


Washington  
University  
ALUMNI

TRAVEL  
PROGRAM

# Tahiti and French Polynesia



# SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND PARADISE



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

Explore French Polynesia's spectacular history, rich culture and unique topography on a luxury itinerary that includes a stay at the deluxe **InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa** or **Hilton Tahiti** in Pape'ete and a seven-night cruise aboard the **Star Breeze**, a deluxe small ship. Choose from a list of optional excursions at an additional cost to curate your own adventure. Enjoy unmatched small ship sailing amid the splendor of the South Pacific—where a reverence for nature coexists with time-honored agrarian traditions, and the material and spirit world is revealed in esoteric *marae*, or ceremonial sites.

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

Front cover: Bora Bora. This page: Sunset at Mount Otemanu, Bora Bora.



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**Washington University Alumni and Friends:  
Be part of a wonderful group—on a remarkable journey!**

Join Washington University alumni and friends on a trip of a lifetime: Discover French Polynesia's unique history and ancient traditions on this unparalleled voyage through the colorful landscapes of the storied South Pacific. Our ten-night land and sea journey reveals the spectacular coastlines, vibrant coral reefs, lush interiors and cultural mystique of Tahiti and the Society Islands of Mo'orea, Taha'a, Ra'iatea, Bora Bora and Huahine.

**What's So Special About Traveling with Washington University?**  
*Just about everything!*

First and foremost, you'll enjoy traveling with a wonderful group of alumni and friends who share your love of learning through travel. Whether swimming or snorkeling in sparkling blue waters with stingrays, manta rays, lagoon sharks and colorful fish or embarking on a catamaran adventure to a private motu in Bora Bora for a Tahitian-inspired dinner, you'll find camaraderie and a contagious spirit of adventure. In selecting this itinerary our Alumni Travel Committee also knew how much our group members would appreciate the luxury of the elegant small ship *Star Breeze*.

**Do you have to be an alum to join a Washington University Travel Program trip?**

Alumni, parents, friends—and their friends—are all welcome. The travel experience is made even more special when shared with others who love learning through travel. So sign up today—on your own or with a friend—either way you'll enjoy an unforgettable travel experience!

**Don't Wait:** *Space is limited, and our early booking savings offer is only valid until July 15, 2024! You could save up to \$2,000 (per couple). Please see the cruise rates listed separately in this brochure!*

**David E. Webb**

Director, Travel Program and Education  
Alumni & Constituent Engagement  
Washington University in St. Louis

P.S. The Washington University Alumni Association strongly recommends that you purchase travel insurance for every trip on which you plan to embark. Unforeseen circumstances may cause you to cancel your trip at the last minute, and travel insurance will help to ensure that your fees are refunded. Washington University does not offer its own travel insurance, but Gohagan & Company recommends a policy you may purchase.

**Faculty Lecturer**



David A. Fike, Ph.D.  
Chair of Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences  
Washington University in St. Louis

David A. Fike is the Myron & Sonya Glassberg/Albert & Blanche Greensfelder Distinguished University Professor and Chair of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis. He obtained B.S. degrees from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in engineering physics, astronomy, and geology, respectively. He earned a Master of Philosophy in polar studies from Churchill College, Cambridge University in 2002 and received a Ph.D. in geochemistry in 2007 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the California Institute of Technology, before joining the faculty at Washington University in 2009.

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



## CUSTOMIZE YOUR ADVENTURE

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

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

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

# The Lure of the South Pacific



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

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

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



## INCLUDED FEATURES

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



GOHAGAN & COMPANY

## FRENCH POLYNESIA



BORA BORA  
Vaitape • TAHA'A  
Fa'a'aha •  
Uturoa •  
RA'IAATEA  
Fare • HUAHINE

Pacific Ocean



## 2025 | 11-DAY/10-NIGHT ITINERARY

### Depart Home City/ Pape'ete, Tahiti

#### Day 1 | February 21

Depart your home city. Arrive either late tonight or tomorrow morning at Fa'a'a' International Airport and transfer to one of our deluxe hotels.

### Pape'ete

#### Day 2 | February 22

Spend your first day in Tahiti at your leisure. Enjoy the hotel's luxury amenities or explore Pape'ete on your own. Pape'ete has a wonderful market to pick up handicrafts, foods and other locally made items. Tonight, meet up with your fellow passengers for a Welcome Reception at the hotel. (B,R)

### Pape'ete/Embark

#### Day 3 | February 23

Depart Pape'ete for a tour of Tahiti's scenic west coast. Walk through the sacred Arahurahu site and visit the Mara'a Grotto with its freshwater pools and

small caves. Continue to the Spring Garden of Vaipahi, a heaven of tranquility where rare species of precious wood and tropical flowers can be found. Transfer and board the deluxe **Star Breeze**. Unpack and settle in for a delicious lunch on board the ship. Attend the Captain's Welcome Reception this evening. (B,L,R,D)

### Cook's Bay, Moorea

#### Day 4 | February 24

Welcome to Moorea, a jaw-dropping oasis! Soak up this ethereal paradise and beautiful volcanic landscape during time at leisure. You might wish to swim in the crystal-clear waters, host to an abundance of marine life. You also have a choice of optional excursions this morning and this afternoon, including a visit to Belvedere Point for views of Mount Rotu'i. Tonight, settle in for dinner on board; then head to the deck and enjoy an evening under the stars. (B,L,D)

### Uturoa, Ra'iatea

#### Day 5 | February 25

Delve deeper into Polynesian lifestyles in Ra'iatea, the second-largest island of the Society Islands. This slice of paradise is home to rare flora and fauna, including the Tiare Apetahi, a flower found nowhere else on Earth. One of today's optional excursions is an enriching Opa Heritage tour that takes you to visit French Polynesia's only UNESCO World Heritage site, the well-preserved marae complex of Taputapuatea. Finish this amazing day with a special barbecue beneath the stars. Partake in line dancing and a deck party by the pool afterwards. (B,L,D)

### Ra'iatea/Fa'a'aha, Taha'a

#### Day 6 | February 26

Spend time at leisure on this low-key island or choose an optional excursion to discover the traditional use of local plants

Point Venus Lighthouse





*Garden of Vaipahi*

and trees. You can also opt to tour the grounds of a vanilla plantation, which includes time to snorkel and potentially encounter stingrays. Next, dig your bare feet in the sand and savor an included beach barbecue lunch on a private motu, where you can also swim, snorkel or kayak. (B,L,D)

### **Vaitape, Bora Bora** **Day 7 | February 27**

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

### **Bora Bora** **Day 8 | February 28**

Another blissful day in Bora Bora awaits! Opt to take a

snorkel safari and stingray excursion, which includes a guided tour on a lagoon cruiser. Once past the famous Motu Tapu, you will stop at a shallow sandbank, a favorite spot for stingray sightings. With your guide's assistance, you will be able to touch these gentle creatures as they swim an effortless ballet around you. This afternoon's excursion takes you on a catamaran cruise to the private Motu Tapu for a Tahitian-inspired dinner! (B,L,D)

### **Fare, Huahine** **Day 9 | March 1**

Welcome to Huahine! The optional Sacred Sights and Cultural Walk excursion gives you the opportunity to ride on an open-air truck between the ocean and a woodland of towering mape trees to the settlement of Maeva — the ancient religious center of Huahine. Join your fellow passengers this evening

for a Farewell Reception, followed by a delicious dinner. Raise a glass to your adventure in paradise! (B,L,R,D)

### **Pape'ete, Tahiti/ Return to Home City** **Day 10 | March 2**

After disembarking the ship, venture out to discover Tahiti's east coast. Visit the former home of American author James Norman Hall, best known for "Mutiny on the Bounty." See Point Venus, named for the observatory Captain Cook established here in 1769 and witness the huge spray from a blow hole. Continue to the Tahara'a Viewpoint for some final photo opportunities. Later, transfer to the airport for your overnight flight home. (B)

### **Arrive in Home City** **Day 11 | March 3**

Welcome home!



*Tapu Tapuatea in Ra'iatea*



## Star Breeze

Leave the crowds behind on this small, elegant ship that carries fewer than 350 pampered guests. In your well-appointed suite, enjoy fine Egyptian linens, a marble bathroom and gorgeous ocean views. In our restaurants, the menus are crafted to highlight the spectacular flavors of the regional cuisine with fresh food sourced from ports on the journey. Enjoy yourself with personalized snorkeling gear, stand-up paddle boards, kayaks and more.



**2025 DEPARTURE DATE**  
**February 21 to March 3**  
 (Embarkation: February 23)

Category-Description	Standard Rate	Early Booking \$1,000 Savings*
<b>10</b> Suite with separate sitting area and two portholes. <i>Deck 3, midship.</i>	\$6,795	<b>\$5,795</b>
<b>9</b> Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Deck 4, forward.</i>	\$6,995	<b>\$5,995</b>
<b>8</b> Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Deck 4, midship, forward and aft.</i>	\$7,195	<b>\$6,195</b>
<b>7</b> Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Decks 4, 5 and 6 midship.</i>	\$7,395	<b>\$6,395</b>
<b>6</b> Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Deck 5, midship, forward and aft.</i>	\$7,595	<b>\$6,595</b>
<b>5</b> Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Deck 6, forward and midship.</i>	\$8,095	<b>\$7,095</b>
<b>4</b> Suite with separate sitting area, floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and <b>French balcony.</b> <i>Deck 5, midship.</i>	\$8,595	<b>\$7,595</b>
<b>3</b> Suite with separate sitting area, floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and <b>French balcony.</b> <i>Deck 5, midship.</i>	\$9,095	<b>\$8,095</b>
<b>2</b> Suite with separate sitting area, floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and <b>French balcony.</b> <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	\$9,895	<b>\$8,895</b>
<b>1</b> Suite with separate sitting area, floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and <b>French balcony.</b> <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	\$10,695	<b>\$9,695</b>
<b>Deluxe Suite</b> Large Suite with separate sitting area and two picture windows or suite featuring <b>French balcony</b> , queen bed, living room with sofa bed, separate bathtub and shower. <i>Decks 4, 5 and 6 midship.</i>	\$11,495	<b>\$10,495</b>
<b>Classic Suite</b> Large Suite with partial-view <b>private veranda</b> , fixed queen bed, living area, two spacious closets, bathtub. <i>Deck 5, forward.</i>	\$12,495	<b>\$11,495</b>
<b>Owner's Suite</b> Large Suite with partial-view <b>private veranda</b> , fixed queen bed, living area, two spacious closets, bathtub. <i>Deck 5, forward.</i>	\$13,495	<b>\$12,495</b>

**\*Early Booking Savings of \$1,000 are available when you book by 7/15/24 and pay in full at time of booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$500 per person.**

All rates are per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes. Single supplements apply to categories 8, 9 & 10 at 160% of the per person double price and subject to availability. All other categories are at 200%.

Port taxes are an additional \$125 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

Gohagan & Company reserves the right to correct errors or omissions and to change any and all fares, fees, promotions and surcharges at any time. Terms & Conditions are available at [gohagantravel.com/terms/](http://gohagantravel.com/terms/)

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





## POST-TOUR EXTENSION

### Mo'orea

**March 2 to 5, 2025** (Tour Ends: March 4)

Extend your sojourn in French Polynesia for two nights and stay in the deluxe **Hilton Mo'orea Lagoon Resort & Spa**, where you can watch magnificent sunrises and sunsets from your spacious bungalow. Observe abundant, colorful marine life on a reef excursion and experience the exotic fusion of fresh local seafood and French Polynesian flavors. Enjoy the hotel's overwater Toatea Bar, spectacular views, turquoise lagoons and wide array of water sports. This post-cruise extension includes accommodations, breakfast daily and a round-trip ferry between Tahiti and Mo'orea.

#### **Overwater Bungalow**

*Price per person, based on double occupancy:*     \$1,695

*Price per person, based on single occupancy:*     \$2,265

#### **Garden Bungalow**

*Price per person, based on double occupancy:*     \$1,295

*Price per person, based on single occupancy:*     \$1,695

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

#### **Fire Dancing**



**Early Booking Savings\* available | Save \$2,000 per couple!**

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The Alumni Association Travel Program  
MSC 1210-413-130  
Washington University  
1 Brookings Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

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*The deluxe Star Breeze*