yours as intimate and convivial days go by.







The Polynesian art of living, the relaxed atmosphere, gourmet dining: enjoy absolute immersion in moments of relaxation and discovery, thanks to all the services included and reserved for you on board.

- Full board from arrival to departure
- Catering at all hours of the day: tea and sweet treats, aperitifs, appetisers
- A selection of drinks in restaurants, bars and minibars
- 24-hour room service
- Butler service in some suites and staterooms
- Free and unlimited Wi-Fi service on board
- Parties, shows and other activities
- The support of the *Gauguines* and *Gauguins* Polynesian hosts for all itineraries in Polynesia
- Enriching lectures delivered by experts on Polynesia
- Access to the fitness centre and steam room
- From the marina access point, various non-motorised watersports activities, such as kayaking and paddleboarding
- Free rental of masks and snorkels
- Access to motu Mahana for all itineraries in Polynesia
- Shuttle service to Huahine
- All port and security fees

Butler service is available for the following suites: Owner's Suites, Grand Suites, A Veranda Suites and B Veranda Staterooms. Please note that the Wi-Fi connection may be slow and possibly interrupted depending on the geographical area or in circumstances beyond our control. Access to the steam room must be booked in advance and can be limited or unavailable due to health restrictions. Scuba diving and excursions are charged extra.







### Children and teens in the spotlight



In partnership with *Te mana o te moana*, a South Pacific marine education and conservation foundation, the Moana Explorer Program invites children and teens, ages seven to 15, to discover and value the natural wonders of this breathtaking part of the world through hands-on, interactive learning. Every day of the voyage, there is a combination of excursions, science activities, crafts and other adventures. Depending on the itinerary, children might learn about underwater life, create natural jewellery, conduct water experiments, go on a treasure hunt, enjoy water games in the on-board pool, or design their own Polynesian tattoo. Best of all, there is no fee\* for this special family programme! It's all part of PAUL GAUGUIN Cruises' extraordinary all-inclusive value.

Please note: the Moana Explorer Program is available on a selection of sailings, and must be reserved at the time of booking. \*Certain itineraries may offer additional activities for a small fee. These will need to be requested onboard. The programme is offered in English and French.







If you are travelling solo, take advantage of our No Single Supplement offer (1) applied on selected departures: the comfort of a double stateroom, at no extra cost!

#### Consecutive cruises

Extend the pleasure of travelling and save 10% on any consecutive cruise taken <sup>(2)</sup>, as well as increasing discounts on a selection of successive cruises:

-20% on the second cruise in a row,
-30% on the third cruise and -40% on the fourth cruise.









#### Refer your friends and family

As a referrer, you will receive a €500 discount

per stateroom on your next cruise (as soon as your referral
is booked). Your referral benefits from a €500 reduction
on their first cruise. As the number of referrals is not
limited, you can accumulate your discounts.



#### **PONANT Yacht Club**

Join the PONANT Yacht Club when you book your second cruise. You will benefit from special attention and exclusive as well as privileged services.

Offers indicated are subject to change without notice. (1) Double cabin supplement for single use offered on a limited number of cabins and according to cabin category. Offer valid on selected cruises only. Find all the cruises concerned on our website. (2) Discount applicable on the port-to-port cruise fare only and excludes port taxes. Not applicable on ocean voyages. Ocean voyages are not included in the calculation of the cruise position.

# Polynesian break 22





#### Michel Quioc, Polynesia under his skin

Nearly two decades after his first voyage to Polynesia, in 2019 the captain returned to these waters that hold so much emotion for him – and that he knows by heart. A love affair he willingly shares with the guests of Le Paul Gauguin.

Just like many of his fellow sailors who today navigate the most impressive ships on the planet, Michel Quioc grew up reading *Treasure Island*, the classic tale of a young boy who goes to sea in search of adventure (and buried treasure). A keen interest in life at sea was further fuelled by real-life accounts of the extraordinary feats achieved by legendary French solo sailor and writer Bernard Moitessier, who was famous for entering the 1968 Golden Globe Race and, despite being the likely winner, sailed on to Tahiti rather than returning to the start line in England.

Michel joined the renowned Merchant Navy School in Le Havre and his nautical career took off during his first crossings close to the family home, first between Brest and Ouessant, then between Roscoff and England. From his voyages in the Iroise Sea when he was just 20 years old, this sailor from Finistère remembers "the intensity and demands of navigating the Fromveur Passage and the Four Channel, with their hectic currents, huge tides, abundant rocks, occasional fog, and some formidable storms".

Ferry in the English Channel, giant container ship or supertanker in Asia, oceanographic research vessel in the Mediterranean and leisurely sails on the beautiful *Bel Espoir* in the Caribbean and the Azores were followed by coastal navigation in New Caledonia and Vanuatu. He enriches – and broadens – his CV in line with his personal life, opportunities and desires, until one of them stirs him like never before. Michel Quioc discovered Polynesia in the early 2000s, and remembers it "very well. It may sound very strange, but it's a place where I immediately felt I belonged."

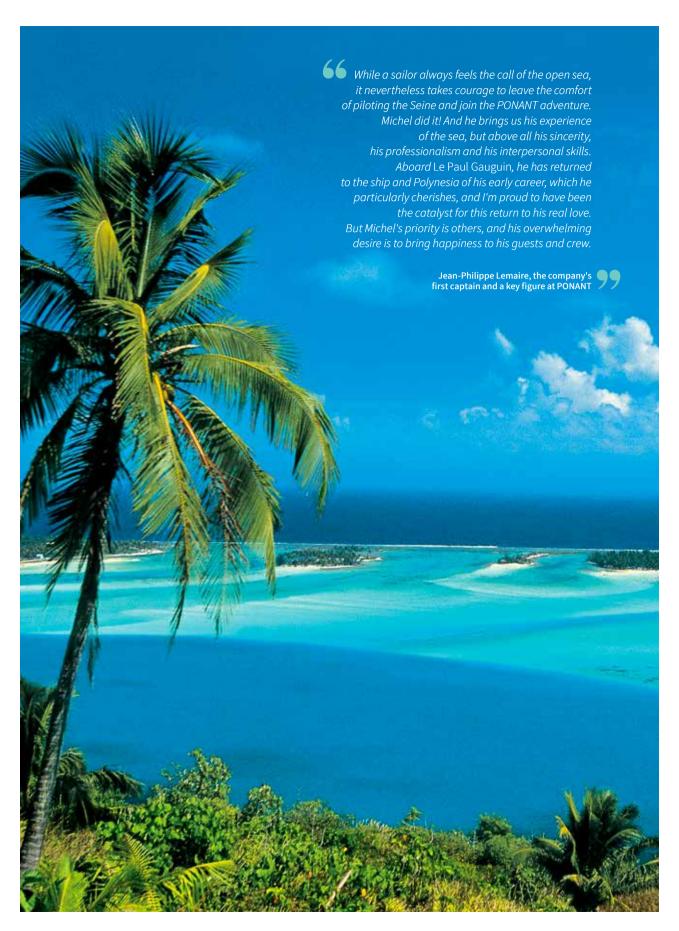
#### Dropping anchor in Polynesia

Without realising it, the captain was writing the first lines of a story that he is still writing, 20 years after he first fell in love with this land of sharing and carefree living. It is a never-ending pleasure that he obviously links to "his" ship, *Le Paul Gauguin*, but also to the anthology of emotions he experiences on every voyage to these waters – and islands – at the end of the world: "the sailing is smooth, the scenery is like no other, and the welcome is incomparable. A bit like Ulysses with the siren song, there's something really special here, the charm and purity of the islands bewitch you...".

Which ports of call particularly thrill the captain? The mystery of the Bay of Virgins at Fatu Hiva and the perfection of the Taiohae caldera at Nuku Hiva, respectively the first and last islands in the Marquesas archipelago where *Le Paul Gauguin* cruises. "It is not unusual for some guests to confess to me that they have never seen anything so beautiful." A dream that Michel Quioc now lives without needing to open his childhood books.



VIDÉO Le Paul Gauguin, the soul of the Polynesian islands.



# In awe of the mountains

With more than
a hundred islands,
the five archipelagos
of Polynesia can also
be explored by land.
A journey within
a journey that is just
as astonishing
in its diversity. You will
experience this through
four key ports of call
where the lagoons
are never far away.







#### The Society Islands

Turn your back on the Pacific and plunge deep into a land of peaks, as sharp as they are majestic. Clearly visible from the plain of Pīra'e in Tahiti, the Diadème immediately attracts the eye. The Fautaua valley is a must for walkers, with a hike to the spellbinding Loti waterfall. On Bora Bora, it's hard to resist Mount Otemanu, the 727-metre-high "peak that sucks you in", right in the heart of the island. On a completely different note, a 20-minute walk will take you around *motu* Mahana, a small islet off the coast of Taha'a. Guests on *Le Paul Gauguin* who have opted for leisure can also enjoy the stunning panorama of the peaks from the beach.













#### The Tuamotu Islands

Back to sea! And to the Tuamotus, where it's always crystal blue. Make way, then, for the planet's largest chain of coral atolls (78 in total, covering more than two million square kilometres) and their underwater paradises. This is where scuba divers go for dives that will live in the memory forever. If one had to pick a favourite spot in this Eden of lagoons? Perhaps Fakarava, one of the atolls classified as a biosphere reserve by UNESCO.



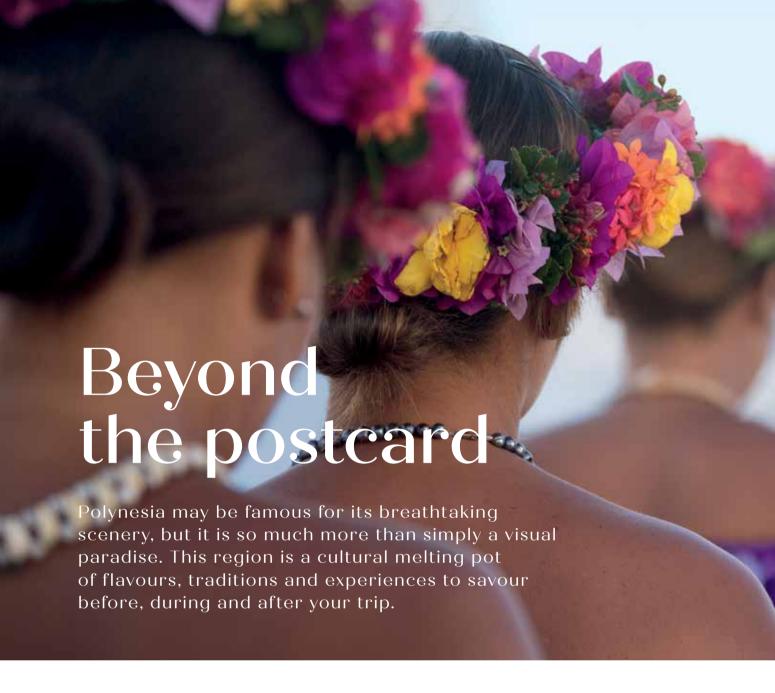
#### The Cook Islands

Another breathtaking coral reef, surrounded by an ocean that plunges to depths of between 2,000 and 3,000 metres. Underwater life is teeming with species that rival each other in beauty, but the wildlife that can be observed in the heart of the island is no less impressive. It is in the Cook Islands, for example, and more specifically on Rarotonga, that you can find the Kakerori – also known as the Rarotonga flycatcher, a bird recently saved from extinction thanks to a conservation programme.



#### The Marquesas Islands

And suddenly, like a mirage, the 1,276 metres of Mount Temetiu appear. The appearance of Hiva Oa – one of the 14 islands that make up the Marquesas – is an unmistakable sight on a voyage aboard *Le Paul Gauguin*. Steep mountains, towering peaks, sheer cliffs, dizzying waterfalls and deep, narrow valleys, just one surprise after another, from Hatihe'u to Hanavave via the Bay of Virgins. The youngest islands in French Polynesia, the Marquesas are home to a natural ecosystem that is unique in the world, with many exotic birds and, in terms of vascular flora, no fewer than 314 indigenous species, more than half of which are endemic. These wild and sparsely populated islands at the end of the world are also a choice destination for hikers, who can, for example, tackle the Vaipo waterfall on the island of Nuku Hiva, also famous for its Taipivai valley, a must-see for history buffs (*see page 53*).

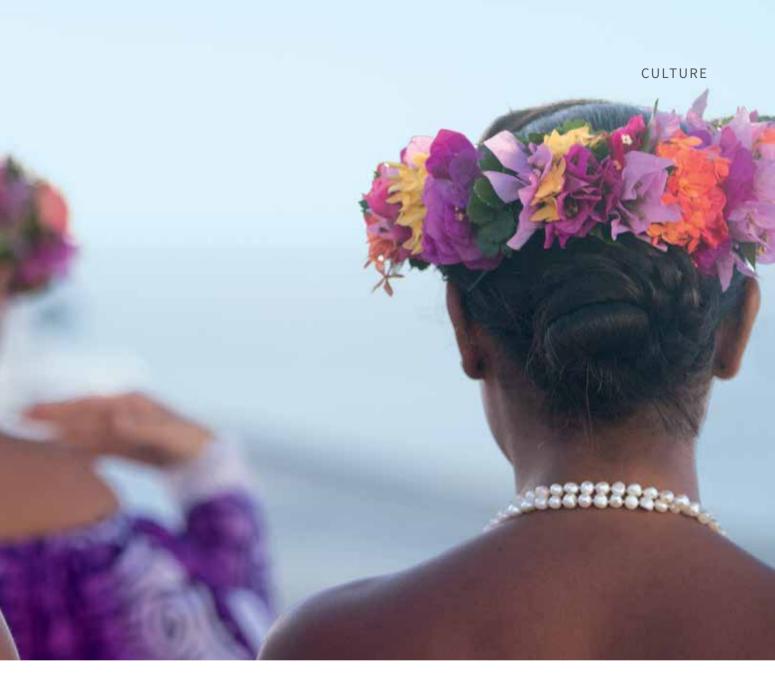


#### Devour the pages of Bernard Moitessier

"Intended for the most eloquent piece of French history, and to the one whose merit comes closest to it," the Jean-Walter Prize was awarded to famed navigator-writer Bernard Moitessier by the Académie française in 1972 for his book *The Long Way* detailing his experience in the first solo around-the-world yacht race. Nicknamed the "vagabond of the South Seas", Moitessier has achieved accolades record worthy of a lifetime of adventure. One of *Le Paul Gauguin's* captains, Michel Quioc, recommends Moitessier's books, in which Polynesia is featured, and in particular the atoll of Ahe, his former home.

## Enjoy a vanilla mahi-mahi

With its broad forehead and prognathic jaw, the *mahi-mahi*, a dolphinfish that can grow up to two metres long and weigh around 50 kilograms, is a real treat for anglers and foodies alike. Accompanied by a vanilla sauce (local, of course!), the flavour of this dish is an unexpected delight. Other fresh seafood not to miss on the menu include marinated bonito or tuna fillets. *Bon appétit!* 



## Understand local culture through dance

*Ori Tahiti Dancers* highlight all the beauty, passion and heritage that traditional Tahitian dance are known for. Produced in 2023, this documentary is an opportunity to immerse yourself for almost an hour in the rich cultural customs that have been handed down for generations.

## Rediscover paradise with a cinematic classic

(Re)immerse yourself in the beauty and romance of this fabled destination with the classic 1958 movie *South Pacific*. Based on the Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway musical, the Academy Award-winning film – Best Sound, Best Music, Best Cinematography – navigates the complexities of love, duty and the pursuit of happiness during World War II in the South Pacific. The lush, breathtaking landscapes and heart-stirring melodies transport you to a world where love transcends boundaries and dreams sail on the winds of hope.

#### PORTFOLIO | KNOW-HOW





Popularised throughout the world by travellers at the beginning of the 20th century, notably through the paintings of Paul Gauguin, and raised as a symbol of the *joie de vivre* and warmth of the South Pacific archipelagos, the Tahitian *pāreu*, or "wraparound skirt", is an essential of the Polynesian wardrobe.

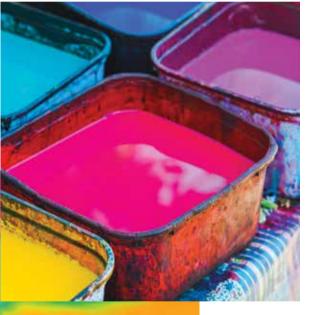
# Local colour

Beach blanket, dress, loincloth... With a hint of ingenuity, a touch of fantasy, a few knots and folds, the pareo or sarong comes in a multitude of versions and accessories.





Originally made from tapa, a vegetable fabric made from banana leaves, coconut fibres or wild hibiscus bark, today's pareos are made from textiles as varied as cotton, linen, rayon and silk.



The pareo displays plant, exotic or traditional motifs and is as colourful as it is versatile. It is used at major cultural events, as a dance costume, but also in everyday life, at home and, of course, on the beach.









@la.fee.vagabonde



@misterkendallhill Tahiti Papeete



@mr.ricardo.c



@fellous.alexandre



@la.fee.vagabonde



**@fredzana** Bora Bora



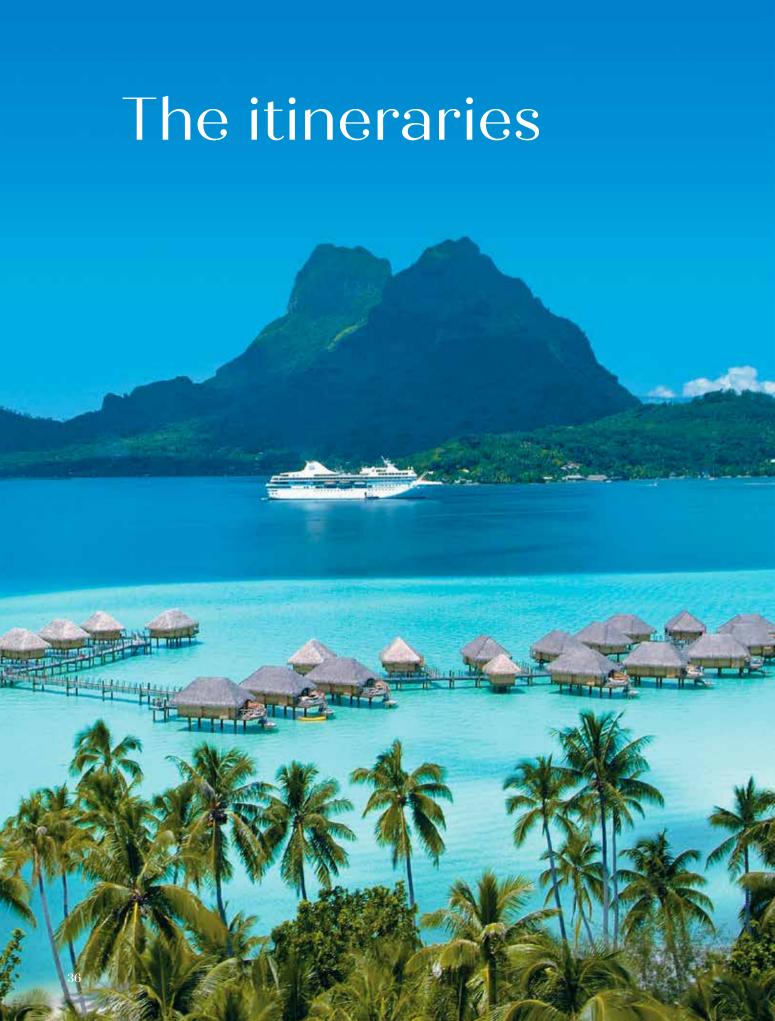
@\_samburu Fakarava



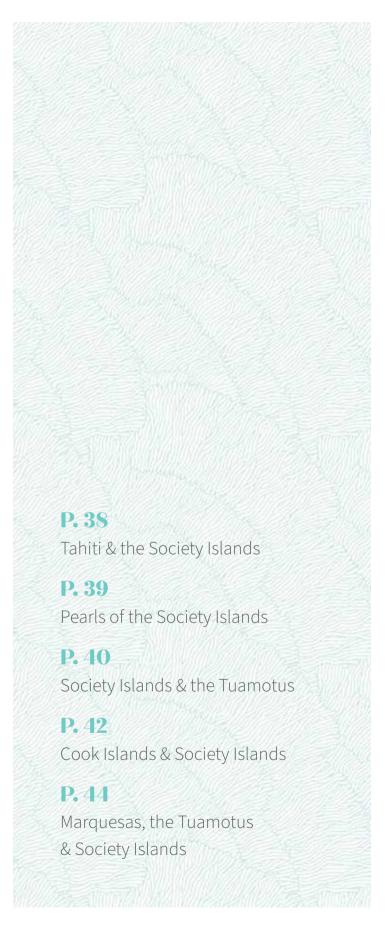
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# Tahiti & the Society Islands

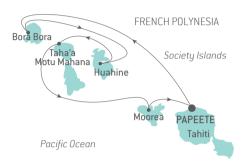






## Papeete · Papeete

8 days/7 nights | From €2,610 <sup>(1)</sup> 14th and 21st March, 25th April, 6th June, 4th July, 8th August, 5th September, 3rd and 17th October, 14th November and 12th December 2026



This perfect introduction to the charms of the Society Islands is a trip focused totally on well-being. Time slows down as soon as you arrive in Tahiti, as if encouraged to breathe deeply and slowly. Enchanting fragrances abound. Your eyes will be drawn to clear turquoise water, a sanctuary for multitudes of colourful fish. Time to relax and marvel...

## **Highlights**

- Live the exceptional: a voyage of initiation into the wonders of the natural treasures and ancient traditions of the Society Islands.
- Enjoy an overnight in exquisite Bora Bora and explore its dramatic mountain peaks, romantic lagoon and crystal-clear waters.
- Slow down and let stress float away on secluded Huahine: explore the village on foot; wander through lush rainforests; float in peaceful lagoons.
- Experience a memorable day on motu Mahana, our own private slice of paradise, where you'll be treated to a sumptuous barbecue lunch.
- Two days on Moorea exploring all the riches its ancient heritage and spectacular scenery have to offer, from the hillside pineapple plantations to the Belvedere lookout, from where you can admire the bays of Cook, Ōpūnohu and Rōtui.
- Discover Polynesia's customs and traditional way of life.
- Landscapes: lagoons, idyllic beaches, deserted coves, tropical forests and mountain peaks.
- Possibility of diving (PADI Open Water Diver or equivalent).





# Pearls of the Society Islands

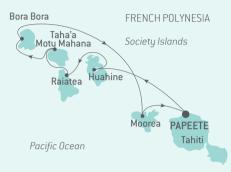






### Papeete · Papeete

8 days/7 nights | From €2,610 <sup>(1)</sup> 31st January, 18th April, 13th June, 11th July, 29th August, 10th October and 7th November 2026



On this itinerary, you get to enjoy a full day on Raiatea (which replaces one of the two days on Moorea on the **Tahiti & the Society Islands** itinerary). According to legend, the island is the cradle of the gods because it is home to the earliest traces of local human habitation as well as the oldest place of worship in Polynesia – namely the Taputapuātea *marae*, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This platform was once a highly important political, ceremonial and funerary centre. The island also has a wonderful range of nature and wildlife to reveal to curious guests who come to explore.



Coral reef between the islands of Raiatea and Taha'a.

## Society Islands & the Tuamotus





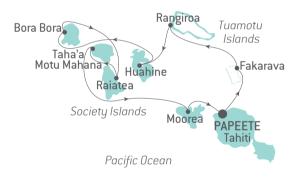


### Papeete · Papeete

11 days/10 nights | From €4,900 € <sup>(1)</sup> 7th January, 18th February, 8th April, 13th May, 29th July, 23rd September and 2nd December 2026

12 days/11 nights | From €5,170 € <sup>(1)</sup> 2nd May, 18th July and 12th September 2026

#### FRENCH POLYNESIA



Departures on 2nd May, 18th July and 12th September: stopovers in a different order, with an extra night in Moorea.

Wondrous moments are assured in the seas of the Tuamotus – the oldest islands in Polynesia – in the lagoon of Rangiroa, classed as one of the most beautiful underwater sites on the planet by Captain Cousteau, and the warm waters of the UNESCO biosphere reserve of Fakarava. Slip into fins, mask and snorkel to swim in these natural aquariums where multicoloured fish, rays and harmless sharks dance among the reefs, and where you can feel at one with the ocean.





Opposite: Moorea. Below: dancer at Bora Bora.



## **Highlights**

- Live the exceptional: two days on the Tuamotu Archipelago, discovering its atolls teeming with life, rare species of birds and plants, and its black pearl farms.
- UNESCO World Heritage Site: Fakarava, a biosphere reserve and the world's second-largest lagoon, home to unique flora and fauna, grey reef sharks and untouched coral reefs.
- Explore the 'infinite lagoon' on Rangiroa, the biggest atoll in French Polynesia, which is famous for its 'wall of sharks'.
- Enjoy an overnight in exquisite Bora Bora and explore its dramatic mountain peaks and romantic lagoon.
- The legendary island of Raiatea, combining ancestral wonders and enchanting nature.
- Experience a memorable day on *motu* Mahana, our own private slice of paradise: treat yourself to sand between your toes and a sumptuous barbecue lunch.
- Discover Polynesia's culture and traditions.
- Fauna: manta rays, spotted eagle rays, common eagle rays, lemon sharks, blacktip reef sharks, sea turtles and multicoloured fish.
- Possibility of diving (PADI Open Water Diver or equivalent).

## Cook Islands & Society Islands

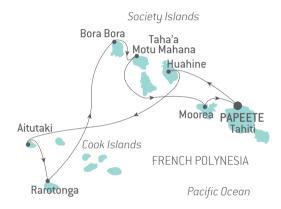






### Papeete · Papeete

12 days/11 nights | From €5,170 <sup>(1)</sup> 7th February, 28th March and 21st November 2026



Warm and personal – a trip to the Cook Islands means an exploration of stunning landscapes and the philosophy of a sweet life. The largest of them, Rarotonga, is surrounded by a coral reef on which the waves of the South Pacific break. The profile of the jagged mountains stands out against the intense blue of the sky on this perfectly circular island. Snorkelling enthusiasts should take note that there is a world of underwater treasures to explore at Aitutaki, a haven of peace and simplicity.





Opposite: aerial vue of Muri Lagoon at Rarotonga in the Cook Islands. Below: corals in the waters of Aitutaki.



## **Highlights**

- Live the exceptional: two days exploring the Cook Islands, with a port of call at Aitutaki, which is considered one of Polynesia's most beautiful islands and is famous for its hand-made tivaevae, a kind of quilt, and colourful pareos, which are produced on the island.
- Discover Rarotonga, its luxuriant Takuvaine Valley and its capital, Avarua, with the possibility of visiting the sacred and ancient site of Arai-Te-Tonga.
- Enjoy an overnight in exquisite Bora Bora and explore its dramatic mountain peaks, romantic lagoon and clear turquoise waters.
- Experience a memorable day on *motu* Mahana, our own private slice of paradise, where you'll be treated to a sumptuous barbecue lunch.
- An overnight in Moorea, the 'magic island' that has inspired many artists with its eight valleys, 900-metre Mount Rōtui, beautiful bays and perfect lagoon.
- Fauna: lemon sharks, blacktip reef sharks, spotted eagle rays, manta rays, superb coral, sea turtles, giant green morays, emperor angelfish, Napoleon fish, butterflyfish and more.
- Possibility of diving (PADI Open Water Diver or equivalent).

## Marquesas, the Tuamotus & Society Islands

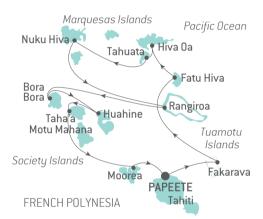






### Papeete · Papeete

15 days/14 nights | From €6,580 <sup>(1)</sup> 17th January, 28th February, 23rd May, 20th June, 15th August, 24th October and 19th December 2026



Jacques Brel wrote songs about their wild beauty and they inspired much of Paul Gauguin's art – the landmarks and landscapes change dramatically in the Marquesas, known as the 'Land of Men'. Cliffs rise steeply from the depths of the ocean and abundant vegetation softens the jagged reliefs. Like their islands, the soul of the Marquesans is filled with an ancestral spirit. The islanders, famous throughout Polynesia for their intricate craftsmanship, sculpt objects from wood, stone and bone, and are renowned for their prowess in the art of tattooing.

19th December 2026 departure: celebrate Christmas and New Year's Eve in exceptional surroundings.



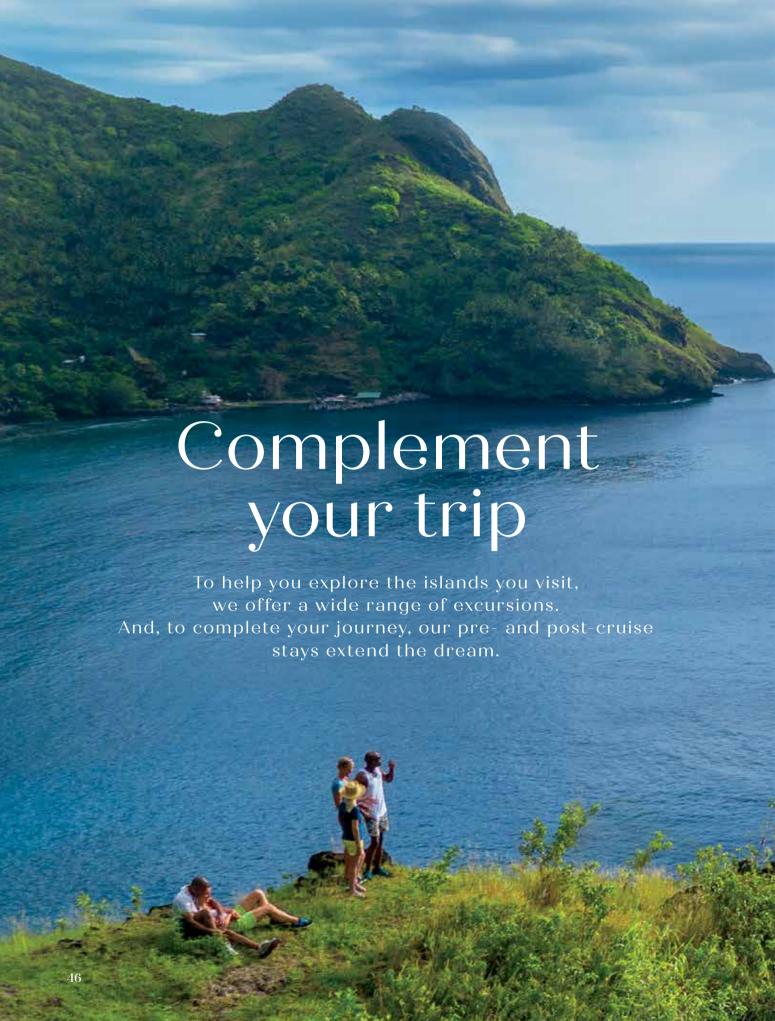


Opposite: steep coastline on the island of Fatu Hiva in the Marquesas Islands. Below: Marquesan women on the island of Fatu Hiva, in Omoa.



## **Highlights**

- Live the exceptional: explore three of French Polynesia's archipelagos on the same voyage, including four days in the wild, pristine Marquesas Islands.
- UNESCO World Heritage Site: the biosphere reserve of Fakarava, the world's second-largest lagoon, home to unique flora and fauna, grey reef sharks and untouched coral reefs.
- History and culture are in the forefront on the island of Hiva Oa, home to the largest stone sculptures in the Marquesas, which are said to be linked to the famous *tikis* of Easter Island.
- Discover Polynesian ancient crafts in Fatu Hiva, sculpted works in Tahuata, sculpted stone *tikis* and 7,000 petroglyphs in Taiohae (Nuku Hiva).
- Experience a memorable day on motu Mahana, our own private slice of paradise, where you'll be treated to a sumptuous barbecue lunch.
- The stops in secluded Huahine and superb Moorea, in the Society Islands.
- Landscapes: towering peaks, imposing cliffs, plantations, forests, turquoise lagoons, unspoilt beaches, deserted coves, underwater caves, and more.
- Possibility of diving (PADI Open Water Diver or equivalent).







A secret trail, an uninterrupted view of the horizon, an inlet invites undersea exploration, smells that precede delicious flavours: we offer you a wide range of optional excursions at every stopover. Here's a selection.



## Bora Bora, Society Islands

### Relaxing time at the Lagoonarium

Lightweight outrigger canoes whizz along to the Lagoonarium in Bora Bora and its open-air parks. Sharks, rays, yellow jacks, turtles and parrotfish are just some of the inhabitants of these pristine waters. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced snorkeller, you'll gradually move away from the beach and into shallow waters. Local instructors will guide you to ensure a respectful and careful approach to these species, which are varied and harmless.

€ € | 4h

#### Bora Bora off-road adventure

Lovers of wide-open spaces and off-road adventure should head for the hills of Bora Bora for a multi-stage excursion along the island's quietest road, in a four-wheel-drive vehicle with a dedicated driver. The craggy terrain winds through the village of Vaitape in Pofai Bay as far as Pahonu Hill, where you will enjoy an uninterrupted view of Bora Bora's natural harbour. The lush Fa'anui Valley overlooks the spectacular bay of the same name: it's a favourite spot for keen photographers.







## Huahine, Society Islands

## Motu picnic

Who better than one of our guests to tell you about this excursion? "This all-day excursion was truly multi-faceted!" she told us. "We took our places in a pirogue to begin snorkelling among the fish. Then we were welcomed on a private islet with punch and cold drinks to enjoy by the water, along with ceviche prepared during a cookery workshop. Our Polynesian host also wove palm leaf crowns for us and showed us how to open a coconut. It was a wonderful shared experience."

**€ € |** 6h

## Huahine Iti by e-bike

This e-bike experience will have you cycling 27 kilometres around the small island of Huahine. Your guide has created a varied programme combining tours of the archaeological remains of the ancient sacred site Marae Anini and of a traditional sarong painting workshop, followed by free time and several stops to admire the spectacular views. These few hours offer a wonderful way to get into the rhythm of the island – that of the life of its inhabitants and the regular whisper of the waves rolling in the distance.

€ (3 | 3 h 45

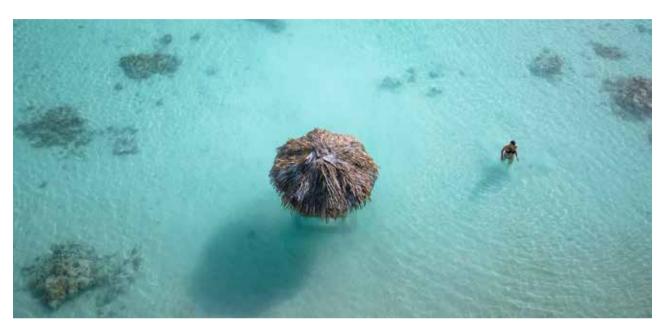


## Fakarava, Tuamotu Islands

### Half-day to Teahatea beach

Feel a sense of freedom from the breeze that blows across the atoll as you cross the Fakarava Biosphere Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After traversing the Garuae channel, the largest in Polynesia, you come to Teahatea beach. The programme includes swimming in the lagoon, snorkelling, indulging in iced coconuts and other delicious refreshments. It's a moment suspended in time, definitely to be relished.

**€€€**|3h

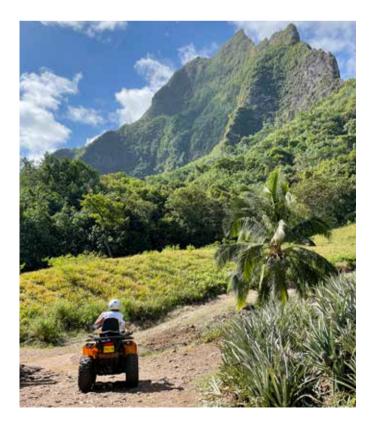


## Moorea, Society Islands

#### Guided ATV tour

Undertaking the ascent of the steep hillside of Moorea in a four-wheel drive vehicle seems to make time stand still, with the jagged peaks as your focal point. You will marvel at the spectacular Cook and Ōpūnohu bays and Mount Rōtui; cross rivers and pineapple plantations in the hollow of a valley; take a break in a marae, an ancient temple in the middle of the countryside where you can reflect on the centres of Polynesian spiritual life; and revitalise yourself in the middle of the most abundant of gardens.

**€€€€**|3h



## Rangiroa, Tuamotu Islands

## Black pearl farm

This excursion introduces visitors to the farming of pearls – a highly prized crop that is synonymous with Polynesia. Learn how these beautiful gems are farmed, selected, sorted and cleaned, and watch the grafter at work as he skilfully exercises his trade: you'll see these delicate pearls in a different light.

€ | 1 h 30



## Aitutaki, Cook Islands

## Lagoon cruise with beach break

The deep blue lagoon of Aitutaki, considered one of the most beautiful in the world, is enhanced by the presence of volcanic rock and the island's atoll-like geography. Head for the *motus*, the small islands that surround the area, to explore their wonders above and below the waterline, or simply enjoy time to relax. With an introduction to local flavours, a lunch of grilled fish and fresh fruit will round off your exploration.

**€€€**|5h



## Taha'a, Society islands

#### Catamaran sail

With its flat base, the catamaran skims effortlessly through shallow waters that shimmer in multiple shades of turquoise. Fill your lungs with the ocean breeze while you contemplate the sheer beauty of Taha'a. On board, the Tahitian hosts will delight in sharing their culture, then, once you reach the coral garden, Taha'a's most famous snorkelling spot, the fast-moving craft will pause so you can enjoy a refreshing dip.

€ € € | 3 h 30





#### Taha'a cultural tour

Known as 'the vanilla island', it's only natural that the discovery of Taha'a should begin through the prism of this black gold. Combined with a presentation, the plantation tour offers the perfect opportunity to get a better understanding of the challenges of this symbolic crop. A stopoff at the 'motu Pearl Village' is where the famous black pearl of Tahiti will reveal its secrets. History, legends and contemporary life on the island: no stone will be left unturned and curiosity is welcome!

€ (3 | 3 h 30

Price:  $\bigcirc$  = less than  $\in$  50,  $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$  = from  $\in$  50 to 100,  $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$  = from  $\in$  100 to 150,  $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$  = more than  $\in$  150. Tours on board Le Paul Gauguin are sold in US dollars. The dollar/euro conversion is made according to the exchange rate above as of April 2024, and is likely to change. The final price of the excursion will be communicated to you in your travel book.



## Taiohae, Nuku Hiva Island, Marquesas Islands

#### Taipivai Valley excursion

Made famous by the writer and former mariner Herman Melville, who deserted his ship and hid there, the Taipivai Valley is one of the Marquesas' richest archaeological sites. Melville spent three weeks there observing the locals' way of life, an experience that inspired his first novel *Typee* (1846). This off-road adventure in local vehicles ventures through farming villages and offers many contemplative pauses, so guests can note their own impressions and observations.



## Omoa, Fatu Hiva Island, Marquesas Islands

### Omoa petroglyphs walk

The remains of the dwelling or paepae of an ancient chief, with a tiki carved into the Marquesas' famous ke'etu stone; the crest of a ridge carved with images of men, magical tiki and ancient pirogues; the petroglyph of 'paoa', one of the biggest in the archipelago, which looks like a huge tuna fish cut into the rock... From one surprise to the next, walking along the Omoa Valley trails in the footsteps of past generations of Marquesans encourages curiosity and reflection.

**€ €** | 3h





Full tour programme is available on our website **en.ponant.com** 12 months prior to your cruise departure. You can also pre-book your PONANT shore excursions up to two months before your cruise, and have them billed on board. Final programme will be sent with your cruise documents.



Combine the flights and the pre- and post-cruise stays that we offer and treat yourself to a complete trip, where you can explore the Society Islands or the Marquesas by land.



Air Tahiti Nui is a historic partner of PAUL GAUGUIN Cruises and offers you the best fares and a flight plan adapted to a Paris departure.

Voted 'Best Airline in the South Pacific' several times by readers of *Global Traveler* magazine and recognised as a five-star airline in the official APEX (*Airline Passenger Experience Association*) ranking, Air Tahiti Nui guarantees you the service and comfort of an all-inclusive trip: luggage, meals, snacks, drinks and feel-good kit.









# Relaxing getaway in Papeete



Flight Paris/Papeete

Before your cruise: 1 night (summer) or 2 nights (winter) in a hotel in Tahiti

The four-star InterContinental Tahiti hotel sits in an unspoilt setting on the edge of a lagoon, making it the ideal place to relax during your first moments in French Polynesia during summertime. Set on the edge of lush Lafayette Beach, overlooking historic Matavai Bay, the four-star Le Tahiti by Pearl Resorts offers a rejuvenating two-night break during the winter months.

Cruise aboard Le Paul Gauguin

Excursions included

After your cruise: daytime use of a hotel room in Tahiti\*

Enjoy a day mixing culture with relaxation. On the programme: an excursion to the home of James Norman Hall, known for *The Bounty Trilogy*, a scenic tour, **lunch and an afternoon at the four-star InterContinental Tahiti**. The hotel has two saltwater swimming pools and offers you a refreshing break before your flight home.

Flight Papeete/Paris

\*Departures on 7th February and 21st November 2026: 1 night's accommodation at Le Tahiti by Pearl Resorts 4\*.

InterContinental Tahiti 4\*



# Tranquil getaway in Moorea



Flight Paris/Papeete

Before your cruise: 1 or 2 nights in a hotel in Tahiti\*

Cruise aboard Le Paul Gauguin

After your cruise: 3 nights in a hotel in Moorea

The five-star Sofitel Kia Ora Moorea Beach Resort welcomes you in a tropical Eden at the edge of a crystal-clear lagoon. On the programme: relaxation and attentive services, with the opportunity to have your breakfast delivered by canoe (for the bungalows over the water), to enjoy Temae Beach, the longest on the island, and to explore the depths of this protected marine area.

Ferry

Daytime use of a hotel room in Tahiti\*

Flight Papeete/Paris

\*The services offered in Tahiti are identical to those on the 'Relaxing getaway in Papeete' programme.

Garden view or sea view? Offering bungalows in the middle of the natural environment or over the water, the five-star Sofitel Kia Ora

Moorea Beach Resort welcomes you for three nights, after your cruise.









The five-star InterContinental Bora Bora Resort & Thalasso Spa

Hydrotherapy, soft energy, Algotherm facials, specialist in marine dermo-cosmetology, and body treatments using water drawn from the depths of the ocean... Spread over 4,000 m² in the middle of nature, Deep Ocean Spa offers unalloyed relaxation experiences.



## Exquisite getaway in Bora Bora



Flight Paris/Papeete

Before your cruise: 1 or 2 nights in a hotel in Tahiti\*

Cruise aboard Le Paul Gauguin

Flight Papeete/Bora Bora

After your cruise: 3 nights in a hotel in Bora Bora

We're not making it up: the **five-star InterContinental Bora Bora Resort & Thalasso Spa** is located on *motu* Piti Aau, 'the islet of two hearts' – a perfect name for one of the most romantic and idyllic islands in the world, You can spend **three nights there after your cruise**, situated opposite the legendary Mount Otemanu.

Flight Bora Bora/Papeete

Daytime use of a hotel room in Tahiti\*

Flight Papeete/Paris

\*The services offered in Tahiti are identical to those on the 'Relaxing getaway in Papeete' programme.



Polynesian flavours, refined cuisine, restaurants in harmony with the lagoon: all you have to do is indulge in the sheer pleasure of these extraordinary gastronomic experiences.

# A beautiful getaway to the Marquesas



Flight Paris/Papeete

Before your cruise: 1 night in a hotel in Tahiti\*

Flight Papeete/Hiva Oa (Marquesas Islands)\*\*

## 3 nights in a hotel in Hiva Oa with excursions included

A discreet establishment facing the Pacific Ocean, the **Hanakee Lodge** hotel in **Hiva Oa** offers an enchanting first glimpse of the Marquesas. The topography of the island, with roads winding through lush scenery, lends itself to exploration. **Enjoy the included excursions** to the village of Atuona, where Paul Gauguin is buried, and to archaeological sites such as Upeke, one of the largest ceremonial centres in French Polynesia, or Te Lipona with its *tiki* approaching 2.5 metres in height, to unlock the mysteries of **Hiva Oa**.

Flight Hiva Oa/Nuku Hiva

## 3 nights in a hotel in Nuku Hiva with excursions included

The Nuku Hiva by Pearl Resorts, a Relais & Châteaux hotel, offers an uninterrupted view of Taiohae Bay and a chance to switch off totally from the modern world, in harmony with nature. On the programme: an excursion to Taiohae, the island's main village, to the archaeological site of Koueva, a ride in an off-road vehicle over the island's hills, which offer extraordinary views over Taipivai Valley, or a meeting with a local sculptor.

Flight Nuku Hiva/Papeete

Cruise aboard Le Paul Gauguin

After disembarking, extend your trip with 1 day in Papeete (see page 55), 3 nights in Moorea (see page 56) or in Bora Bora (see page 57).

\*The services offered in Tahiti are identical to those on the 'Relaxing getaway in Papeete' programme. \*\*The stays before the cruise to the Marquesas Islands are subject to a limited number of guests. For more details on each of the programmes offered, please contact our travel consultants.

View of Atuona Bay from one of the 14 bungalows at Hanakee Lodge in Hiva Oa.

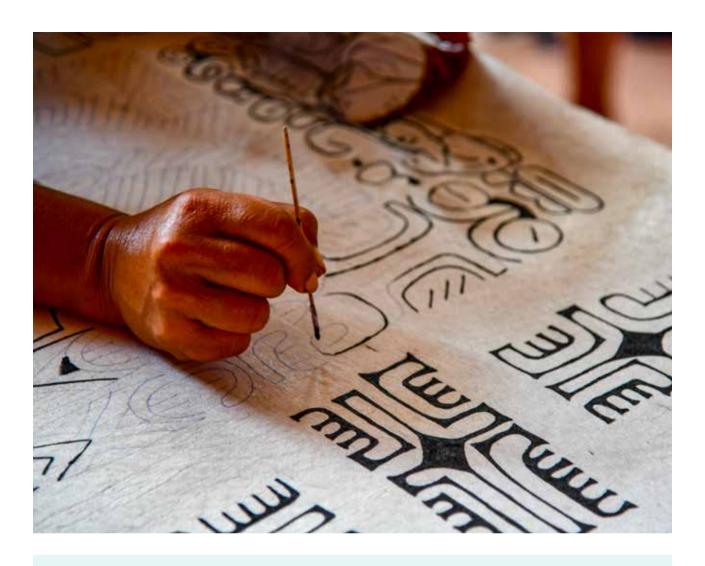




On a hillside, between the sea and the mountains, the **Nuku Hiva by Pearl Resorts**.



Te Lipona archaeological sites with its *tiki* approaching 2.5 metres in height.



## Rates

Choose your flights and stays before and after the cruise to extend your trip to French Polynesia as you please. All transfers between hotels, airports and ports are included.

## Your return flights Paris/Papeete from €2,060 (2)

#### Pre-cruise programmes

Your 1-night stay in Tahiti from €500 (3)

Your 2-night stay in Tahiti from €1,130 (3)

Your 7-night stay in the Marquesas Islands from €4,440 (3)

#### Post-cruise programmes

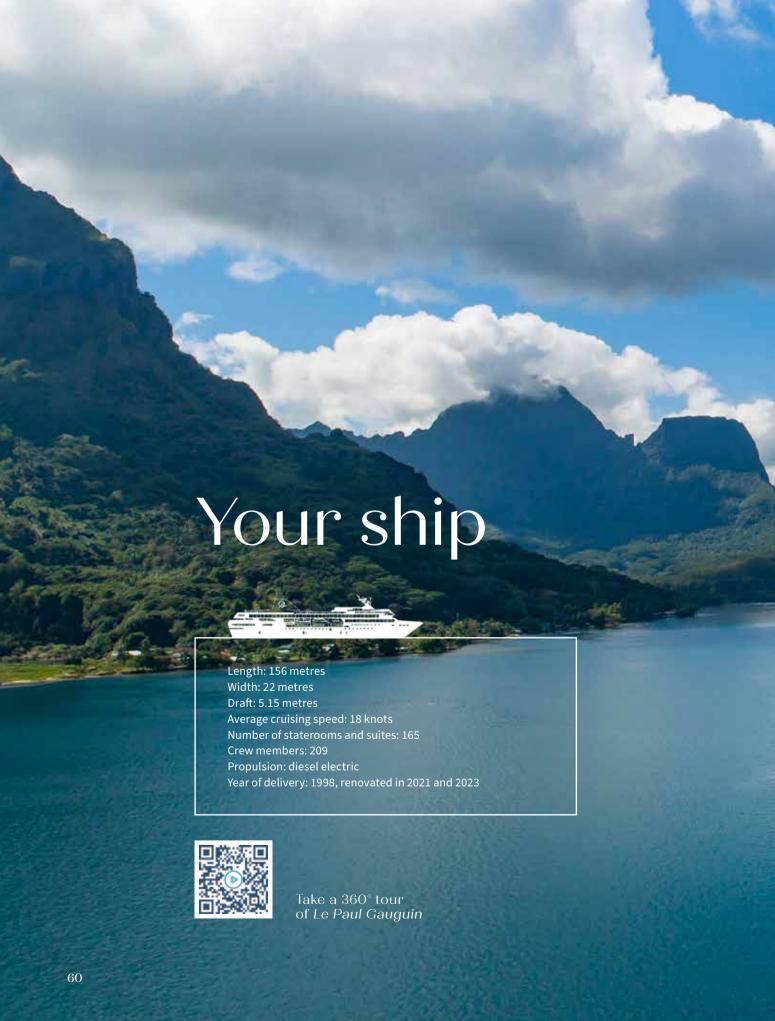
Daytime use of your hotel room in Tahiti from €420 (3)

Your 1-night stay in Tahiti from €640 (3)

Your 3-night stay in Moorea from €1,800 (3)

Your 3-night stay in Bora Bora from €4,230 (3)

Pre-cruise stays of one or two nights in Tahiti are determined by the months of departure. The two-night programme is available from January to April and from November to December. From April to November, only a one-night stay in a hotel is possible before the cruise and is required before all Air Tahiti Nui flights.











## Le Paul Gauguin

The 165 suites and staterooms of Le Paul Gauguin all benefit from exterior views and are tastefully furnished and decorated.

The use of fine materials such as premium wood and tiki design elements pays homage to Polynesian culture and combines elegantly with bright colours. Guests return again and again for the ship's inimitable style and easy-going ambience.













6. Le Paul Gauguin 7. GS Grand Suite 8. The Owner's Suite 701 9. B Veranda stateroom

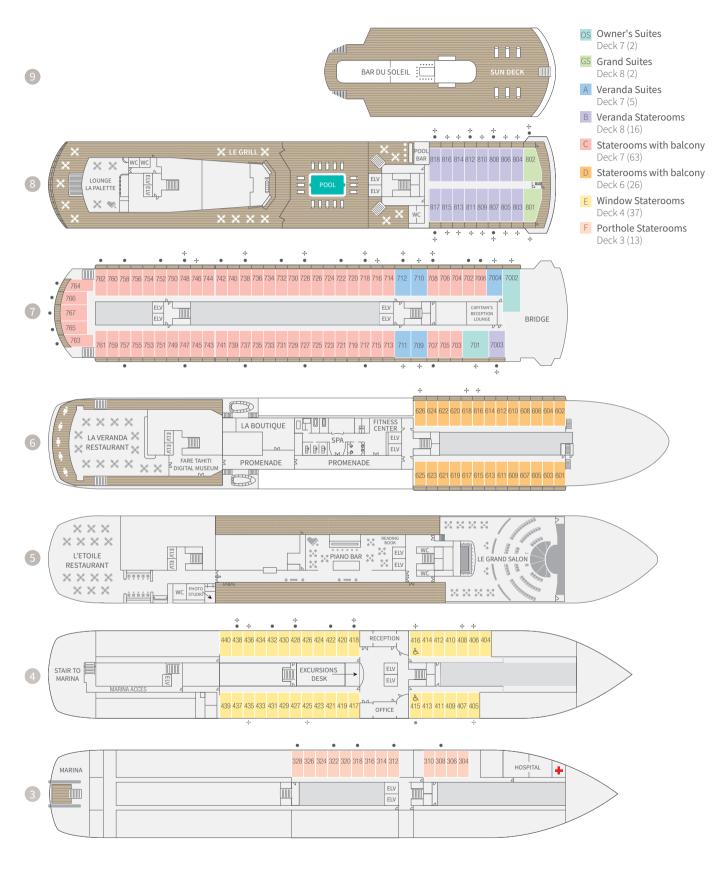
- 1. The Grill restaurant, on deck 8
- 2. The swimming pool area, for relaxing in the sunshine, also features a bar
- 3. The Algotherm Spa, for treatments and massages based on marine cosmetics
- 4. L'Étoile gastronomic restaurant
- 5. The terrace of La Palette lounge, on deck 8

#### **Amenities**

- Queen-size, king-size bed, or two single beds; some staterooms also have a sofa bed
- Minibar, telephone and safe
- 110 V/220 V electrical sockets
- Flat-screen TV and videos on demand
- Individual airconditioning
- Marble bathroom with bathtub (except seven staterooms with shower only)

- Algotherm toiletries and hairdryer
- 24-hour service
- Butler service for the Owner's Suites, the GS Grand Suites, A and B Veranda Suites and Staterooms
- Free Wi-Fi access\*

<sup>\*</sup>Depending on the navigation areas, the Wi-Fi may not be accessible for reasons beyond our control.



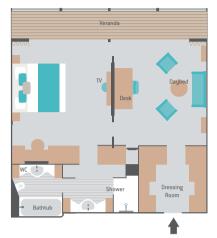
- Denotes stateroom with two twin beds that convert to a large double bed.
- ♣ Denotes stateroom with triple occupancy.
- & Staterooms 415 and 416 are wheelchair accessible.

The sofa beds are slightly smaller than the standard twin beds. Suites and staterooms range from 19 to 54 square metres. This measurement includes balconies and verandas in categories D and above.

## Discover your stateroom

#### **OWNER'S SUITE 701**

(42 sq.m/457 sq.ft + 7 sq.m/77 sq.ft veranda) The bathroom boasts a separate shower and a dressing area.



## A VERANDA SUITE

(28 sq.m/300 sq.ft + 5 sq.m/58 sq.ft veranda) Suites available: Tahiti Suite (709), Pont-Aven Suite (710), Atuona Suite (711), Arles Suite (712).

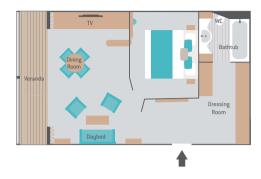


#### D BALCONY STATEROOM

(19 sq.m/202 sq.ft + 3 sq.m/37 sq.ft balcony) The following Balcony Staterooms can accommodate a guest in a sofa bed: 616, 618 and 626.

#### OWNER'S SUITE 7002

(49 sq.m/531 sq.ft + 5 sq.m/57 sq.ft veranda)
The bathroom boasts a bathtub and a dressing area.



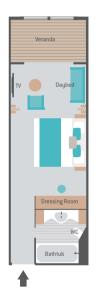
#### **GS GRAND SUITE**

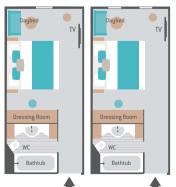
(30 sq.m/332 sq.ft + 18 sq.m/197 sq.ft veranda) Two suites available: the Paul Gauguin Suite (801) and the Flora Tristan Suite (802).



#### B VERANDA STATEROOM

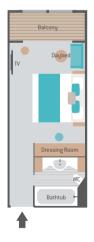
(24 sq.m/249 sq.ft + 5 sq.m/56 sq.ft veranda) Cabin 7003 has a shower cubicle and a double bed.





#### C BALCONY STATEROOM

(19 sq.m/202 sq.ft + 3 sq.m/37 sq.ft balcony) Balcony Staterooms 708, 716, 718, 728, 738, 746 and 748 can accommodate a guest in a sofa bed. Stateroom 7006 features a very small bathroom with shower only. Staterooms 763, 764, 765, 766 and 767 vary in size and feature shower stall with no tub.



## E WINDOW STATEROOM F PORTHOLE STATEROOM

(19 sq.m/200 sq.ft)

The following Window Staterooms can accommodate a guest in a sofa bed: 406, 408, 416, 418, 425, 428, 435, 436 and 438.



Daybed

Dressing Room

## **Formalities**

#### For all cruises

The information below is current but subject to change at any time without advance notice from government authorities. Please consult your respective government agencies for visa and health information.

Passport valid for at least six months beyond the completion of your trip. Passport must contain at least two completely clear, blank, unused visa pages for each visa required, not including any amendment pages. Visa

pages with stains or ink from other pages in the passport are not usable. Guests who deviate from the scheduled embarkation or disembarkation port should research the foreign entry requirements for the port country. Due to government regulations, regrettably, PONANT will have to deny boarding to any guest who fails to obtain the appropriate travel documentation for this trip.

## Specific formalities

Polynesia and South Pacific islands - LE PAUL GAUGUIN

PAPEETE • PAPEETE cruises (1) (2)

(1) USA: if your flight passes through the United States, you must request an ESTA (travel autorisation) before your departure, online via https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta. A copy of your ESTA must be sent to PONANT no later than 45 days before the date of departure. We also ask that you print it out and keep it in your passport throughout your trip.

(2) Canada: if your flight passes through Canada, you must obtain an electronic travel authorisation (eTA) prior to your departure so you can pass through Vancouver. Apply online at: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada/eta/apply.html

## Important information

To guarantee your entry into one or several countries, you must ensure that you comply with the formalities and health requirements specific to each destination. In just a few clicks on our online search engine, find all the formalities you must complete prior to your departure (visas, entry authorisations for each country, vaccinations, etc.): https://en.ponant.com/formalities

The international situation can change rapidly, so be sure to check this information regularly prior to your departure. However, please note that we always recommend our guests contact the relevant national immigration and customs and border control authorities directly to find out what rules apply to their specific situation. PONANT is not responsible for any decisions made by guests based on the information provided by the online search engine.

**Visas:** before departure, you are advised to check that your visa's validity period matches the duration and dates of the stay requested, or you may encounter some unpleasant consequences if there is any non-compliance with the authorised duration of stay.

We invite you to read our **boarding conditions and passenger travel abilities:** https://l.ponant.com/ErQG. Any new reservation implies the acceptance of these conditions.

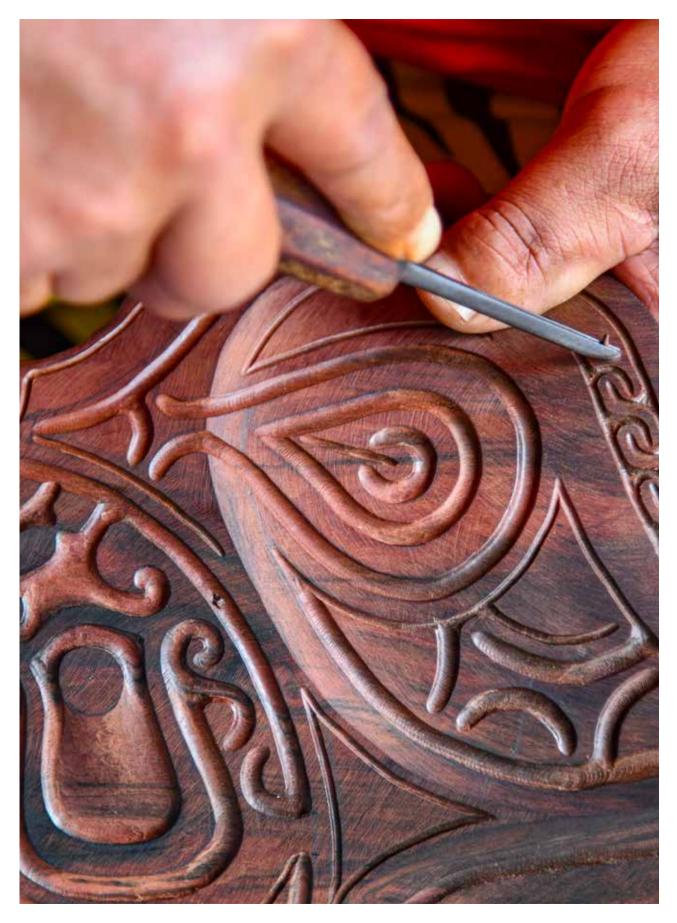
List of items prohibited on board: find the full list here: https://l.ponant.com/CGV\_EN. Should you have one of these products or objects in your possession, they will be confiscated immediately and will not be transported on the ship. When an item transported aboard is considered illegal, the relevant authorities will be notified systematically.

Conditions for entering Polynesia: to see the latest entry and stay conditions for Tahiti and its surrounding islands regarding Covid, please check the Tahiti Tourism website: https://tahititourisme.uk/en-gb/covid-19/

**Health:** if you are undergoing medical treatment, do not forget your prescription. You are advised to contact a healthcare professional well in advance of your departure for any medical advice about your trip.



Discover the general and particular conditions of sale by scanning this pictogram.





## Information & reservations

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