

# Treasures of Polynesia

From **19/10/2020**  
to **28/10/2020**

Ship: **LE BOREAL**

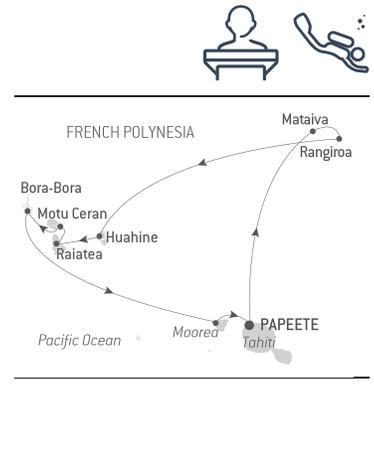
From **Papeete, Tahiti Island**  
to **Papeete, Tahiti Island**

Set sail to discover **French Polynesia**, considered one of the most beautiful places in the world. From Tahiti, **PONANT** invites you to embark on a **10-day cruise** to the heart of idyllic islands and atolls hemmed by stunning clear-water lagoons and surrounded by an exceptional coral reef.

The first stop on this trip: the Tuamotus. A gigantic atoll with breathtaking **underwater scenery**, **Rangiroa** is most known for the cultivation of its famous **black pearls**. Be sure to try snorkelling in these natural aquariums where **colourful fish**, rays and friendly sharks can be found playing amid the reefs.

You will then head westward to discover some of the jewels that make up the Society Islands: authentic and wild **Huahine**, **Raiata** with its vanilla plantations and mountain peaks, **Motu Ceran**, a **picture-postcard of paradise**, but also **Bora Bora** and its **unmistakable volcanic silhouette**.

Before disembarking in **Papeete**, feast your eyes on the incomparable beauty of **Moorea**, with its hillsides covered with pineapple plantations and its luxurious peaks.





The information in this document is valid as of 1/6/2020

# Treasures of Polynesia

## YOUR STOPOVERS :

### PAPEETE, TAHITI ISLAND

Embarkation 19/10/2020 from 14h00 to 16h00

Departure 19/10/2020 at 18h00

Capital of French Polynesia, the city of **Papeete** is on the north-west coast of the island of Tahiti. You'll find a **relaxed atmosphere** here, where urban buzz combines with the legendary laid-back Polynesian lifestyle. Culture is not lacking. You can enjoy sites narrating the history of the archipelago, including the colonial cathedral and the **Maison de la reine Marau**. The **Vaipahi** public gardens will win you over by their abundant plant-life. The large municipal market offers local specialities: fresh fruit, spices and all kinds of fish abound on their stalls.

### MATAIVA, TUAMOTU ISLANDS

Arrival 20/10/2020 early morning

Departure 20/10/2020 late afternoon

Situated in **the Tuamotu Archipelago**, 39 km west of Tikehau, the closest atoll, and 300 km north of Tahiti, **Mataiva** is the archipelago's westernmost atoll. It is the only lagoon in **French Polynesia** to have dozens of pools within it, reaching depths of around 8 metres, and 9 narrow passages that inspired the name of the island, since Mataiva means "**nine eyes**". You will love swimming, snorkelling or diving in its **stunning lagoon**, a natural tropical aquarium home to myriad fish.

### RANGIROA, TUAMOTU ISLANDS

Arrival 21/10/2020 early morning

Departure 21/10/2020 early evening

A secluded atoll in the Tuamotu Archipelago, **Rangiroa**, meaning "vast sky" in Polynesian, is very aptly named. The lagoon of the largest atoll in Polynesia is reminiscent of the heavens, imprisoned by hundreds of islets formed by sand that veers from immaculate white to pink. But the beauty of Rangiroa, classed by Captain Cousteau as **one of the most beautiful diving spots in the world**, is most evident in its underwater life: you will have the occasion of admiring all the richness of the site on a snorkeling tour or on a glass-bottom boat tour. Rangiroa is also the high seat of **Polynesian pearl culture**.

### HUAHINE, SOCIETY ISLANDS

Arrival 22/10/2020 midday  
Departure 22/10/2020 evening

Located less than 200 kilometres north-west of Tahiti, **Huahine** Island is a secret gem in French Polynesia. You'll love the mysterious atmosphere emanating from its voluptuous contours, its **wild vegetation** and stunning **remote creeks**. If you explore both parts of the island, la Grande Huahine to the north, and la Petite Huahine to the south, will reveal some of its hidden treasures, as well as some **archaeological remains** from the Polynesian past. You can meet the local population in the main town of **Fare**, or in the string of villages along the coast.

## RAIATEA, SOCIETY ISLANDS

Arrival 23/10/2020 early morning  
Departure 23/10/2020 late evening

A volcanic island located halfway between Huahine and Bora-Bora, **Raiatea** is like the mother of Polynesia. It was on its rocky flanks that the oldest traces of local habitation were found. According to legend, it was even the cradle of the gods... You can admire several sites that bear witness to this past, including the first Polynesian holy site, the **Te-Po religious centre**, including the marae Taputapuatea, a sort of altar made of stone and coral. Although beaches are rare on Raiatea, here **nature is totally captivating**, and the coral islets offer myriads of ravishing creeks.

## SAILING AROUND TAHAA ISLAND

Arrival 24/10/2020  
Departure 24/10/2020

Part of the **Leeward Islands** in the Society Archipelago of French Polynesia, **Tahaa** is known for vanilla cultivation. It shares its 290 km<sup>2</sup> lagoon with the neighbouring island, **Raiatea**. Deep bays cut through the island's coastline, including the deepest in French Polynesia, Haamene Bay, but also Hurepiti Bay, Apu Bay and Faaaha Bay. The coral reef that surrounds it is dotted with numerous *motus* (islets formed by broken coral and sand).

## MOTU CERAN, SOCIETY ISLANDS

Arrival 24/10/2020 mid morning  
Departure 24/10/2020 early evening

Located off the island of Tahaa, in the Leeward Islands, **Motu Ceran** is a small desert island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. This small surface of emerged land is a real paradise. The décor of this little island, its **coconut plantations** and its beaches surrounded by a marvellous coral garden are a treat for the eyes. Don't hesitate to devote yourself to the joys of swimming or pure relaxation. An enchanted interlude in a unique setting.

## BORA BORA, SOCIETY ISLANDS

Arrival 25/10/2020 early morning

Departure 26/10/2020 late afternoon

Paradisiacal atoll of the archipelago of the Leeward Islands, west of French Polynesia, mythical **Bora Bora** offers a natural spectacle of captivating beauty. You'll be won over as much by the white sandy beaches as by its **famous lagoon**, one of the most beautiful in the world, where colourful fish frolic in waters of incomparable turquoise. The island is covered with **tropical vegetation**, and dominated by the majestic outline of **Mount Otemanu**. A promenade through this volcanic landscape will enable you to discover a number of villages and meet local communities.

## MOOREA ISLAND

Arrival 27/10/2020 early morning

Departure 27/10/2020 late afternoon

A part of the **Windward Island archipelago** just to the west of Tahiti, famous **Mo'orea** will leave you with a series of unforgettable images and memories. Bask on its **heavenly beaches**, enjoy a dip in the turquoise waters of its lagoon, and soak up its **luscious vegetation** and the heady flowers that carpet the inland areas. Get the most out of this natural gem with a trip to the Mo'orea **Belvedere**. Exceptional views of Mount Rotui unfurl before your eyes, with the **Opunohu Bay** and its valley to the left, and the famous **Cook's Bay**, surrounded by notched, cathedral-style peaks, to the right.

## PAPEETE, TAHITI ISLAND

Arrival 27/10/2020 evening

Disembarkation 28/10/2020 at 08h00

Capital of French Polynesia, the city of **Papeete** is on the north-west coast of the island of Tahiti. You'll find a **relaxed atmosphere** here, where urban buzz combines with the legendary laid-back Polynesian lifestyle. Culture is not lacking. You can enjoy sites narrating the history of the archipelago, including the colonial cathedral and the **Maison de la reine Marau**. The **Vaipahi** public gardens will win you over by their abundant plant-life. The large municipal market offers local specialities: fresh fruit, spices and all kinds of fish abound on their stalls.