



EXPEDITION CRUISES

Cruising French Polynesia: Tahiti and Beyond

16 14 148
DAYS CITIES GUESTS (MAX)

The names Tahiti and Bora Bora conjure images of tropical beaches and endless coral reefs, yet there is so much more to French Polynesia than water sports and idyllic beachfront resorts. No other expedition takes you deeper into the diverse cultures of this intriguing island nation, cruising to the far-flung edges of the Tuamotu, Marquesas and Society Islands to reveal local traditions, artisanal villages, uninhabited atolls and archeological finds seldom experienced by outsiders.

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Voyage the remote reaches of the Tuamotus, Marquesas and Society Island groups aboard an exclusive charter of Le Jacques-Cartier, choosing from a host of excursion options along the way

✦

Snorkel with blacktip reef sharks, stingrays and other marine life
- ✦

Venture off the beaten path in the pearl farms, uninhabited atolls and remote island communities of the Tuamotus

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In the Marquesas, uncover mysterious archeological relics and explore French modernist Paul Gauguin's ties with the islands
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In the Society Islands of Bora Bora and Raiatea, choose your own adventure on land or sea

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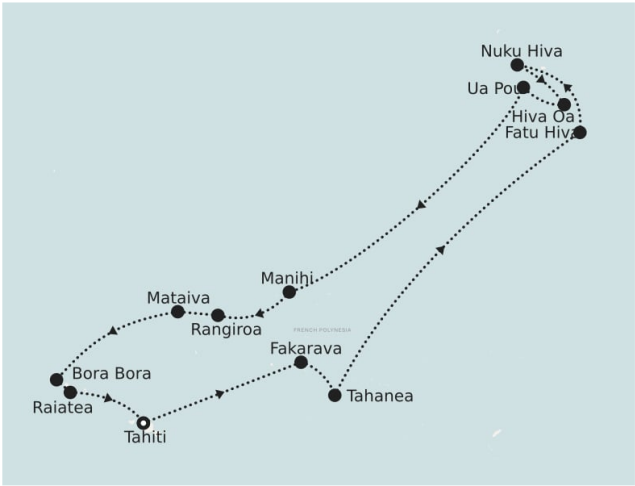
Feel the warmth of the islands' renowned hospitality with traditional Polynesian welcome ceremonies

If you are ready for a luxury experience,
email for more info: advisor@zeigstravel.com

Christina Zeigler
YOUR PERSONAL TRAVEL ADVISOR

Cruising French Polynesia: Tahiti and Beyond

16 DAYS | SEPTEMBER 19
FROM - | 148 GUESTS



Day 1 | Arrive Tahiti, Society Islands, French Polynesia – Casting Off for Adventure

A bustling hub of French Polynesia’s Society Islands, Tahiti towers over the ocean, with waterfall-laden mountains, black sand beaches, blue lagoons and a distinctly modern buzz. The energetic capital of Pape’ete serves as your port of embarkation, as well as a melting pot for the diverse cultures of the surrounding archipelagos.

🏠 INTERCONTINENTAL RESORT TAHITI
🍴 DINNER

Day 2 | Tahiti, Society Islands – Casting Off for Adventure

After a relaxing morning at your resort, board Le Jacques-Cartier and begin your exploration of French Polynesia.

🏠 LE JACQUES CARTIER
🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 3 | Fakarava, Tuamotu Islands – Diving into Island Life

Located northeast of Tahiti, the 76 atolls of the extensive Tuamotuan chain span some 1.2 million square miles of the sparkling Pacific. Fakarava is the second largest of the Tuamotu Islands and home to the small village of Rotoava. Go ashore to meet the local craftspeople who keep Fakarava’s artisanal traditions alive. Alternatively, hop on an e-bike to explore the island’s lighthouse, a smaller oceanfront village and a historic church. Afterward, relax on a private beach of soft pink sand.

🏠 LE JACQUES CARTIER
🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 4 | Tahanea, Tuamotu Islands – Uninhabited Atoll

Come ashore on Tahanea, an uninhabited atoll familiar only to a handful of local fishermen and the endemic sandpipers and warblers that call its lagoon their home. Explore, walk the beach or snorkel amid the stunning beauty of this true island paradise.

🏠 LE JACQUES CARTIER
🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



Day 5 | At Sea – Cruising to the Marquesas

Cruise toward the Marquesan Island of Fatu Hiva, making the most of Le Jacques-Cartier’s onboard facilities while preparing for tomorrow’s excursion with presentations from the Expedition Team.

🏠 LE JACQUES CARTIER
🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



Day 6 | Fatu Hiva, Marquesas — Nature’s Sacred Balance

Stretching further northeast from the Tuamotu Islands, the volcanic Marquesas are among the most remote islands in the world. Locals believe this island realm’s mountains, waterfalls and mysterious archeological sites are all bound by mana, a sacred force that keeps nature in balance. Make landfall on Fatu Hiva, the most isolated of the inhabited Marquesas. Here, hike to the achingly beautiful Bay of the Virgins, trek to a secluded waterfall or take a scenic drive. Then, swim from one of the island’s idyllic beaches.

 LE JACQUES CARTIER
 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



Day 7 | Nuku Hiva, Marquesas — Melville’s Muse

Come ashore on the largest of the Marquesas, Nuku Hiva. Though vast in size, the island remains largely untouched by tourism, making its rich local culture and mysterious archeological treasures all the more appealing. On a scenic drive, a guide reveals how Herman Melville’s adventures on Nuku Hiva inspired his novel Typee. Alternatively, hike an island trail or set out in search of tiki, petroglyphs, paepae stone platforms and other archeological relics.

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 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER


Day 8 | Hiva Oa, Marquesas — Gauguin’s Legacy

Known as the garden of the Marquesas, Hiva Oa is marked by its emerald countryside, craggy mountains and deep valleys. Explore the island’s enduring connection with Paul Gauguin at the artist’s former home and final resting place. Alternatively, explore the tiki of the Upeke archeological site.

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 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



Day 9 | Ua Pou, Marquesas — Ancient Warriors of Legend

The tranquil island of Ua Pou stands guarded by Poutetaunui and Poumaka, two towering basalt pillars said to represent ancient warriors. Pass under their gaze and head ashore to hike a trail to the peak of Poumaka, or hunt for the island’s distinctive flower stones.

 LE JACQUES CARTIER



Day 10 | At Sea — Cruising Back to the Tuamotus

Today, the Expedition Team continues its enriching lecture series as Le Jacques Cartier begins the return leg back toward the Tuamotuan Islands.

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 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



Day 11 | Manihi, Tuamotu Islands — Unspoiled Marine Paradise

The pristine beaches, ocean breezes, crystal clear lagoon and abundant marine life of Manihi soothe the soul like few places on Earth. Come ashore to swim, beachcomb or just soak it all in.

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 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



Day 12 | Rangiroa, Tuamotu Islands — Bounty of the Reef

Translated roughly as “the big sky,” Rangiroa spans more than 400 islets that encircle a massive lagoon teeming with marine life. Delve into Rangiroa’s aquatic wonders with a visit to a black pearl farm or a glass-bottom boat ride amid the reef’s Napoleon fish.

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 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 13 | Mataiva, Tuamotu Islands — Leopard Print Lagoon

Mataiva is distinguished by its unique lagoon spotted with small, deep pools. Here, swim in the lagoon, snorkel the reefs or explore the rock formations and beaches.

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 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 14 | Bora Bora, Society Islands – Pearl of the Pacific

The leading lady of the South Pacific, Bora Bora is synonymous with romance, tropical beaches and warm hospitality. Go beyond the tourist’s Bora Bora with everything from 4x4 explorations of the mountains and World War II sites to snorkeling and glass-bottom boat excursions offshore.

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- BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 15 | Raiatea, Society Islands – Wayfinders’ Homeland

Known as Hawaiki, or “the homeland,” Raiatea was once regarded as the cultural and religious center of the Society Islands. Legend holds that skilled wayfinders navigated double-hulled sailing canoes from these shores outward to the distant reaches of Hawaii, New Zealand and beyond. Retrace this legendary legacy as you kayak offshore, snorkel the reefs from a catamaran or explore an archeological site on land.

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- BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

Day 16 | Depart Tahiti – the Voyage Ends

Disembark Le Jacques-Cartier and transfer to the airport for your homebound flight.

- LE JACQUES CARTIER
- BREAKFAST

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Christina Zeigler