
TAHITI: ISLANDS IN TIME

A SIGNATURE TRAVEL JOURNEY WITH COX & KINGS

Tahiti □ Moorea □ Bora Bora □ Rangiroa □ Private Island Camp □ Tahiti

TOUR DETAILS

14 Days / 13 Nights

START

Tahiti

FINISH

Tahiti

2009 Price

January - December

\$10,545 Per Person Double

Single Supplement: \$5655

Internal Airfare:

\$735.00 per person

2010 Prices TBA

WHAT'S INCLUDED

All hotel accommodations as in itinerary with
breakfast daily

Special meals as described in itinerary

All internal flights

Private car for arrival and departure transfers

Private sightseeing as described in itinerary including
entrance fees and services of professional local guides

Assistance and portage at all airports

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

International airfare; Travel insurance, visa fees

Airport departure taxes; excess baggage fees

Personal items and alcoholic beverages

All gratuities to guides, drivers and staff

Tahiti and her islands are the ultimate South Seas paradise – lush mountains, crystalline lagoons, magnificent coral reefs and a rich cultural heritage. These islands have attracted adventurers and romantics since they were first visited by Europeans in the 18th century. Before then, Polynesians lived in isolated splendor in what truly was a paradise on Earth. On this trip you will camp on your own island, climb a volcano, and share a Tahitian feast in a private home. Tour significant Polynesian archeological sites, hike to the spectacular Fa'arumai Waterfalls, and explore a remote atoll with a local resident as your guide. Swim, Scuba, and snorkel in pristine coral atolls among brilliant marine life, and spend a day with a reef ecologist.

Day One Tahiti

Arrive at Tahiti and transfer to the Inter-Continental Beachcomber Hotel. The remainder of the day is at your leisure to rest and relax at your lovely resort. Tonight you will enjoy a welcome dinner.

Tahiti is the largest of the 118 enchanting islets of French Polynesia. Crowned by Polynesia's two highest peaks, surrounded by spectacular coral reefs and black sand beaches, Tahiti is often referred to as the island of love.

Papeete, the lively capital of Tahiti, offers an array of sidewalk cafes and an amazing selection of stores and boutiques filled with local handicrafts, shell jewelry and the latest French fashions. Le Truck, colorful open-air buses, gives you easy access to downtown and is a great way to meet locals. Away from the capital this turtle shaped island has a variety of landscapes and visits to enjoy. It is an island of gracious people who have made the joy of living an art.

Inter-Continental Beachcomber (Panoramic View Room) (D)

Day Two Tahiti

This is a day to settle into island time, get rid of jet lag, and have an easy introduction to the natural and cultural history of French Polynesia. After a relaxing morning you will be taken to the Museum of Tahiti and Her Islands, which has some wonderful cultural and historical displays.

Inter-Continental Beachcomber (Panoramic View Room) (B/L)

Day Three Tahiti

Today you will have a chance to experience the historical and natural side of Tahiti with a full-day tour around Tahiti Nui (the big section of the island). Highlights of the tour include: Matavai Bay and Point Venus – where the first contact between Europeans and Tahitians took place and where Cook, Bligh, and Darwin all anchored,

The Fa'arumai Waterfalls – a short hike to some beautiful cascades with a great swimming hole; the Harrison Smith Botanical Garden; the Paul Gauguin Museum.

OR - Climb the second highest peak (as much of as possible), on Tahiti today. This is a chance to see native cloud forest and the most incredible views in the South Pacific.

OR - Explore the interior of Tahiti and visit some wonderful archaeological sites. Your guide will take you up the coast to the largest valley on Tahiti, Papenoo, where you will go on a 4x4 adventure into the heart of the island. There will be time along the way for some hiking and swimming in some great river pools.

Inter-Continental Beachcomber (Panoramic View Room) (B/L)

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Day Four Papeete – Moorea

Today you take the high-speed Aremiti Ferry across the sea of the Moon to Moorea. After checking into your hotel, the remainder of the morning is free. This afternoon, you will be taken on a lagoon cruise for snorkeling and to see the natural world of the reef and reef islands or motus.

Moorea is an island with volcanic peaks reflected in crystalline waters, lush vegetation, and mountain slopes covered with plantations. Coconut palms sway on its white sand beaches. Just a few minutes by plane from Tahiti, Moorea is the nearest island to the capital of French Polynesia. The majestic relief of its mountains and its turquoise-colored lagoon are instantly recognizable, and for those lucky enough to visit, unforgettable. Legend tells of a golden-skinned lizard, abandoned by its human parents, swam several days and landed, exhausted, onto the Aimeho reef. Thus it was here, in friendly waters filled with dazzling fish that the island of Moorea was born.

Sheraton Moorea (Beach Bungalow) (B)

Day Five Moorea

This day will be spent touring the entire island of Moorea. Your guide will take you to all the best cultural and historical sites. You will visit an ancient village in Opunohu Valley, huge 'marae' (traditional temples) along the coast, and the historic gardens of the Kellum family. There will be time to hike and swim along the way.

Sheraton Moorea (Beach Bungalow) (B/L)

Day Six Moorea

Today is at your leisure.

You may want to enjoy an optional whale-watching trip (July – October). Every Southern Hemisphere winter, Humpback whales move from their Antarctic feeding grounds into the waters of French Polynesia to calf and mate. So from July through October it is possible to take a boat through the reef pass and into the open ocean and watch these magnificent creatures. Your half-day trip will be lead by an expert naturalist guide who will talk about the natural history of these incredible animals.

Sheraton Moorea (Beach Bungalow) (B)

Days Seven – Nine Moorea to Bora Bora

Today you are transferred to the airport for your flight to Bora Bora. Upon arrival you are met and transferred to your hotel for check-in. These three days are at your leisure in paradise for snorkeling, beachcombing, sightseeing or just relaxing in the shade.

Bora Bora's main island sits like a jewel in the center of its legendary multi-colored lagoon, which is surrounded by off-shore islets inside a protective necklace of coral. Dominated by two towering volcanic peaks that are visible from any point on the island, Bora Bora is indeed awesome. You can inspect the World War II relics that dot the island, visit museums and art galleries, walk along beautiful Matira Beach, or simply examine the colorful flora that blooms around the island.

Four Seasons Bora Bora (Beach view Bungalow) (B)

Day Ten Bora Bora to Rangiroa

Today you are transferred to the airport for your flight to Rangiroa. Upon arrival transfer to your hotel for check-in.

The remainder of your day is at your leisure.

Rangiroa, with its 42 mile long by 16 mile wide turquoise lagoon, is the largest atoll in the Tuamotu Archipelago and the second largest in the world. Only an hour's flight from Tahiti, Rangiroa offers sunshine, white coral beaches and an immense playground for water sports and activities such as line or drag fishing and motor boat outings to visit Tiputa village, various remote motu islets, the bird sanctuary on Motu Paio and the famous "Blue Lagoon" of Toeo'o.

Rangiroa lagoon and the pass are also world famous for unsurpassed scuba diving and amazing snorkeling through the pass amongst thousands of colorful fish of all shapes and sizes together with 3 or 4 varieties of sharks.

Kia Ora Village (Beach Bungalow) (B)

Days Eleven–Twelve Rangiroa to Private Island

Today you will meet your guide and set off on a private island camping expedition. You will travel across the lagoon on a spacious motor boat. Your guide will take you to his favorite remote camping site(s), tell you all about the natural and cultural history of the lagoon and reef islands, and lead you on snorkeling and spear-fishing adventures. For two days and two nights you will be treated to the best in Tuamotu camping, with fish barbeques, beautiful palm-shaded beaches, spectacular sunsets. All food, drink (including some wine and beer) and equipment will be supplied and is included.

Recommended gear: sturdy aquatic footwear – Teva-type sandals, reef booties, old running shoes, etc; mask and snorkel (at minimum) and fins (if you want) – Your guide will have some but it is much better to have something that fits you well; good hat that will stay on your head; sun shirt; sun screen; camera; etc.

Private Island Camping (B/L/D)

Day Thirteen Rangiroa

In the morning, you return to the village and your hotel. The rest of the day is at your leisure to relax, stroll through the village, swim or snorkel as you please.

Kia Ora Village (Beach Bungalow) (B)

Day Fourteen Tahiti - Depart

Today you return to Papeete by air. The remainder of the afternoon is free for shopping, exploring, or simply enjoying the many amenities of your hotel. Your hotel room is reserved for you until you transfer to the airport for your departure flight and a Farewell dinner is included.

Inter-Continental Beachcomber (Panoramic View Dayroom) (B/D)

End of Tour Arrangements
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