This turtle-shaped island, crowned by Polynesia’s two highest peaks and skirted by black velvet beaches and pink coral reefs, is the largest of the 118 islands that comprise French Polynesia. The legendary name “Tahiti” not only identifies this island but also the group of islands that make up French Polynesia. Papeete, the bustling capital of Tahiti, is one of the most romantic ports of call in the South Pacific. Once a sleepy port town, today its harbor is busy with cargo freighters, copra ships, luxury liners and ocean-going yachts, its streets humming with cars, motorscooters and colorful open-air buses called le truck. There are sidewalk cafés (perfect for people-watching!), shops overflowing with French fashions, shell jewelry and handicrafts, and a wide variety of restaurants serving Tahitian, French and Asian cuisine. Away from the harbor, the scenery gradually turns to foothills tufted with swaying coconut palms, waterfalls cascading through emerald green valleys to cool mountain streams, and waves of pink bougainvillea. Pure as the day it was created, this tropical paradise is jealously guarded by the monumental cloud-capped Mount Orohena, dwelling place of the ancient gods.
The rock still exists on the cliff at Point Tata’a. Long ago, chiefs would come to the rock and scatter feathers around it. The way the feathers fell would determine a person’s destiny—whether or not they would be able to enter Rohutu Noanoa, the gateway to paradise. Rohutu Noanoa is a place of supreme perfection, a place where water sparkles like diamonds, abundant with fish. When a person died, they became a bird and would fly all the way to paradise. If they had been good, they were allowed in. If not, they became a slave and lived forever in darkness.
A LUXURY RESORT SET IN 30 ACRES OF TROPICAL GARDENS WITH A SUPERB VIEW OF MOOREA. The 167 rooms with private balcony, 60 panoramic view rooms and 32 tastefully decorated overwater bungalows encircle a private island or stretch out over the deep blue lagoon. Relax in the two freshwater infinity pools, cascades, and Jacuzzis. Swim and snorkel in the hotel’s lagoonarium. Relax and rejuvenate at the new Deep Nature Spa by Algotherm. All accommodations are air-conditioned, with television and all the amenities of an international deluxe resort.
LE MÉRIDIEN TAHITI

Located on a white sand beach at Punaauiia, with views of Moorea, this authentic resort has been entirely redesigned in 2010 and features 138 ocean-view rooms and suites and 12 spacious overwater fares, each with a private deck. Facilities range from a sand-bottom pool and outrigger canoes to boutiques, a tennis court and a wide range of water sports. It offers comfort and convenience while retaining an essentially Polynesian ambience. Daily shuttle service to Papeete is provided. The hotel’s artistic space L’Atelier offers interactive experiences with artists and their works.

“God’s best—at least God’s sweetest—works, Polynesians.”
— Robert Louis Stevenson
BORDERING A WHITE SAND BEACH, JUST A FEW MINUTES FROM THE AIRPORT, THE SOFITEL TAHI TMAEVA BEACH RESORT AFFORDS SPECTACULAR VIEWS OF MOOREA. Designed in the shape of a Polynesian marae (temple), the hotel comprises 216 air-conditioned rooms, each with a private balcony. Facilities include a swimming pool, tennis and volleyball courts, and a wide variety of water sports. There are two restaurants including Sakura, a teppanyaki restaurant, and Le Bougainville, an open air dining room offering breakfast, lunch and dinner. The Moorea bar offers views of its namesake.
JUST 10 MINUTES FROM PAPEETE, THE RADISSON PLAZA RESORT IS SET AMID ACRES OF TROPICAL GARDENS ALONG EXOTIC BLACK SAND LAFAYETTE BEACH. The resort's 165 oceanview rooms and suites feature large lanai balconies and stunning panoramic views. The rooms, of contemporary design, highlight local artisan handicrafts and colonial period photography. The Hiti Mahana restaurant features innovative cuisine, and the Lafayette bar is the perfect place to catch a spectacular sunset. Relax at the freshwater swimming pool and Jacuzzi, or indulge at Le Spa which offers a full range of traditional Polynesian treatments.
MANAVA SUITE RESORT TAHITI

Located on the convenient northwest side of the island, the Manava Suite Resort Tahiti offers 121 guest rooms, ranging from superior rooms to multi-bedroom duplex suites and apartments. All rooms strike a wonderful balance between traditional and authentic Polynesian décor and contemporary amenities, such as state-of-the-art technology, and some with in-suite kitchens. The resort has two bars, a restaurant, boutique, a spa and fitness center, and the island’s largest infinity swimming pool facing the lagoon, and a view of the nearby island of Moorea.

“And I looked up and I saw the outline of the island. I knew right away that there was the place I’d been looking for all my life.”

— W. Somerset Maugham
CIRCLE ISLAND TOUR
Motorcoach tour around the island of Tahiti. Your English-speaking guide will provide narrative describing the historical, cultural and natural highlights of the island. Stops at One Tree Hill, Point Venus, Gauguin Museum, Botanical Gardens and waterfall. Lunch is included at the Gauguin restaurant. Return to your hotel in the mid afternoon.

HIKING ADVENTURES
From the wild coastline of Tahiti Iti, to the top of Mount Aorai, explore hidden valleys, jagged mountain peaks, meandering streams and stunning waterfalls in areas inaccessible by car. Full-day and half-day hikes into the interior, with a guide, are available with a wide range of difficulty.

4X4 MOUNTAIN SAFARI
The tour takes you into the volcanic crater that was the birthplace of Tahiti millions of years ago. Get a closer look at this lush island, a land of unbounded natural beauty where almost vertical vegetable plantations edge their way into bamboo and fern forests, and where waterfalls cascade into hidden pools.

SCUBA DIVING
The island of Tahiti offers a fantastic array of marine life and unique diving adventures, such as wrecks and submarine freshwater springs. Tahiti’s underwater attractions are calm, clear lagoons, spectacular oceanic drop-offs and colorful reef fishes, some of which school to create beautiful underwater kaleidoscopes. Tahiti Iti is frequented by humpback whales during the June–October period, and bottlenose dolphins inhabit the area year-round.

TAHITI EXPERIENCES

BLACK PEARLS Created only by the giant black-lipped oyster Pinctada Margaritifera which thrives in the lagoons of the Tuamotu Archipelago, the rare Polynesian black pearl varies in color from silver through dark gray with green and pink highlights. This Tahitian “jewel” makes an exquisite and unique souvenir.

LE S ROULOTTES Stroll along Papeete’s waterfront in the early evening, after 5:30pm. Dozens of gaily lit vans known as ‘les roulottes’ form a colorful night market selling everything from couscous and pizza to steak with real ‘pommes frites’ (French fries). The food and atmosphere are excellent.

MONOI Coconut oil perfumed with the essence of Tiaré, jasmine, ylang-ylang or sandal wood, monoi serves as a base for an entire range of soaps, lotions and cosmetics. Symbolizing the image of a Polynesian paradise, monoi is a sweet tropical scent that you’ll definitely want to take home with you.
MOOREA
THE ENCHANTRESS

AS SPECTACULAR AS ANY ISLAND THAT RISES FROM THE PACIFIC, MOOREA IS EVERYONE’S DREAM OF A POLYNESIAN PARADISE.

Often thought to be James Michener’s mythical “Bali Hai,” it is a magical island of savage yet captivating beauty where emerald mountains rise from sandy shores, towering over pineapple plantations, ivory beaches, and shady lagoons. A mere 12 miles across the Sea of the Moon from Tahiti, and only a few minutes by air or sea, the pace of life here is much slower. A lazy, barefoot existence prevails, causing some to proclaim it the “perfect South Seas island.” This carefree lifestyle, the coral reefs, and cascading waterfalls have served as inspiration to countless artists, writers and poets who have been drawn by the natural environment. Moorea beckons the visitor to explore, to meet her warm, somewhat shy residents, to discover the villages and boutiques, restaurants and hotels, which dot the waterfront, interspersed with uninhabited beaches and secluded coves. A detour inland reveals panoramic views of Cook’s and Opunohu Bays, their midnight blue waters dotted white with yachts riding peacefully at anchor.
Hiro, god of thieves, plotted to steal the mountain of Rotui on Moorea and take it to Raiatea. Pai—who was half god, half man, and had great strength—was warned of Hiro’s evil intent by the gods. So he kept vigil from Point Tata’a on Tahiti. When the thieves attempted to steal the mountain, Pai threw his spear through the top of Mouaputa, wakening the roosters who sounded the alarm and drove off the robbers. However, the thieves managed to steal a piece of the mountain, and with it some toa trees, which today can be found isolated on a mountain in Raiatea. And Mouaputa, one of Moorea’s three mountains, still has the needle hole from Pai’s spear.
ONE OF FRENCH POLYNESIA’S FINEST RESORTS, WITH A LEVEL OF COMFORT AND SERVICE NOT OFTEN FOUND IN OUTER-ISLAND HOTELS, THIS RESORT COMBINES LUXURY AND CASUAL ELEGANCE. The 48 garden lanai rooms, 1 lanai suite and 95 spacious overwater, beachfront and garden pool bungalow suites, with separate sitting room and bedroom, are air-conditioned. The hotel’s offerings include French Polynesian international cuisine, entertainment, tennis, beach volleyball, water sports, parasailing, swimming pool, Moorea Dolphin Center, Turtle Rehabilitation Center, Bathy’s PADI Dive center. A Green Globe benchmarked property.

HÉLÈNE SPA
Let yourself relax at this traditional, thatched roof Polynesian spa nestled in the resort’s lush tropical gardens. The spa draws from Polynesian traditions – tropical massages, fresh flower baths, body wraps and fresh fruit masks are soul-soothing magical moments offered.
**SOFITEL MOOREA IA ORA BEACH RESORT**

BORDERED BY A MAGNIFICENT WHITE SAND BEACH, THIS IS THE ONLY RESORT ON MOOREA WITH A VIEW OF TAHITI. The 114 luxurious overwater, beachfront and garden bungalows are designed in contemporary décor. All bungalows feature an extensive use of natural materials, rain showers, LCD screen TV, Sofitel’s MyBed and feature a private terrace (some with private garden). The resort boasts two restaurants, Pure and K, offering a beautiful view and world-class cuisine in an intimate and romantic setting while enjoying a Polynesian dance show. Activities include swimming pool, water sports, on-site dive center.

**LE SPA**

A peaceful haven overlooking the bay and white sands, Le Spa offers seven treatment rooms, including one for couples. A wide range of treatments and massages are available using natural ingredients and scents from Moorea’s own gardens.

“… but nothing on Tahiti is so majestic as what faces it across the bay, for there lies the island of Moorea. To describe it is impossible. It is a monument to the prodigal beauty of nature.”

— James A. Michener
LOCATED ON ONE OF MOOREA’S MOST BEAUTIFUL SITES WITH BOTH SUNRISE AND SUNSET VIEWS, THIS LAGOONFRONT RESORT FEATURES 54 OVERWATER AND 52 GARDEN WITH PRIVATE POOL AND BEACHFRONT POLYNESIAN-STYLE AIR-CONDITIONED BUNGALOWS. The overwater bungalows have a glass panel in the floor that reveals the jewel-colored lagoon fish. Relax at the freshwater swimming pool and dine in the lagoon front restaurant. The resort offers 24-hour room service and a boutique.

THE SPA
Located on the beach level, The Moorea Lagoon Spa offers a variety of exclusive treatments to help guests relax “from A to Zen”, including body wraps and scrubs, Polynesian and Balinese massage and sauna. In-room massages are also available.
MOOREA PEARL RESORT & SPA

Located on a white sand beach, and a short drive from the magnificent Cook’s Bay, this charming resort offers 94 air-conditioned Tahitian style garden view rooms and garden view duplex, garden pool, beach, and overwater bungalows. The overwater bungalows feature a large sun deck with direct access to the lagoon. Resort amenities include an open-air, poolside restaurant and bar, gourmet restaurant, on-site PADI dive center, Tahitian dance shows and a wide range of activities and excursions.

MANEA SPA

Nestled in the heart of the resort, the Manea Spa has been built in the pure tradition of Polynesian well-being. The spa features hammam, massage rooms, Vichy shower and jet shower.

“All the time our visits to the islands have been more like dreams than realities: the people, the life, the beachcombers, the old stories and songs I have picked up…”

—Robert Louis Stevenson
NESTLED BETWEEN THE LUSH MOUNTAINS OF MOOREA AND ITS TROPICAL LAGOON, THE LEGENDS RESORT IS YOUR FULL-SERVICE VACATION HOME AWAY FROM HOME. Built with materials such as stone and exotic wood, the resort totally blends in with the magnificent natural island environment and captures the essence of Tahitian life. The 46 villas successfully combine Polynesian style with optimal comfort in a contemporary design that exudes refinement and a relaxed atmosphere. The two and three bedroom villas are surrounded by landscaped gardens and each features a kitchen, laundry and a spacious panoramic deck, complete with Jacuzzi and lounge chairs. In addition, all villas have wide bay windows from which to appreciate Moorea’s spectacular natural beauty. The resort offers a cozy poolside restaurant, as well as the acclaimed restaurant La Villa des Sens with its fine cuisine and open sky patio. The resort has a private beach on a motu accessible by boat (free transfer), as well as tennis courts and fitness room.

The Legends Resort offers the full range of spa treatments using fragrances made of the island’s natural fruits and plants. Relaxation massages and beauty treatments, including, body scrubs, body masks, facial masks, facial glows, manicures and pedicures are all available “in-villa.”
MOOREA EXPERIENCES

CIRCLE ISLAND TOUR or 4X4 LAND ROVER SAFARI
The circle island tour takes you on Moorea’s road that encircles the island and twists around beautiful Cook’s Bay and Opunohu Bay. Approx. 3 hour tour. The half-day 4x4 safari takes you off the beaten path to experience Moorea’s lush, tropical rainforests where you’ll discover vanilla gardens, bamboo groves and ancient ruins.

LAGOON CRUISE & MOTU PICNIC
Cruise Cook’s Bay and Opunohu Bay where, depending on the time of the year, you may see dolphins and whales. At the motu, your guide will feed the rays, give a coconut demonstration and show how to wear the pareo. Enjoy a full buffet picnic. Approximately 6 hours. Or choose an exclusive, private lagoon excursion by outrigger canoe, with picnic.

DOLPHIN & WHALE WATCHING EXPEDITION
Encounter wild dolphins and whales on an exciting eco-tour led by famed marine biologist Dr. Michael Poole and his research team. Observe closely, learn about and photograph acrobatic dolphins, magnificent whales, and the dramatic beauty of Moorea. Relax with a snorkeling stop in Moorea’s translucent blue-green lagoon.

MOOREA DOLPHIN CENTER
Located at the InterContinental Resort, the Moorea Dolphin Center is home for three bottlenose dolphins. The center features educational and environmental activities, offering visitors a unique opportunity to interact with dolphins and learn about the fragile Polynesian lagoon. The Dolphin Experience combines hands-on contact, education, adventure and fun.

PAREO
Originally made of tapa cloth which Tahitian women wrapped around their hips, today the pareo (or pareu) is two yards of colorful printed or dyed fabric. Worn by both men and women, it can be tied in many different casual and elegant ways and is the ideal daytime wear for vacationers.

WOVEN HATS
First introduced by the missionaries, Tahitian hats are modeled on European styles but made with local materials, such as reed, bamboo and pandanus. Attractive and reasonably priced, they’re the perfect headwear to protect modern-day beachcombers from an overdose of South Pacific sun.

BASKETS
For the market or fishing, the ahima’a (ground oven), or for carrying fruit and vegetables, each ‘ete (basket) has its own name, form and material. Commonly woven out of pandanus, basketwork from the Marquesas and Austral Islands is the most highly reputed, and can be found in Papeete.
MOOREA EXPERIENCES

MOOREA GREEN PEARL GOLF COURSE

The 6,600 yard, par 70 course is an 18-hole championship course, designed by Jack Nicklaus and built to provide a challenge for the professional and inspiration to the amateur. The course and clubhouse boast magnificent views of the lagoon, mountains and Moorea’s sister island of Tahiti across the Sea of the Moon. Golf club rentals available.

TIKI VILLAGE THEATRE

Enjoy the arts, culture and the spectacular Polynesian show at the unique Tiki Village Theatre. View the opening of the traditional Tahitian underground oven and dine on traditional Tahitian cuisine, alongside an international buffet. Following dinner, enjoy the spectacular dance show with 60 dancers and musicians as they perform in the open-air theatre. Transfers are provided from your hotel.

SCUBA DIVING

Moorea has excellent scuba diving centers. For the novice, you can take your initiation dives—the calm, clear, warm lagoons are excellent for your first plunge as well as for more experienced divers. Reservations in advance are necessary.

CAR RENTALS

Discover the island on your own. Follow the fortunes of the road as it winds around Moorea. Spectacular vistas, stretches of white sand beaches, historic sites, colorful gardens and glimpses of traditional village life await you. Car rentals are available on a per-day basis with pick-up at the airport or at your hotel. Choose from economy to deluxe and 4x4 to minivan.

CHURCHES

The presence of Protestant, Evangelical and Catholic churches on the landscape reflects the fact that Tahitians are a religious people. Sunday churchgoing is half way between a chanted dialogue with God and an elegant social event. Guests are welcome to attend services, and no matter what your religion, you will find the Polynesian’s unaccompanied singing both beautiful and moving.

POLYNESIAN ART

All Polynesian arts and crafts tell a story. The Pacific island traditions of timber carving, tapa cloth-making, tattooing and weaving are empowered with the mythology of their own genesis. Art is representative of the Polynesians’ ancestry, and as a result they love and respect it, just as they love their ancestors.

JAMES MICHENER

In 1942, a young naval officer named James Michener was stationed on Bora Bora. He began writing about Polynesia. And the rest, as they say, is history. Michener’s “Tales of the South Pacific” became a huge success as a bestselling novel, inspiring a Broadway musical and a movie named “South Pacific.” And Bora Bora became Michener’s eternally enchanted island of “Bali Hai.”
Bora Bora
JEWEL OF THE SOUTH SEAS

Undoubtedly the most famous island in Polynesia, Bora Bora is surprisingly small. But what this tiny gem lacks in size, it makes up for in beauty. Approach it from the air or sea, and you are greeted with a captivating vision—a coral reef dotted with emerald islets encircles the main island like a string of luscious pearls. At the center of this dramatic setting the chisel-like bulk of Mount Otemanu rises sharply out of the gentle lagoon, a palette of unimaginable blues and turquoises. Underwater coral formations teem with countless brightly colored fish, while a pod of playful dolphins breaks the shimmering surface, and an outrigger canoe glides lazily by.

In this vast lagoon there is only one navigable pass, facing the principal village of Vaitape, with its eclectic mix of Polynesian, French and American culture. More than 5,000 American G.I.s were stationed on Bora Bora during World War II, leaving behind them an airport, still in use today, and inspiring the romantic musical South Pacific.

Life here is casual, relaxing, blissful. A place of dramatic beauty, warm waters, and gentle climate, Bora Bora is an enchanting island which bestows upon visitors a sense of peace—a special gift to take home with them from the Polynesian gods.
In 1893, Gauguin returned to France from his first journey to the Pacific and decided to compose an illustrated book entitled Noa Noa on the ancient culture of the Polynesians. It told the story of the Areoi, and the world as created by the gods, believed to be resident on Bora Bora. According to ancient myth, Noa (fragrance) was the first miracle of creation. Legend has it that this feat was followed by Le Tagaloa, the supreme god, rolling gigantic stones from the heavens into the sea to form islands. Flying clouds then married clear heavens to create offspring—including shadow, daylight and sunset. Creatures of the land and sea eventually gave rise to people, and chiefs were descended directly from the gods.
THE INTERCONTINENTAL BORA BORA RESORT & THALASSO SPA is among the most elite spas and resorts of the world, with 80 spacious overwater villas, each offering incredible views of Mount Otemanu and lagoon, and 3 motu family suites. The two restaurants, Le Reef and Le Sands, feature French Polynesian international cuisine. The chic Bubbles bar is an ideal spot to meet for exotic cocktails and light snacks. Facilities include an infinity swimming pool, gym, glass floor overwater chapel, tennis courts and water sports. The resort is designed with an environmental sensitivity, using revolutionary technology to protect the surrounding lagoons. Deep ocean water is extracted and used in a one-of-a-kind air-conditioning system for the resort. A Green Globe benchmarked property.

DEEP OCEAN SPA

Encompassing nearly an acre, the Deep Ocean Spa is the first Thalasso spa in the Southern Hemisphere. The spa uses mineral-rich deep seawater in innovative signature treatments and a variety of hydro-therapies and features a seawater pool, hammam, gym, and glass floor overwater massage suites.
PARADISE AND WORLD-ACCLAIMED LUXURY COME TOGETHER AT THE ST. REGIS BORA BORA RESORT. Amid 44 acres of lush landscaping, edged by powdery sands and a lagoon graced with the largest overwater villas in the South Seas, the resort represents the epitome of carefree elegance. A total of 74 one-bedroom villas skim the lagoon, with 8 of these featuring terrace Jacuzzis. The 5 two-bedroom overwater villas with private swimming pools are a first in French Polynesia. Nestled on the beach are 11 one-bedroom villas, 2 two-bedroom villas with private infinity pools, and a three-bedroom beach villa designed specifically for families. The 13,000 square-foot Royal Estate, majestic on its secluded cove and extending over three separate pavilions, surpasses every expectation. St. Regis Bora Bora Resort features three fine dining restaurants, including Lagoon by Jean-Georges and Sushi Take. Other facilities include the Aparima bar, 2 swimming pools with swim-up bar, a Creative Club for children – and the legendary service of the St. Regis Butler, a reminder that everything is possible in this glorious escape.

SPA MIRI MIRI

Located on its own private lagoon island, the Spa encompases 12,000 square feet and offers Tahitian and Balinese treatments, with seven treatment rooms and a state-of-the-art fitness center.
FOUR SEASONS RESORT BORA BORA

THE FOUR SEASONS RESORT BORA BORA IS LOCATED ON A MYSTICAL ISLAND WITH ITS NECKLACE OF WHITE-FRINGED CORAL ISLETS, WHERE EVERY VISTA IS BREATHTAKING. Expansive over-water suites and beachfront villas with private pools immerse you in ultramodern comforts and the welcoming spirit of French Polynesia. The resort’s four restaurants celebrate the finest in Polynesian, French and Asian culinary arts, each featuring open-air dining experiences. Set upon a sprawling 54 acres, this luxurious hideaway offers a wide variety of complimentary activities for couples seeking a romantic escape or families looking to reconnect. Let the marine biologist introduce you to the undersea world of the resort’s lagoon sanctuary. Learn to paddle board across the impossibly clear blue lagoon. Steal a quiet nap in the shade of one of the poolside fares.

THE SPA AT FOUR SEASONS

Spirit yourselves away in a full-service spa for a truly authentic Polynesian experience. Luxuriate in the local Kahaia-inspired body treatments amid the mangroves and wild ginger, or exhilarate in the 24-hour fitness center and overwater yoga platform.

“The landscape with its clear warm color dazzled me, yet it was so simple to paint. Why should I hesitate to pour all this gold, all this joyous sunlight on my canvas?”

— Paul Gauguin
ON MOTU TOOPUA IN BORA BORA’S MAGNIFICENT BLUE LAGOON, THIS EXCLUSIVE RESORT OFFERS ELEGANCE AND LUXURY WITH 122 SPACIOUS SUITES AND VILLAS, INCLUDING 2 TWO-STORY PRESIDENTIAL OVERWATER VILLAS. Scattered on the hill with lagoon views, beachfront and overwater, the accommodations are appointed with rich, natural woods, marble bathrooms, French bath fixtures and bathtubs. The overwater villas have a glass floor panel for lagoon viewing. Two restaurants and two bars feature international and local cuisine and refreshments. Guests are offered every convenience expected of a five-star resort, including an infinity swimming pool of 1000 m², watersports facility, laundry services, babysitting upon request, a gift boutique and art gallery. A private island, Motu Tapu, is available for the exclusive use of hotel guests.

HINA SPA
Situated on top of a black lava hill with spectacular views, Hina Spa offers three open-air treatment bungalows, each with its own Jacuzzi, as well as a salon, fitness center and steam room.
EXCLUSIVE AND INTIMATE, THE INTERCONTINENTAL BORA BORA LE MOANA RESORT IS THE PERFECT SANCTUARY FOR AN ENCHANTING STAY IN THE SOUTH SEAS. The boutique resort features 50 deluxe bungalow suites perched over the transparent lapis lazuli waters of Bora Bora. Each has a glass viewing table where the lagoon becomes your private aquarium. The 14 thatched-roof bungalow suites hug the pearl-white sands of famed Matira Point, one of the best beaches in French Polynesia. For true romantics, 4 of the overwater bungalows have been redesigned as honeymoon villas with the “Villa Blanche” concept and special amenities.

Enjoy fine French cuisine at the resort’s two restaurants – Noa Noa and Vini Vini Terrace, Tahitian entertainment two times a week, breakfast room service by outrigger canoe, sunset cruises, snorkeling, scuba diving, sailing, windsurfing and a freshwater swimming pool. Charge-back privileges with InterContinental Bora Bora Resort & Thalasso Spa are available.

“Fall in love with Tahiti and spend the rest of your life knowing that you have witnessed perfection.”

— Miranda N., Tahiti Legends client
CASTAWAY ON A MOTU IN BORA BORA’S TURQUOISE LAGOON, LE MÉRIDIEN PERFECTLY BLENDS FRENCH CHIC AND TRADITIONAL TAHITIAN STYLING. Completely renovated in 2010 in a contemporary and elegant style, this luxury resort is set on a magnificent islet surrounded by the most beautiful lagoon in the world and offers stunning sights over Mount Otemanu. The resort offers a combination of fully redesigned overwater bungalows with unique large glass floor, stunning beach bungalows and intimate pool beach suites and villas with private infinity pool. Dinner is served at Le Tipanie restaurant, featuring a different themed cuisine each night of the week. Casual meals can be had at the poolside Te Ava restaurant, designed like a Tahitian village. A unique setting in which to savor a house cocktail is at the Miki Miki bar, designed as a prow of a ship pointing toward Mount Otemanu. Discover the turtle sanctuary at Le Méridien Bora Bora, home to numerous marine turtles.

THE WELLNESS SPA
Located in a beach fare with a view of Mount Otemanu, the Wellness Spa offers a wide range of services, including body treatments, massages, facial treatments, and reflexology.

LE SPA

SPREAD OVER TWO OVERWATER BUNGALOWS, WITH OUTDOOR JACUZZIS AND FIVE BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED THERAPY ROOMS AS WELL AS A SOLARIUM AND TANNING SALON, LE SPA OFFERS INDULGENT TREATMENTS FOR THE BODY AND THE SOUL.
LOCATED ON MOTU TEVAIROA, THE PEARL BEACH RESORT OFFERS 50 OVERWATER BUNGALOWS, 10 BEACH SUITES AND 20 GARDEN POOL SUITES. The overwater bungalows have glass tables to view the aquatic life of the lagoon. The beach suites offer a lounge area facing the beach and a garden with Jacuzzi. The garden pool suites feature a private tropical garden, plunge pool and a spacious covered sitting and resting area. There are three restaurants, two bars, a large freshwater swimming pool, a boutique, fitness room, tennis courts, mini-golf, on-site dive center, and the Ta’a Nui coral nursery.

MANEA SPA
Situated adjacent a tropical garden and lake, the 13,000 square-foot spa combines traditional Tahitian architecture with state-of-the-art facilities. A member of Leading Spas of the World.

“... in Tahiti I will be able to listen in the silence of beautiful tropical nights to the soft murmuring music of my heartbeats.”

— Paul Gauguin
THIS LOVELY RESORT NESTLES AT THE FOOT OF A MOUNTAIN IN A GORGEOUS GARDEN SETTING ON A BEAUTIFUL BLUE LAGOON AND IS WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE TO THE FAMOUS MATIRA POINT. The architecture, entirely Polynesian in style, provides a local look that blends naturally into the environment. The 19 overwater and 7 beach bungalows hug the shore, and 48 comfortable air-conditioned rooms are nestled in the mountain with spectacular views of the lagoon and mountainside. All feature a king-size bed, mini-bar, television, telephone and terrace. The overwater bungalows have a glass table for viewing the colorful lagoon. The resort has two restaurants, the Haere Mai Restaurant where guests can enjoy an eclectic mix of French cuisine and Polynesian flavors. Once a week, the restaurant features a fantastic Polynesian evening with traditional Polynesian BBQ, seafood buffet and entertainment. The Tama’a Maitai restaurant is a relaxed and casual beachfront restaurant built in Fare Potee style – a Polynesian Chief’s house or community meeting place. Complimentary snorkeling gear, outrigger canoes and kayaks are available for guests who want to discover the crystal clear lagoon.
SHARK & RAY SNORKELING SAFARI
Half-day tour features a journey by boat to the barrier reef for snorkeling among the colorful coral and fish, followed by the thrilling experience of seeing black tip lagoon sharks and the ray ballet up close.

4X4 JEEP SAFARI
Discover the interior of the island following the old military tracks. You’ll have magnificent views across the lagoon to the neighboring islands of Raiatea and Maupiti. Discover old WWII gun emplacements left by American troops. An exciting way to see Bora Bora.

JET SKI TOUR
Enjoy a guided circle-island tour of Bora Bora riding your own jet ski. A unique opportunity to take amazing pictures of the “most beautiful lagoon in the world.” Stop at a white sand beach for light refreshments and another stop at a motu for the coconut show.

JET BOAT TOUR
An exciting way to experience a circle-island tour of Bora Bora. Join a small group of fellow adventurers aboard a jet boat. Included in the tour is a stop for stingray feeding, snorkeling at the coral garden, and a relaxing stop for refreshments.

TATTOO
Revered as an ancient Polynesian art form, tattoos, or tatau, are a badge of honor, a sign of courage, a testament of manhood. Prized possessions for which islanders are prepared to endure months of agony, tattoos form an important part of the social structure because they pass along stories about legendary ancestors and important chiefs.

LOUIS-ANTOINE DE BOUGAINVILLE
The first French navigator to circumnavigate the globe, Bougainville landed in Tahiti in 1768. Discovering the most unspoiled civilization any European had ever seen, he established the legend of Tahiti as the consummate “paradise” on earth, a seductive myth that has continued ever since.

MOVIES MADE IN TAHITI
Hollywood has made three attempts to capture the “Bounty” mutiny on screen, with Charles Laughton and Clark Gable (1935), Marlon Brando (1962) and Mel Gibson (1984). “An Affair to Remember” (1957), starring Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr, was filmed in Moorea, as was “A Love Affair” (1993). De Laurentis chose Bora Bora for his 1979 film “Hurricane.” Recently, “Couples Retreat” (2009) was filmed in Bora Bora.
BLOODY MARY’S
Discover a Bora Bora icon, where the day’s fresh catch is displayed on ice. The host/hostess explains precisely what each fish is and how it can be prepared for you (beef, chicken and vegetarian choices are also available). Have a drink under the ceiling fans, with your feet in the sand as the chef prepares your selection just to your liking.

PRIVATE LAGOON CRUISE & MOTU BBQ
Enjoy your own exclusive, private tour of Bora Bora’s beautiful lagoon with motu BBQ picnic. Approximately 5–6 hours, with your own private boat and guide. Or for honeymooners, choose your own romantic, private lagoon cruise with “in-the-water champagne BBQ.”

OTHER POPULAR ACTIVITIES
Bora Bora’s pristine lagoon is home to a colorful array of coral and marine life, with some of the best scuba diving sites in French Polynesia. For scuba divers, the biggest attraction to Bora Bora is undoubtedly the large population of giant manta rays. For beginners or non-divers, the helmet dive by Aquasafari allows you to get up close with an amazing underwater walk.

SUNSET CRUISE
Experience the magic of Bora Bora and enjoy the peace and tranquility of the South Pacific from the water. Marvel at the spectacular colors of the setting sun, as you cruise on its stunning lagoon, sip Tahitian cocktails and learn about the history of Bora Bora and the other islands.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
An integral part of everyday Tahitian life. Before the great navigators arrived, islanders would dance to celebrate special occasions or the end of a war, the few musical instruments available being used to mark the beat. Later they were used to celebrate the arrival of new visitors, European explorers, who were somewhat surprised by these unknown rhythms.

DRUMS
The pahu (drums), over which shark skin was drawn tight by strings, are still used today. Beaten with the hands or with drumsticks, they are played side by side with the toere, a long cylindrical drum with a split along its side.

CONCH SHELL
When blown through the hole pierced near its pointed end, the conch shell (known as pu) emits a powerful sound. Now used in many ceremonial dances, it was mainly used originally by warriors, or as a signal at sea.

UKULELE
Compared to the percussion instruments, the ukulele is a relative newcomer. Imported from Hawaii at the turn of the century, today it is as much a part of the Tahitian myth as the shell lei and grass skirt.
SACRED HOMELAND

The ancient cultural, religious and royal heart of Polynesia, Raiatea was, according to legend, the birthplace of the gods. From here the great canoes set out for Hawaii and New Zealand, entire tribes sailing off to colonize new shores. Long ago the people called the island Hawai’i (“the homeland”) and believed it was the place where spirits live on after death. And it is only here, on the slopes of sacred Mount Temehani, that one can glimpse the rare Tiare Apetahi, a flower found nowhere else on earth.

VANILLA ISLAND

Taha’a is so named for its numerous plantations of this fragrant plant, whose sweet aroma lingers in the air, seeping into every nook and cranny of the island. While fishing and farming are its main livelihoods, what seduces visitors are its pretty beaches, coral gardens, and the sandy motu which pepper the lagoon it shares with Raiatea.
In the beginning there was nothing. No gods, no earth, no sky, no sea. Not, that is, until Papa (the earth mother) and Rangi (the sky father) embraced in the realm of night. From their union, seventy children were born, all male: the gods of the Maori. Living in darkness, longing to experience the light of the day, the children attempted to loosen their parents’ embrace. All of them tried, but only Tane (the god of human creation) was successful. When finally, after much pushing, heaving and swaying, the parents separated, the children experienced Te Ao Marama, the realm of being, of light and life.
LE TAHA’A ISLAND RESORT & SPA

Located on Motu Tautau in Beautiful Taha’a Lagoon, this deluxe resort is designed to be an exclusive getaway.

The resort boasts 12 beach villas each with a large terrace opening onto a private pool and seating area. In addition, 48 overwater suites, offer spectacular views of Taha’a or Bora Bora. The overwater suites all have a private sundeck, with lounge chairs and direct access to the lagoon. All bungalows are air-conditioned and offer the amenities you expect in a world-class resort. The three restaurants and two bars offer everything from pool and beachside fare to fine dining. With a full range of excursions and activities such as, freshwater swimming pool, tennis court, spa and on-site dive center, you can be as active as you want or relax and enjoy paradise. Access to the resort is a 30-minute boat transfer from the airport on Raiatea.

Maneia Spa

The Manea Spa offers a variety of massages and body treatments combining traditional Polynesian know-how and all natural products. Built in the Polynesian spirit, the spa consists of 5 treatment rooms, including 3 double fares. For a special treat, massages can also be had directly in the lagoon.
ON A TINY 23 ACRE PRIVATE MOTU (ISLET) IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TAHAA’A LAGOON, 35 MINUTES BY SPEEDBOAT FROM RAJATEA, VAHINE ISLAND WELCOMES JUST A HANDBUL OF GUESTS LOOKING TO REALLY GET AWAY FROM IT ALL. Beautifully integrated into its environment, and boasting views of Bora Bora, Huahine, Taha’a and Raiatea, the resort has only three overwater bungalows, plus six beachfront suites and bungalows hidden among the coconut trees. The bungalows are made from pure Polynesian traditional building materials and techniques. The overwater faires have “aquarium tables” to observe and feed the multitude of exotic fish life. The beachside restaurant serves refined and romantic candlelight dinners and has an excellent wine list. The gastronomic dishes are prepared by a French chef who mixes traditional Polynesian ingredients with fine French cuisine. Add to this an array of activities and you have the perfect recipe for a true escape from civilization. The hotel offers complimentary Polynesian pirogues, windsurfing boards, kayaks, snorkeling equipment and much more. Additionally, free Wi-Fi is available in the bar, restaurant and at the beach, and if you really must…a laptop is at your disposal.

“I wish I could tell you about Tahiti, but it’s just not that simple. You have to meet her yourself and listen to her story as she tells you in a whisper carried on her soft, warm breezes.”

— Randi N., Tahiti Legends client
LA PIROGUE

Ideally located on a private motu, on the island of Tahaa, La Pirogue is a small charming property and you will appreciate its intimacy and authenticity. The hotel has only nine bungalows, built in the pure Polynesian style. Four garden bungalows, four beach bungalows and one beach suite, on the edge of the lagoon, all have spacious terraces. Enjoy the sunset with an exotic cocktail at the bar, or taste local flavors prepared fresh daily by the chef. The property offers complimentary use of kayaks and snorkeling equipment making it the ideal place to discover either the coral gardens or the lush vegetation of the ‘vanilla island.’

OPOA BEACH HOTEL

The Opoa Beach Hotel benefits from its ideal location on the south side of Raiatea, which provides amazing views of the lagoon and the island of Huahine. Hidden amidst a dense forest, the hotel offers three categories of rooms: beach, pool and garden. Each comes complete with king sized bed and a large deck. Amenities such as wireless Internet and DVD player are also provided. The beach is pristine and the swimming pool is a perfect place to lounge and perhaps enjoy a refreshment from the nearby bar. The restaurant mirrors the hotel’s relaxed atmosphere by day, and transforms into a romantic setting at night. The cozy, candlelit tables are a delightful place to indulge in the refined and creative cuisine. Guests should take advantage of the abundant complimentary activities offered by the hotel, including outriggers, kayaks, snorkeling equipment, visits to the nearby motu, fishing village or market, and much more.
SET AMIDST A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN, THIS SMALL COUNTRY HOTEL IS LOCATED ON THE WEST COAST OF RAiatea, OPPOSITE Bora Bora. Not far from the airport or the town of Uturoa, it is an ideal base from which to explore all that Raiatea and Taha’a have to offer. The 15 air-conditioned standard and superior rooms are spacious and comfortable, overlooking the garden and the lagoon. The poolside restaurant offers Tahitian, exotic and international cuisine and prides itself on preparing elegant dishes using fresh and mainly local produce. The hotel offers a host of activities and excursions to ensure a memorable and enjoyable stay, and for guests to stay connected, complimentary WiFi is offered in the superior rooms as well as the reception area.

RAIATEA LODGE HOTEL

THE RAIATEA HAWAIKI NUI HOTEL OFFERS VALUE FOR MONEY IN 20 OVERWATER, LAGOON AND GARDEN BUNGALOWS, AND 8 AIR-CONDITIONED GARDEN ROOMS. Meals are served in the poolside restaurant, which fronts the deepwater lagoon. Enjoy the wide range of activities and water excursions, including excellent snorkeling, kayaking and diving.

RAIATEA HAWAIKI NUI HOTEL

“Listen to the utter calm nature, the eternal murmur of the breakers on the reef; look at the stupendous scenery, the peaks of basalt, the dark forest clinging to the mountain’s flanks—all this lost in the midst of a vast, immeasurable solitude—the Pacific.”

— Pierre Loti
FAAROA RIVER EXCURSION – RAIATEA
Cruise up Raiatea’s magnificent, jungle-like Faaroa River, the only navigable river in French Polynesia. Discover different species of birds and the lush vegetation that hugs the banks—conifers, coconut palms, pineapple, taro and vanilla. Visit areas of local interest.

LAGOON TOURS – TAHAA
Discover the Raiatea/Taha’a Lagoon with a lagoon tour via motorized outrigger canoe. Snorkel over coral gardens, enjoy a Polynesian picnic on a motu and experience a shark and ray encounter.

4X4 JEEP SAFARI – TAHAA
Taha’a is the “Vanilla Island.” Throughout your safari, you’ll delight in the rich scent of vanilla. Your half-day tour takes you into the island’s interior with views of rivers and mountains. Visit a black pearl farm and see how the black pearl is cultured. Another stop to a vanilla plantation allows you to observe firsthand how vanilla is cultivated.

4X4 JEEP SAFARI – RAIATEA
Explore the interior of Raiatea with its mountains, rivers and waterfalls. The rugged interior reveals views of the neighboring islands of Taha’a and Huahine. Mount Temehani is the only place where the rare Tiare Apetahi flower grows.

PEOPLE The rarest and most precious of Tahiti’s gems is its people with their sparkling eyes, radiant smiles, flawless beauty, and priceless innocence. Their pace of life is slow. Their philosophy, “aita pea pea” (not to worry), is truly the Tahitian way. They love to share their wealth of ancient traditions through songs and dance, leaving you with a treasure trove of memories that will linger long after you have left their paradise home.

VANILLA The variety Vanilla Tahitensis, created at the end of the 19th century, is the most widely cultivated in French Polynesia. It has an exceptional aroma, and its beans are plumper, shinier and richer in oil than those of other species. The islands of Huahine and Taha’a are famous for their vanilla plantations.

TIARE APETAH According to legend, this delicate white flower is the hand of an island princess who proclaimed, as she died in her lover’s arms, “Every morning when you come to the mountain, I will give you my hand to caress.” As proof of its unique nature, the Tiare Apetahi cannot be transplanted and grows nowhere else in the world except on the slopes of Raiatea’s Mount Temehani.
Least explored of the Society Islands, Huahine is a happy, peaceful place, where the traditional Polynesian way of life continues in spectacular scenery that rivals any on Moorea or Bora Bora. Lush with vanilla plantations, banana groves, and taro fields, Huahine is actually two islands basking in one lagoon, encircled by a coral necklace. On its shores, coconut palms sprout in untamed profusion, separated from the sea by a narrow band of powdery white sand.

Considered to be the cradle of ancient Polynesian culture, Huahine is home to many of Polynesia's most important archaeological sites. Fascinating artifacts can be found here, at Maeva, a former royal village, with its restored marae (sacrificial temples). In a nearby sacred lake, 300-year-old stone fishing traps, still in use today, can only be removed by descendants of the Tahitian royal family.

Fare, the main town, is a sleepy port which springs to life for the arrival of inter-island ferries. Then truckloads of copra, pigs, taro, bananas, and melons are brought to the quay for market day. Local people mingle with arriving passengers, all enjoying the bustling activity along the waterfront. With some of the most hospitable people in the Pacific, Huahine is a tranquil paradise which retains the best of old Polynesia.
LEGEND “Princess Hutu-Hiva” – Looking across the lagoon to the island of Huahine, one can see the form of an outstretched woman. According to legend, this was the princess Hutu-Hiva, daughter of Tutapu, long ago the chief of Raiatea who, following divine revelations, sent Hutu-Hiva in a pahu (sacred drum) across the ocean to Huahine, to look for a husband. Landing on the sands of To’erauroa, in the northernmost part of the island, she was stranded for many years until finally a young warrior named Te-ao-nui-maruia came to her rescue. They married, forming the Te-pa’ui-hauroa Dynasty. Ten sons were born from their union, and their names were given to the ten districts of Huahine.
THE TE TIARE BEACH RESORT FEATURES 16 OVERWATER AND PREMIUM OVERWATER BUNGALOWS, 6 BEACH BUNGALOWS AND 19 GARDEN BUNGALOWS. All are spacious, have large sundecks, and are designed in the traditional Polynesian style. The beachfront resort is located in its own private lagoon accessible only by boat from the village of Fare. The resort features an overwater restaurant which invites you to enjoy fine dining with spectacular lagoon and ocean views. The Ari’i restaurant specializes in combining French Polynesian and international cuisines. A Polynesian buffet and dance show is presented at the hotel, with Polynesian delicacies and BBQ buffet. After dinner, Tahitian musicians accompany traditional song and dance performances. Resort facilities include a host of free activities, bar, a black pearl boutique, freshwater swimming pool – and beautiful sunsets over the lagoon. Te Tiare offers complimentary boat transfers to and from Fare.
OPENING IN 2011, THE MAITAI LA PITA VILLAGE IS LOCATED ON WHAT IS CONSIDERED THE BEST LOCATION ON THE ISLAND OF HUAHINE, THE SAME SITE AS THE MYTHIC BALI HAI HOTEL.

The magical setting consists of pristine beaches, tropical gardens, tranquil lakes and is a short ten minute walk to the town of Fare. The resort will have 12 garden bungalows and 5 garden suites nestled among the trees along the white sand beach, as well as 15 lakeside suites. Here guests can relax on large private verandahs overlooking the water lilies and frolicking fish. The restaurant will serve the freshest local fare and will boast views of Raiatea and Taha’a.

“I have come to an unalterable decision—to go and live forever in Polynesia... without thoughts of tomorrow...”

— Paul Gauguin
HUAHINE EXPERIENCES

ARCHEOLOGICAL SACRED SITES TOUR
This tour will take you into the nature and culture of the island. Highlights include a visit to the village of Fare, feeding the eels, the former royal village and restored marae at Maeva, Mata’ire’a Hill, the ancient fish traps, and a vanilla plantation. Your guide will provide information on the plants, archaeology, history and culture of Huahine.

SURFING & SCUBA DIVING
Huahine is also renowned for world-class surfing at Ava Mo’a Pass and exciting scuba diving in the lagoon or along the outer reefs where rays, sharks, Napoleon wrasse, tuna, barracuda and countless reef fish attract novice and experienced divers alike.

4X4 JEEP SAFARI ISLAND DISCOVERY TOUR
The 4x4 Island Discovery is an informative tour exploring the geology, flora, fauna and habitation history of both Huahine Nui and Huahine Iti. Visit the royal village of Maeva, one of the most important archaeological sites in all of the Pacific. See the giant blue-eyed eels at Faie Village, along with fruit, vegetable and vanilla plantations.

LAGOON TOUR BY OUTRIGGER CANOE
Full-day tour including a visit to a pearl farm, drift snorkeling, picnic lunch on a motu and shark feeding. Tour by motorized outrigger canoe.

COCONUT PALM
Much more than the perfect adornment for a white sand beach, the coconut palm plays an important role in the Tahitian way of life. Water from young coconuts makes a refreshingly cool drink, a cooking ingredient, and can even be used medicinally. Mature, dried coconut flesh becomes copra from which coconut oil is extracted, and was once the mainstay of island economies.

MARAE
Reserved for the worship of gods and other important events, such as the enthroning of a king, council of war, victory celebration, or wedding, the ruins of these huge stone temples can be found throughout the islands of Polynesia.

LAGOON FISH
Tahiti’s calm lagoons are home to more than 800 species of fish. Swim or snorkel these sun-warmed waters, ranging in color from the palest turquoise through the deepest blue, and you’ll likely encounter parrot fish, butterfly, angel and trigger fish, rays, and even a couple of sharks (though most are varieties not dangerous to swimmers!).
Ruled by the rhythms of wind and sea, the Tuamotu Archipelago is the world's largest collection of coral atolls. Far from the bustling city, the Tuamotus offer a Robinson Crusoe experience of your dreams.

Rangiroa is the largest of the atolls with its 42-mile long and 16-mile wide lagoon of incomparable brilliance and color. Scuba dive in nature’s most extraordinary aquarium or rejuvenate in the harmony of nature’s great sky and sea. Rangiroa allows you to live beyond the normal constraints of time.

Manihi is a string of islets, white sand beaches and palm trees surrounding an emerald lagoon. It was on this atoll that the first South Seas black pearl farm began. The gentle trade winds and forever sunshine create a fairy-tale ambience.

Tikehau, one of the most beautiful atolls in Polynesia, forms an almost unbroken circle—creating a unique ecosystem and the highest preponderance of fish of all the atolls. Here it is possible to discover the true Tuamotu way of life.

Fakarava, a UNESCO nature reserve, is among the least explored of the atolls. Scuba dive in virtually untouched spots among schools of ocean and lagoon fish. Fakarava is where you will learn that time can stand still.
In ancient times, the many islands of Polynesia formed a platform made of fish at the bottom of the sea. The god Maui had the idea of crafting them into one piece of land. Maui and his brothers put to sea in their outrigger canoe, to row until they lost sight of land. There they fished for a long time without catching anything. When the brothers fell asleep, Maui cast his line and began to sing. He caught many islands. When the great fish Tahiti came to the surface, his brothers awoke and cried: “Oh Maui, that is not a fish, it’s an island!” Then all the fish who had already been caught escaped across the ocean. It is since that time that the islands of Polynesia have been spread across such a large expanse of the Great Ocean.
DREAMS OF ESCAPING TO PARADISE DO COME TRUE AT MOTU TETA, WHERE YOU WILL FIND A LUXURY VILLA ON YOUR OWN PRIVATE SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND. This unspoiled tropical retreat offers the ultimate in relaxation. Accommodations consist of a two and a half bedroom, two bath Main Villa Residence, complete with dining and living room areas, a large verandah, and a kitchen, where your chef will prepare whatever you desire. In addition, there is the Bungalow Royale – a one and a half bedroom, one bathroom guest house. Both are built in the typical Tahitian style with wide open beams and no windows so the South Pacific breeze can keep you comfortable. Each is beautifully appointed and offer modern conveniences such as flat screen televisions and a movie library in the Main Villa.

To help you get the most out of your private island experience, a dedicated staff will see to your every need. A skilled chef will prepare your meals which can be enjoyed with the island’s ample collection of fine wines, and an excursion guide can arrange for activities, such as snorkeling or windsurfing, a pearl farm visit, excursions to the Pink Sand Beach or a picnic on an uninhabited motu, and much more. The staff prides itself on superb service and providing a personal touch.
On the banks of the turquoise lagoon and situated in a coconut plantation among exotic gardens, Le Maitai Rangiroa offers easy access to one of the top dive destinations in the world. Its beautiful location overlooks Rangiroa’s lagoon, minutes from the villages of Avatoru and Tiputa. The resort offers 38 traditional Polynesian style bungalows and rooms with balconies. The hotel restaurant and bar, Le Lagon Bleu, offers French, international, and Polynesian specialties for lunch and dinner in a graceful, traditional Polynesian setting. A weekly activity program welcomes guests to a number of local experiences, such as Tahitian dance lessons and basket weaving.

“With wide open eyes I would plunge under the transparent water that is green as absinthe in its depths.”

— Henri Matisse
BEAUTIFULLY INTEGRATED WITH THE SEA, THIS CHARMING RESORT DOES NEPTUNE PROUD. Its 19 overwater fares (with glass lagoon viewing coffee tables) invite you to snorkel colorful coral gardens, while 21 more beach bungalows languish on sugar-white sands. The restaurant’s terrace opens onto the lagoon, and the bar overlooks a beautiful pool. Boat excursions, motu picnics, fishing, pearl farm visits and the on-site dive club continue the marine theme.
TIKEHAU, A GRACEFUL OVAL CROWN OF PINK SAND BEACHES, CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS A PICTURE PERFECT POSTCARD. Located on a beautiful motu in the Tikehau lagoon, the Tikehau Pearl Beach Resort offers 8 overwater suites, 16 overwater bungalows and 13 beach bungalows in an informal, tropical paradise setting. The spacious Polynesian-style bungalows have a verandah and are equipped with all the modern amenities of a deluxe property. The overwater bungalows feature a glass section in the floor to enjoy the spectacular underwater life of the lagoon. A restaurant and bar are located poolside.

“...I thought I was walking in the Garden of Eden…”
—Louis-Antoine de Bougainville
This charming beach resort offers just 30 bungalows with lagoon views, situated on a pristine beachfront in Fakarava. The bungalows feature a private terrace, ceiling fan, and all the modern conveniences including television. The hotel’s lagoonfront bar and restaurant provide spectacular sunset views. This untouched atoll offers the opportunity to relax among the least explored atolls of the Tuamotus, surrounded by a pristine UNESCO nature reserve.

Pension Raimiti

Discover this privileged place, located in an ideal setting in Fakarava, a UNESCO classified destination. In this guest house, your hosts will welcome you with traditional Polynesian hospitality and warmth. The bungalows reflect the “sauvage” paradise environment that Raimiti offers. There are no doors, no keys and no lights. Your accommodations are very well ventilated by the ocean breeze and the light from your hurricane lamp makes for a magical, tropical setting. Choose to dine with your hosts, or not. During special evenings, you will have the occasion to enjoy your meal outdoors, served under the fragrant kahaia trees.
PINK SANDS – RANGIROA
The most beautiful excursion where you enjoy the postcard perfect views of the clear blue sky blending into the turquoise lagoon, while walking on the famous fine pink sand. A motu picnic is included.

BLACK PEARL FARM – MANIHI
Tahiti’s famous black pearls grow naturally in these atolls and are cultivated here, often on small, family-operated pearl farms that dot the lagoons. See how black pearls are cultivated, sized and prepared for fine jewelry.

BIRD ISLAND – TIKEHAU
Depart from the hotel dock and journey by boat across the lagoon to “Bird Island.” This small islet is a nesting site for a variety of birds such as the red footed gannets, sterns, boobies and brown doddies. There is time allotted for snorkeling in the coral gardens.

MANIHI - CRUSOE ADVENTURE
A full day excursion on a secluded islet including hand fishing, Polynesian picnic, shark and ray encounter, and snorkeling.

BIRDS OF THE ISLANDS
Bird life is rich among the Polynesian Islands, with nearly 90 species present here.

SEA BIRDS
Most are sea birds that prey on marine life. Petrels and shearwaters are birds of the open ocean that range far out at sea and come to land only to breed and rear their young. Coastal sea birds—the boobies, tropicbirds, terns, noddies, and frigatebirds—feed on the rich reefs and lagoons and roost on land. Most shore birds occurring in these islands— the Pacific heron, golden plovers, and tattlers—are seasonal migratory species.

LAND BIRDS
Species of land birds are few, as no large land mass is near enough to support their migration, but endemic land birds include thereed warbler, the rare Marquesas kingfisher, and the colorful ultramarine lorikeet. Birdwatching is a highly recommended activity in these lush islands and can lead to great adventures.
TUAMOTU ISLANDS EXPERIENCES

SCUBA DIVING
The Tuamotus have some of the most beautiful dive sites in the world. Each of the resorts has an on-site dive center and offers diving appropriate for all levels of divers, from beginners seeking certification to the most advanced. It is recommended that diving activities be booked in advance.

LAGOON EXCURSION - FAKARAVA
Travel to the islet of Topikite or to the South pass of Fakarava, with a barbecue picnic and snorkeling included. Exploring these lovely little islands with their stunning pink sandy beaches is the best way in the world to de-stress.

SNORKELING IN TIPUTA PASS - RANGIROA
Explore the natural aquarium of Tiputa Pass with a guided underwater snorkeling excursion. Drift the strait which connects the open ocean and the lagoon for a unique and unforgettable experience.

ROMANTIC PICNIC - TIKHEAU
A romantic experience – a full day excursion to an untouched motu islet where a picnic lunch awaits.

BLACK PEARL FARMING
Although 70 species of oyster can produce pearls, it is the Pinctada Margaritifera that grows naturally in French Polynesia, mostly in the lagoons of Manihi and Manutea in the Tuamotus and of Mangareva in the Gambiers. Since about mid-1965, the lustrous Tahitian black pearl has been cultivated, often on single-family pearl farms that dot the lagoons.

THE PEARL MYSTIQUE
Farming does not guarantee a fine pearl. Many factors vary the results so that only about 40% of oysters produce pearls, and only 2% of these are perfect poe rava. This is part of the mystery of the black pearl.

SHELLS
French Polynesian waters are home to over 1,500 shell species, some of which are sought after by collectors. It is possible to dive for shells, but as this upsets the ecosystem, it is better to collect them on the beach, or to buy them in shops. Small shells made into leis and jewelry make ideal souvenirs to take home.
The land of Men, or Te Henua Te Enana as these islands were known by their earliest Polynesian inhabitants, is the rugged, untamed Marquesas Archipelago, among the most remote islands in the world. Sheer volcanic peaks soar to thousands of feet above the surging sea. Unlike the Society Islands, there are no tranquil lagoons with their protective barrier reefs here; instead the wild cobalt ocean breaks relentlessly against the craggy shore. Fertile fiord-like river valleys reach inland, forming sheltered, picturesque bays with sandy beaches where most of the islanders live. For hikers, scuba divers, adventurers and nature lovers, the Marquesas are a paradise of spectacular waterfalls, abundant sea life, and quiet, unspoiled places. Among the main settled islands, Nuku Hiva in the northern group and Hiva Oa in the south offer quaint village life, infused with ancient traditions and a rich cultural and artistic heritage.
Atea, the giver of light and brother of Tane, brought forth Ono in an effort to break up the boundless darkness of the underworld, where Tanaoa, the lord of darkness, and Mutu-hei have lived for eternity. The joined forces declared war on Tanaoa and Mutu-hei, defeating them, and confining them within set boundaries. Out of the struggle came Atanua (the dawn). She and Atea were married and gave birth to Tu-Mea, the first man and the beginning of humankind.
This rustic nature lodge is located in the hills within walking distance of Taiohae, capital of Nuku Hiva, and the black sand beach. The architecture fits perfectly with the environment and features carvings and decorations by local craftsmen. Each of the 20 bay view bungalows has air-conditioning, ceiling fan, mini-bar, refrigerator, tea/coffee making facilities, and panoramic terrace. After a day exploring, relax at the lodge’s swimming pool and enjoy dinner at the restaurant. Experience breakfast surrounded by luscious tropical foliage and candlelight dinners under the stars. A range of excursions are offered daily by Marquesan guides. Discover the beautiful and mysterious life of the Marquesas with a walk, horseback ride, bike tour, 4x4 excursion, to appreciate the fauna, flora and landscapes of the island. Hotel transfers are by 4-wheel drive.
HIVA OA HANAKEE PEARL LODGE

THE HANAKEE PEARL LODGE FACES THE MAJESTIC MOUNT TEMETIU AND HAS AMAZING PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE MOUNTAINS, TRAITORS BAY, THE BORDELAIS CANAL, THE ISLANDS OF HANAKEE AND TAHUATA AND THE VILLAGE OF ATUONA, CAPITAL OF HIVA OA, WHERE BOTH PAUL GAUGUIN AND JACQUES BREL LIVED AND ARE BURIED. Each of the resort’s 6 bay view family suites, 6 mountain view and 8 premium ocean view bungalows has air-conditioning, ceiling fan, mini-bar refrigerator, tea/coffee making facilities, terrace, and the individual touch of a local artist. You’ll enjoy a relaxing dip in the infinity swimming pool and dinner at the resort’s restaurant, both of which also benefit from the breathtaking views, after a day of discovering the beauty and mystery of this island. The terrace is a perfect spot to have breakfast outdoors or experience a romantic moonlit dinner. Numerous activities and excursions can be arranged to explore the majesty of Hiva Oa and Marquesan culture.

“A wonderful tree once grew on Hiva Oa. All the birds of the Marquesas lived in it. When the tree died, each of its limbs fell to earth and landed on different islands, giving to each island a separate species.”

— Hiva Oa legend
MARQUESAS ISLANDS EXPERIENCES

HORSEBACK RIDING - HIVA OA
For a unique and exciting way to discover the island, visit the ‘Ranch’ for full or half day tours including a picnic lunch. They also are able to arrange overnight trips to visit Hakahui Cascades where you spend the night on a white sand beach. There are also a number of equestrian facilities on Hiva Oa that offer escorted treks with guide.

4X4 EXCURSION - NUKU HIVA
Travel by 4-wheel drive vehicle to Hatiheu Bay today. The journey takes you through a landscape of striking beauty - the “saddle” of Muake, Baie du Controleur (Comptroller Bay) and the Taipivai Valley, immortalized by Hermann Melville. Lunch is included during the excursion. Return to the hotel later this afternoon.

HIKING - NUKU HIVA
Enjoy a half-day tour of the village of Taiohae, once a port of call for explorers, missionaries, sandalwood harvesters and navigators. Today the village is a center for the Marquesan handicraft of woodcarving. The local Notre Dame Cathedral is a showcase for some of the local craftsmen’s works.

ATUONA VILLAGE & PAUL GAUGUIN MUSEUM - HIVA OA
Depart from the hotel by 4-wheel drive to the village of Atuona. Discover the Paul Gauguin Museum and the “Maison du jouir” (House of Bliss). See the Koina tohua, an ancient public square used for celebrations and meetings, and take a walk along the beach. A short walk takes you to the Calvary Cemetery where Paul Gauguin and Jacques Brel are buried.

PAUL GAUGUIN
Without doubt, Paul Gauguin is the most celebrated artist ever to have visited French Polynesia. After a first stay from 1891–1892, he returned in 1895 and set up home at Punaauia, on the main island of Tahiti. He then moved to the Marquesas, where he died at Atuona in 1903.

The Gauguin Museum on Tahiti is dedicated to the memory of this legendary Impressionist painter.

MARQUESAN ARTISTRY
Among the most refined in the Pacific islands, the Marquesans’ early artistic style depicted their strong cultural heritage. The early islanders crafted powerful war clubs, finely carved wooden bowls, fan handles, and tikis of both stone and wood. The tiki face is believed to be the Marquesan’s genealogical link to his ancestors and the gods.

ROCK ART
Stone carvings were believed to hold ‘mana,’ or spiritual power, and were crafted only by trained specialists, ‘tuhuna taai tiki.’ Archaeological sites now show thousands of petroglyphs based on common designs: geometric patterns, human stick figures with realistic faces, and animals. The only rock paintings in Polynesia are found on Hiva Oa.
Juxtaposed in the middle of the South Pacific Ocean between South America and French Polynesia lies the enigmatic Easter Island. One of the most remote inhabited islands in the world — it is a land of magic, magnificence and mystery. The 887 giant stone statues, known as Moai, have yet to reveal the secrets of Rapa Nui, the Polynesian name for the island. The first inhabitants of this mythical island were thought to have been Polynesians sailing with outrigger canoes from the Marquesas or Gambier islands.

Discover the marvels of this intriguing land, its history, and culture. The biggest attraction of course are the Moai. Scattered along the coastline, these archaeological wonders are often placed upon ceremonial platforms and burials called Ahu. The most well known are Ahu Tahai, Ahu Akivi, Ahu Vinapu, Ahu Tongariki, Ahu Te Pito Kura and Ahu Hakahanga. The volcanic craters of Rano Kau and Rano Raraku are also a must — the quarry at Rano Raraku is where the moai carvings were created. Scuba diving, snorkeling, and surfing are popular activities, and for the adventurous, Easter Island has an extensive cave system that can be explored with a local guide.

Tahiti Legends offers Easter Island packages with a variety of accommodations from small bed & breakfasts, moderate hotels to luxury lodge, with excursions.

"Wherever you go in the South Pacific, there is always the sea. The island world is lost in its miles; its beauty is ever-changing."

— M. B. Smith
THE SEA, LAGOONS & ISLANDS - Tahiti is a timeless world of islands, lagoons and sea, and what better way of experiencing its unique magic than on one of the cruises offered on the following pages.

Discover the enchantment and romance of Polynesia. Cruise the Leeward Islands of Bora Bora, Raiatea, Taha’a and Huahine and the Windward Islands, Tahiti and Moorea.

There are many cruising options available—enjoy pampering aboard the deluxe all-inclusive “Paul Gauguin” and the sheer luxury of your own private catamaran or yacht; discovering the remote Marquesas Islands aboard the “Aranui 3,” a working passenger freighter; or reliving the adventures of sailors on Archipels’ eight-passenger catamaran cruise. Immerse yourself in this timeless world of islands, lagoons and sea.
One day, Ru decided to explore the Earth in a large pirogue. He built his canoe from the Island's sacred trees - the tamanu wood, the hutu for the mast, nape coconut fibers for ropes, purau for the paddles and a sail woven from pandanus leaves. He dedicated his canoe to the gods, naming it Apori. The sails were set and the paddle guided, as his sister sat at the helm announcing the discovery of new lands. They discovered all of the islands and traveled to the ends of the ocean, charting coordinates, noting the sunrise and sunset. Ru divided the horizon into twelve parts so that future Polynesian navigators could take to the seas with confidence and having the ability and knowledge to plot their course.
DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR POLYNESIA, THE PAUL GAUGUIN IS A DELUXE VESSEL OFFERING SMALL-SHIP LUXURY TO JUST 320 GUESTS.

Flawless, friendly service from a European-trained staff emulates the delightfully unhurried and unregimented Polynesian way of life.

Spacious, ocean-view staterooms, most with balconies or verandahs, open to sweet-scented tropical breezes and lush island vistas. Each features queen or twin beds, marble-appointed bath, and closed-circuit television. Fine Continental and French cuisine is served on an open-seating basis in three restaurants. Polynesia’s translucent, shimmering aqua lagoons are begging to be explored. And there is no better place to do so than from the Paul Gauguin’s retractable watersports marina, where you can enjoy complimentary windsurfing, kayaking, and waterskiing, or board a Zodiac® and embark on an optional SCUBA adventure.

The 7-night cruise departs Tahiti Saturday evening and includes visits to Raiatea, Taha’a, Bora Bora and Moorea before returning to Tahiti for disembarkation the following Saturday.

Cruises range from 8-15 days and are available to destinations throughout the South Pacific, including: Tahiti and Society Islands, Marquesas, Tuamotu Islands, Tonga, and Cook Islands.
EXPLORE FRENCH POLYNESIA’S ENCHANTING MARQUESAS ISLANDS ABOARD THE WORKING FREIGHTER ARANUI 3. The 85-cabin Aranui 3 is custom designed with space and comfort in mind, but retains the friendly atmosphere and experienced Polynesian crew that makes it half way between a modern-day cruise ship and an old island trader.

The ship’s large, family-style dining room offers French and Polynesian cuisine in a casual atmosphere. On board, you can enjoy the swimming pool and gym, two bars, and a large lounge and library. Enjoy snorkeling and scuba diving at the two stops in the exquisite Tuamotu atolls. You’ll learn about Marquesan history, culture and art from guest lecturers and the Aranui’s knowledgeable resident guides.

Lifeline for these remote islands, the freighter carries everything from baguettes to bulldozers, loading copra for the return trip to Papeete. With exhilarating surf landings and fascinating excursions, a cruise aboard the Aranui 3 offers the rare opportunity to visit islands which remain virtually untouched since the days of the early explorers.

Cruises are 14 days and are inclusive of three meals daily and excursions.
ARCHIPELS SAILING CRUISES

Relive the adventures so many have lived before you... the crack of the sail, the feel of wind on your face, the smell of salt spray in the air... as you make a voyage of discovery in the pristine waters of Polynesia. Discover the charm of Bora Bora or the atolls of the Tuamotu Archipelago.

Propelled by gentle trade winds, sail in comfort aboard an exceptionally stable 57-foot catamaran with almost 1,600 square feet of usable space. Each vessel is engineered for speed, exceptional stability and unparalleled comfort, with four air-conditioned cabins, private bathrooms, a vast salon with panoramic views, and a spacious deck. All are equipped with dinghy, windsurfers, snorkeling and fishing gear, ocean kayaks, a library, and games. An experienced crew takes you (never more than eight passengers per yacht) on a carefree sail that will send you home with memories to last a lifetime.

Cruises range from 4-11 days and are inclusive of all meals and airport/dock transfers on the island of arrival and departure.

“Complete silence, interrupted only by the sounds of the earth—the waves, the fish, and the night itself.”

— Tai Tran, Tahiti Legends client
EXPERIENCE PRIVATE YACHT CRUISING IN TAHITI – SAIL THE BEAUTIFUL LAGOONS OF BORA BORA, RAIA'TEA, TAHA'A AND HUAHINE ABOARD YOUR OWN PRIVATE CATAMARAN. Unleash your spirit of adventure and plan your own cruising itinerary. Enjoy secluded white sand beaches, stop at a remote motu and swim in translucent lagoons… you can relax and do as little or as much as you want. For families and groups of friends, share special moments and gatherings on the “Iti Iti Lagoon Cruise” itinerary which can accommodate up to eight persons. Honeymooners and couples are invited to experience the romance and privacy of the “Tahiti Twosome” which includes a Tahitian massage for two at the Deep Ocean Spa on Bora Bora.

Your sailing holiday is available with an English-speaking skipper/guide and hostess/cook. Choose from 38- to 46-foot luxury catamarans from Fountaine-Pajot or Lagoon. Your catamaran is equipped with two kayaks, two floating hammocks, dinghy, snorkeling and fishing gear. Bareboat charters are also available on request.

Cruises range from 4-7 days and are inclusive of all meals (except 2 dinners).
DISCOVER THE ISLANDS OF FRENCH POLYNESIA ABOARD THE ROA, A 77-FOOT FALCON LUXURY MOTOR YACHT. For a maximum of 8 guests in its 4 cabins, the fully air-conditioned yacht provides the ultimate in comfort, allowing guests to fully enjoy their stay.

The Roa’s professional crew, consisting of a captain, a steward and a chef, is onboard 24-hours a day, entirely at your disposal. The yacht is certified British commercial MCA, the highest in safety standards, including annual inspections, latest generation equipment and a licensed crew.

Your sailing holiday is at your complete liberty – sail from one island to another, following your desires. The itinerary and schedule are entirely up to you in the Leeward Islands of the Society archipelago.

Special activities are included each day of the cruise: shark encounter and ray feeding, a jeep safari experience, a pearl farm tour or just a romantic breakfast by the sea.

Roa Yachting cruise rates include meals and non-alcoholic beverages and daily activities as noted.

“When I go to heaven, I want it to look like Tahiti.”

— Lenora L., Tahiti Legends client
NATURE'S GIFT TO ROMANTICS

Tahiti is the perfect honeymoon and romance destination. Gentle, warm breezes, crystalline blue lagoons, sugar white beaches, swaying palm trees and the air filled with the fragrance of tropical flowers...you will know that you have found paradise.

On the following pages, you will find special offerings that are made to win the hearts of honeymooners and appeal to incurable romantics. We have created them just for the two of you—to celebrate this special time in your life when dreams can come true.
LEGEND “Maui And The Sun” – The legendary Polynesian demigod, Maui, wanted to capture the Sun. So that the Sun might shine forever, this Maori Prometheus is said to have tied the Earth to the Sun with the hair of his sister, Hinihina-Totolo. Since that day the bright rays of the tropical sun remind us of Hina’s shimmering, golden tresses. With traditional Polynesian symbolism, it is significant that the hair connects directly to the most vital energy source, the sun.
Elaborate as a royal event or as simple as an “I do” on a sugar-white sand beach…a Tahitian wedding ceremony is for many a dream come true.

**WEDDING CELEBRATIONS**

There’s no more enchanting way to exchange vows, celebrate an anniversary, or promise yourself to your loved one, than with a traditional Polynesian celebration.

Celebrations are held on flower clad beaches, in tropical gardens by the lagoon, on enchanting motu, or in chapels, such as the overwater ‘blue lagoon’ chapel in Bora Bora, with its unique glass aisle, floor to ceiling panoramic views of Mount Otemanu, and crystal candelabras. Arrive at the ceremony in Tahiti’s version of the horse-and-carriage – outrigger canoes overflowing with tropical flowers. Local villagers, musicians and dancers greet couples with traditional Tahitian wedding songs and dance. Vows are exchanged before a Tahitian High Priest, and whether you are saying “I do” for the first time, or rekindling your commitment by renewing your vows, the experience of your special moments together in paradise are sure to be memorable.
LEGAL WEDDINGS

Legal Weddings in Tahiti are carried out at the Mairie (city hall) by the Mayor (or an appointed representative from the Mayor’s Office). The ceremony is performed for the engaged couple in the presence of at least two witnesses, a translator/interpreter, and guests. After the ceremony, the newlyweds will receive a Marriage Certificate (Certificat de Célébration de Mariage) which is proof of their legal wedding.

Go to tahitilegends.com for a complete list of required documents and eligibility for legal weddings in Tahiti.
TAHITI ROMANTIC EXPERIENCES

CANOE BREAKFAST
Stay in an overwater bungalow at some of the world’s most intimate resorts. As you awake above the turquoise lagoon waters in your thatched-roof hideaway, experience signature Tahitian breakfast service, delivered by outrigger canoe.

COUPLES SPA TREATMENT
Share in the relaxation of a Tahitian spa...a blissful experience with side-by-side spa beds amid soothing natural settings, or a fresh flower bath for two. Shared spa treatments are the perfect way to unwind in one of the world’s top spa destinations.

DINNER UNDER THE STARS
Enjoy a private dining experience under the crystal clear Polynesian night sky. Indulge in fine dining on a private beach with a special romantic gourmet menu, or an unforgettable candlelit dinner on the terrace of your overwater bungalow.

VILLA MAHANA DINNER
This outstanding restaurant, with service for only 6 tables, features gastronomic French cuisine prepared by the chef/owner with local ingredients. The ambience of this charming restaurant is casual Mediterranean and very romantic.

LEIS AND HEIS
Leis and heis (crowns) of Tiare flowers are not simply reserved for tourists—the desire for beauty and adornment is anchored in the Polynesian culture. During festivals, the perfume from leis and heis is so strong, so intoxicating, that in kissing a vahine on the cheeks, some men say they become dizzy!

CAPTAIN JAMES COOK
Considered by his peers to be the best navigator and explorer of his time, Cook was sent by the British Admiralty and Academy of Sciences on three voyages of discovery in the Pacific. Tahiti was included in each of these voyages, and he played an important political role here by favoring the domination of the Pomare Dynasty.

FARE
Traditional Polynesian homes, fare, were constructed of tree trunks and branches and topped with coconut palm and pandanus. Built in different sizes according to their use, today, fare lend their styling to the charming bungalows of Tahiti’s unique resorts.
PRIVATE LAGOON CHAMPAGNE CRUISE
WITH MOTU PICNIC
Enjoy your own exclusive, private tour of Bora Bora’s beautiful lagoon with an in-the-water champagne motu BBQ picnic. Approximately 5–6 hours, with your own private boat and guide.

SUNSET CRUISE WITH COCKTAILS
Experience the magic of Bora Bora and enjoy the peace and tranquility of the South Pacific from the water. Marvel at the spectacular colors of the setting sun, as you cruise on its stunning lagoon, sip Tahitian cocktails and learn about the history of Bora Bora and the other islands.

ROMANTIC WELCOMES
Your Polynesian hosts have many ways to ensure you feel welcome upon arrival, beginning with a flower lei greeting and a friendly smile. Champagne and tropical flowers, fruit baskets, floral decorated suites and flower adorned baths are but a few of the services and amenities that can be provided for your romantic getaway.

BLACK PEARL FARM VISIT
Tahiti’s famous black pearls grow naturally in the waters of Polynesia and are cultivated here, often on small, family-operated pearl farms that dot the lagoons. See how black pearls are cultivated, sized and prepared for fine jewelry. Black pearls are the ultimate romantic gift for lovers.

TAHITI IN LITERATURE

Home from the Sea, Richard Berman. A narrative of Robert Louis Stevenson’s final years in Polynesia.

The Blue of Capricorn, Eugene Burdick. Stories and sketches about the Pacific.

Best South Seas Stories, A. G. Day. Fifteen extracts from various authors.

Gauguin in the South Seas, Bengt Danielsson. From an artist’s viewpoint, a fascinating account of Gauguin’s ten years in Polynesia.

Noa Noa, Paul Gauguin. The famous artist’s own journal, kept during his years in the islands.

The Forgotten One and Other True Tales of the South Seas, James Norman Hall. Notes about writers and intellectuals who sought refuge on the out-of-the-way islands in the Pacific, collected by the Mutiny on the Bounty co-author.

Motu Tapu, Graeme Lay. A collection of stories of the South Pacific.

South Seas Tales, Jack London. Tales about Polynesia, by one of America’s best-known naturalist writers.

Return to Paradise, James A. Michener. Essays and short stories that made famous the mythical Bali Hai—“The Tales of the South Pacific” won a Pulitzer for fiction in 1948.
POLYNESIAN DREAM

A ROMANTIC WEEK THAT IS AFFORDABLE AND INCLUDES THE BEST OF MOOREA AND BORA BORA.

DAY 1 Tahiti - Your honeymoon begins with your nonstop overnight flight from Los Angeles to the exotic splendor of Tahiti. You'll be greeted with a fresh flower lei by our smiling hostess.

DAY 2-5 Moorea - Experience the magic of Moorea - you'll spend three nights at the Sofitel Moorea Ia Ora Beach Resort. This beautiful, verdant island invites you to discover many of the secrets that have drawn romantics to its shore since the days of Captain Cook. Breakfast is included daily.

DAY 5-8 Bora Bora - Your honeymoon continues as you depart Moorea for the island of Bora Bora - surrounded by perhaps nature's most beautiful lagoon. With four days on this exotic island at Sofitel Bora Bora Marara Beach & Private Island, you'll have time to create your own special memories that will last you a lifetime. Breakfast is included daily.

Tour Code: TLH-101 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)

MOOREA ROMANCE

EIGHT FABULOUS, CAREFREE DAYS ON TAHITI & MOOREA, RELAXING IN THE PRIVACY AND COMFORT OF YOUR OWN BUNGALOW SUITE.

DAY 1 Tahiti - Leave today from Los Angeles for Tahiti - the ultimate honeymoon destination. Arrive this evening where a South Seas greeting of fragrant flower leis welcomes you. Overnight at the InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa.

DAY 2-7 Moorea - Following a leisurely breakfast, fly to Moorea and leave the cares of everyday life far, far behind. Spend six fabulous days relaxing in the privacy and comfort of your garden pool suite at the InterContinental Moorea Resort & Spa. Breakfast is included daily, and one morning you will be pampered with room service. Take your rental car for a day of exploring Moorea. One evening, sway to the rhythm of Tiki Village's tama'ara’a feast and Polynesian show. Escape by canoe to a motu islet for a picnic and a chance to see rays being fed. For total relaxation, we've included a spa experience at the hotel's Hélène Spa.

DAY 8 At leisure to enjoy the resort facilities of your hotel or shop for a special souvenir. In the evening, fly back to Tahiti and connect with your international flight.

Tour Code: TLH-201 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)

MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY On April 27, 1789, after a five-month stay on Tahiti, the “Bounty” set sail for Tonga. William Bligh, the ship’s captain, accused his crew of having stolen coconuts from his personal reserve. Bligh’s tyrannical manner, in contrast with the sweet nature of Tahitians, was unbearable for the crew. At dawn on April 28, the mutiny took place, led by Fletcher Christian, making the “Bounty” one of the most famous ships of all time. The mutineers brought the ship back to Tahiti, this time under the command of Christian and his mutineers. Some stayed on in Tahiti as mercenaries, the rest sailed on to Pitcairn, never to return.

PAPEETE MARKET At its best on Sunday mornings, but well worth a visit any day of the week. With stalls selling woven hats and baskets, pareo, Marquesan quilts, floral arrangements, shell necklaces, cushion covers, vegetables, fruit and fresh brightly colored fish, the Papeete market is a photographer’s delight.
EXOTIC HONEYMOON

FROM YOUR OVERWATER BUNGALOW AT LE MÉRIDIEN BORA BORA, YOU HAVE SPECTACULAR VIEWS OF MOUNT OTEMANU.

DAY 1 Tahiti - Leave from Los Angeles this afternoon for Tahiti - the ultimate honeymoon destination. Arrive this evening where a South Seas greeting of fragrant flower leis and traditional songs welcomes you. Overnight at Le Méridien hotel.

DAY 2-6 Bora Bora - Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at your hotel in Tahiti before returning to the airport for your mid-morning flight to beautiful Bora Bora. Check into your overwater bungalow at Le Méridien Bora Bora and get ready for five fabulous days of unforgettable experiences. Swim with the reef sharks and watch them being hand fed. Enjoy daily breakfasts and dinners at the hotel. For the truly romantic, one evening we’ve included a sunset cruise. Spend time doing things you’ve always dreamed of, or do absolutely nothing at all. There’s no more romantic place on earth.

DAY 7 Late this afternoon return to Tahiti. Your romantic rendezvous ends tonight as you board your international flight to return home.

Tour Code: TLH-301 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)

BORA BORA MAGIC

THE HILTON BORA BORA NUI RESORT & SPA IS ONE OF THE MOST MAGICAL OASIS ON EARTH, A TROPICAL FANTASY WHERE LIVING IS ALWAYS EASY.

DAY 1 Tahiti - Depart from Los Angeles today for the honeymoon of your dreams. Arrive in Tahiti tonight, where a smiling Tahitian will greet you with a flower lei and transfer you to your accommodations at the Manava Suite Resort Tahiti.

DAY 2-6 Bora Bora - Less than an hour’s flight takes you to Bora Bora, undoubtedly the most famous island in French Polynesia. Arrive at Bora Bora’s airport on Motu Mute where a representative from the Hilton Bora Bora Nui Resort & Spa will meet you and assist you to the hotel’s motor launch for your transfer across Bora Bora’s beautiful lagoon. Spend your days together in a luxurious overwater villa at this exclusive hideaway, nestled in a sacred cove of white sand and majestic lava rock. Of course no visit to Bora Bora is complete without the exhilarating shark and ray excursion. Daily breakfasts and dinners are included, and one evening, enjoy a romantic dinner on Motu Tapu, the resort’s private island.

DAY 7 The hotel will transfer you back to the airport aboard their motor launch in time for your late afternoon flight to Tahiti. This evening, bid farewell to Tahiti and board your return international flight.

Tour Code: TLH-401 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)

WILLIAM BILGH Captain of the “Bounty,” Bligh was sent to Tahiti to collect breadfruit seedlings. Cleared in the naval inquiry into the mutiny, he returned to Tahiti to collect breadfruit. After another naval mutiny, and a revolt in Australia during a term as governor of New South Wales, he returned to Britain, ending his career as a Vice Admiral.

TIARE Worn behind the ear, in the hair, made into leis and heis (floral crowns), the fragrant, white star-shaped flower of the Gardenia Tahitensis is the national emblem of Tahiti. When placed behind the left ear of a vahine, it signifies “my heart is taken,” and behind the right ear, “my heart is still to be taken.”

POISSON CRU A popular dish served throughout the islands, poisson cru (marinated fish) is a perfect light lunch or refreshing appetizer. The recipe is simple, and the results delicious: cube raw tuna or bonito and marinate it for ten to thirty minutes in lime juice, until it’s just “cooked.” Mix with minced tomato, grated carrot and chopped onion. Blend with unsweetened coconut milk. Bon appétit!
DAY 1 Tahiti - Depart from Los Angeles on your flight bound for the most beautiful islands in the world. Following a traditional fragrant flower lei greeting, you will be transferred to the InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa for the night. DAY 2-7 Bora Bora - Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and then return to the airport for your flight to beautiful Bora Bora. Create your own special honeymoon magic during five days in a flower-adorned overwater bungalow at the Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora. Experience the renowned elegance and style synonymous with the Four Seasons brand. You will be pampered in the lap of luxury at this exclusive resort and revel in its amazing views. Daily breakfast is included. DAY 7 Late in the afternoon, return to the Bora Bora Airport via the hotel’s private motor launch for your flight back to Tahiti. Depart this evening on your international flight.

Tour Code: TLH-501 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)

DAY 1-2 Tahiti/Moorea - Depart from Los Angeles late this evening on your flight bound for the most beautiful islands in the world. Less than eight hours later, and voila, you wake up in Tahiti...the ultimate South Seas destination. Following a traditional Tahitian welcome, fly to Moorea, where your garden bungalow suite with private pool awaits at the InterContinental Moorea Resort & Spa. DAY 2-5 Moorea - You’ll discover the beauty of Moorea as you drive around the island and into the lush, hidden valleys. Join the snorkeling excursion to the motu where you can swim among the multi-colored fish in the crystal clear lagoon. Travel back in time to Polynesia of yesteryear when you visit Tiki Village. Relax at the hotel’s Hélène Spa and enjoy a spa experience.

DAY 5-8 Bora Bora - Bid farewell to Moorea this morning and fly to Bora Bora, undoubtedly the most famous island in Polynesia. An exclusive and intimate resort located on famous Matira Beach, the InterContinental Bora Bora Le Moana is the perfect setting for romance. No visit is complete without the shark & ray snorkel safari. For an exploration adventure, take the 4x4 jeep safari. To top off your trip, bid farewell by indulging in your romantic champagne dinner under the stars or served in the privacy of your overwater bungalow. DAY 8 Board your return flight to Tahiti late today. Tonight, depart these romantic islands aboard your international flight.

Tour Code: TLH-601 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)
The luxurious St. Regis Bora Bora Resort offers the epitome of carefree elegance and absolute perfection.

**DAY 1 Tahiti** - Depart from Los Angeles today for the honeymoon of your dreams. You will be greeted with flower leis and a beautiful Tahitian smile. The InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa will welcome you for the first night. **DAY 2-8 Bora Bora** - Early the next day in Tahiti, enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the hotel before you board your inter-island flight to Bora Bora. In about 1 hour, you will arrive at your magical honeymoon destination. Create that special bliss in the comfort of luxury and elegance at the St. Regis Resort’s overwater villa. During your stay at the lavish resort, indulge in champagne right in your villa, or go out on your private deck. Activities are included for the adventure seeker, with the shark and ray snorkeling safari and the 4x4 jeep excursion of the island. Also included is dinner at the famous Bloody Mary’s on Bora Bora, a gourmet experience at La Villa Mahana, and for your last night, enjoy a romantic champagne dinner under the stars on the beach. Guests can also relax on Bora Bora’s pristine beaches while capturing every essence of the opalescent lagoons. An outrigger canoe breakfast will be delivered one morning to the private deck of your villa.

**DAY 8** - Board your return flight to Tahiti late today. Tonight, depart these romantic islands aboard your international flight.

Tour Code: TLH-701 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)

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**TAHITIAN RECIPES**

**PAPAYA JAM** Choose ripe papayas, peel, remove the seeds, and then cube the raw fruit into a pan. (About 4 cups of raw fruit will yield 2–3 pints of jam.) Cook until tender, with just enough water to prevent burning. Add 3 cups sugar, stirring until dissolved, plus 1/2 of a vanilla bean, and the juice of a lime wedge to the fruit. Cook over high heat, stirring constantly, to a strong, rolling boil as the mixture thickens. Remove from heat, skim off the foam and immediately ladle the jam into hot, sterilized jars, and seal. Savor the juicy sweetness of papaya jam, added to baguette slices and croissants.

**GREEN PAPAYA SALAD** Select one firm, medium-sized green papaya for each 4 servings. Peel the fruit, cut in half, remove the seeds, and then grate finely. Sprinkle with olive oil and the juice of 2 limes. Salt and pepper to taste. For a spicier flavor, add fresh (or oil-preserved) hot peppers. Line a small plate with greens, and mound the fruit on top for a delicious salad.

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**POLYNESIAN CARESS**

**THE INTERCONTINENTAL BORA BORA RESORT & THALASSO SPA** is the perfect setting for romance and relaxation.

**DAY 1 Tahiti** - Depart from Los Angeles on your flight bound for the most beautiful islands in the world. Just eight hours later you’re in Tahiti…the ultimate South Seas destination. Following a traditional Tahitian welcome, you will be escorted to the beautiful InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa for your overnight stay in a panoramic view room. **DAY 2-7 Bora Bora** - In the morning, board your inter-island flight from Tahiti to Bora Bora. Only 50 minutes away, you will arrive at one of the world’s ultimate honeymoon destinations. Your luxurious overwater villa at the InterContinental Bora Bora Resort & Thalasso Spa will be waiting for you with fragrant flowers. Discover Bora Bora’s treasures—warm sugar white sand beaches and an unbelievable turquoise lagoon—in a place where time stands still. Laugh with excitement on a shark excursion, explore the island on a 4x4 jeep safari excursion, and experience a spa treatment at the Deep Ocean Spa. A romantic champagne dinner is included for your last night in this tropical paradise. Enjoy the special honeymoon bonus features included in this ultimate overwater bungalow honeymoon package. **DAY 7** Board your return flight to Tahiti late today. Tonight, depart these romantic islands aboard your international flight.

Tour Code: TLH-801 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)
Like these paradise islands, no two travelers are alike. At Tahiti Legends, we believe the same should be true of vacations. That’s why we give you choices from a variety of vacation concepts...designed to recapture the romance of travel, delight your senses, and etch lasting impressions in your memory. No matter which option you choose, you’ll enjoy the freedom of independent travel, exceptional service, and excellent value for money. If the vacations featured here don’t quite match your needs, we’ll be happy to customize your own dream vacation. Inclusive or a la carte – Our complete vacations feature the most popular island combinations, in a choice of different price categories from moderate to luxury. Choose the inclusive version, with at least two meals a day and sightseeing, or take them a la carte. Please visit our website for additional island/hotel combinations and pricing – www.tahitilegends.com.
Long ago, during the great famine on the Island of Raiatea, Ruata’ata and his wife Rumauri’i were concerned for the well-being of their four children. With nothing left to eat, they decided to take their starving children to a cave in the mountains to forage for ferns. One night, Ruata’ata told his wife... “Tomorrow morning, when you awake, go outside and you’ll see my hands have become leaves, my body and arms will be a trunk and branches, and my head will be a round fruit.” His wife did not understand what Ruata’ata was saying, but early the next morning, she noticed that the entrance to the cave was in the shadow of a splendid tree. It was then she understood that her husband, out of despair for his family, had transformed himself into a breadfruit tree. She cried as she picked up the fruit to feed her children. From this valley, known as Tua’uru, the tree flourished and multiplied, bringing food to all of the islands.
YOU HAVE 8 DAYS TO DISCOVER THE MAGIC THAT CAUSES MANY TO PROCLAIM MOOREA THE “PERFECT SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND.”

DAY 1 Tahiti - Leave Los Angeles tonight on the vacation you’ve always dreamed of, in the legendary islands of Tahiti. DAY 2-8 Moorea - Just 8 hours later and you wake up in paradise! Warm Tahitian smiles and a fragrant tiare lei welcomes you. Take a short but scenic ferry ride across the Sea of the Moon to majestic Moorea. Settle in at your hotel, take a dip in the crystal clear lagoon, then lay back and get ready for five unforgettable days. Each day offers its own special adventures... bask on a white sand beach, tropical drink close at hand. Take your rental car around Moorea’s 37-mile perimeter road, and explore the interior on an adventurous 4x4 jeep safari. You’ll have no trouble filling your days and nights on Moorea, the perfect South Pacific Island. DAY 8-9 Tahiti - Back to Tahiti today, with time enough to head into Papeete aboard le truck, the colorful local transport, for some last-minute sightseeing, dining and shopping. Enjoy the sunset with a final tropical cocktail, or mix with the locals for dinner at the lively roulottes. Your South Seas sojourn comes to an end on day 9.

Tour Code: TLI-101 This package is offered as inclusive of meals/tours, or a la carte with 5 categories of hotel choices. Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.

THEY SAY THAT ONE COULD STAY HERE FOR ONE DAY, OR ONE YEAR, AND BORA BORA WOULD NEVER LOSE ITS MAGICAL CHARM.

DAY 1 Tahiti - Board your late evening flight from Los Angeles bound for the legendary islands of Tahiti. DAY 2-8 Bora Bora - Imagine arriving in Hawaii fifty years ago, only more beautiful. That’s Tahiti... a delicate flower lei and traditional songs of welcome against a beautiful backdrop. And less than an hour’s flight away is Bora Bora, the most stunning island of them all. Barely 20 miles around, what it lacks in size, it makes up for with smiling faces and happy people. The beauty of its lagoon is unsurpassed anywhere in the South Pacific. DAY 8 Tahiti - Return to Tahiti by air today. Ride into the picturesque port town of Papeete aboard the open-air Tahitian bus affectionately known as le truck. There’s no better way to meet the locals than to share a seat with them as you bounce your way between your hotel and town. DAY 9 Alas, your stay in Tahiti ends today. On departure you will be presented with a shell lei which means, someday, somehow, you will return to these paradise islands.

Tour Code: TLI-201 This package is offered as inclusive of meals/tours, or a la carte with 5 categories of hotel choices. Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.

STAMPS Colorful and artistic in design, Tahitian stamps depict the flora, fauna, people, history and culture of the islands, each one a mini travel poster for this exotic paradise. Stamps can be purchased throughout the islands, but keen philatelists should head for the main post office in Papeete. A reliable subscription service is available to those not wanting to miss new releases.
A three island experience in the tropical paradise that has captivated painters, writers and lovers for hundreds of years.

Day 1 Tahiti - Depart from Los Angeles this evening for the warmth and beauty of Polynesia on your non-stop flight. Day 2-5 Moorea - 8 hours later, and you’re in Tahiti... the ultimate South Pacific destination. Following a traditional Tahitian welcome, you’ll fly on to Moorea with its jagged emerald peaks, palm-shaded beaches, and spectacular lagoon... give yourself over to the pleasure of island living in this tropical paradise that has captivated the eyes and hearts of painters and writers for hundreds of years. Day 5-9 Bora Bora - Fly to Bora Bora, a breathtakingly beautiful island with an informal, unhurried way of life. Unwind at your hotel, take a jeep safari around the island, snorkel the fringes of the barrier reef, stroll the main street of quaint Vaitape village. Fill your time with countless adventures, or lay back, relax, and do absolutely nothing at all. Witness one of the most amazing and romantic sunsets you will ever see, sip a cocktail... enjoy the simple pleasures and unique natural beauty of Bora Bora.

Day 9 Tahiti - return to Tahiti. A land of unbounded beauty, Tahiti is the most famous of the Polynesian islands. Shop, dine and explore the local color.

Day 11 Bid farewell to paradise.

Tour Code: TLI-401 This package is offered as inclusive of meals/tours, or a la carte with 5 categories of hotel choices. Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.
LEGENDARY ISLANDS

These Island ‘Pearls’ invite you to spend countless hours exploring the stunning lagoons and combing the creamy coral beaches.

DAY 1 Tahiti - Board your afternoon flight from Los Angeles for Tahiti. Arrive this evening, your first night in paradise. A smiling Tahitian will greet you with a delicate flower lei.

DAY 2-5 Taha’a - A short airplane ride away, Taha’a is an untouched island dream. With three days in an overwater bungalow, you’ll have time to relax, snorkel in the crystalline lagoon, and bask in the sun on the privacy of your deck. Stroll the white sand beaches...you’ll truly feel that you are alone in your own private paradise.

DAY 5-10 Bora Bora - The best should always be saved for last, Bora Bora is truly one of nature’s most inspired creations. Ranging in color from the palest turquoise to the deepest blue, it invites you to spend countless hours swimming, snorkeling, and combing its creamy coral beaches. You’ll have four days to relax, snorkel in the crystalline lagoon, and bask in the sun on the privacy of your overwater bungalow’s deck. DAY 10 Fly back to Tahiti today, Polynesia’s most populous island for your return flight.

Tour Code: TLI-601 This package is offered as inclusive of meals/tours, or a la carte with 5 categories of hotel choices. Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.

PEARLS OF PARADISE

Get ready for real South Seas living – majestic verdant mountains, spectacular turquoise lagoons and endless beaches.

DAY 1 Tahiti - Board your afternoon flight from Los Angeles for Tahiti. Arrive this evening, your first night in paradise. A smiling Tahitian will greet you with a delicate flower lei.

DAY 2-5 Huahine - Fly to Huahine, an island of unsurpassed beauty and friendly people. Discover the island’s archaeological digs, breathe in the heady aroma of its vanilla plantations, and wander into Fare - an authentic South Seas village.

DAY 5-9 Bora Bora - A short airplane ride away, Bora Bora is truly one of nature’s most inspired creations. Surrounding a tiny, dramatic island is one of the most stunning lagoons in all the Pacific. Ranging in color from the palest turquoise to the deepest blue, it invites you to spend countless hours swimming, snorkeling, and combing its creamy coral beaches. Paradise, unsurpassed!

DAY 9-13 Moorea - Next stop, Moorea, with its casual, barefoot lifestyle. Escape to a deserted motu, fish, dive, play tennis. Delve into the myths, rituals, and traditions of the Polynesian culture at Tiki Village, or sway to ancient rhythms in a hammock.

DAY 13 Return to Tahiti and board your international return flight home.

Tour Code: TLI-501 This package is offered as inclusive of meals/tours, or a la carte with 5 categories of hotel choices. Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.

RAAU TAHITI

Traditional Tahitian medicine (or Raau Tahiti) has, for centuries, treasured many tropical plants, trees, fruits, nuts and herbs as natural remedies. The juice of the noni fruit is sought after for its pharmaceutical properties, and oil extracted from the tamanu nut is used for skin care, a natural sunburn lotion, and moisturizer.

PANDANUS

The pandanus, or fara, is second only to the coconut palm in its importance to the Tahitian way of life. Its many uses range from waterproof roofing to harpoon handles. But its leading role is as a craft material, when it is deftly transformed into baskets, mats and hats that are prized for their coolness and lightness.

JAMES NORMAN HALL

Adventurer, author and poet, Hall came to Tahiti in 1920 with Charles Nordhoff and started their famous collaboration. Many of their best-known works, like “Mutiny on the Bounty” and “Hurricane,” were written in Hall’s home at Arue on the island of Tahiti, where he lived until his death in 1951. A kind and gentle man, Hall was described by James Michener as “the most beloved American who ever came to the tropics.”
TAHITIAN EMBRACE

REFRESH, REVITALIZE, RENEW. TAHITI IS THE PERFECT TROPICAL SETTING FOR YOUR SPA EXPERIENCE. LET YOURSELF RELAX IN A THATCHED-ROOF POLYNESIAN SPA NESTLED IN A LUSH NATURAL SETTING.

DAY 1-4 Tahiti/Moorea - Arrive in Tahiti from Los Angeles and continue to the island of Moorea to experience the ultimate in relaxation as your wellness package begins. Arrive in Moorea and receive your warm, flower lei welcome and check into your bungalow. Your two-day spa package will include signature treatments, such as Tahitian sand scrub, river bath, regenerating rainshower, Tahitian massage with grapefruit and pineapple oil, nourishing papaya body scrub and appeasing massage with virgin oil of sacred Tamanu.

DAY 4-7 Bora Bora - Continue to the magical island of Bora Bora. Here you will indulge in a personalized spa experience on the edge of Bora Bora’s pristine lagoon. Your treatments will include deep aromatherapy bath duo, body scrub, custom body massage, scalp reflexology, marine indulgence seaweed body wrap and back/neck/shoulder massage.

DAY 7 Fly back to Tahiti this morning and connect with your international return flight.

Tour Code: LIF-SPA1 [Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.]

SPA SENSATIONS

REDEFINING THE SPA CONCEPT IN FRENCH POLYNESIA, DEEP OCEAN SPA IS A TRUE DESTINATION SPA – OFFERING SPA THERAPIES BY TREATMENT, BY DAY, AND BY FULL CUSTOMIZED WEEKLY REGIMEN.

DAY 1 Tahiti - Arrive in Tahiti from Los Angeles for a day before you head to Bora Bora for five days of Polynesian relaxation. DAY 2-7 Bora Bora - Fly to Bora Bora and check in to the InterContinental Bora Bora Resort & Thalasso Spa. Here the spa uses mineral-rich deep seawater in innovative signature treatments and offers a variety of hydro-therapies and beauty care. The spa features a huge aquatonic seawater pool, hammam à l’oriental, a fitness and aerobic room, and glass-bottom overwater massage suites where guests can admire the marine life during treatments. Your 5-day Marine Indulgence room and spa package will include: marine deep sea hydromassage bath with chromatherapy; AlgoBora marine scrub and wrap; relaxing pearl rain massage; marine mud treatment; custom body massage; Algo Fraicheur tired legs care; deep radiance facial; AlgoBora seaweed body wrap; and back/neck/shoulder massage. DAY 7 Your stay in Tahiti comes to an end, but you return home revived and rejuvenated.

Tour Code: LIF-SPA2 [Up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.]

ISLAND OR ATOLL? The archipelagos of French Polynesia are formed of both high islands and atolls. All extinct volcanoes, islands (e.g. Bora Bora) slowly sink and, through the action of builder corals, a barrier reef forms. When the island has completely disappeared, all that remains is a necklace of coral islets surrounding a huge lagoon (e.g. Rangiroa).

FISH HOOKS Usually carved of mother-of-pearl and shaped with coral files, Polynesian fish hooks varied in shape according to the catch. Small hooks were for shallow water, while big fish from the barrier reef were lured with large wooden hooks sharpened to a point.

CANOEES Probably the most essential of all Polynesian artifacts, the canoe was indispensable for fishing, getting from one island to another and fighting wars. Today, small outrigger canoes provide the ideal means for exploring Tahiti’s crystal-clear lagoons.
LET THE COLORS OF TAHITI INSPIRE YOU AS YOU MARVEL AT THE NATURAL SPLENDOR AND SCENERY WHICH INSPIRED PAINTERS AND NOVELISTS ALIKE.

DAY 1-3 Tahiti - Arrive in Tahiti from Los Angeles and be inspired as so many artists have before you. During your stay, discover some of the most renowned and recognizable works that have attempted to capture the spirit and beauty of Tahiti. Visit the Paul Gauguin Museum and see sketches, sculptures, original and reproduction paintings as well as photographs of the acclaimed French artist. Discover the natural and cultural treasures at the Tahiti and Her Islands Museum, and the jewel of the South Pacific - the black pearl, at the Robert Wan Pearl Museum. See the home of famous author James Norman Hall, co-author of the Mutiny on the Bounty. DAY 3-7 Bora Bora - Fly to Bora Bora, and continue your experience with a special appointment with renowned Tahitian artist Alain Despert* at his mountaintop studio. Visit local artist galleries* and paint your own pareo on the beach. For the adventurous, a private appointment with famed tattoo artist Marama can be arranged.

DAY 7 Return to Tahiti for your return flight home.

Tour Code: LIF-ART *These special tours are customized for each client, on request only and limited in availability. Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.

FROM A COUPLE DANCING THE TAMURE TO TAHITI’S BEST PERFORMANCES AT THE ANNUAL HEIVA, TAHITIAN DANCE IS AN ART FORM OF EXTRAORDINARY VITALITY AND AN IMPORTANT PART OF POLYNESIAN CULTURE.

DAY 1-3 Tahiti - Begin your discovery of Tahitian music and dance in Tahiti. Attend the Grand Ballets performance with dinner at Soirée Merveilleuse. DAY 3-6 Moorea - Fly to Moorea where you will get a chance to try your hand at Tahitian dancing. First, take in a dinner show at the Tiki Village, then learn the techniques with your own private Tahitian dance lessons*. Attend a special ‘mama’ show and dinner before heading to your next destination. DAY 6-9 Bora Bora - On arrival in Bora Bora, check in to your hotel and prepare for the excitement of the fire dance and haka warrior dance on the beach.* For the ultimate in Tahitian dance, get your ticket to a performance during Heiva Festival.* Here, proud Polynesian culture will be on display at its finest. Singing and dancing competitions, accompanied by the live music of musicians playing traditional instruments, recount the islands’ proud heritage.

DAY 9 Time has come to return home with your newly acquired skills.

Tour Code: LIF-DAN *These special tours are customized for each client, on request only and limited in availability. Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.

DIVING FRENCH POLYNESIA

Tahiti’s underwater world is just as lush, varied and colorful as her above-water scenery. Scuba divers can expect to cruise the aquamarine lagoon waters alongside tremendous numbers of brilliantly hued reef fish, shy eels, schools of shimmering jacks and barracuda, graceful turtles, even manta rays and sharks.

Everywhere in French Polynesia, the turquoise lagoon waters are warm and inviting, and the marine life is simply abundant. It is among the Tuamotu atolls, though, where the best diversity of marine life occurs, for the more experienced divers. There, the nutrient-rich waters that flow through the passes from the outer reef into the lagoon hold myriad underwater adventures with soaring manta rays and cruising sharks.

There are established dive shops on each island, offering a range of opportunities for every level of diving experience. Most also offer diving certifications or resort courses for uncertified divers.
WHETHER YOU’RE AN AMATEUR CHEF OR A CONNOISSEUR OF FINE FOOD, TAHITI OFFERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO DELIGHT YOUR SENSES.

DAY 1-3 Tahiti - For the true epicurean, Tahiti and Her Islands has much to offer. During your stay in Tahiti, visit the bustling market and discover Papeete’s lively waterfront. Here you will find the roulottes, where local vendors offer a wide variety of foods. The next evening, delight in a gastronomic dinner at Le Lotus overwater restaurant.

DAY 3-6 Moorea - Travel to Moorea, known as the pineapple island. Visit a pineapple plantation followed by a distillery tour, where various fruit juices and liquors are produced. For a truly unique experience, you will have the opportunity for a Polynesian cooking lesson on a motu.

DAY 6-9 Bora Bora - Continue your gourmet experience in Bora Bora. Escape for a private sunset motu dinner* with Tahitian oven and venture out for traditional fishing* with a local fisherman on a poti marara. Cap it all off with a gourmet dinner at Villa Mahana, a charming restaurant that features fine French cuisine, prepared with local ingredients.

DAY 9-12 Taha’a - Fly to Taha’a, the vanilla island. Visit a vanilla plantation and observe first-hand how vanilla is cultivated, followed by a 3-course gastronomic vanilla tasting menu.

DAY 12 return to Tahiti for your departure flight home.

Tour Code: LIF-GMT *These special tours are customized for each client, on request only and limited in availability. Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.

DAY 1-3 Tahiti - Your active vacation begins in Tahiti, a land of unbounded beauty. Tahiti is the most famous of the Polynesian islands and has several great surfing spots, including the world-famous Teahupoo.

DAY 3-6 Moorea - Fly to Moorea with its jagged emerald peaks, palm-shaded beaches, and spectacular lagoon. Spend a half-day in the shoes of a dolphin trainer* and take private lessons on the care of sea turtles*. Discover the rugged beauty of Moorea with an exhilarating ATV tour. Spend a challenging and scenic day on the Jack Nicklaus championship golf course.

DAY 6-9 Bora Bora - Fly to Bora Bora, a breathtakingly beautiful island waiting to be discovered – both above and below water. Take a private guided hike in the mountain to discover hidden marae. Hit the water with an exciting jet boat experience, and discover the pristine lagoon as you scuba dive past a colorful array of coral and marine life. A true treat is an encounter with a giant manta ray; watch as it soars majestically by.

DAY 9 return to Tahiti and contemplate all of the amazing discoveries you have made as you journey home.

Tour Code: LIF-ADV *These special tours are customized for each client, on request only and limited in availability. Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.

ISLAND GOURMET

POLOYNESIAN ADVENTURE

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND DISCOVER ALL OF THE TREASURES THAT AWAIT ON THIS THREE ISLAND TOUR.

LE TRUCK Tahiti’s most famous form of transport is the inimitable ‘le truck.’ These converted cargo vehicles offer an inexpensive and often entertaining way to get around. Hop aboard, exchange smiles with shy Tahitians as you bounce your way along, then pay the driver when you get off. It’s not only cheap, it’s fun!

SAY IT IN TAHITIAN

Hello: ‘ia orana
How are you? : eaha te huru?
I’m fine: maitei
Good bye: paahi
Thank you: maururu
Yes, No: ‘e, ‘aita

FOOD AND RESTAURANTS Dining is a delight in these islands where an abundance of seafood, tropical fruits, and fresh vegetables are treated to the culinary skills of master chefs, or conjured up into ageold Polynesian recipes. Numerous French, Chinese and Tahitian restaurants can be found throughout the islands, mostly on Tahiti, Moorea and Bora Bora. And, of course, there’s gourmet picnics on offshore islets, snacks in outdoor cafes, and succulent traditional Polynesian feasts.
TAHITI OFFERS UNIQUE TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR FAMILY, FROM SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN TO GRANDPARENTS. THE FAMILY IS THE CENTER OF POLYNESIAN CULTURE... WHICH MEANS THAT YOUR FAMILY IS TRULY RECEIVED AS WELCOME VISITORS TO THEIR PARADISE.

The relaxed nature of the Polynesians, the serene island settings and the gentle tropical breezes are some of the best antidotes for the stress we all experience, no matter if we are children with busy homework and sports schedules or adults working to meet the demands of life today. Tahiti has many unique and enriching experiences for you and your family. Discover Polynesian culture, art and history at Tiki Village. Swim with bottlenose dolphins. See the ray ballets up close. Adopt a sea turtle. Encounter 200 species of sea life at the Lagoonarium. Enjoy walks along pristine beaches. Snorkel in the turquoise lagoons. The family vacation gives you time to reconnect with your family, relax and rejuvenate. Create everlasting memories.
TAHITI OFFERS A WORLD OF ADVENTURE FOR FAMILIES. DISCOVER POLYNESIAN CULTURE, ART AND HISTORY. SWIM WITH A BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN. SEE THE RAY BALLET UP CLOSE. ADOPT A SEA TURTLE...TAHITI OFFERS AN ABUNDANCE OF ACTIVITIES DESIGNED FOR FAMILY FUN AND ENRICHMENT.

DAY 1-7 Tahiti/Moorea - Arrive in Tahiti from Los Angeles and hop aboard the inter-island ferry for a short cruise to Moorea. Once in Moorea, settle in with your family, explore the resort. Enjoy a cultural Polynesian show at the Tiki Village Theatre. Dine on traditional Tahitian cuisine and watch as 60 dancers and musicians perform a spectacular dance show. Pay a visit to the Moorea Dolphin Center, home to three bottlenose dolphins, and get a chance to learn about, and interact with these wonderful creatures. Discover Moorea’s beautiful Cook’s Bay and Opunohu Bay on a circle island tour. Then cruise the bays as you make your way out to a motu, where your guide will feed the rays, give a coconut demonstration and prepare a full buffet picnic.

DAY 7-8 Tahiti - Return to Tahiti where you will have a chance to visit the Lagoonarium at the InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa. Discover the myriad of different fish species that can be found in Tahitian waters. DAY 8 Board your flight for your return home.

Tour Code: LIF-FAM1 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)

DAY 1-5 Tahiti/Moorea - Arrive in Tahiti from Los Angeles and catch your connecting flight to Moorea. Once in Moorea, settle in with your family, explore the resort. Enjoy a cultural Polynesian show at the Tiki Village Theatre. Dine on traditional Tahitian cuisine and watch as 60 dancers and musicians perform a spectacular dance show. Pay a visit to the Moorea Dolphin Center, home to three bottlenose dolphins, and get a chance to learn about, and interact with these wonderful creatures. Discover Moorea’s beautiful Cook’s Bay and Opunohu Bay on a circle island tour. Then cruise the bays as you make your way out to a motu, where your guide will feed the rays, give a coconut demonstration and prepare a full buffet picnic.

DAY 5-8 Bora Bora - Continue on to Bora Bora where you will have a chance to visit the Lagoonarium. Here you will discover the myriad of different fish species that can be found in Tahitian waters up close and personal – this is an aquarium that you can actually swim in. With your knowledgeable guide, you can interact with the creatures you are learning about. DAY 8 Return to Tahiti for your flight home.

Tour Code: LIF-FAM2 (Hotel combinations and up-to-date pricing available online at www.tahitilegends.com.)

“... they laugh from the heart and speak with their eyes. Their heart is a wanderer, the future left to fate.”

— Jacques Brel