



ARANUI 5
The Journey of a Lifetime



Makatea Atoll, Tuamotu Islands



Rapa, Austral Islands



Anaa Atoll, Tuamotu Islands



Mangareva & Aukena, Gambier Islands



Pitcairn, Pitcairn Islands

A Still Undiscovered Paradise

Mana, the spiritual life force bestowed by the gods upon all of Polynesia. It cannot be seen, heard or touched. It can only be felt, enveloping and emanating from all of nature and man, by those who are willing to embrace it.

No matter how often one visits Tahiti and her islands, there is always something new, different and unexpected to be discovered. With 118 islands making up five distinctive archipelagos spread across nearly one million square miles of ocean, once is never enough to fully grasp the richness and diversity of Polynesia and her people, from their culture, customs and artistry to geographically unique languages and topographies. One common thread that remains true to them all is their warmth and hospitality, drawing visitors into a sense of belonging.

Today, Aranui Cruises is proud to offer access to each island group, including Pitcairn Islands and the Cook Islands, on four unique itineraries to some of the most remote and rarely visited places in the world.

Step out of the ordinary to the off-the-beaten path and be prepared to be enlightened and amazed by the wonders of all of French Polynesia.



Fatu Hiva, Marquesas Islands





The Aranui Experience

Soft adventure. The road less traveled. Cultural immersion. Discovering the heart and soul of Polynesia of olden days. This encapsulates the Aranui experience.

As the oldest Tahitian cruise company in French Polynesia, Aranui Cruises has been introducing the enchanting Marquesas Islands to avid adventurers for 35 years on what often has been referred to as the trip of a lifetime.

The vessel, *Aranui 5*, is unique in every way. This custom-built passenger-freighter, launched in 2015, combines the comforts and modern conveniences of a cruise ship while providing a public service to remote areas, supplying tiny communities so far from civilization. This small vessel accommodates just 254 passengers, allowing our international clientele the opportunity to get to know one another in an intimate and casual setting.





The Aranui Way

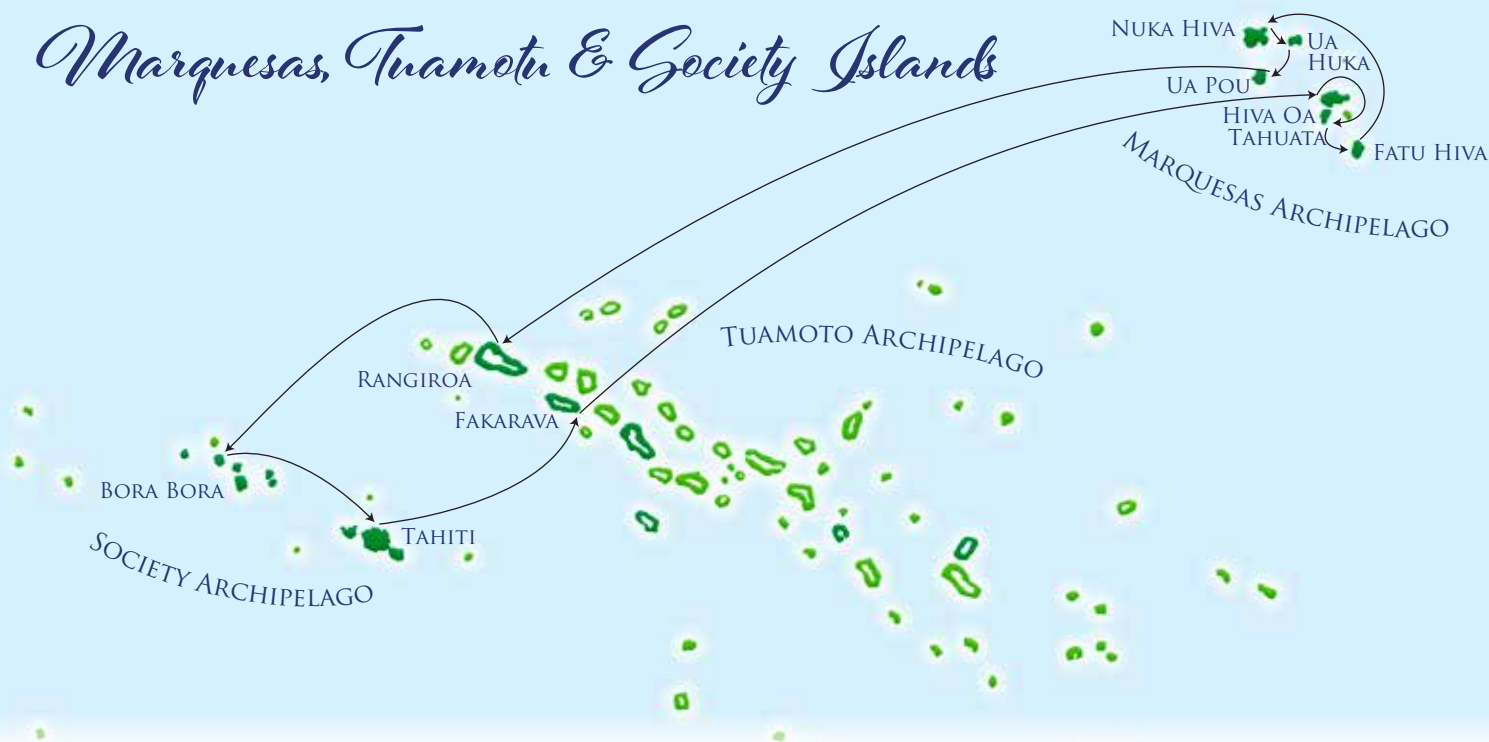
From its inception to the present day, and through successive Aranui ships, the concept of Aranui Cruises has remained the same: a traditional and authentic Polynesian offering by Polynesians for the benefit of Polynesia. In that spirit, nearly all of the staff and crew are Polynesian, hailing from various islands of the five archipelagos and it is their approach and perspective in introducing their home to the outside world that creates an atmosphere unlike any other cruise sailing these waters. Whether in the public spaces, at special dinner events, as part of the onboard entertainment or assisting you from ship to shore on our tenders, you will become well acquainted with these lively and talented crewmembers. Though some can be a little shy at first, once you strike up a conversation, you will discover why they are an integral part of the Aranui experience.





In Search of the Marquesas Islands.
“TE HENUA ENANA”, THE LAND OF MEN

Marquesas, Tuamotu & Society Islands



THURSDAY DEPARTURE

Day 1, Thursday:	Depart Tahiti (Papeete)
Day 2, Friday:	Fakarava
Day 3, Saturday:	At Sea
Day 4, Sunday:	Hiva Oa (Puamau)–Tahuata (Vaitahu)
Day 5, Monday:	Hiva Oa (Atuona)–Tahuata (Kokuu)
Day 6, Tuesday:	Fatu Hiva (Omoa–Hanavave)
Day 7, Wednesday:	Nuku Hiva (Taiohae–Hatiheu–Taipivai)
Day 8, Thursday:	Ua Huka (Vaipae–Hane–Hokatu)
Day 9, Friday:	Ua Pou (Hakahau)
Day 10, Saturday:	At Sea
Day 11, Sunday:	Rangiroa (Otohu)
Day 12, Monday:	Bora Bora (Vaitape)
Day 13, Tuesday:	Return Tahiti (Papeete)

SATURDAY DEPARTURE

Day 1, Saturday:	Depart Tahiti (Papeete)
Day 2, Sunday:	Fakarava
Day 3, Monday:	At Sea
Day 4, Tuesday:	Nuku Hiva (Taiohae–Hatiheu–Taipivai)
Day 5, Wednesday:	Ua Huka (Vaipae–Hane–Hokatu)
Day 6, Thursday:	Ua Pou (Hakahau)
Day 7, Friday:	Hiva Oa (Atuona)–Tahuata (Kokuu)
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Day 13, Thursday:	Return Tahiti (Papeete)

Mythical and mystical. A land that has beckoned explorers and inspired writers, painters and artists. A rugged and breathtaking landscape of peaks, valleys, plateaus and cliffs. A nation of proud and formidable warriors long ago, distinct from Tahitians, with their own language and culture. A people where a simple smile will win them over. The Marquesas Islands is a world onto itself.

While Aranui Cruises is now sailing to other destinations in Eastern Polynesia, this remote archipelago, located nearly 1,000 miles northeast of Tahiti, has always been its primary focus. Over the last four decades, Aranui ships, as the principal transporter of freight to the Marquesas, has been a lifeline to the Islanders. The creation of Aranui Cruises in 1984 has provided access to all six inhabited islands to over 60,000 international passengers, contributing to the revitalization and discovery of the once dormant Marquesan culture.

According to Marquesan legend, the creation of the archipelago represents a house built by the god Oatea for his wife Atanua.



Hiva Oa The Ridge

Atuona, this island's principal village and the second largest in the Marquesas, was once the capital of this archipelago. Adjacent to the town, a tohua, a huge set of ceremonial platforms, has been perfectly restored, showing the places where chieftains and priests sat, and a narrow ditch which held prisoners for sacrifices.

A morning drive by 4-WD takes you to Puamau to visit the most important local archeological site for *tikis*, ancient, human-like religious sculptures, at Mea'e lipona. Our guides will show you through these mysterious ruins and share stories of these haunting statues and an ancient civilization. In Atuona, sweeping views of the harbor highlight a walk up the hill to the cemetery where Paul Gauguin and Jacques Brel are buried. Explore the Gauguin Museum, a replica of his "House of Pleasure", and the Brel Museum, which showcases his plane Jojo, which was often used for medical emergencies.



Ua Pou The Pillars

Legend refers to Ua Pou as the “pillars of the archipelago” and it is often called “The Cathedral Island”. These names become clear as the ship docks at Hakahau Bay surrounded by 12 basalt summits soaring as high as 3,745 feet. Every island has its own special ambience and Ua Pou’s is one of mystery and magic. You are sure to see familiar looking faces as many of our crew members are from here.

For the energetic early risers, you can hike up the hill to the Cross for breathtaking views of the valleys and village below. The artisans’ center is an easy walk and the offerings include works featuring the unique flower stone and a variety of carvings and children’s apparel. Before enjoying a Marquesan lunch, take in an excellent dance performance, including the Bird Dance, traditional to Ua Pou.

Photos, top to bottom, left to right: Page 8: Bird Dance, Ua Pou; Mea’e lipona, Hiva Oa; Nuku Hiva; Church, Nuku Hiva. Page 9: Children playing, Ua Pou; Bay of Puamau, Hiva Oa; Paul Gauguin’s Grave, Hiva Oa; Pig Dance, Nuku Hiva



A LAND OF INSPIRATION

For the last two centuries, the allure of the Marquesas has enticed numerous westerners to her shores. From writers and artists to explorers and adventurers, these islands have provided refuge and solace. Paul Gauguin spent the last years of his life in Hiva Oa, where he created some of his greatest masterpieces. Herman Melville and Robert Louis Stevenson produced novels inspired by their experiences in the islands. Belgian singer Jacques Brel wrote songs of the Marquesas during his time there.



Nuku Hiva The Beams & Rafters

This island is the administrative center of the Marquesas. The village of Taiohae stretches along the beach of a magnificent amphitheater created by the successive eruptions of three concentric volcanoes and dominated by towering cliffs streaked with waterfalls. All of the government services and residence, hospital, bank and schools are close by. A lovely handicraft center is located on the beach road.

Your adventure in Nuku Hiva will include a tour of the Cathedral Notre Dame, famed for its stonework and wood sculptures. In Hatiheu, you will visit the archaeological site known as Tohua Kamuihei, where public festivities once took place; the paepae, immense stone platforms on which houses were built; and huge boulders carved with enigmatic petroglyphs. Under a giant banyan tree, enjoy a performance of traditional songs and dances, including the “Pig Dance”, original to Nuku Hiva. A traditional “Umu”, a Marquesan specialty, where food is cooked in an underground oven, will be served for lunch.



Fatu Hiva The Roof

The most lush and remote in the archipelago, Fatu Hiva is also a center of Marquesan crafts. In the village of Omoa, women will demonstrate the making of tapa by hammering mulberry, banyan or breadfruit bark on a log. It will be dried and then painted with ancient traditional designs. Another demonstration will show the making of the *kumuhei*, an herbal bundle unique to this island used by the local women to perfume their hair. The adjacent craft center offers tapa, carvings, hand-dyed pareo and some of the finest monoi coconut oil.

Following the visit of the village, athletic passengers may choose to hike from Omoa to Hanavave, a 10 mile trek offering spectacular views of towering cliffs. A picnic lunch will be served at the summit. Non-hikers will sail on the Aranui to Hanavave on the Bay of Virgins, considered one of the most beautiful bays in the world. Go ashore for a visit of the village and to welcome the hikers.



Ua Huka The Gods Reserve

This island, where the Marquesas' first airstrip was built in 1972, is largely arid and home to many wild horses, goats and pigs. It is also the least inhabited in the Marquesas and is a refuge for two endemic birds: the *pati'oti'o* and the *pihiti*, only found here. In the early morning, the Aranui will execute a point-to-point 180-degree turn in the narrow mouth of Vaipae's Invisible Bay. With only feet to spare on either side, it is a skillful operation by the captain and the crew not to be missed.

From the dock, travel by 4-WD to the village of Hane. Along the way, you will stop to explore the Botanical Garden, the cultural center Te Tumu, featuring a small museum with exquisite replicas of Marquesan artifacts, and a petroglyph museum and local woodcarvers' studios in the fishing village of Hokatu. Look for the unusual carved black and white coconuts. In Hane, where a Marquesan lunch will be served, visit the Marine Museum beforehand and in the afternoon, a hike to view red tuff tikis overlooking the bay, is available.



Tahuata A Ray of Light

Though the smallest of the inhabited Marquesan islands, it is historically one of the richest. Tahuata has experienced it all — as the first island in the archipelago to be discovered by Spanish explorers, who opened fire on a crowd of curious islanders, killing about 200, in 1595 to the arrival of missionaries in 1797 to the first French settlement in the Marquesas in 1842. The local men, and many of the women here carve exquisite tikis, sea creatures, bracelets, necklaces and more from horse and cow bone, fossilized bone, tusks and pink helmet shell.

The impressive church, built by the Vatican, and decorated with beautiful carvings and a stained glass window featuring the Marquesan cross, is well worth the visit. After lunch on board, enjoy a lazy afternoon on a beautiful white sand beach or take a refreshing dip in the Pacific Ocean.



THE ART OF TATTOO

The modern word tattoo originates from “tatau” in early Polynesian history. Practiced throughout all the island groups, the Marquesan designs represent gods, mythology and nature. In tradition, tattooing began shortly after birth and continued to mark rites of passage. A Marquesan man’s status could be read from his tattoos. Men were generally heavily covered, with women tattooed on the hands, arms, lower body and behind the ear. Banned by the French from 1858 until 1985, it is flourishing and influencing the art worldwide.



Tattooed Man from Nuka Hiva, Wilhelm Gottlieb Tilesius von Tilenau, in Krusenstern, A. J. von, Voyage Round the World in the years 1803, 1804, 1805, & 1806 . . . Richard Belgrave Hoppner (trans.), J. Murray, 1813, Atlas: plate 10.

Photos, top to bottom, left to right: Page 10: Kumuhei, Fatu Hiva; Church, Tahuata; Kokuu Beach, Tahuata; Bone and wood carvings, Tahuata; Vaipae Bay, Ua Huka. Page 11: The Bay of Virgins, Fatu Hiva; Botanical Garden, Ua Huka.

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.

You will have time to discover the small village of Rotoava, the church, built of coral and the local arts and crafts. Bicycle rentals are available if you wish to venture to the old lighthouse at the airport or enjoy a day of relaxation, sun and sand, swimming and snorkeling among colorful tropical fish.



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.

While in Rangiroa, you will have the opportunity to enjoy the magnificent lagoon on a glass bottom boat tour; swimming, snorkeling or diving, or visit one of the finest pearl farms in the Tuamotu to learn about these rare gems and see how they are grown.

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. An advanced base during World War II, a tour of the island visits the cannon emplacements.

In this picture perfect island paradise, you will enjoy a day at the beach on a private motu while the crew prepares another delicious picnic lunch featuring Tahitian specialties. In the afternoon, you will have time at your leisure. You may also choose from a variety of optional excursions at an additional cost, such as a circle island tour by boat or bus, or one of the most popular, shark and ray feeding.



Photos, top to bottom, left to right: Page 12: Light house, Fakarava; Beach and lagoon, Rangiroa; Island of Bora Bora.

Optional Excursions

At every port, guests can enjoy an array of included excursions. For a bit more adventure, there are plenty of optional activities from which to choose.

The following can be booked on board and at an additional cost.

FISHING

Due to its remoteness and isolation in the South Pacific and with an abundance of marine life, the Marquesas is a fisherman's paradise. *Mokai Nui 2*, a four-person boat, offers deep sea fishing outings with a seasoned crew at four different ports. Tuna, wahoo fish and bonita are some of the types of fish that can be found here. Experience the thrill of catching your dinner, which our chef will turn into a delicious dish for you and your friends.

HORSEBACK RIDING

On Ua Huka, where wild horses, originally introduced from Chile in the 1850s, outnumber the population, discovering the island on horseback is a perfect way to roam wild and free just like the locals.

DIVING

Some of the best diving in world can be found in French Polynesia. The three distinct topographies offer a different experience each time, with diving available on five islands. While Fakarava, Rangiroa and Hiva Oa is available to advanced certified divers only, all levels are welcome in Tahuata and Bora Bora. From sharks, manta rays, dolphins, turtles or whales, depending on the island and time of year, to an abundance of colorful tropical fish and coral, this paradise is a diver's playground.

GLASS BOTTOM BOAT

For those who don't dive or snorkel, enjoy the extraordinary underwater world of Rangiroa's blue lagoon without getting wet on a glass bottom boat tour. Guests will discover the colorful coral and tropical fish that call the atoll home with the chance of a cameo from a shark or turtle.

RAY & SHARK FEED

During the quintessential Bora Bora lagoon excursion guests have the chance to get up close and personal with the island's abundant marine creatures. Guests can snorkel with colorful reef fish in a coral garden, stand hip-high in Bora Bora's famed blue lagoon while sting rays play in the surrounding water and dive into the azure ocean with friendly reef or lemon sharks.



ISLAND TOUR BY TRUCK

To take in the dazzling shades of Bora Bora's lagoon from land, guests board a truck that takes them around the picturesque island for the chance to enjoy panoramic views, visit beautiful Matira Beach, grab a refreshment at the beachfront bar and learn about arts and crafts during a visit to a handicraft center, which also offers the chance to buy some souvenirs.

ISLAND TOUR BY CANOE

For the chance to see the entire island of Bora Bora, guests board a motorized outrigger canoe for a few hours, stopping to snorkel with tropical fish in a coral garden, swim with sharks, taste local fruits on a motu and get up close and personal with sting rays in the lagoon, before disembarking on Aranui's private island — Motu Tapu — to join fellow guests for a complimentary picnic lunch. The Captain offers commentary on Bora Bora's culture, legends, history and geography in between stops.





In Search of Eastern Polynesia.
INTRODUCING OUR NEW ITINERARIES

Tuamotu, Gambier & Pitcairn Islands

SOCIETY ARCHIPELAGO

TAHITI

ANAA

HIKUERU

AMANU

GAMBIER ARCHIPELAGO

MANGAREVA
AUKENA

OENO

PITCAIRN

PITCAIRN ISLANDS

SATURDAY DEPARTURE

Day 1, Saturday: Papeete
 Day 2, Sunday: Anaa, Tuamotu
 Day 3, Monday: Hikueru, Tuamotu
 Day 4, Tuesday: At Sea
 Day 5, Wednesday: Mangareva, Gambier
 Day 6, Thursday: Oeno Island, Pitcairn
 Day 7, Friday: Pitcairn Island, Pitcairn

Day 8, Saturday: Pitcairn Island, Pitcairn
 Day 9, Sunday: Aukena, Gambier
 Day 10, Monday: At Sea
 Day 11, Tuesday: Amanu, Tuamotu
 Day 12, Wednesday: At Sea
 Day 13, Thursday: Papeete

Known as the Polynesian Triangle, spanning from New Zealand to Hawaii to Easter Island, and with French Polynesia right in the middle, this vast swath of Mother Earth may appear similar on the surface. And while its origins may have begun as a single seedling, time and distance has created distinct branches in a long family tree. While Tahiti's surrounding islands such as the Society and western Tuamotu Islands are a great place to start, as one moves away from the center, the subtleties become clearer.

With the addition of three new itineraries, Aranui Cruises is expanding its reach beyond the Marquesas Islands to the North. From our cousins to the West in the Cook Islands, those to the South in the Austral, Gambier and Pitcairn Islands and to the East in the Tuamotu Islands, let us introduce you. You will be thrilled to make their acquaintance.



Anaa

A small atoll with less than 500 inhabitants, Anaa wrote its way into the history books as the birthplace of Tahiti's royal family — the Pomare Dynasty. These days it's best known for its luminous jade lagoon with green clouds above from the sun rays reflecting off the water and picturesque motus with no less than eleven little islands scattered around the atoll. Most of the population is involved in copra or fishing, leading to the island's landmark sustainable fishing program. Guests can explore the village of Tukahora and try traditional javelin throwing and handicrafts. Look out for 'feo', giant fossilized blocks of coral which are characteristic of the atoll. The shallow clear lagoon is ideal for fly fishing, an optional activity offered in Anaa.

Hikueru

Located in the Central Tuamotu Archipelago, Hikueru was once a large natural pearl oyster reserve. A cyclone in 1903 caused considerable damage to the atoll, which Jack London described in great detail in his *South Sea Tales*. The first pearl farm to produce high quality Tahitian pearls was established here in the 1960s. Today, the population relies on the production of copra. Following a tasting of local fruits, guests will visit the village and a church built of coral, including an explanation of the island's legends by its inhabitants. A beach barbecue will be served for lunch with time to swim and snorkel.



Amanu

Located 900km east of Tahiti, Amanu is an idyllic atoll with palm-fringed crystal-clear lagoons and a charming island village. During a visit to Ikitake, guests can see local handicrafts and explore the village's old lighthouse, church and the 19th century building with walls made of coral stones that doubles as the town hall and a shelter during cyclones.



Photos, top to bottom, left to right: Page 16: Javelin contest, Anaa; Weaving demonstration, Amanu; Oyster shell engraving, Mangareva; St. Michael's Church, Mangareva; Island of Aukena.

Aukena

Aukena is home to pristine lagoons perfect for black pearl farming, idyllic beaches and the first church constructed out of stone in all of French Polynesia — Saint-Raphaël Church was built in 1839. Guests can visit a pearl farm, do some sightseeing and enjoy a barbecue on a white sand beach.

Mangareva

Mangareva is the largest island in the Gambier and its main village, Rikitea, is the chief town of the archipelago. The island has a large lagoon with striking blue and green hues and is also famous for its Tahitian black pearls, which are cultivated in the pristine waters around the island. Once the cradle of Catholicism in Polynesia, a visit to the renovated St Michael's Catholic Church, where the altar is inlaid with iridescent mother-of-pearl shell, is a must.





Oeno

Named after an American whaler by its captain, Oeno is considered an atoll, though the main island, approximately 15 ft. high can be found in its lagoon. Designated as an Important Bird Area, it is home to different bird species, most notably its colony of Murphy's Petrels, estimated to be the second largest in the world. Though uninhabited, Oeno Island is used for two weeks in January as a private holiday site by the people of Pitcairn Island who travel by long boat the 90 miles to get there. *Aranui 5* will spend half a day in Oeno, where guests will have the opportunity to discover the island.

Pitcairn

More than 200 years after the *Bounty* arrived, *Aranui 5* will call at Pitcairn. Home to just 50 people, Pitcairn is one of the most isolated islands in the world. During their visit, guests can immerse themselves in the living history and culture of the island, walking in the footsteps of the *Bounty* settlers from the landing at Bounty Bay to Adamstown; meeting the descendants of the mutineers at the curio market; visiting the grave of the last surviving mutineer John Adams; learning about an earlier Polynesian civilisation and viewing artefacts from the *Bounty* at the Museum.



FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MUTINEERS

The tale of the mutiny of His Majesty's Armed Vessel Bounty is one of the best known in history.

After the Master's Mate Fletcher Christian cast adrift Commander Lieutenant William Bligh in the ship's boat, the mutineers sailed the Bounty back to Tahiti then onwards to the Austral Islands, eventually seeking refuge on an uninhabited island, secure from the outside world. Pitcairn.

As part of their crew, they took with them six Polynesian men and twelve women, the beginnings of the current Pitcairn community.

Upon their arrival on January 17, 1790, the crew found Pitcairn to be an inaccessible and uninhabited place with fertile and warm conditions.

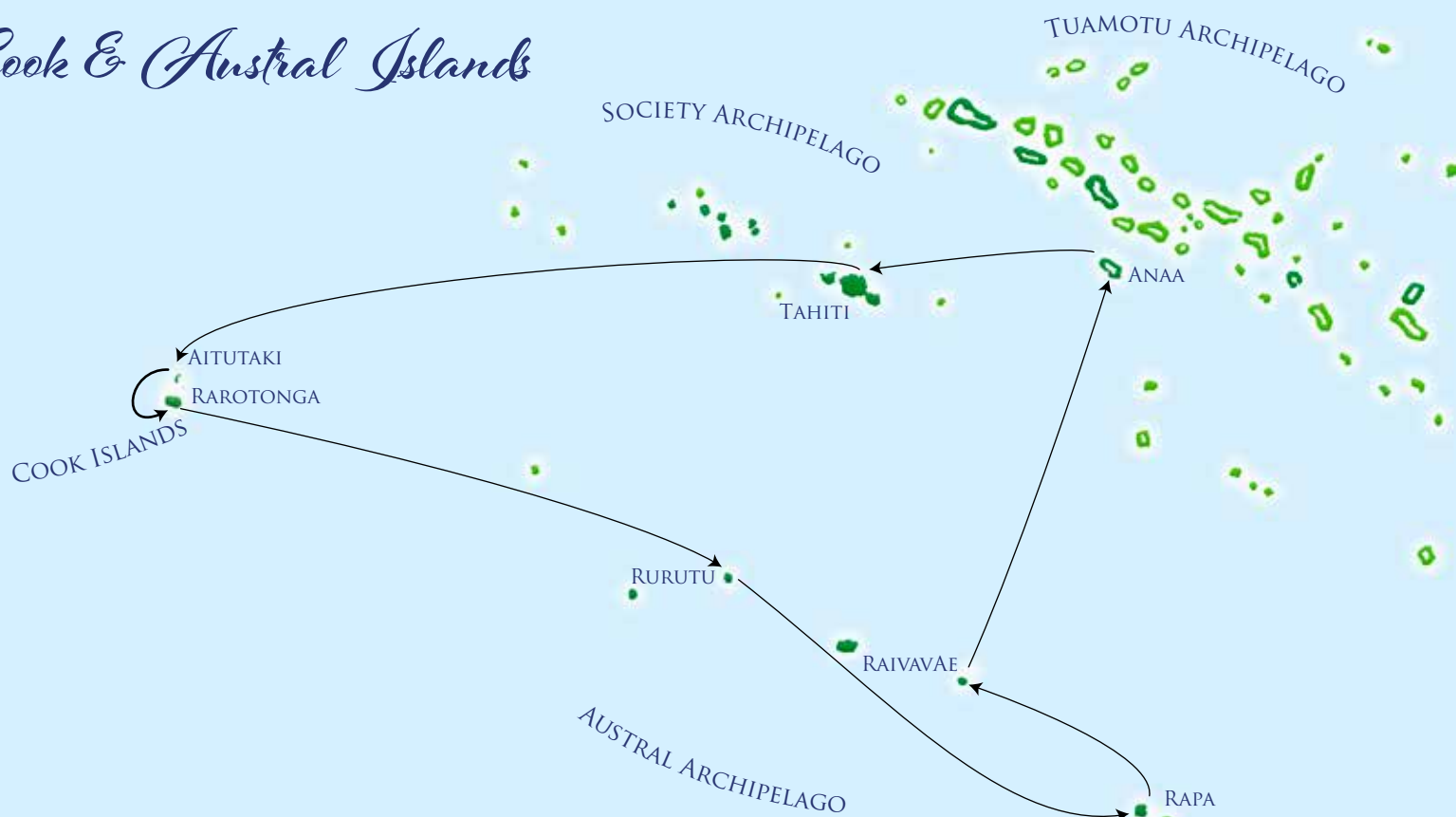
After removing their possessions and lugging everything up the aptly named Hill Of Difficulty, the Bounty was run ashore and set alight so that no trace of her would remain visible from the sea. A village was established on the lower plateau, situated above Bounty Bay, where the village of Adamstown still stands.

Although he lived in this isolated sanctuary only a few years, Fletcher Christian is fondly remembered as the founder and first leader of modern day Pitcairn.



Photos, top to bottom, left to right: Page 17: Oeno Island; St. Paul's Pool, Pitcairn Island; Cannon from The Bounty, Pitcairn Island.

Cook & Austral Islands



SATURDAY DEPARTURE

Day 1, Saturday: Papeete
 Day 2, Sunday: At Sea
 Day 3, Monday: Aitutaki, Cook Islands
 Day 4, Tuesday: Rarotonga, Cook Islands
 Day 5, Wednesday: Rurutu, Austral
 Day 6, Thursday: At Sea
 Day 7, Friday: Rapa, Austral

Day 8, Saturday: Rapa, Austral
 Day 9, Sunday: Raivavae, Austral
 Day 10, Monday: At Sea
 Day 11, Tuesday: Anaa, Tuamotu
 Day 12, Wednesday: At Sea
 Day 13, Thursday: Papeete

A Shared History

Due to their proximity, the Southern Group of the Cook Islands and the Austral Islands have a long shared past of cultural ties, trade and even warfare. Traditional oral history recounts the settlement of Rarotonga in the Southern Cooks by the people of Tubuai, in the Austral Islands, around 1,200 years ago. Other ancient stories tell of the migration of Polynesians from the Society Islands and even as far as the Marquesas to Rarotonga, however the dialect from

the Southern Cooks and Austral Islands resemble one another the most. While the Rimatara lorikeet, or Ura in the local dialect, is named after one of the islands in the Austral archipelago, this bird from the parrot family was once endemic to the Southern Cook Islands where it is known as the Kura. As Aranui Cruises follows their original migratory path, you will discover one more aspect of Polynesia.



The Cook Islands

Once part of the British Empire, and now a self-governing country in free association with New Zealand, the Cook Islands have maintained their Polynesian identity. From the various island dialects, all originating from the old Maori (Maohi in Tahitian) language, to the arts and crafts, dancing and performing arts, the traditional culture and customs have remained strong. Less affected by development and tourism unlike some of its neighbors in the South Pacific, the Cook Islands have been described as Hawaii over 60 years ago. This idyllic group of 15 islands, divided between the Northern and Southern Cook Islands, was named in honor of Captain James Cook, who visited in the late 18th Century.



Rarotonga

The largest and most populous, Rarotonga is the hub of the Cook Islands, with its chief town, Avarua, as its capital. Settled by Polynesians from French Polynesia around the 9th century, the bond with Tahiti and her islands has always remained strong. Today, as modern Pacific people, the high spirited Cook Islanders are a cosmopolitan blend of Western influence and ancient Polynesian heritage. Many important archeological sites can be found here, such as Arai Te Tonga, the most sacred marae in Rarotonga, and nearby, the Ara Metua, a thousand-year-old interior road, paved with basalt or coral slabs, that once circled the island and of which, about two thirds still exists. Highland Paradise, sometimes known as "the lost village" is now a cultural center consisting of old and faithfully rebuilt traditional structures, offering guided tours of the once large settlement site, and re-enactments and cultural demonstrations.



Photos, top to bottom, left to right: The Kia Orana Aunties, Rarotonga; Mountains, Rarotonga; Island of Rarotonga; Snorkeling in Aitutaki; Aitutaki Lagoon; Woven hat and bag, Rarotonga; Traditional ship's bow, Aitutaki. Photos © David Strickland



Aitutaki

Another island paradise in the South Pacific, Aitutaki has it all: gorgeous white sand beaches and a stunning turquoise lagoon surrounded by motus on the barrier reef. Though considered an atoll, it has a significant large area of high land on the north side, providing sweeping views across the lagoon. According to legend, the island was settled by Ru, who sailed from Raiatea in the Society Islands in search of new lands and many Aitutakians believe they are descended from this seafaring warrior. Today, they are known for their charm, easy going attitude and hospitality. Whether relaxing on the beach, snorkeling the crystal clear lagoon in search of colorful tropical fish and corals, or discovering remnants of an ancient past, Aitutaki offers the best of both worlds.

Rurutu

One of two of the largest raised atolls in French Polynesia, the island formation of Rurutu is not what one expects to see in the South Pacific. Basaltic and limestone cliffs dotted with caves where the islanders once lived, a volcanic interior with a lush tropical jungle, white sand beaches and beautiful bays create stunning visuals. The island's fertile soil and cooler climate are ideal for growing cabbage, lettuce and potatoes as well as coffee and taro. Archeological digs have uncovered habitation sites, council platforms and marae temples in the village of Vitaria, showing man's presence around 900 A.D. Rurutu is known throughout Polynesia for the exceptionally fine quality of its woven products, creating magnificent hats, bags and baskets, or mats from pandanus leaves and other natural materials. From August to October each year, humpback whales can be seen and heard in Rurutu, where they come south to mate and give birth. As *Aranui 5* will be here in September, this should be a feast for your eyes and ears.



Photos, top to bottom, left to right: Cliffs, Rurutu; Smiling tiki, Raivavae; Island of Raivavae; Woven hat, Rapa; Ahurei Bay, Rapa.

Raivavae

Known as the "Bora Bora of the Austral Islands", Raivavae's white sand beaches, large emerald lagoon and 28 motus encircling the lush green main island, have earned it this distinction. Giant stone tikis resembling those in the Marquesas and on Easter Island, including an unusual smiling tiki, wood sculptures, an open air marae temple and Polynesian canoes are some of the archaeological elements you will discover during a circle island tour. If you wish to relax on one of the motus and swim in the crystal clear lagoon, an excursion by speed boat is available. A beach barbecue featuring local dishes will be served for lunch.



Rapa

As you approach Rapa, only accessible by sea, the Captain may announce: "Welcome to Rapa. Next stop Antarctica." As the southernmost inhabited island, this crescent shaped island — with a fjord-like coastline deeply indented by 12 bays — is as remote as it gets in French Polynesia. Rapa-Iti — or "small Rapa", as the island is also called — has a strong cultural connection to Easter Island, known as Rapa-Nui or big to the Polynesians. Legend tells of the settlement of Rapa-Nui by the people of Rapa-Iti. Once home to fierce warriors who lived in fortified settlements built on terraces among volcanic peaks, the islanders now live by farming and fishing. During our visit, you will be greeted by the unique dances of Rapa. You may choose one of two different hikes offered. The first goes from the village of Area around the stunning bay to the main village of Ahurei and the second, to the remnant of an old mountaintop fort. A traditional lunch will be served on shore.

Society & Tuamotu Islands



SATURDAY DEPARTURE

Day 1, Saturday: Papeete
 Day 2, Sunday: Rangiroa, Tuamotu
 Day 3, Monday: Fakarava, Tuamotu
 Day 4, Tuesday: Makatea, Tuamotu
 Day 5, Wednesday: Raiatea, Society Islands
 Day 6, Thursday: Tahaa, Society Islands

Day 7, Friday: Maupiti, Society Islands
 Day 8, Saturday: Bora Bora, Society Islands
 Day 9, Sunday: Bora Bora, Society Islands
 Day 10, Monday: Huahine, Society Islands
 Day 11, Tuesday: Moorea, Society Islands
 Day 12, Wednesday: Papeete

The High & Low Islands

Moorea and Bora Bora, the high; Rangiroa and Fakarava, the low. Some of the best known and most visited islands and atolls in French Polynesia. The Society and western Tuamotu Islands are an ideal introduction to the destination due in part to their proximity to the capital island of Tahiti. While the spectacular scenery of white sand beaches

and the stunning lagoons of blues and greens will draw you in, the varying degrees of development, different dialects and customs from one island to the next will offer a spectrum of Polynesian culture, from the old to the new.

Fakarava, Rangiroa & Makatea

In addition to stops in Fakarava and Rangiroa in the western Tuamotu Islands, *Aranui 5* will visit 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 coral-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 abandoned with only a few families remaining to keep watch. Today, the fewer than 100 inhabitants live from the culture of copra, fishing and the trade of coconut crabs.



Photos, top to bottom, left to right: Cliffs and caves, Makatea; Island of Taha'a; Vanilla plantation; Taputapuetea Marae, Raiatea.

Raiatea & Taha'a

Within the Polynesian triangle, Raiatea, or Havai'i as it was originally known, is considered the cradle of Polynesian civilization. As the first island to be populated by these seafaring people, this is where all migration to the three points, New Zealand, Hawaii and Easter Island, began. Taputapuetea, a 1,000 year-old large marae complex, or open air temple, and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is regarded as the religious and spiritual center of all of Eastern Polynesia. From here, navigators and sailors would venture out to settle new lands. Appropriately, Raiatea, with its main town of Uturoa, is the base for most yacht charter companies. Mount Temehani, the island's most sacred mountain, is home to the tiare apetahi, a flower found nowhere else in the world, which only blooms at dawn.

Across from Raiatea lies the sister island of Taha'a. Enclosed by the same coral reef, it is believed that it once was a single island. Known as the "Vanilla Island" due to its many plantations and the fragrant scent of the bean permeating the air, Taha'a is an idyllic paradise of white sand beaches, a crystal clear lagoon and beautiful coral gardens. Less visited than its more famous neighbor to the north, Taha'a has maintained its traditional Polynesian charm.



Bora Bora & Maupiti

Bora Bora. A name that evokes visions of paradise on Earth. A playground known throughout the world. For two days, *Aranui 5* will be anchored across from the village of Vaitape, where you will have ample time to discover how and why the island has earned its much deserved reputation.

Lesser known and seldom visited, yet equally stunning, the tiny island of Maupiti sits 25 miles to the west of Bora Bora. The main island, only about four square miles, is surrounded by a shallow lagoon with translucent waters and several long and smaller motus that make up the barrier reef. Secluded, Maupiti offers a more authentic and traditional view of Polynesian life. Rich in archeological sites, marae, petroglyphs and graves dating from around 850 A.D. can be found on the island. A hike up to the peak of Mount Teurafaatiu offers an unforgettable panoramic view of the lagoon below and Bora Bora in the distance.



Huahine

Only a 15 minute flight from Bora Bora, yet worlds apart, Huahine represents old Polynesia. Less visited than its glitzy neighbor to the East, this lush tropical Garden of Eden and its people have maintained the warmth and simplicity Polynesians are known for, mostly unaffected by the modern world. Huahine is actually two islands, connected by a small bridge. In the north, Huahine Nui, or big Huahine, is where the main village of Fare is located. Several marae, a small museum exhibiting objects and remnants from digs, stone fish traps, an ancestral method referred to as “lazy fishing”, and sacred blue-eyed eels can be found here. In the south, Huahine Iiti, or small Huahine, though a little more rugged, offers a postcard image of gorgeous white sand beaches and a lagoon in varying shades of blues and greens at the tip of the island.



Moorea

Moorea, or the “Yellow Lizard” in Tahitian, is a perennial favorite for most who visit the island and the best of both worlds. Located 11 miles from Tahiti, or a 30 minute ferry ride, its proximity to downtown Papeete makes it convenient to access without living in the frenetic environment of the Capital. It is ideal for the locals who travel to town in the morning for work and return to Moorea’s slower pace of life at the end of the day. With no street lights and a handful of stop signs, once the sun sets, the island goes dark, illuminated only by the lights of homes and hotels. Visually, the island is stunning. The two nearly symmetrical bays on the north side, Cook’s and Opunohu Bay, with a large mountain ridge as a backdrop, are equally as impressive from the sea as they are from atop the Belvedere, a lookout point on Mount Rotui. Land and water activities abound on Moorea, giving you the opportunity to do as much or as little as you want during your visit.

Photos, top to bottom, left to right: Island of Maupiti; Island of Bora Bora; Island of Huahine; Island of Moorea.

Aranui 5

Your home in the Islands

In the Island Tradition, our gracious staff continues the warmth and intimacy of the previous *Aranui* ships, welcoming passengers as part of their extended family.

You will quickly meet your fellow adventurers, and with three bars and a lounge, there is plenty of space to relax, get acquainted and share new discoveries.

The *Aranui 5* was designed to accommodate 254 passengers, with 29 spacious Suites, 31 Deluxe and Superior Deluxe Staterooms, with balconies; 3 Junior Suites with or without balconies; and 40 Staterooms, all beautifully appointed with your well-being in mind. For the more adventurous, the shared space in C Class will accommodate 24 passengers.

The large, family-style dining room offers excellent French and Polynesian cuisine. Dress is island casual, no tux, just a fragrant tiare (flower) behind your ear. Air conditioning will keep you comfortable in the cabin and public areas. There are two passenger elevators.



Among the many ships cruising in the South Pacific, the *Aranui 5* is unique in every way.



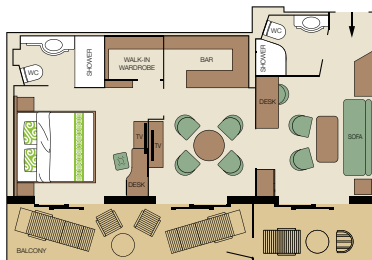
Polynesian casual best describes the atmosphere on board *Aranui 5*. From its relaxed and comfortable setting to a leisurely rhythm, it provides the opportunity to unwind and leave the hustle and bustle of everyday life behind. A variety of cultural enrichment classes are offered throughout the cruise, such as lessons in local dances or languages, the weaving of palm fronds or how to wear the island garb known as the pareo, providing immersion into and a greater knowledge of Polynesian traditions. Guest lecturers, experts in fields related to French Polynesia and primarily the Marquesas, such as history, culture, art or archeology, will give a more rounded understanding of the destination.



In keeping with the Polynesian experience, the entertainment remains traditional as well. The Aranui Band, consisting of staff and crew, and sometimes joined by guests, play Polynesian songs in the Veranda Bar. A couple of dinner events around the pool, gathering all of the passengers and crew for a communal feast, followed by performances and dancing under the stars, adds to the conviviality on board. Whether socializing in one of our three bars or curling up with a good book in the lounge, you will get to set the pace. From the Sky Bar on the highest deck, a 180 degree panoramic view looks out on to the horizon and the cranes and cargo holds below. A well-choreographed display of skill by our sailors, as they load and unload the freight, will keep you coming back for more of our own live reality television show. For complete relaxation, discover the healing hands of our Tahitian wellness therapist, offering various treatments at the Spa or if you still have energy left after exploring the islands, a gym is available. And should you wish to bring back with you a permanent traditional souvenir, a licensed Marquesan tattoo artist will provide a personalized design.

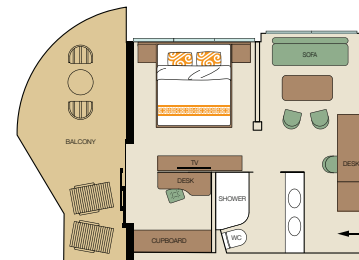


Suites & Cabins



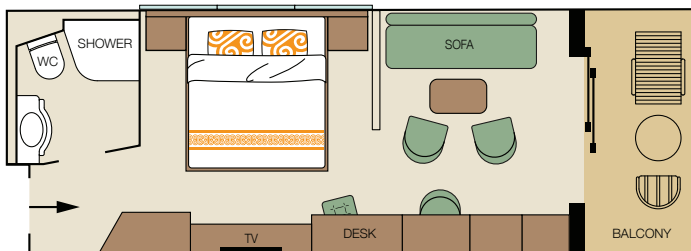
PRESIDENTIAL SUITE

Consisting of 3 individual rooms, approximately 440 sq. ft. (41m²) of interior space and a 130 sq. ft. (12m²) private balcony, this exterior cabin offers a separate bedroom with a king bed, a sitting room with a sofa bed, a lounge with a built-in bar, 2 bathrooms with shower and hair dryer, a walk-in closet, refrigerator and safe.



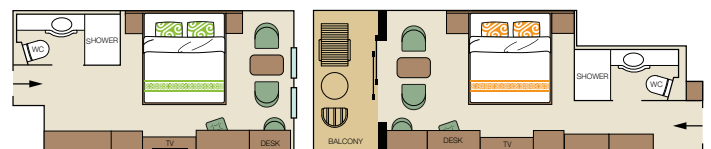
ROYAL SUITE

From approximately 240 sq. ft. (22m²) of interior space and a 100 sq. ft. (9m²) private corner balcony, this exterior cabin offers a bedroom with a king bed or twin beds and a sitting room with a sofa bed, divided by a decorative filigree screen, a bathroom with shower and hair dryer, refrigerator and safe.



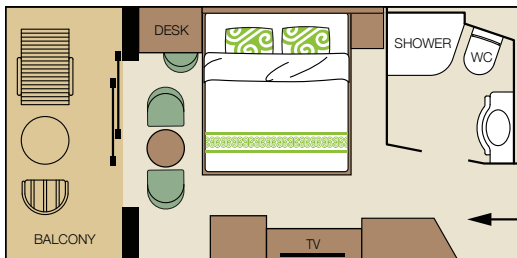
PREMIUM SUITE

From approximately 200 sq. ft. (19m²) of interior space and a 45 sq. ft. (4m²) private balcony, this exterior cabin offers a bedroom with a king bed or twin beds and a sitting room with a sofa bed, divided by a decorative filigree screen, a bathroom with shower and hair dryer, refrigerator and safe.



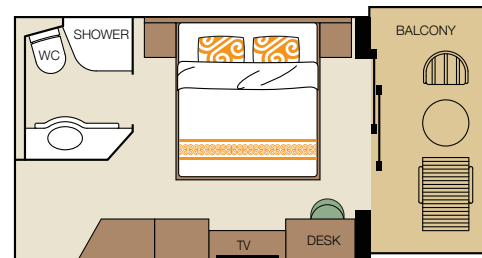
JUNIOR SUITE

From approximately 160 sq. ft. to 200 sq. ft. (15–19m²) of interior space with or without balcony, this exterior cabin offers a bedroom with a king bed or twin beds, a bathroom with shower and hair dryer, refrigerator and safe.



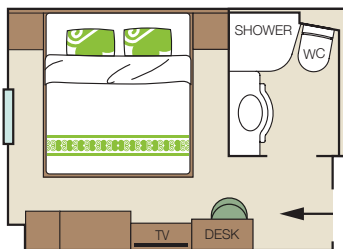
SUPERIOR DELUXE

From approximately 160 sq. ft. (15m²) of interior space and a 45 sq. ft. (4m²) private balcony, this exterior cabin offers a bedroom with a king size bed or twin beds, a bathroom with shower and hair dryer, refrigerator and safe.



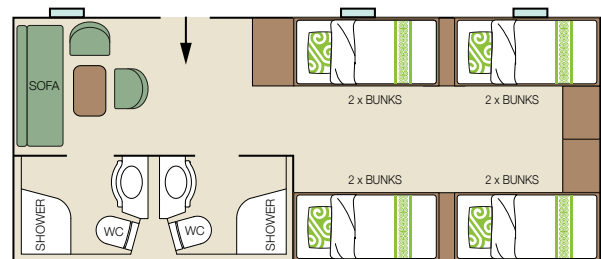
DELUXE

From approximately 140 sq. ft. (13m²) of interior space and a 45 sq. ft. (4m²) private balcony, this exterior cabin offers a bedroom with a king size bed or twin beds, a bathroom with shower and hair dryer, refrigerator and safe.



STANDARD STATEROOM

From approximately 120 sq. ft. (11m²) of interior space and a porthole, this exterior cabin offers either, a king or two single beds, a bathroom with shower and hair dryer. Single, with approximately 100 sq. ft. (9m²) of interior space and a single bed, and four-passenger staterooms, with approximately 180 sq. ft. (17m²), a queen size bed and two single bunk beds are also available.



CLASS C

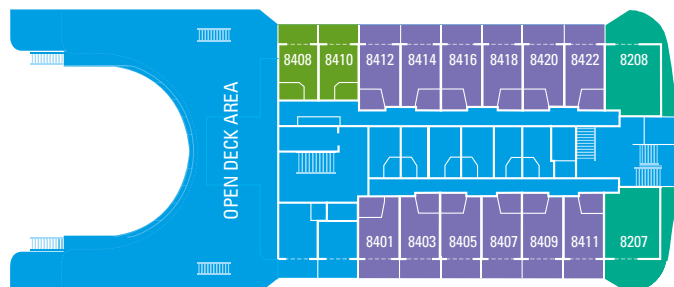
Dormitory style accommodations, this category offers approximately 285 sq. ft. (27m²) of shared interior space with four lower and four upper berths, a sitting area, two bathrooms with shower and hair dryer. Four passenger units with approximately 135 sq. ft. (13m²) of shared interior space are also available. This category may be co-ed.

Deck Plans



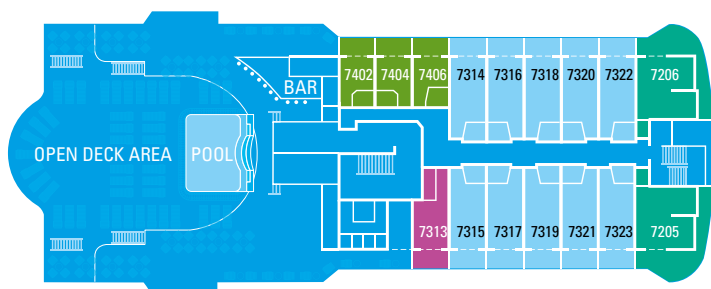
SKY DECK - 9

Presidential Suite | Superior Deluxe
Deluxe | Sky Bar



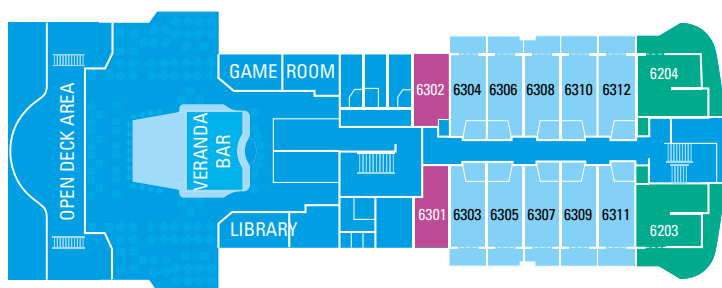
SUN DECK - 8

Royal Suite | Superior Deluxe
Deluxe | Open Deck Area



POOL DECK - 7

Royal Suite | Premium Suite | Deluxe
Junior Suite with Balcony
Pool | Bar | Open Deck Area



VERANDA DECK - 6

Royal Suite | Premium Suite | Junior Suite
Open Deck Bar | Veranda Bar | Game Room | Library



PRESIDENTIAL
SUITE



ROYAL SUITE



PREMIUM
SUITE



JUNIOR
SUITE



SUPERIOR
DELUXE



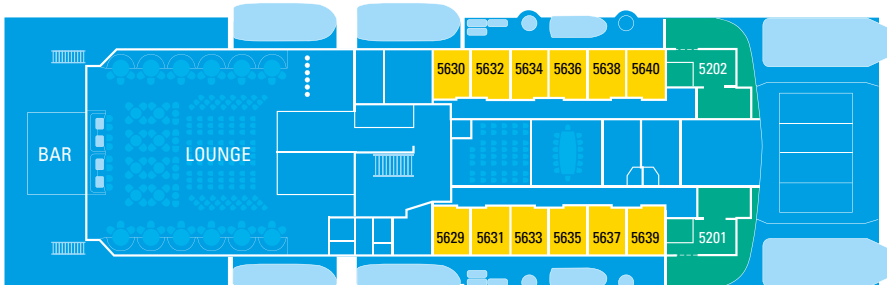
DELUXE



STANDARD
STATEROOM

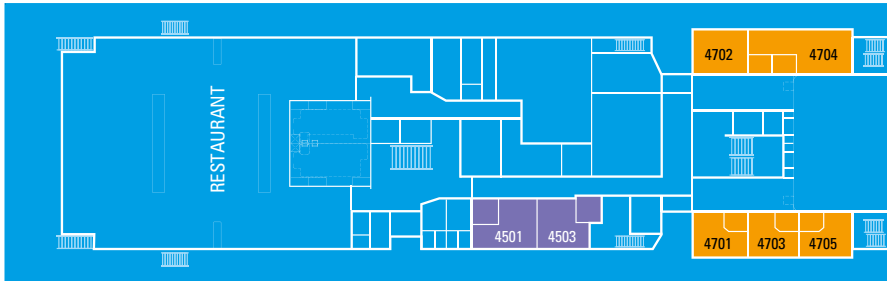


CLASSIC



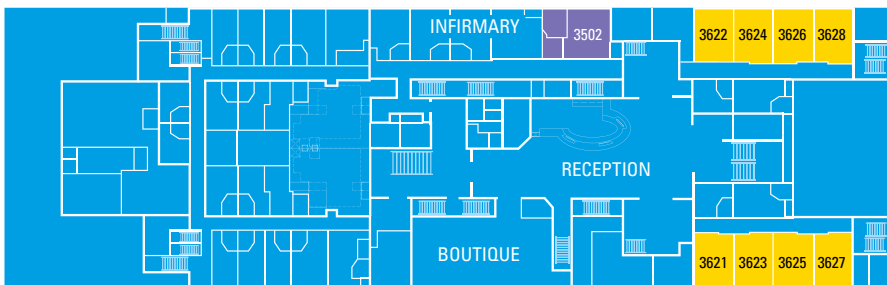
BOAT DECK - 5

Royal Suite | Standard Stateroom
Lounge



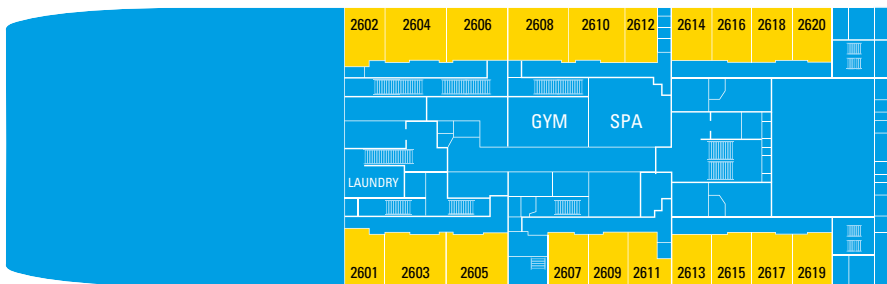
UPPER DECK - 4

Superior Deluxe | Class C
Restaurant



MAIN DECK - 3

Superior Deluxe | Standard Stateroom
Front Desk and Reception | Boutique
Infirmary



LOWER DECK - 2

Standard Stateroom | Gym
Day Spa | Laundry

Specifications

Length: 410 feet
Breadth: 85 feet
Cruising Speed: 15 knots
Draft: 17 feet

Deadweight: 3200 metric tons
Capacity: 254 passengers—103 cabins
Crew: 103

Ship's Information

FOOD

Meals are served in an informal, family-style setting in our dining facilities. Special consideration for medically prescribed diets, must be requested at the time of booking or not less than three weeks in advance of sailing date.

LOCAL CURRENCY

The unit of exchange is the French Pacific Franc (XPF).

LOCAL TIME

The Marquesas are half an hour ahead of Tahiti. Thus, when it's noon in Tahiti, it's 12:30pm in the Marquesas.

CLIMATE & PACKING SUGGESTIONS

Clothing which is informal, comfortable and easily washable is most practical aboard the ship. In addition to shorts, jeans or slacks, T-shirts and a bathing suit, a rain poncho or coat and warm sweatshirt or light sweater for chilly evenings are recommended. Comfortable shoes are essential for walking ashore over coral reefs. Tennis shoes or sandals are recommended. For women, the native pareo, made of colorful fabric which can be wrapped in a variety of styles, is a versatile choice for both casual and festive occasions.

SPA TREATMENTS

The Aranui Spa offers a variety of treatments by our fully trained wellness and massage therapist. Pamper yourself with a facial, body scrub and massages using the traditional oils of French Polynesia. Treat yourself to a manicure or pedicure or a relaxing foot massage — perfect after a day exploring.

TATTOO STUDIO

A licensed Marquesan tattoo artist is available on board by appointment. He will help you design a personalized tattoo, using traditional Marquesan

symbols to represent the story you wish to tell. Tattooing is done in a clean and sterile environment, using modern equipment. A permanent souvenir of your time in the Marquesas.

LIBRARY

A selection of novels and history books in French, English and German can be found in our library on Deck 6.

SHIP'S BOUTIQUE

The ship's boutique sells a variety of supplies including mosquito repellent, sundries, clothing, and local souvenirs.

ELECTRICAL CURRENT

Each cabin is equipped with 220 volt, 50 cycle AC (European-style outlet).

INTERNET

Wifi is available during the voyage, using your own devices, in cabins and most public areas throughout the ship. Provided by satellite service, the connection may not be as reliable as land broadband, but it is adequate for checking and sending emails. A log-in code can be purchased from the boutique.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE

In an emergency, it is possible to place telephone calls through our shipboard communications and to contact the vessel through CPTM's office in Tahiti.

LAUNDRY

Washing and drying machines are available on board; dry cleaning is not available.

MEDICAL

There is a doctor or physician on board the vessel. If any person has, or is suffering from a serious

ailment or condition, they should seek the advice and consent of their personal physician prior to embarking on the vessel. The right is reserved to refuse passage to anyone in such a state of health or physical condition as to be unfit to travel or whose condition, for whatever reason, might be dangerous to the individual or other passengers.

SHORE VISITS

Visits ashore are limited to the time required by cargo operators and port restrictions. Port time may range from just a few hours to a day or more. While shore excursions with supplement may be available at some ports of call, Compagnie Polynésienne de Transport Maritime (CPTM) neither owns nor operates nor exercises any control over shore excursions arranged at any port of call. The company, its agents and employees do not assume any responsibility in connection with the operations of said programs. The company accepts no responsibility of liability for the failure of any operator to perform any said program and/or for any injury, damage or loss however caused or arising therefrom.

TRAVEL FUNDS

Credit cards may be used to pay for shipboard expenses. American Express, Visa and MasterCard will be accepted. Personal checks cannot be cashed on board. Euro, USD, AUD, NZD and CAD currency notes can also be exchanged.

VALUABLES

Electronic lock boxes are available on board, however CPTM cannot accept custody or responsibility for passenger's money or other valuables while aboard the vessel.

Reservations

Please see your Travel Agent or contact our offices.

PASSENGER CONTRACT

Passengers are carried subject to the stipulations of the Passage Contract Ticket of Compagnie Polynésienne de Transport Maritime (CPTM). The passage ticket is non-transferable and is valid only for the person(s) who originally purchased the ticket.

CHANGES

After CPTM issues a confirmation, changes to the confirmed departure date made at passenger's or travel agent's request, less than 90 days prior to the confirmed departure date, will be subject to the same penalties applied to cancellations.

INSURANCE

Insurance is available to help recover non-refundable travel expenses for trip cancellations or interruption, baggage damage or loss, and trip accident. recommend that passengers consider these coverages. Consult your travel agent or insurance agent for specific details concerning coverage and exceptions.

CANCELLATIONS

After your booking has been confirmed by CPTM, should you cancel for any reason, a cancellation fee of (USD) 200/150 Euro per person will be applied.

The following applies to all Marquesas and Society & Tuamotu Islands Discovery Cruises:

- If canceled 90 to 61 days before the scheduled departure date — forfeiture of the 25% deposit
- If canceled 60 to 45 days before the scheduled departure — 1/3 of the total fare is retained
- If canceled 44 to 30 days before the scheduled departure — 2/3 of the total fare is retained
- If canceled less than 30 days or nonappearance at cruise departure date — the total fare will be retained

The following applies to the Pitcairn & Gambier Islands and Austral & Cook Islands Discovery Cruises

- If canceled 120 to 91 days before the scheduled departure date — forfeiture of the 25% deposit
- If canceled 90 to 61 days before the scheduled departure — 1/3 of the total fare is retained
- If canceled 60 to 31 days before the scheduled departure — 2/3 of the total fare is retained
- If canceled less than 30 days or nonappearance at cruise departure date — the total fare will be retained

RATES INCLUDE

Cruise transportation and shipboard accommodations, meals and excursions fares are based on per adult double occupancy. All published fares are quoted in US Dollars, Euro and French Pacific Franc (CFP). These fares are correct at the time of printing and are subject to change; with or without notice.

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

Shipboard purchases, liquor, gratuities, port taxes other than those specifically provided for, and other personal items. Rates quoted at the time of printing are based on current costs and are subject to change up to and including the date of sailing.

SCHEDULE & EXTRA COST PROVISION

If, due to weather or other uncontrollable reasons, you are required to spend one or more additional nights, you will be responsible for your own hotel and meal costs. In addition, because the primary function of vessels in the service of Compagnie Polynesienne de Transport Maritime is to carry freight, the departure dates, ports of call, and duration of cruises may be subject to variation both prior to departure and en route. Freighter passengers should have a flexible time schedule and anticipate the foregoing possibilities. While we do everything possible to inform and assist our clients, neither CPTM nor its agents will assume additional expenses, hotel or meal costs associated with delays or changes in itinerary and schedules.

ITINERARY CHANGES

CPTM pledges to make every effort to operate all cruises as advertised. CPTM reserves the right to alter or curtail the itinerary, or substitute sightseeing, ports of call or conveyances as deemed necessary.

TRANSFERS

All cruise arrangements originate and terminate from the specified pier or departure point. Transportation is not provided between airport locations, and the vessel, or vice versa, unless specified.

BAGGAGE

Stateroom luggage will be accepted on the day of sailing at boarding time only. All personal luggage is to be stored in passenger's cabin as we are unable to store it in other areas aboard the ship. Passengers should clearly label all luggage with their name, vessel, cabin number or deck assignment number and date of sailing. Valuables should be hand-carried onboard. We recommend that travelers take out a baggage damage or loss policy through their insurance agent or travel agent.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All passengers must have valid passports for entry into French Polynesia. Those visitors who are not citizens of the United States or Canada or from the European Economic Community and those planning to stay in French Polynesia more than one month should contact their travel agent for visa requirements. All visitors must have a round trip airline ticket.

INOCULATIONS

At time of printing, vaccinations were not required. Passengers should consult their travel agent for the latest requirements.

REFUNDS

Requests for refunds should be directed to the agency which sold you the cruise. No refunds will be made on unused features, such as meals, voluntarily omitted by the passenger.

RESPONSIBILITY

All cruises outlined herein are carried out under the business management of CPTM and are governed by the terms and conditions printed on the Passage Contract Ticket which may also be inspected at the company's office.

DISCLAIMER

CPTM has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this brochure. CPTM will not be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained therein. Photos are non-contractual. Daily itineraries and optional activities are provided for information purposes only and may be modified at any time due to weather, freight activity or availability.

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