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*PITCAIRN ISLANDS*

# DESTINATION OVERVIEW

## ABOUT PITCAIRN

The Pitcairn Islands Group forms the UK's only Overseas Territory in the vast Pacific Ocean. With a total population of 50 residents and located near the centre of the planet's largest ocean, the isolation of the Pitcairn Islands is truly staggering. The island group lies around 2,200 km from Tahiti, 2,100 km from Easter Island, and over 5,000 km (approximately the distance from London to New York) away from both New Zealand and South America.

### Highlights of a Pitcairn visit include:

- A legendary sea voyage
- Stargazing in Mata Ki Te Rangi , meaning 'Eyes To The Sky', International Dark Sky Sanctuary
- Exploring the third largest marine reserve on earth
- Firsthand insight into living history and culture





*PITCAIRN ISLANDS*

# HOW TO GET THERE

## GETTING STARTED

The journey to Pitcairn is very much a part of the Pitcairn Island travel experience. Your clients travel plans should allow plenty of time for connections en route. Firstly, you need to get them to Tahiti in French Polynesia. Generally they will need at least one night in the capital, Papeete, prior to flying on Air Tahiti's Tuesday flight to Mangareva. We recommend at least two or three nights – just in case of delays.

Air Tahiti operates the only domestic flights to and from the island of Mangareva in the Gambiers, where the Pitcairn Islands Passenger/Supply vessel, MV Silver Supporter is anchored. All Silver Supporter voyages are scheduled to correspond with the airline's Tuesday flights between Papeete (PPT) and Mangareva (GMR). The flight leaves Papeete around 8.00am in the morning and lands at Totegegie Airport, located on an islet in the lagoon at Mangareva, around 1.30pm that same day. From the airport passengers take the 35 minute shuttle boat across to Rikitea village where they are met at the wharf by Silver Supporter crew and transferred to the ship.

The shuttle boat is anchored right next to the departure area at the airport. There is no need to book a seat but passengers need CFP 1000 cash to pay for the trip, each way, as it is not included with flights. The Silver Supporter departs Mangareva around 4.30 - 5.00pm Tuesday afternoon. Passengers spend 2 nights onboard and arrive at Pitcairn around dawn on Thursday. Effective from 2020, MV Silver Supporter, will operate around 24 services per annum. This allows a minimum 4 day stay on the island. Travelers wishing to stay longer can arrive on one rotation and depart on another.

The return journey leaves Pitcairn on Sunday afternoons, arriving back at Mangareva early Tuesday morning. On arrival you will clear customs and immigration and transfer back to the airport via the shuttle boat. The Air Tahiti flight arrives back into Tahiti late Tuesday afternoon.



PITCAIRN ISLANDS

# HOW TO GET THERE

## MAKING FLIGHT BOOKINGS

### International Flights to and from Tahiti

The main airline flying to Tahiti is Air Tahiti Nui (TN) ([www.airtahitinui.com](http://www.airtahitinui.com)) with flights into Papeete, Tahiti (PPT) from Europe (Paris); North America (Los Angeles); Japan (Tokyo); New Zealand (Auckland) and New Caledonia (Noumea).



### Other airlines serving Papeete include:

- Hawaiian Airlines (Honolulu)
- Air France (Paris and Los Angeles)
- LATAM Airlines (Santiago and Easter Island)
- Air New Zealand (Auckland)
- United Airlines (San Francisco)
- French Bee (Paris and San Francisco)



### Domestic flights between Papeete (PPT) and Mangareva (GMR)

Air Tahiti (different airline to Air Tahiti Nui) (VT) ([www.airtahiti.com](http://www.airtahiti.com)) operate a round trip flight every Tuesday from Papeete to Mangareva. Flights are hosted in most CRS or booked through your preferred Tahiti inbound agent.







PITCAIRN ISLANDS

# HOW TO GET

## BOOKING THE MV SILVER SUPPORTER TO PITCAIRN

### Step 1:

Check sailing dates. Due to limited capacity we recommend alternate dates be considered prior to sending a booking request. We also recommend you check flight availability, especially for the Tuesday flight between Papeete (PPT) and Mangareva (GMR) with Air Tahiti (VT).

### Step 2:

Have the following information on hand prior to sending a booking request:

- Your full name/s as per passport
- Your postal / billing address/es and contact details
- A copy of your passport photo page/s
- Your Air Tahiti flight confirmations
- Your Next of Kin contact details (full name and phone number) Your mobile phone number/s
- Confirmation of your travel/medical insurance i.e. proof of medical evacuation cover.

### Step 3:

On receipt of your passport photo page/s we will open a reservation file. Your reservation will be secured when all required information has been received. We will then issue an invoice for payment in full. All visitors to Pitcairn Island are required to pre-pay their NZD\$100 landing & passport fee. This will be included in the invoice for payment. Accommodation can also be pre booked and invoiced. E.Tickets for the Silver Supporter will be issued upon receipt of full payment.





PITCAIRN ISLANDS

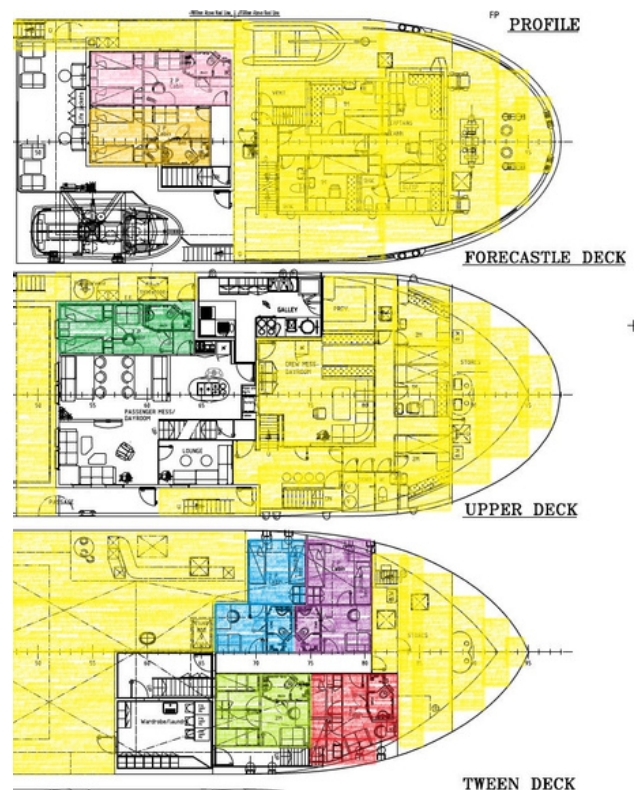
# HOW TO GET THERE

## SHIP OVERVIEW

The Government of Pitcairn Islands' chartered freighter, the MV Silver Supporter, has recently been refurbished in 2019. The vessel provides travelers with all they need for a reliable, safe and comfortable voyage to Pitcairn and her other islands.

Fully air conditioned and attractively appointed, the Silver Supporter accommodates up to 12 passengers in 6 spacious twin share cabins, each with ample storage, a private ensuite and separate office/lounge area. Daily meals are provided in the shared dining area, where guests will dine with their fellow passengers. The MV Silver Supporter also boasts a comfortable lounge for socializing and relaxing with fellow passengers.

If the vessel is fully booked, we cannot guarantee that an individual traveller will have a cabin to themselves. If you are prone to travel/sea sickness please ensure they have appropriate medication with them so as to make their voyage as comfortable as possible.





PITCAIRN ISLANDS

# HOW TO GET THERE



## BOOKING ACCOMMODATION ON PITCAIRN ISLAND

Below is a quick reference guide to accommodation providers on Pitcairn.

Accommodation rates range from USD \$100 - \$250.00 per person/per day, depending on type, facilities and location. Homestay rates include accommodation, full board with all meals and laundry. Self-catering options are also available. Please note accommodation rates are charged on a per day basis (not per night).

This ties in with Silver Support arrival and departure times and allows full use of homestay facilities for the duration of your stay. Accommodation hosts will be more than happy to arrange tours and activities on your behalf.



ACTIVITIES

# TOP THINGS TO DO



- GET TO KNOW THE REAL DESCENDANTS OF THE BOUNTY MUTINEERS
- DINE WITH THE ENTIRE COUNTRY IN ONE SITTING (POPULATION: 50)
- GO WHALE-WATCHING IN ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST MARINE RESERVES
- FEED MS. T, THE ISLAND'S GALAPAGOS TORTOISE
- TASTE SOME OF THE PUREST HONEY ON EARTH (SERIOUSLY, OUR BEES ARE TOPS!)
- STARGAZE IN ONE OF THE NEWEST INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY SANCTUARIES
- SWIM AT THE EDGE OF THE EARTH IN ST. PAUL'S POOL
- SHOP AUTHENTIC PITCAIRN CURIO AND CRAFTS
- VISIT THE SDA CHURCH & GRAVE OF BOUNTY MUTINEER, JOHN ADAMS
- TAKE A QUAD BIKE TOUR & STOP FOR A GAME OF TENNIS
- VIEW ANCIENT POLYNESIAN PETROGLYPHS CARVED INTO THE CLIFFS OF DOWN ROPE
- VISIT THE PITCAIRN ISLAND MUSEUM AND SEE THE BOUNTY BIBLE







PITCAIRN ISLANDS

# FAQS



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

### Where are the Pitcairn Islands?

The Pitcairn Islands are located in the South Pacific, half-way between New Zealand and Peru. They are situated approximately 2,300 kms south east of Tahiti in French Polynesia. There are 4 islands in the Pitcairn Islands Group, Henderson, Oeno, Ducie and Pitcairn. Of the 4 islands only Pitcairn is inhabited.

### How many people live on Pitcairn Island?

There are around 50 permanent residents living on Pitcairn, most of whom are descendants of the Mutineers from the HMAV Bounty and their Polynesian consorts, who settled on the island in 1790.

### Where can I stay on Pitcairn Island?

Most accommodations on Pitcairn Island are Homestays. Guests can enjoy a full Pitcairn home stay experience - sharing all meals and amenities in the home of a local family, or they can opt for a semi private or private studio unit with optional shared meals or self- catering. There are also a couple of private 2 or 3 bedroom houses available for small groups. Homestay rates cover all meals, transfers and laundry with prices ranging from US\$100.00 - \$250.00 per person / per day depending on location, amenities and catering requirement.



PITCAIRN ISLANDS

# FAQS (CONT.)



## **What currency will I need?**

Pitcairn Island's official currency is New Zealand Dollars (NZD), although United States Dollars (USD), and to a lesser extent, French Pacific Francs (CFP or XPF) are also accepted. The Government Treasury is open 3 days a week where credit card cash draw-downs and foreign currencies can be exchanged.

## **What services are available on Pitcairn Island?**

There is a General Store, Post Office and Government Treasury Office in Adamstown, all of which open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays between 8.30 am and 10.30 am. This means they are generally open the morning visitors arrive at Pitcairn, which provides the opportunity to stock up on any essentials, buy some postcards and exchange currency. There is also a Health Centre with a full-time Doctor and community Nurse. And, The Pitkern Artisans Gallery also opens when visitors are ashore. International telephone and wifi internet services are also available. More information can be found at [www.visitpitcairn.pn](http://www.visitpitcairn.pn)

## **How fit do I need to be to visit Pitcairn Island?**

Being physically fit and aware of one's limitations is important when considering Pitcairn as a travel destination. If prospective visitors have recently experienced injury or illness they should ensure they have been granted medical clearance before making travel plans. If prospective visitors take regular medication they should consult their doctor to seek additional supplies to more than cover their proposed travel period. Given the isolation of the Pitcairn Islands all travellers are required to have travel medical evacuation insurance cover.



PITCAIRN ISLANDS

# FAQS (CONT.)



## **Are there accessible facilities available?**

No. Pitcairn is a remote destination and whilst this is a major attraction, there are also limitations and risks that differ from less remote areas of the world. Visitors to Pitcairn Island need to be able to ascend and descend steep stairways on a moving vessel (Silver Supporter), transfer from the ship, via a Jacob's ladder, to a longboat to get ashore, with ease. Visitors should be able to use the bathroom and other facilities without assistance.

## **Can I buy souvenirs?**

Pitcairn Islanders still practice traditional carving and weaving skills. These and a large range of curios and other souvenirs are available for purchase from local markets and the Pitkern Island Artisans Gallery.

## **What clothing should I bring?**

Dress on Pitcairn is casual. Clothing for a sub-tropical climate is appropriate.



PITCAIRN ISLANDS

# RECENT PRESS

TIME | GREATEST PLACES 2019



Mata Ki Te Rangi International Dark Sky Sanctuary  
Pitcairn Islands

TRAVEL+LEISURE

What It's Like to Stay at the Most Remote Airbnb in the World



by BRANDON PRESSER  
MAY 31, 2018

"It's not the Hilton, but it's home!" Olive announces as we pull under the shade of a canopy made from aluminum siding. By the time I've showered off the two days of freighter travel, she's already settled into her role as my island mom, whipping up runny eggs and crispy bacon (just the way I like 'em), and scooping out a heaping portion of her trademark pineapple salad drizzled with fresh passionfruit."



Welcome to Pitcairn: the far-flung British island you've (probably) never heard of

Settling into local life is inevitable when 'marooned' on the UK's furthest-flung island among the descendants of the Bounty mutineers – but it's also what makes Pitcairn unique

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



+ READ CAPTION

TRAVEL | INTELLIGENT TRAVEL

Pacific Treasure: Pitcairn Islands

Mic



I traveled to the middle of the Pacific Ocean to have dinner with an entire country of 50 people

By Brandon Presser | April 18, 2018



"I haven't had any fruit in three whole months!" raved Isabel Christian as she plunged her teeth into a purple guava still dangling from the branch. She had just returned to her native Pitcairn after spending three months in New Zealand. "Over there, everyone has to pay for their fruit – here you just get it from the tree."

CONDÉ NAST

Traveler

10 Photos of Pitcairn Island

by LEE ABBAMONTE

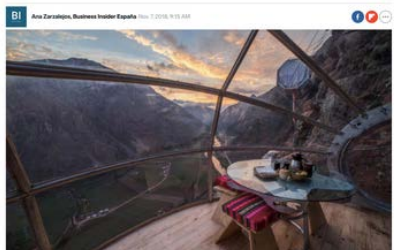
September 22, 2012

Lee Abbamonte explores off-the-beaten-path places. In this installment, he travels to tiny Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific, where only about 50 people live.



BUSINESS INSIDER

The 35 most breathtaking and isolated stays on Airbnb, ranked by cost per night



stuff

travel

ASSIGNMENT

Stargazing on remote Pitcairn Island

John Heurnshuis - 11:12, Mar 26, 2018



Longboats at the landing

In December I received an email inviting me to visit Pitcairn Island to advise the islanders on establishing an astro-tourism venture.

The New York Times

Your Next Trip? It's Written in the Stars

Resorts, parks and attractions in the United States, Canada, Mexico and beyond are expanding the galaxy of what has become known as astrotourism.

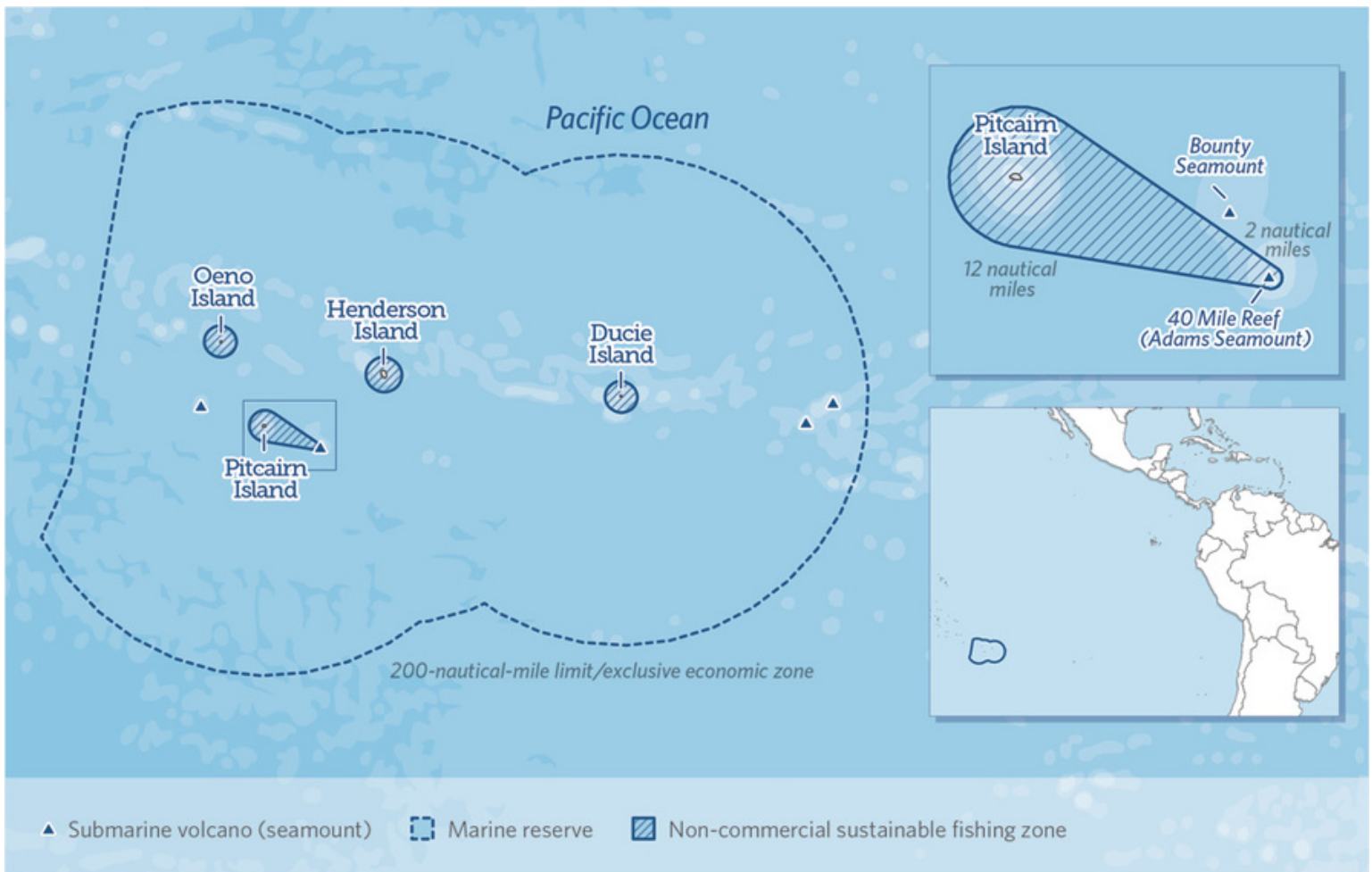
In its 30-year history, the association has designated more than 60 International Dark Sky Parks in protected areas, such as the Grand Canyon National Park. International Dark Sky Reserves, about a dozen presently, have protected land at their center, such as a national forest, and municipalities in their buffer regions that have agreed to reduce light emissions. Its four International Dark Sky Sanctuaries tend to be remote; Pitcairn Islands in the Pacific, for example, has applied for sanctuary status.





PITCAIRN ISLANDS

# MAP & LOGO



Traditional and cultural non-commercial fishing by the Pitcairn Islanders and their visitors is permitted in the territorial seas of all the islands, which extend out 12 nautical miles from each. Such fishing is also allowed within 2 nautical miles of the summit of 40 Mile Reef and in the transit zone between Pitcairn and 40 Mile Reef.

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**Pitcairn**  
Islands Tourism

