



Variety  
Cruises

# TAHITI & FRENCH POLYNESIA

## SHORE EXCURSION PACKAGE





## DAY 2

# BORA BORA

### **FIRST OPTION - 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. And before you know it, your Bora Bora 4x4 tour will be over and you will be yearning for more.

### **SECOND OPTION - SNORKELING TOUR "Stingray Ballet"**

- Duration approx. 3 hours
  - Per Person: Euro 99
- Min 8 / Max. 48 (prebooking required)

Dance with the stingrays under the supervision of your guide before exploring the intricate coral garden and its colorful tropical fish. Your adventure begins as you glide across the lagoon aboard a covered lagoon cruiser. Once you're past famous Motu Tapu, the captain will drop anchor on a shallow sandbank, a favorite haunt of several stingrays. The harmless black tip sharks are often seen in the lagoon and there is a big chance for an encounter. Next, you will be ready to explore the unspoiled coral gardens by the barrier reef, where ideal conditions have encouraged maximum coral growth. After donning a mask and snorkel, enter water that is four to five feet deep and swim amid the marine life. Underwater sightings may include butterfly fish, groupers and hundreds of other rainbow-colored species.





DAY 3

## BORA BORA

### **BORA BORA BY LE TRUCK**

- Duration approx. 2,5 hours
- Per Person: Euro 58

Min 8 / Max. 48 (prebooking required)

Your colorful fun truck takes you on a scenic tour of Bora Bora. Enjoy the sights as you pass by groves of coconut palms and tiny villages hugging the shoreline. Learn about the interesting history traditions and cultures of the Tahitians with this narrated drive along the 22-mile road that circles this legendary island. Discover the villages of FAREPITI, FAANUI, and ANAU with their mysterious "Marae". As you travel on, you will discover the MATIRA point with its spectacular view. The road continues & takes you along coconut groves and tiny villages along the shoreline.



## DAY 4

# HUAHINE

### **SACRED SITES & LEGENDARY PLACES – MORNING TOUR**

- Duration approx. 3 hours
  - Per Person: Euro 87
- Min 16 / Max. 28 (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 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.





## DAY 5

# TAHA'A

### **4WD TAHAA 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.



## DAY 6

# RAIATEA

### **FIRST OPTION - LOCAL TRUCK TO MARAE TAPUTAPUATEA**

- Duration approx. 3 hours
- Per Person: Euro 66

Min 18 / Max. 50 (prebooking required)

This tour will initiate you to the legends and folklore of historic Raiatea (the Sacred Island) with a voyage into Polynesia's past. You'll pass through the town of Uturoa, around the Bay of Faaroa and through the island's crater. Visit the Taputapuatea Marae -- Raiatea's most famous landmark. The marae is an openair temple comprised of seven sacred sites built of stone and coral and dedicated to Oro - the bloodthirsty god of war who demanded human sacrifices. Discover the tropical plants, flowers and trees that contribute to the lush beauty of the island and your guide will point out local fruits and flowers in various stages of growth.

### **SECOND OPTION - ANAPA PEARL FARM - HALF DAY MORNING OR AFTERNOON TOUR**

- Duration approx. 3 hours
- Per Person: Euro 92

Min 6 / Max 19 per session (depending on farm availability with prebooking) last session at 1.30pm

Coral Garden & Pearl Bed Snorkeling Tour:

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.





## DAY 6

# RAIATEA

### **FAAROA RIVER & MOTU BEACH BREAK**

- Duration approx. 3 hours
  - Per Person: Euro 88
- Min 12 / Max. 32 (prebooking required)

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.

#### 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.



## DAY 7

# MOOREA

### **FIRST OPTION - DOLPHIN WATCH EXPEDITION by Dr. Poole's biologist team**

- Duration approx. 2,5 hours
- Per Person: Euro 108

Min 16 / Max. 26 (prebooking required)

This very educational excursion is conducted by an expert scientist. You will learn all about the wild dolphins living right outside Moorea. Dr Michael Poole's research team, from the "ISLAND RESEARCH CENTER AND ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATORY" on Moorea, will take you on a boat tour to observe and learn all about dolphins living outside Moorea. This excursion is provided with a scientific and natural approach to the dolphin habitat. See schools of acrobatic SPINNER DOLPHINS and learn about their remarkable behaviors and social organization. This species is the only one to spin vertically and horizontally in the air like a top ballerina. In addition, you will enjoy the stunning beauty of the ISLAND of MOOREA while explanations will be given about the natural and geological creation of the island and "motu". If time is available, you will have the opportunity to snorkel and discover the beautiful underwater world of the lagoon of Moorea.

### **SECOND OPTION - CULTURAL ECO TOUR (bus & eco-museum)**

- Duration approx. 3 hours
- Per Person: Euro 75

Min 16 / Max 50 per session (prebooking required)

This easy-going tour will take you to one of the most beautiful French Polynesia's bays, the Opunohu Bay. The natural beauty of this bay is that it is still untouched and only dedicated for agriculture. On this tour we will also visit the brand-new eco-museum Te Fare Natura where our local guides will share with you the history of the island and its ecosystem, the fauna and flora that surround the island of Moorea. After the visit of the museum, our guide will drive you inside the valley of Opunohu to show you the sacred blue eyes river eels. Before returning to our ship we will stop at the eco cultural shop Fare Tutava, where everything is homemade, from medicinal cream/oil to noni juices, honey, and local vanilla...





## 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 therefore we strongly advise to prebook your tours 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 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.

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