

EDventures at Yavapai College presents

Cruise the Marquesas Islands



November 2 – 17, 2012



Itinerary

November 2

Depart from Los Angeles airport (LAX)

A typical Aranui itinerary with passenger activities

November 3

Morning departure of the cruise on Aranui 3 from Papeete, Tahiti



November 4

Fakarava, Tuamotu

Islands - Fakarava is the second largest atoll in the Tuamotu. There is snorkeling and scuba diving for people of all levels. You can swim and snorkel in the translucent lagoon to watch the colorful ballet of tropical lagoon fish. The entire morning will be spent on shore. Lunch will be served on board while you set sail for Marquesas.



November 5

At sea - Relax with a book on one of the sun decks, swim in the small pool, or enjoy the immense South Pacific. Balmy evenings mean reading in the lounge/library or chatting with an authority on Marquesan culture or archeology. You'll probably spend many evenings socializing on the upstairs deck/bar with your fellow adventurers from around the world. The spirited Polynesian crew treat you like welcomed guests and proudly introduce you to their rich culture. Almost every night, they sing and strum hypnotic Polynesian rhythms on their ukuleles.

November 6

Ua Pou, Marquesas - From the deck, you'll see the soaring mountain spires of Ua Pou. Whenever the Aranui stops, villagers greet it. As the muscular crew unload supplies - from cements to sugar - and loads sacks of copra (dried coconut meat), you'll enjoy the tiny town of Hakahau and its church with a hand-carved wooden dais. You can meet some talented woodcarvers and hike up a hill for a breathtaking view of the distant cloud-covered

mountains. At Rosalie's Restaurant, you'll taste your first Marquesan lunch: breadfruit, a Marquesan staple, along with curried goat, barbecued rock lobster, poisson cru (raw fish marinated in lime juice and soaked in coconut milk), taro and sweet red bananas.

November 7

Nuku Hiva - Sail into Taiohae's spectacular bay, a giant volcanic amphitheater dominated by towering cliffs streaked with waterfalls. As the Aranui unloads, you can explore Taiohae, the tiny administrative capital of the Marquesas. Taiohae Bay is where a 23-year-old sailor Herman Melville and a buddy jumped a whaling ship in 1842. Follow their escape route by jeep along steep, winding dirt mountain roads to Taipivai (Typee) Valley. In his autobiographical first novel *Typee*, Melville described his capture and idyllic sojourn among the hospitable cannibals, the Taipi. Hidden amidst the bamboo



and vanilla vines are undiscovered archaeological treasures. The area is dotted with stone tiki gods and sacred ritual sites (me'ae) and immense stone platforms (paepae) where the Taipi built their houses. Enigmatic petroglyphs of birds, sacred turtles and fish are carved on huge boulders. The Aranui's two whaleboats sail down the river to return you to the Aranui, which is anchored in the bay. Have lunch at Yvonne's Restaurant where the specialty is pig baked in an underground oven. Meet the owner-chef Yvonne who also happens to be the town's energetic mayor. Return to the first stop in the Marquesas, Hakahau.

November 8

Hiva Oa - You have plenty of time to explore Atuona, the second largest village in Marquesas. This is where Paul Gauguin lived and did some of his best work. You

can visit the colonial store where Gauguin shopped and go into a replica of the Impressionist's infamous "House of Pleasure." As you walk up a hill to the cemetery, you'll have sweeping views of the harbor. Beneath a huge frangipani tree is a tombstone with the simple words: Paul Gauguin 1903. Nearby is the grave of another famous European who also was seduced by Hiva Oa: Belgian singer-composer Jacques Brel who died in 1978. Enjoy another lavish Marquesan lunch at Hoa Nui restaurant.

November 9

Fatu Hiva - This is the most lush and remote island of the Marquesas. It's also a center of Marquesan crafts. Guides lead you through the village of Omoa; see women hammering mulberry, banyan or breadfruit bark on logs. They dry it, and then paint ancient Marquesan designs on their famous tapa cloth. Fatu Hiva is also well known for its hand-painted pareus (sarongs) and monoi, a perfumed coconut oil scented with tiare blossoms and sandalwood. Skilled woodcarvers will invite you into their homes/studios. The Aranui sails to the other inhabited village. Hanavave is on the Bay of the Virgins, which is one of the world's most beautiful bays. Some athletic passengers may choose to make the trip by foot. On this ten mile hike you'll have unforgettable views of towering cliffs and majestic waterfalls.



November 10

Hiva Oa - Travel by foot or jeep to the most important archeological sites for tikis (ancient, human-like religious sculptures) other than Easter Island. Trained guides will show you the mysterious jungle ruins of Puamau and tell the stories of these haunting statues of an ancient civilization.

November 11

Tahuata - On this leaf-shaped island, the air is thick with fragrant scent of tiare, frangipani and history.

In the tiny village of Vaitahu, Spanish explorers landed in 1595 and opened fire on a crowd of curious islanders, killing about 200. When the first missionaries came in 1797, the generous local chief left his wife with missionary John Harris, with instruction that he treat her as his own wife. Harris



fled the next day. Tahuata is also the site of the first French settlement in the Marquesas in 1842. The huge church, built by the Vatican, is decorated with beautiful Marquesan carvings. Picnic in the Valley of Apatoui and swim and snorkel at a nearby beach.

November 12

Ua Huka - Visit a museum with exquisite replicas of Marquesan art. Some will explore the island by four-wheel drive, others can ride the famed Marquesan horses. Explore the mountain landscape with heart-stopping views of the Pacific. Wild horses brought from Chile in 1856 thrive there, outnumbering the island's 476 residents. Have a Marquesan lunch at a local restaurant and visit studios of wood carvers. Back on the Aranui, it's Polynesian night with dancing and buffet dinner on the decks.



November 13

Nuku Hiva - Ua Pou - The beautiful sea-walled village of Hatiheu has a wonderfully restored ancient archeological site (tohua) where the famed local dance troupe will perform traditional Marquesan dances specially for Aranui passengers. Guides will lead you through the jungle to an ancient Marquesan temple to see ancient petroglyphs.

November 14

At Sea

November 15

Rangiroa, Tuamotu Islands - On lovely Rangiroa, the largest atoll in the world, picnic on a golden beach; swim and snorkel in a translucent lagoon. "Rangi" is an underwater jewel box with stunning colors of coral and clouds of tropical fishes. You'll have the opportunity to purchase black pearls from local black pearl farmers.

These rare black pearls are French Polynesia's main economic resource.

November 16

Morning Arrival in Papeete, Tahiti. Spend the day touring the market and the island of Tahiti. Transfer to the airport for an evening departure.

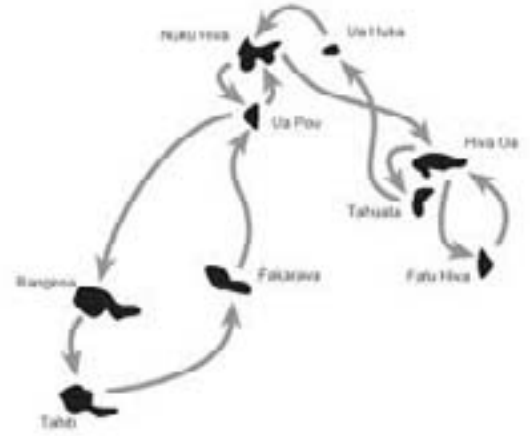
November 17

Morning arrival at LAX



Included in the program:

- Airfare from/to LAX to Papeete, Tahiti
- Dormitory-style accommodations aboard the freighter Aranui. Limited upgrades to cabins are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- All meals on board and on shore
- EDventures Tour Coordinator accompanies the group from LAX
- Numerous shore excursions
- Educational guided visits and transfers as described
- Welcome and transfers from the airport to hotel upon arrival
- Port taxes and service
- Ocean breezes, towering volcanic landscapes, crystal seas, vibrant music, delightful food, swimming, snorkeling, creative arts and crafts and more!
- The itinerary has been confirmed, although it is subject to change to comparable activities and schedule adjustments if the need should arise.



All inclusive dormitory: \$5,649
Standard cabin supplement: add \$1,600
Land only: less \$1,500

Call EDventures at 717-7755

Reservation deadline is February 20, 2012

