

DAILY PROGRAM 2026

Marquesas Islands

DAY 1: PAPEETE - DEPARTURE NOON

DAY 2: FAKARAVA

- Morning** **Free time in the village of Rotoava**
Various activities: the many uses of coconut
- Lunch** **At the Restaurant (Deck 4)**
12:30 p.m.: Departure for Nuku Hiva

Optional activities

Bike & electric bike rental

*to book directly at the Reception

DAY 3: AT SEA

DAY 4: NUKU HIVA

- Morning** **4x4 Island Tour**
Taiohae Village and its Cathedral, Taipivai Artisanal Center, archaeological sites of Hatiheu
- Lunch** **Traditional Marquesan meal**
- Afternoon** **Return by 4x4 to Taiohae village**
Free time in the village
- Evening** **Polynesian Night (Deck 7)**

DAY 5: UA POU

- Morning** **Cultural tour on Hakahau**
Visit the village, walk to the viewpoint, Artisanal Center...
- Lunch** **Marquesan buffet on shore**
- Afternoon** **Free time in the village**
- Evening** **Pearl Show (Deck 6)**

Optional activities

Guided tours by 4x4

*to book directly at the Reception

DAY 6: UA HUKA

- Morning** **4x4 Island tour**
Visit to museums, botanical garden, Cultural Center.
- Lunch** **Marquesan buffet on shore**
- Afternoon** **Return to the village by 4x4 or on foot**
- Evening** **Live music show (Deck 6)**

Optional activities

Horse riding

*to book directly at the Reception

DAY 8: FATU HIVA

- Morning** **15 km hike - Omoa to Hanavave**
Guided visit to the village of Omoa for non-hikers, demonstration of the making of “Tapa” & “Umuhei”
- Lunch** **Picnic on the Island (hikers)**
Buffet on board at Deck 8 (non-hikers)
- Afternoon** **Free time to the village of Hanavave**
Demonstration of the making of “Pani” & “Aue pipi” monoi
- Evening** **Dancing under the stars (Deck 7)**

Optional activities

Private tours in 4x4
*to book directly at the Reception

DAY 7: HIVA OA - TAHUATA

- HIVA OA (Atuona)**
- Morning** **Free time in the village**
Visit to the Gauguin museum, the Brel Center & the cemetery, archaeological sites of Atuona
- 4km hike**
from the quay towards the cemetery, then to the village
- Lunch** **At the Restaurant (Deck 4)**
1 p.m.: Departure for Tahuata (Vaitahu)

Optional activities (Hiva Oa)
Certified divers
*to book directly at the Reception

- TAHUATA (Vaitahu)**
- Afternoon** **Free time in the village**
Craft center, church & its magnificent stained glass windows, museum, bone crafts
- Evening** **Fashion Pearl - Karaoke Night (Deck 6)**

DAY 9: AT SEA

DAY 10: MAKATEA

- Morning** **Island tour by walk or by 4x4**
Visit to the remains of Makatea phosphate mining activity.
- Lunch** **Picnic on shore**
- Afternoon** **Climbing demonstration**
3:00 p.m.: Departure for Bora Bora
- Evening** **Musical entertainment (Deck 6)**

DAY 11: BORA BORA

- Morning** **Free time at Vaitape village**
- Lunch** **Barbecue at Motu Tapu**
- Afternoon** **Free time at Motu Tapu**

Optional activities
Swimming with rays
Tour of the island by canoe
Private lagoon excursion
*to book directly at the Reception

DAY 12: PAPEETE - ARRIVAL 7:00 A.M.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Due to very limited reception capacities, the availability of excursions is not guaranteed.
- Some excursions require good physical condition.
- Excursions may be canceled depending on weather conditions.
- Optional activities must be paid directly to Aranui.



DAILY PROGRAM 2026

Marquesas Islands

DAY 1: TAHITI (PAPEETE) - DEPARTURE 12:00 P.M.

Boarding: 07:00-09:00

DAY 2: FAKARAVA (Tuamotu Archipelago)

Classified as a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO for the preservation of rare species, Fakarava is the second largest atoll in French Polynesia. The Aranui will disembark at the "Rotoava" pier. Passengers will have time to discover its small village, the church built out of coral, the local handicraft with a demonstration of the many uses of the coconut. Enjoy a day of relaxation, sun and beach, swimming or snorkeling among multicolored tropical fish. Optional activities: bike rentals, E-Bike.

12:00 pm Lunch on board and departure for the Marquesas Islands.



DAY 3: AT SEA

A day to relax on the Pool Deck or in the comfort of our air-conditioned Lounge. Or why not simply enjoy the views of the South Pacific Ocean as we sail to the fascinating Marquesas Islands. Lectures on the culture and history of the Marquesas Islands will take you back in time and give you a complete overview of this ancient civilization. During the cruise, you will also have the opportunity to learn how to move your hips like a true Tahitian! You'll likely spend many evenings socializing at the bar with your fellow adventurers from around the world. The spirited Polynesian crew will proudly introduce you to their way of life and entertain you with Polynesian songs and rhythms on their ukuleles, guitars and drums.

Before you go to bed, set your watch 30 minutes ahead as we switch to Marquesas time.

DAY 4 : NUKU HIVA (Marquesas Archipelago)

While the Aranui is unloading, you can explore Taiohae, the small administrative capital of the Marquesas. Taiohae Cove is the place where writer Herman Melville, then a 23-year-old sailor, and a friend jumped off a whaler in 1842. After breakfast, the passengers will disembark to pick up the waiting 4WDs for the day's excursion. Our first stop will be a visit to Taiohae Cathedral. You can visit the cathedral or go to the market to buy handicrafts. Then we will visit the archaeological site of "Tohua Kamuihei" with its giant banyans and petroglyphs. Your first introduction to traditional Marquesan cuisine will be served for lunch. Local music during the meal will provide a great atmosphere. In the small village of Hatiheu, you can visit a museum that displays copies of petroglyphs from unexplored valleys. Your tour will continue south to Taiohae with its spectacular bay, a giant volcanic amphitheater dominated by towering cliffs dotted with waterfalls.

Return to the village of Taiohae, where you will also find banks and stores. You can return to the ship from the village on foot or by car.



DAY 5: UA POU (Marquesas Archipelago)

From the decks, you'll see the unique mountain spires of Ua Pou. As the crew unloads supplies, cement, sugar, and loads bags of copra (dried coconuts) and fruit, explore the picturesque village of Hakahau and its church with a hand-carved wooden platform. Meet the island's talented carvers and artists, climb to the Cross for a breathtaking view of the mountains, lush valleys and main village. Another delicious Marquesan lunch will be served: breadfruit, a Marquesan staple with curried goat (a specialty of the Marquesas Islands), raw fish marinated in lemon juice and coconut milk, taro and red bananas. Enjoy an excellent dance performance, including the traditional UA POU "bird dance".

DAY 6: UA HUKA (Marquesas Archipelago)

This island, which saw the construction of the first airstrip in the Marquesas in 1972, is largely arid and home to many wild horses, goats and pigs. In the early morning, the Aranui will perform an impressive maneuver, a 180 degree turn in the magnificent "Invisible Bay" of Vaipae. A maneuver that requires all the dexterity of the captain and crew is not to be missed.

On the dry land of Ua Huka, visit the small museum with exquisite replicas of Marquesan art where our guides will immerse you in this ancient civilization. Continue in your 4x4 to explore the island, stopping for breathtaking views, visit the arboretum born of the passion of the island's former mayor, before reaching the beautiful village of Hane. Lunch will be served at a local family restaurant. Discover some of the island's specialties, handicrafts, wood carvings, and engraved coconut shells.

After lunch, return to the boat by 4x4. For the more spirited, a 2 mile walk back from the tree house awaits you. Be sure to be on deck as the Aranui will sail all along the coast of Ua Huka for more great views.

July, 2024





DAY 7: HIVA OA - TAHUATA (Marquesas Archipelago)

Arriving in Hiva Oa, explore Atuona, the second largest village in the Marquesas. This is where Paul Gauguin lived and created some of his work. You can also visit the colonial store where he bought his bread, as well as a replica of his sad and famous "house of pleasure" and the Museum. In 4X4, you will visit the largest archaeological site in the Marquesas Islands, the "Tohua Taa'oa". As you walk up the hill to the cemetery, you will have stunning views of the Hanakee motu. Under a huge frangipani tree is a tombstone with the simple words: Paul Gauguin 1903. Nearby is the grave of another famous European who was also seduced by Hiva Oa: the Belgian singer-songwriter Jacques Brel, who died in 1978.



The Aranui will anchor in the small bay of Tahuata. The only access is by sea, as there is no airport on Tahuata. On this leaf-shaped island, the air is thick with the scent of the "Tahiti tiara", frangipani and history. In 1595, Spanish explorers landed in the village of Vaitahu and opened fire on a crowd of curious islanders, killing around 200 people. Tahuata is also the site of the first French colony in the Marquesas in 1842. The large church, built by the Vatican, is decorated with beautiful Marquesan sculptures and magnificent stained glass windows symbolizing the Virgin Mary. Tahuata is famous for its exquisite bone and helmet shell carvings. There will be plenty to choose from in the village.

DAY 8: FATU HIVA (Marquesas Archipelago)

Fatu Hiva, the most lush and remote of the Marquesas Islands, is also a Marquesan craft center. In the village of Omoa, the women will demonstrate how to make tapa by crushing the bark from mulberry, banyan or breadfruit trees, as well as how to make a floral bouquet, "Umuhei", a mixture made from the island's plants used to perfume their hair.

After visiting the village, the more athletic passengers can opt for a 10-mile hike that will take them from Omoa to Hanavave, offering breathtaking views of the high cliffs. A picnic lunch will be served at the mountain top. Non-hikers will sail aboard the Aranui from Omoa to Hanavave to the Bay of Virgins, considered one of the most beautiful bays in the world. Meet in the village for a demonstration of the making of coconut oil, "pani" and the scented towel, "aeu pipi". During our departure, partake in the farewell ceremony on deck 7.



DAY 9: AT SEA

A day to recover from the emotions experienced in the Marquesas archipelago. During our crossing to the magnificent Tuamotu Islands, conferences and activities will be offered throughout the day.

Before going to bed, set your watch back 30 minutes, back to Tahiti time.

DAY 10: MAKATEA (Tuamotu Archipelago)

Surrounded by sheer cliffs rising nearly 240 feet above sea level, Makatea is the only atoll in the Tuamotu Islands with potable water, which comes from its underground caves. Once a prosperous atoll due to phosphate mining from 1917 until 1964, it has become almost completely deserted, with only a few families left. Today, the inhabitants live from copra cultivation, fishing and the trade of coconut crab, the "Kaveu".

The Aranui offers the opportunity to visit the remains of Makatea's past and its phosphate exploitation. Passengers will disembark by tender at the Temao pier and begin the journey across the atoll on foot or by car. Visit the sacred caves of Makatea and picnic under the cliffs or on the beach.



DAY 11: BORA BORA (Society Archipelago)

Upon arriving in Bora Bora's world-famous lagoon of opalescent blues and greens, you will be greeted by the majestic "Mount Otemanu", the highest peak on the island. In this perfect island paradise, you can enjoy a day at the beach and a barbecue on a private Motu surrounded by crystal clear waters, the "Motu Tapu". You can also choose from a variety of optional excursions at an additional cost: scuba diving, lagoon tours by boat and motorized canoe, swimming with sharks and rays! Bora Bora was an American military outpost during World War II and remnants of the war such as cannons and bunkers can be seen on a 4X4 tour. Departure in the evening for Papeete.

DAY 12: TAHITI (PAPEETE) - ARRIVAL 7:00 A.M.

July, 2024

