



ARANUI
Cruises



Marquesas Islands

Discover the islands another way

For 40 years, Aranui has been offering adventurers a voyage in time across the South Pacific. You will realize it is more than a cruise: an experience that transcends what you know about these islands and those who inhabit them.

In the heart of *Marquesas Islands*

Nuku Hiva

A 4x4 excursion from town to the Cathedral Notre Dame, known for its stonework and wood sculptures; the Tohua Kamuihei in Hatieu, an archeological site; the valley of Taipivai, where a traditional Marquesan lunch will be served. Stops at scenic viewpoints on the return, with time in the town of Taiohae in the late afternoon.

Ua Pou

Following a morning hike to a hill overlooking the bay and surrounding valleys for breathtaking views, walk into the village to sample local fruits and visit the arts and crafts centre. Locals will perform the island's Bird Dance before a Marquesan lunch at a local restaurant.

Ua Huka

A 4x4 excursion from Vaipae to the villages of Hokatu and Hane, with stops at the botanical garden, three museums featuring replicas of Marquesan artifacts, ancient maritime objects and petroglyphs, woodcarvers' studios, followed by a traditional Marquesan lunch.

Hiva Oa

In the main village of Atuona, visit the Calvary cemetery where French artist Paul Gauguin is buried, the Gauguin and Jacques Brel museums and an arts and crafts centre.

Tahuata

Visit the Catholic Church built by the Vatican and decorated with beautiful carvings and a stained-glass window with the Marquesan cross, and an arts and crafts centre featuring some of the finest bone carvings, for which the island is known.

Fatu Hiva

Visit the village of Omoa in the morning to see demonstrations of tapa, a cloth from the bark of various trees, and the kumuhei, a floral bouquet unique to this island and worn by women to perfume their hair. A 16km hike to the village of Hanavave is offered to active guests. For those who do not wish to partake, the ship will reposition to Hanavave, where non-hiking guests can disembark for a visit and a dance performance.



The jewels of the *Tuamotu*

Fakarava

Designated as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve for the preservation of rare species and the second largest atoll in French Polynesia, Fakarava has remained virtually untouched. From its stunning lagoon and glistening white sand beaches to its rich ecosystem, it is home to unique birds, plants and marine life.

Rangiroa

The largest atoll in French Polynesia, Rangiroa or “huge sky” is the most visited of the Tuamotu.

The endless lagoon attracts divers to snorkel, scuba or shoot the pass surrounded by fish of every size, color and shape. Rangiroa is famous for its majestic Manta rays. It is also home to stunning pearls in all shades and the local artisans are known for their fine shell jewelry.

Kauehi

Part of the commune of Fakarava, Kauehi is generally overlooked for her better known sister to the south. Yet, this seldom visited atoll offers an unspoiled scenery of white sand beaches and a beautiful clear lagoon in varying shades of turquoise and blues, with a feel of old traditional Polynesia. With fewer than 600 inhabitants, living mainly in the village of Tearavero, and the scarcity of tourists, has allowed their Paumotu culture to remain unaffected.

Makatea

Surrounded by spectacular cliffs, rising 260 feet above sea level, this second largest raised atoll in French Polynesia is a sharp contrast from the typical low-lying corral-reef formation with a lagoon in the middle. It is also the only atoll in the Tuamotu with potable water which comes from its underground caves. Once a thriving island due to phosphate mining in the first half of the 20th century, it was mostly deserted with only a few families remaining to keep watch.

The pearl of the Society Islands

Bora Bora

Best known of the Society Islands, Bora Bora showcases a stunning lagoon in myriad shades of blues and greens and the striking Mt. Otemanu, which inspired James Michener and everyone who visits the island.

Surrounded by motus (small islets), the ring of white beaches fringed by coconut trees is enchanting.





A Mythical itinerary

12 DAYS / 11 NIGHTS CRUISE

20 DEPARTURES | Boarding in Papeete from 7 AM to 9 AM

DAY 1 DEPARTURE

Papeete - Tahiti: at 12:00 PM

DAY 2 FAKARAVA ou KAUEHI (V12, V13, V14, V23)

DAY 3 AT SEA

DAY 4 NUKU HIVA

DAY 5 UA POU

DAY 6 UA HUKA

DAYS 7 TAHUATA - HIVA OA

DAY 8 FATU HIVA

DAY 9 AT SEA

DAY 10 RANGIROA ou MAKATEA (V12, V13, V14, V23)

DAY 11 BORA BORA

DAY 12 ARRIVAL

Papeete - Tahiti: 7:00 AM

