



WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
of Philadelphia & Cooperating Councils

February 21 - March 3, 2025

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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Dear Council Traveler,

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.

Begin your exploration of this storied region with two nights at the deluxe **InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa** or **Hilton Tahiti** in Pape'ete before embarking on a seven-night voyage on the elegant small ship **Star Breeze**. Specially designed to cruise these crystal-clear waters, our intimate ship provides extensive luxury amenities, including complimentary use of kayaks and snorkeling equipment.

Take in an abundance of exquisite scenery while swimming or snorkeling in sparkling blue waters with stingrays, manta rays, lagoon sharks and colorful fish. Savor a barbecue dinner under the stars, and embark on a catamaran adventure to a private motu in Bora Bora for a Tahitian-inspired dinner. In a rare opportunity, tailor your cruise experience with optional excursions available at every island at an additional cost.

This popular travel program sells out quickly. Other educational groups share this departure, so make your reservation today. Call (800) 942-5004 x option 2 (email: travel@wacphila.org).

Warm Regards,

Andrew Haught, Director of Travel

Can't travel at this time? Ask about the Council's other cruises with Gohagan & Company to Costa Rica and the British Isles

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**To secure your spot, call Travel Department at World Affairs Council of Philadelphia
at 800-942-5004 (option 2) or www.wacphila.org/travel**



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, Mo'orea

Day 4 | February 24

Welcome to Mo'orea, 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*
10 Suite with separate sitting area and two portholes. <i>Deck 3, midship.</i>	\$6,920	\$5,920
9 Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Deck 4, forward.</i>	\$7,120	\$6,120
8 Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Deck 4, midship, forward and aft.</i>	\$7,320	\$6,320
7 Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Decks 4, 5 and 6 midship.</i>	\$7,520	\$6,520
6 Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Deck 5, midship, forward and aft.</i>	\$7,720	\$6,720
5 Suite with separate sitting area and one picture window. <i>Deck 6, forward and midship.</i>	\$8,220	\$7,220
4 Suite with separate sitting area, floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and French balcony. <i>Deck 5, midship.</i>	\$8,720	\$7,720
3 Suite with separate sitting area, floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and French balcony. <i>Deck 5, midship.</i>	\$9,220	\$8,220
2 Suite with separate sitting area, floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and French balcony. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	\$10,020	\$9,020
1 Suite with separate sitting area, floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door and French balcony. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	\$10,820	\$9,820
Deluxe Suite Large Suite with separate sitting area and two picture windows or suite featuring French balcony , queen bed, living room with sofa bed, separate bathtub and shower. <i>Decks 4, 5 and 6 midship.</i>	\$11,620	\$10,620
Classic Suite Large Suite with partial-view private veranda , fixed queen bed, living area, two spacious closets, bathtub. <i>Deck 5, forward.</i>	\$12,620	\$11,620
Owner's Suite Large Suite with partial-view private veranda , fixed queen bed, living area, two spacious closets, bathtub. <i>Deck 5, forward.</i>	\$13,620	\$12,620

***Early Booking Savings of \$1,000 are available when you book by 8/6/24 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, including 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 in the amount of \$125 per person are included in the above prices. 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/

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POST-TOUR EXTENSION

Mo'orea

March 2 to 5, 2025 (Program 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!



The deluxe Star Breeze

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