



**USASK  
ALUMNI**

# Tahiti and French Polynesia



# TAHITI AND FRENCH POLYNESIA UNDER SAIL



Experience a glimpse of paradise on Earth as you set sail for the idyllic islands and motus of one of French Polynesia's most beautiful archipelagos. Formed over millennia by underwater volcanic activity, Tahiti and the celebrated Society Islands—notably Mo'orea, Ra'iatea, Taha'a, Bora Bora, and Huahine—distill the essence and allure of the South Pacific.

Explore French Polynesia's spectacular history, rich culture, and unique topography on a luxury itinerary that includes a stay at the 5-star INTERCONTINENTAL TAHITI RESORT & SPA in Pape'ete and a seven night cruise aboard the WIND SPIRIT, a 5-star sailing yacht. Choose from a list of optional excursions at an additional cost to curate your own adventure and enjoy unmatched small ship sailing amid the unparalleled splendour of the South Pacific—where a reverence for nature coexists with time-honored agrarian traditions and the material and spirit world is revealed in esoteric marae, or ceremonial sites.

Extolled for their mesmerizing landscapes and rich cultural traditions, the mystical pull of these serene isles is impossible to resist.



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Discover French Polynesia's unique history and ancient traditions on this unparalleled voyage through the colourful landscapes of the storied South Pacific. Our 11-day land and sea journey reveals the spectacular coastlines, vibrant coral reefs, lush interiors, and cultural mystique of Tahiti and the Society Islands of Mo'orea, Taha'a, Ra'iatea, Taha'a, Bora Bora, and Huahine.

Begin your exploration of this storied region with a night at the 5-star INTERCONTINENTAL TAHITI RESORT & SPA in Pape'ete before embarking on a seven-night cruise under the billowing white sails of the 5-star, 74-stateroom, small ship WIND SPIRIT. Specially designed to cruise these crystal-clear blue waters, our intimate small ship provides extensive luxury amenities, including complimentary use of kayaking and snorkelling equipment.

Enjoy an abundance of exquisite scenery while swimming or snorkelling in sparkling blue waters with stingrays, manta rays, lagoon sharks, and colourful fish. Savour a BBQ dinner under the stars and embark on a catamaran adventure to a private motu in Bora Bora for a Tahitian-inspired dinner. You will also have the rare opportunity to tailor your cruise experience with optional excursions available at every island at an additional cost.

Joining us on this program are alumni from University of Alberta, McMaster University, and Western University. This popular travel program sells out quickly. Book now while space and early booking savings are still available.

Sincerely,

Dawn Warren

University of Saskatchewan Alumni Travel Program

Please contact Gohagan & Company at 1-800-922-3088 with questions regarding this tour. If you have questions regarding the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Travel Program or you no longer wish to receive Alumni Travel Program information, please contact USask Alumni at 1-800-699-1907 or local 306-966-5186 or email [alumni.office@usask.ca](mailto:alumni.office@usask.ca).



**To secure your spot, call Gohagan and Company at 800-922-3088  
or visit [gohagantravel.com/reserve](http://gohagantravel.com/reserve)**





## CUSTOMIZE YOUR ADVENTURE

In addition to enjoying the lavish amenities of this 5-star sailing yacht and several included outings, our unique itinerary allows you to choose from a robust list\* of optional excursions that are **available at an additional cost**. Among the many options to scuba, snorkel, and explore the emerald-green peaks and blue lagoons of the Society Islands are the following standout experiences:

- ◆ **Photographer's Eye View of Mo'orea** walking and 4x4 driving tour accompanied by a professional photographer, who offers tips for the best shots on the island.
- ◆ **Harvest Your Own Pearl** adventure that sends you swimming over oyster beds and coral gardens, then diving for your own Tahitian black pearl in Ra'iatea.
- ◆ **Vanilla Plantation and Snorkeling** excursion to the "vanilla island" of Taha'a to visit a small family plantation followed by snorkelling, potentially among stingrays.
- ◆ **Snorkel Safari and Stingray Encounter** in Bora Bora's coral gardens to see butterfly fish, groupers, and hundreds of rainbow-colored species.
- ◆ **Huahine By Jet Ski** to enjoy magnificent views of the island's lagoon on a WaveRunner, followed by the chance to swim in the waters near Motu Tefareari'i.

*\*A full list of optional excursions will be provided prior to departure.*

# THE LURE OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

The turquoise waters and pristine white-sand beaches of French Polynesia have captivated visitors for centuries. A dreamscape long before explorers Captain James Cook, Samuel Wallis, and Louis de Bougainville fell under their spell in the 1700s, this fabled earthly paradise was among the last places in the world to be settled by humans.

Today, Tahitian folklore traditions and mythology are entwined with the legacy of Ma'ohi ancestors, ancient Samoan mariners, and European explorers who used the stars, sun, tides, and flight patterns of birds to navigate the Pacific Ocean to these idyllic shores.

Seared into the collective consciousness by the paintings of Post-Impressionist artist Paul Gauguin, this fantasia of 118 islands and atolls remains steeped in the legends of a polytheistic society.



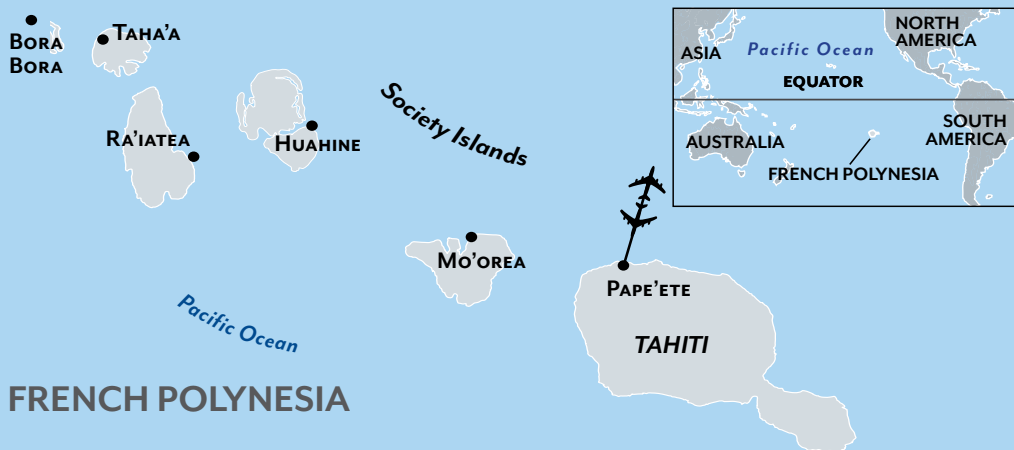
## INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for excursions, both included and optional excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to shipboard staff, local guides, and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 USD flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



## FRENCH POLYNESIA

### 11-DAY/9-NIGHT ITINERARY

#### Depart Home City

##### Day 1

Depart your home city.

#### Pape'ete, Tahiti, Society Islands

##### Day 2

Arrive in Tahiti and check into the 5-star INTERCONTINENTAL TAHITI RESORT & SPA in Pape'ete, the capital city of French Polynesia. Enjoy a day at leisure to experience at the resort or choose to explore Pape'ete on your own. Attend a Welcome Reception this evening. (B,R)

#### Pape'ete/Embark

##### Day 3

Tour Tahiti's scenic west coast and visit the Mara'a Grotto with its freshwater pools and small caves. Walk through the sacred 'Arahurahu site

and the Spring Garden of Vaipahi—a tranquil haven where precious wood and tropical flowers can be seen. Embark the WIND SPIRIT and attend the Captain's Welcome Reception on board. (B,L,R,D)

#### Mo'orea

##### Day 4

Spend the afternoon at leisure with opportunities to swim and snorkel or book an optional excursion that includes a scenic drive through a landscape of ancient volcanic peaks and a stop at Belvedere Point for views of Mount Rotu'i. (B,L,D)

#### Ra'iatea

##### Day 5

Today's optional excursion, Opa Heritage tour, takes you to visit French Polynesia's only UNESCO World Heritage Site,

the well-preserved marae complex of Taputapuata. End the evening with a barbecue dinner on deck under what Matisse once described as an "ash-blue sky alive with stars." (B,L,D)

#### Ra'iatea/Taha'a

##### Day 6

To discover traditional French Polynesian agriculture, opt to tour the grounds of a vanilla plantation, which includes a visit to a farm where you may choose to harvest your own black pearl. Savor an included beach barbecue lunch on a private motu, where you can swim, snorkel, or kayak. (B,L,D)

#### Vaitape/Bora Bora

##### Day 7

Today the ship arrives in Bora Bora, where you

Point Venus Lighthouse







may choose an optional excursion to tour the island on an open-air truck. Discover relics left behind by the U.S. military in WWII—all while admiring the colors of Bora Bora's famous lagoon. Or, enjoy a day at leisure on board the ship. (B,L,D)

## Bora Bora

### Day 8

Choose from a morning at leisure or opt to take a snorkel safari and stingray excursion, which includes a guided tour on a lagoon cruiser. Once past the famous Motu Tapu, you will stop at a shallow sandbank, a favorite spot for stingray sightings. With your guide's assistance, you will be able to touch these gentle creatures as they swim an effortless

ballet around you. Later, an included excursion takes you to the private Motu Tapu for a Tahitian-inspired dinner. (B,L,D)

## Huahine

### Day 9

The optional Sacred Sights & Cultural Walk excursion gives you the opportunity to ride on an open-air truck between the ocean and a woodland of towering mape trees to the settlement of Maeva—the ancient religious center of Huahine-Nui where you'll see many 16<sup>th</sup> century *marae* as well as former homes and fortification walls. After an afternoon at leisure aboard the ship, attend the Captain's Farewell Reception. (B,L,R,D)

## Pape'ete/Disembark

### Day 10

Explore Tahiti's east coast with a visit to the former home of American author James Norman Hall, best known for *Mutiny on the Bounty*, and see Point Venus—named for the observatory Captain Cook established here in 1769. Day-room accommodations are open to you in the INTERCONTINENTAL TAHITI. Continue to the airport for your return flight home. (B)

## Arrive in home city

### Day 11

Arrive back in your home city.

Garden of Vaipahi





**WIND SPIRIT** The intimate, four-masted WIND SPIRIT offers an unforgettable 5-star sailing experience. This small ship is designed to sail from deep seas into lagoons inaccessible to larger vessels. The WIND SPIRIT's gourmet dining and wide teak deck with unobscured views provides the ultimate sailing experience to each guest. Complimentary alcoholic/nonalcoholic beverages and Wi-Fi access are available throughout the cruise. All meals on board the ship are included. Each of the 74 ocean-view staterooms features one queen bed or two twin beds (Owner's Suite has a queen bed), private bathroom with shower, luxury hotel amenities, individual climate control, flat-screen television with DVD player, safe, minibar, vanity table, hair dryer, plush robes, and slippers.



**2024 DEPARTURE DATES: January 16 to 26** (Arrive in Pape'ete, Tahiti: January 17)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <small>in U.S. dollars, per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes</small>	Early Booking Rate through Sept. 14, 2023	Rates after Sept. 14, 2023
B	Stateroom with two portholes. <i>Deck 1, aft and forward.</i>	<b>\$5,395</b>	\$5,995
BX Deluxe	Stateroom with two portholes. <i>Deck 1, midship.</i>	<b>\$6,115</b>	\$6,795
A	Stateroom with two portholes. <i>Deck 2, aft and forward.</i>	<b>\$6,565</b>	\$7,295
AX Deluxe	Stateroom with two portholes. <i>Deck 2, midship.</i>	<b>\$7,285</b>	\$8,095
Owner's Suite	Suite with four portholes, queen bed, and sitting/dining area. <i>Deck 1, aft.</i>	<b>\$8,005</b>	\$8,895

Single supplements apply across all categories at 160% of the per person double price.

Port taxes are an additional \$395 USD per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while onboard. Deck plans available upon request.

To secure your spot, call Gohagan & Company at 800-922-3088 or visit [gohagantravel.com/reserve](https://gohagantravel.com/reserve)

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## POST-PROGRAM OPTION

### Mo'orea

**January 25 to 28, 2024** (Tour Ends: January 28)

Extend your sojourn in French Polynesia for two nights and stay in the deluxe HILTON MO'OREA LAGOON RESORT & SPA, where you can watch magnificent sunrises and sunsets from your spacious overwater bungalow. Observe abundant, colourful marine life on a reef excursion and experience the exotic fusion of fresh local seafood and French Polynesian flavors. Enjoy the hotel's overwater Toatea Bar, spectacular views, turquoise lagoons, and wide array of watersports. This post-cruise extension includes accommodations, breakfast daily, a round-trip ferry between Tahiti and Mo'orea, and a sightseeing tour of the East Coast.

#### ***Overwater Bungalow***

*Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,425 USD*

*Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$2,195 USD*

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

#### ***Fire Dancing***



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