



Variety  
Cruises

# FRENCH POLYNESIA 2024

PRIVATE SHORE EXCURSIONS – 7 NIGHTS





## MOOREA

### MOOREA EXPLORATION 4 X 4 SAFARI

- Duration approx. 4 hours
- Per Person: Euro 77

Min 6 / Max 8 per vehicle (prebooking required). Additional vehicles if available should have minimum 6-guests per vehicle.

Explore the island interior on a 4WD expedition. Discover dramatic island views, fruit plantations, and ancient Polynesian temples.

### PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

**Marae** – During your 4x4 safari, stop at an ancient Polynesian marae, an open-air stone temple.

**Le Belvedere** – The summit of Mt. Tohi'e'a boasts panoramas of Mo'orea's mountains and Cook's and Opunohu Bays.

**Magic Mountain** – The summit for a stunning view of Mo'orea's north shore

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

4x4 Safari Excursion – Discover our beautiful volcanic island, its tropical flora and fauna on a 4x4 tour. Your guide takes you to the pineapple fields, bamboo groves and orange, grapefruit, papaya and vanilla plantations. Enjoy the breath-taking view from the Belvedere Lookout point and pay a visit to the archaeological sites and temples of precontact Polynesia. Stories and legends of ancient « Eimeo » will be narrated to you on the way. Ascend Magic Mountain; an optional hike travels the last 300 feet (91m) to the summit for a stunning view of Mo'orea's north shore. Our stop at the fruit juice plant and distillery is the opportunity to sample our local liqueurs and fruit juices.

**Note:** This off-road tour can be bumpy, muddy and wet. Wear comfortable clothes and casual shoes. Not recommended for elderly guests, pregnant women, or guests suffering from back and neck ailments. The short hike to the summit of Magic Mountain is roughly paved and quite steep.



## MOOREA

### (OPTION FOR CLOSED GROUPS) DOLPHIN WATCH EXPEDITION by Dr. Poole's biologist team

- Duration approx. 3 hours
  - Per Person: Euro 110
- Min 10 / Max. 11 (small boat) or Min.16-26 (bigger boat) - prebooking required

Join American marine biologist Dr. Michael Poole, a dolphin and whale specialist in French Polynesia since 1987, or his assistant for this combination eco-tour and research expedition focusing on wild, free-ranging dolphins.

Depart the pier aboard a covered boat for the scenic ride to Moorea's reef. Spinner dolphins and rough-tooth dolphins can be seen around Moorea, with spinner dolphins regularly swimming inside the lagoon. Most often you will see schools of acrobatic spinner dolphins, while listening to informative commentary about their remarkable life and society at sea. Dr. Poole's team operates with the utmost respect in the presence of these incredible animals. Dolphins are found on 95% of the tours, but the engaging narrative and sheer magnificence of Moorea's coastline will ensure a rewarding time in any event.

View Moorea's dramatic beauty from the sea, and time permitting you may have an opportunity to go swimming or snorkeling before returning to the pier.

- Although this tour is not a swim with the dolphins program, it is sometimes possible to snorkel near dolphins. Wear a swimsuit under a cover-up, and bring sunscreen, sunglasses, camera gear, snorkeling gear, and a towel from the ship. Operation of this tour is subject to guide availability.

*(Dolphin sights cannot be guaranteed)*



## HUAHINE

### **SACRED SITES & LEGENDARY PLACES** *(our best-selling cultural tour)*

- Duration approx. 3 hours
- Per Person: Euro 87

Min 6 / Max. 50 (prebooking required)

Set off on an educational exploration of the island and learn all about Polynesian geology, botany, anthropology, archaeology, sociology, economy, history and traditions. Your driver-guide and will share his knowledge, experience and passion for this beautiful island with such a rich culture. Village of Maeva: Huahine is renowned for its village of Maeva, where all district chiefs once lived side by side and worshiped their ancestors at their respective marae. Marae are places including stone structures set aside for religious rites and ceremonies. 200 archaeological stone structures have survived centuries of natural destruction. These structures lie within yards of one another along the shore of Lake Fauna Nui and on the sacred and scenic Matairea Hill. Visit the museum with your guide and learn about the arrival of the first navigators in Polynesia. The village of Maeva is also sheltering the remains of stone fish traps unique in French Polynesia. There are still fishermen using stone traps in the village. Your return route will take you through the village of Faie for a visit with the giant blue-eyed eels, and then up the mountain to the Belvedere Lookout where you will have a wonderful photo opportunity of the beautiful Bay of Maroe.

### **PRIVATE MOTU PICNIC & SNORKELING EXPERIENCE**

- Duration approx. 4,5 hours
- Per Person: Euro 125

Min 15 / Max. 37 (prebooking required)

Board the comfortable, traditional outrigger canoe for a cruise to Huahine. Along the way your guides will share the island's history, sacred legends and provide insight into island life. Then there is a stop in the coral gardens for snorkeling among the many species of tropical fish. After working up a good appetite, you will enjoy a delectable picnic on a white, sandy motu. Lunch includes chicken, fish, a selection of salads, fruit, and local beverages. On the way back stop at the aquarium to meet the fish and reef sharks.



## BORA BORA

### SNORKELING TOUR WITH STINGRAYS IN THE LAGOON

- Duration approx. 4 hours (4 stops)
  - Per Person: Euro 114
- Min 6 / Max. 37 (prebooking required)

Enjoy as the boat travels around the lagoon of Bora Bora. This tour has 4 stops, though they are subject to last minute change due to weather, safety precautions, or other circumstances. The first stop is just outside of the reef for observation and snorkeling with majestic black tip reef sharks & sting rays. After 30 minutes swimming with them we will head out to the best coral Garden in Bora Bora, on the way our captain will point different important things along the way and show us the most famous Hotels in the Pear Of the Pacific, once on the snorkeling site we will follow our Captain while snorkeling and discover colorful coral, clams, and a multitude of tropical fish in this marvelous underwater world for about 40 minutes in one of the best snorkel places in our French Polynesia trip, we will circumnavigate the entire island but before we will stop in the Manta rays cleaning station for 20 minutes approx, sometimes when to many people are here they get shy so we have to look for them in another place, then we will do one more stop and swim with the residents spotted eagle rays swim towards the Beach and enjoy some water, fruit juice, soft drinks and seasonal fruits .Have some 20 minutes break in the largest Motu of Bora Bora and sail back to ship.

### 4WD CULTURAL SAFARI

- Duration approx. 3,5 hours
  - Per Person: Euro 104
- Min 8 / Max. 48 (prebooking required)

Be prepared to ride on one of the best off-road 4x4 sightseeing tours on the most romantic island in the world, Bora Bora. Discover the culture, history, fauna, and flora of the island while learning a lot of interesting Bora Bora facts. Learn about the ancient temples of the great Tahitian seafaring society built around 1,000 AD, and the many legends of the island. Explore some World War II sites the Americans built during their friendly takeover of the island in 1942. Tour around the island and see some of the most breathtaking lookout points accessible only by 4x4. Venture into Faanui Valley, where you will see small fruit plantations, and stop at a Pareu-making workshop. At this family-owned workshop, you will see how they make these beautiful tie-dye type sarongs, learn how we make coconut oil, and taste some local fruits.



## TAHA'A

### HALF DAY TAHA'A VANILLA PLANTATION & RHUMERIE

- Duration approx. 4 hours
- Per Person: Euro 97

Min 10 / Max. 56 (prebooking required)

Discovery of Taha'a . Taha'a, renowned for its vanilla production, hence its name [VANILLA island], but also known for its majestic CORAL GARDEN. Embark aboard a traditional motorized canoe with outrigger and equipped with an awning for a unique and comfortable experience to discover Taha'a: - visit to a vanilla plantation - Visit to a pearl farm - Visit to a rum distillery and snorkeling.

### 4WD TAHA'A SAFARI

- Duration approx. 2,5 hours
- Per Person: Euro 97

Min 8 / Max. 24 (prebooking required)

Begin with our land tour through the island of Taha'a to visit a pearl farm, a vanilla plantation and a rum factory. Discover the black pearl and the vanilla culture, two precious treasures of Taha'a. On the way, your guide will show you the different fruit plants and flowers that grow on this beautiful rich island. From the graft to the pearl collection, you will learn how to get this precious black pearl. Discover how vanilla grows and how to get those beans which perfume is so sweet. You'll stop at a beautiful viewpoint and learn the traditional uses of local plants and trees.



## RAIATEA

### FAAROA RIVER & MOTU BEACH BREAK

- Duration approx. 4 hours
  - Per Person: Euro 88
- Min 10 / Max.32 (with prebooking 2 days prior)

Board a typical motorized Polynesian outrigger canoe and glide on deep blue waters towards the east coast of the island. You'll travel upstream on the only navigable river in the Society Islands -- the Faaroa River. Along the way, the steep riverbanks are clad in lush with jungle foliage and are home to a diverse range of bird species. Wild hibiscus trees (purau) grow along the sheer cliffs at the edge of the rain forest. Pass some villages en route -- a chance to observe the daily life of the inhabitants. Leaving the river, you will transfer to a small motu, or islet, where you will have time to enjoy the warm sea water and relax in the sun.

Visit of the Faaroa river (unique navigable river in French Polynesia, cradle of the 1st civilization and the 1st Polynesian immigrants). Visit of the Marae of Taputapuatea, (Sacred temple where human sacrifices dedicated to the Gods were made, listed as UNESCO heritage)

#### Notes:

Wear your swimsuit under your clothing; bring a towel, biodegradable sunscreen, and a hat. At the beach, participants must hop out of the canoe using a side ladder and wade a few yards in shallow water to reach the shore.



## RAIATEA

### **ANAPA PEARL FARM – *an exciting experience***

#### **HALF DAY MORNING OR AFTERNOON TOUR\***

- Duration approx. 3 hours
  - Per Person: Euro 92
- Min 6 / Max. 18 per session (prebooking required)

#### **Coral Garden**

Join our pearl divers and explore the stunning reef where the mysterious black pearl is born. A boat shuttle will bring you out to the pearl farm where you will enjoy an unforgettable pearl harvest and learn about the history and legends of pearl farming. Extensive choice of Tahitian pearls and jewelry. Don't miss this rare adventure! -3-hour tour -Snorkel the pearl beds and coral garden -Clear tropical waters -Pearl boutique - Stunning views -Eco friendly -Easy stairs descend into the water -Guided, beginners welcome -Snorkeling equipment provided.

\* Last visit starts at 13.30 hrs.





## REMARKS:

Please note that each tour requires a minimum number of participants to operate at the above prices.

Our tours are offered in English language. Providers and availabilities on most islands are very limited therefor we strongly advise to send us your prebooking preferences in advance.

The tours are privately operated for our Variety Cruises guests; most tours are quite active, requiring good physical condition and walking ability. Please follow the daily briefings and hints given by our Cruise Coordinator; what to take ashore? swimwear, a towel, an extra T-shirt, water shoes (Croc type/ no flip flops) water, sunscreen, anti-bug spray, a hat. In the rainy season a light poncho can be very useful. Remember to protect your cameras, mobiles and bags from getting wet during boat, zodiac rides and hikes. Jeep safari rides can be bumpy on dirt /muddy roads.

The length of the tours and time spent on the sites is given as an indication as it may vary depending on weather, sea, tendering, port and traffic conditions and on the pacing of each group. The Captain reserves the right to change the itinerary in order to suit wind, swell, weather and local conditions.

100% cancellation fees apply after the booking deadline on embarkation day for any cancellations within 2-3 days ahead of the tour. Please contact your cruise coordinator who is the sole responsible in such a case.

Tips for local guides, escorts or drivers are not included.

