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# TAHITI

## TOURISME

### **Cruising in *The Islands of Tahiti* Expands with the Debut of an International Cruise Terminal in 2020**

Exploring *The Islands of Tahiti* by sea is not only one of the most convenient methods to island-hop but is also a breathtaking and inspiring experience to immerse oneself in the destination's stunning 118 islands. Seafaring travelers from across the world will be able to enjoy Papeete's new **International Cruise Terminal**, which is scheduled to open in 2020.

Financed by the Port of Papeete, the new cruise terminal will have the capacity to accommodate up to three ships simultaneously and 400 turnaround passengers. The terminal will also feature amenities such as an aerial walk, luggage room, check-in counters, waiting room, duty free, snack bar and café and reservations facilities.

"The new cruise terminal offers us many more opportunities to welcome international travelers to *The Islands of Tahiti*," says Kristin Carlson Kemper, Managing Director, Tahiti Tourisme U.S. "We look forward to introducing all of them to the unique Tahitian way of life, and for them to be *Embraced by Mana*."

Concurrently, the Aéroport de Tahiti is also undertaking a \$12 million upgrade of Faa'a International Airport which is 1.8 miles from the cruise port, to handle increasing demand in travel to the destination. Airport capacity is presently at 2.5 million passengers per year and there are three departing long haul flights and two long-haul arrivals every day. This planned renovation, which is expected to be finished by 2020, includes an extension to the airport, refurbishment of the landside terminal and a new public hall containing new retail areas, shops and restaurants.

In other cruising news, *Haumana* (which means "Spirit of Peace") Cruise relaunched in June 2017. The revitalized, intimate vessel features 12 cabins, including one suite, with a maximum capacity of 27 passengers (including children). Experiences include a three day, three night cruise to Bora Bora, Taha'a and Raiatea, and the reverse, with the main focus on experiencing uniquely Polynesian traditions, local crafts such as weaving, and visits to vanilla plantations and pearl farms.

Fine food is served on board, paired with a selection of wines, and additional dining experiences include a private beach meal, a Polynesian dinner-show ashore, and a delicious breakfast where guests will have their feet in the beautiful crystalline waters of *The Islands of Tahiti*. *Haumana* also features a panoramic lounge and oversized outdoor deck, a platform for nautical activities (e.g. kayaking, paddleboarding, snorkeling equipment etc.), and a sundeck. For more information visit [www.haumana-tahiti.com](http://www.haumana-tahiti.com).

Other leading cruise companies of the world have created ship and yacht charters that run all year round so that travelers can fully immerse themselves in French Polynesian culture through seven day, 10 day and 14 day voyages. Ships that are homeported in *The Islands of Tahiti* include Paul Gauguin Cruises, Windstar: *Windspirit* and Aranui: *Aranui 5*. Critically acclaimed luxury cruise lines such as Crystal Cruises, Oceania and Silversea also offer numerous journeys to this magical destination.

Additional options encompassing smaller vessels and regularly scheduled yacht charters are available thanks to companies such as Dream Yacht Charter, Sunsail, Tahiti Yacht Charter and The Moorings.

**For additional cruise information and contacts visit [www.tahiti-tourisme.com](http://www.tahiti-tourisme.com).**

#### **About Tahiti Tourisme United States**

Tahiti Tourisme United States (TTUS) is the Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) for the country of French Polynesia, more commonly known as *The Islands of Tahiti*. As the DMO for *The Islands of Tahiti*, TTUS liaises with airline, cruise line, hotel, resort, tour operator, travel advisor and consortia partners to develop product, launch marketing initiatives, and generate robust tourism trade within French Polynesia.

#### **About *The Islands of Tahiti***

Located in the South Pacific, *The Islands of Tahiti* are just eight hours by air from California. Surrounded by pristine, crystal clear blue waters, the 118 islands and atolls offer natural beauty, authentic island culture, and unique French Polynesian style. *The Islands of Tahiti* are world-renowned for their white-sand beaches, stunning turquoise lagoons and varied landscapes ranging from coral atolls to volcanic mountain peaks. Each island offers a variety of accommodation experiences from luxurious resorts with overwater villas, to family guesthouses, to sailing via private charter or scheduled cruise. Privacy comes naturally in *The Islands of Tahiti* and offers visitors the space to relax and reconnect and to be *Embraced By Mana*. *Mana* is the life force and spirit that connects all things in *The Islands of Tahiti*. Tahiti is halfway between California and Australia, on the same side of the International Date Line as North America and in the same time zone as Hawaii. For further information, [www.tahititourisme.com](http://www.tahititourisme.com) or call (310) 414-8484.

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