



2019 FRENCH POLYNESIA

PEARLS OF THE PACIFIC & HUMPBACK WHALES



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26 SEPT – 08 OCT 2019 • 13 DAYS • 15 GUESTS

Just say the words “French Polynesia” and what springs to mind are, a plethora of small islands with stunning white beaches, volcanic mountain peaks covered in lush green and azure lagoons, surrounded by crystal clear warm water. Situated in the heart of the Pacific Ocean, this island archipelago is home to some of the most wondrous dive and snorkel sites, where hundreds of sharks gather in schools, manta rays patrol channels and cleaning stations, pods of bottle-nose dolphins inquisitively seek out interactions and Humpback whales gather around the islands to mate and birth.

Join us on a journey to the ‘infinite Lagoon’ of exotic *Rangiroa*, surrounded by black pearl farms, coconut groves and powder white sandy beaches. Explore the famous *Tiputu and Avatoru passes* with some of the most exhilarating diving and snorkeling with schooling sharks, jacks and barracudas, mantas, huge napoleon wrasse and dolphins. The crystal-clear waters with the flourishing coral life make every dive an incredible adventure. Out of the water enjoy a Tahitian feast on an isolated beach, stroll through coconut groves and vineyards, explore the lush landscape and untouched beauty and charm of Island life. From overwater bungalows, watch the Dolphins splash and play and enjoy the incredible sunsets in this idyllic location. Set sail on the luxurious *MV French Polynesia Master* and delve deeper into the underwater paradise surrounding you as we explore the Tuamotu Archipelago with its spectacular atolls, reefs and marine channels. Experience for yourself why renowned explorer and marine lover *Jacques Cousteau* named these atolls the richest in the world, as you immerse yourself in the wondrous waters of the Tuamotus.

RURUTU HUMPBACK WHALE EXTENSION

For authentic island life, join Thomas on a scouting trip to the remote southern part of French Polynesia on our *Rurutu Humpback Whales extension*. Experience some of the most intimate and breathtaking interactions with Humpback whales and true island living. Stay in a simple homestay with breath-taking views, tropical fruits growing freely around you and lush green vegetation. This remote and unique island will give you a true insight into French Polynesian culture, in addition to the most incredible encounters and the opportunity to experience first-hand the melodic song of the Humpback Whales in their mating and breeding grounds.

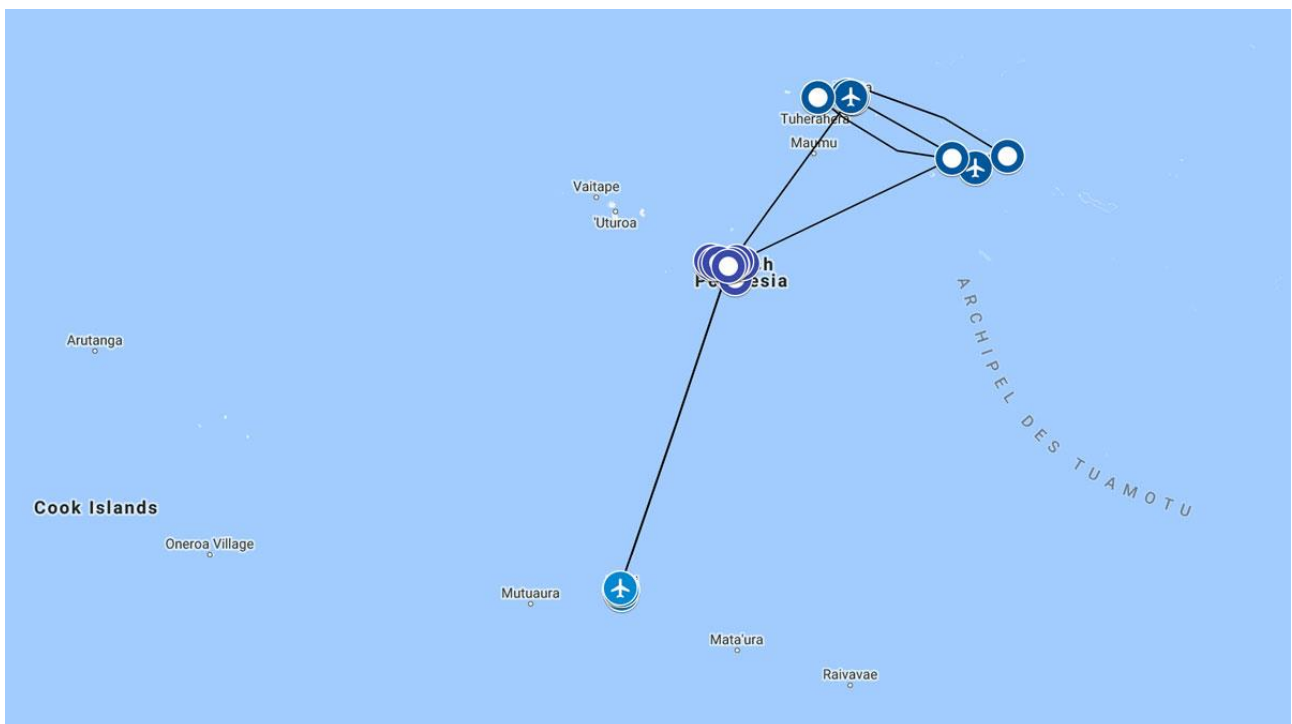
PRE EXTENSION – TAHITI & MOOREA

Explore the famous sister islands of *Tahiti and Moorea*. Tahiti is the largest island in French Polynesia with a mountainous interior adorned with mystical valleys, clear streams and high waterfalls. Explore Papeete with its bustling market and dive *White valley* where you can observe Tiger Sharks, Blacktip Sharks, Grey reef sharks and lemon sharks as well as large schools of jacks and Trigger fish. Across the water at the sister island of Moorea with its pastel colored houses, hibiscus gardens and colorful birdlife, you can experience some

incredible marine interactions as you go on an enchanting encounter with both wild dolphins and Humpback Whales, before taking a 4x4 to explore the fruit groves and the ancient trails. Stay in stunning overwater bungalows at 5* resort properties with breath taking island views.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Spectacular passes, coral gardens, and lagoons teeming with reef life.
- See Humpback Whales, Dolphins, Tiger Sharks, and Manta Rays.
- Stay in idyllic overwater bungalows.
- Explore ancient trails and hidden waterfalls.
- Sail aboard a private yacht through the best atolls and marine life of the Archipelago.
- Enjoy Tahitian feasts and cultural performances on powder white isolated beaches.



[CLICK TO VIEW IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

RURUTU HUMPBACK WHALES EXTENSION

6 Days - 10 Guests

Day 01 Sept 16	Depart Home / En Route to Pape'ete, Tahiti
Day 02 Sept 17	Arrive to Pape'ete
Day 03 Sept 18	Fly to Rurutu / Welcome dinner
Day 04 - 06 Sept 19-21	3 days of Whale watching and swims / Island exploration / Horse back
Day 07 Sept 22	Fly back to Pape'ete, Tahiti for Tahiti & Moorea Pre Extension

PRE-EXTENSION – TAHITI & MOOREA

6 Days - 15 Guests

Day 01 Sept 21	Depart home / En Route to Pape'ete, Tahiti
Day 02 Sept 22	Arrive Pape'ete / Cocktail Party
Day 03 Sept 23	Humpback Whales / Tahiti Tour
Day 04 Sept 24	Tiger Sharks and Dolphins / Ferry to Moorea
Day 05 Sept 25	Dive or snorkel Moorea / 4x4 island exploration
Day 06 Sept 26	Dolphins & whales Moorea
Day 07 Sept 27	Travel back to Tahiti / Start main trip

FRENCH POLYNESIA – PEARLS OF THE PACIFIC & HUMPBACK WHALES

13 Days - 15 Guests

Day 01 Sept 26	Depart Home / En Route to Papeete, Tahiti
Day 02 Sept 27	Arrive in Tahiti / welcome dinner
Day 03 Sept 28	Fly to Rangiroa / Island exploration
Day 04-05 Sept 29-30	Dive and snorkel the channels of Rangiroa
Day 06 Oct 01	Fly to Fakarava / Board the M/V French Polynesia Master
Day 07- 12 Oct 02- 07	7 days of diving and snorkeling the Tuamotus
Day 13 Oct 08	Fly from Rangiroa to Papeete and continue home



ITINERARY

FRENCH POLYNESIA – PEARLS OF THE PACIFIC & HUMPBACK WHALES

Day 01. Sept 26, 2019. Depart Home / En route to Papeete, Tahiti

Depart your home and journey to Tahiti, flying into Pape'ete international airport. We highly recommend arriving at least a day before the expedition departure, so you can acclimatize, are well rested and most importantly, don't miss the trip. We can assist you with making a booking for additional hotel nights at the 5* star *Intercontinental Tahiti Resort*

Day 02. Sept 27, 2019. Arrive Tahiti

Arrive into Tahiti and transfer to the nearby Intercontinental Tahiti Resort facing the island of Moorea. Located in a lavish garden setting, stretching along the crystal-clear waters of a lagoon and with the volcanic peaks rising up in the distance, this is the perfect launch-point for your French Polynesian adventure. Join your Wild Earth Expedition leaders for a welcome cocktail party followed by dinner in the famous and upmarket 'Le Coco's' Gastronomic Restaurant in the heart of Pape'ete.

Overnight: *InterContinental Tahiti Resort- Overwater Bungalow (D)*

Day 03. Sept 28, 2019. Fly to Rangiroa / Island Exploration

After a leisurely morning enjoying your overwater bungalow, surrounded by the clear, cerulean seas, transfer to Pape'ete airport for your flight to Rangiroa. Rangiroa is located in the Tuamotu Archipelago and is an island formed from over 240 small motus (islets) in the shape of a ring; from the air, the coral atoll looks like a beautiful strung pearl necklace that encircles the vivid aquamarine waters of the lagoon. Rangiroa is the second largest Atoll in the world and home to some of the most incredible marine experiences, with the exhilarating 'passes' of Tiputa and Avatoru creating a steady flow of passing pelagic life and the natural aquarium filled with vibrant coral and life. Expect to see many reef sharks, mantas, eagle rays, napoleon wrasse, wild dolphins, schools of barracuda and many smaller reef fish. Topside the unique landscape with wonderful beaches, pearl farms, a local winery, 'coral churches' and quaint road side shops and restaurants are all waiting to be explored. After checking into your stunning 5* overwater bungalow and freshening up, take a visit to the local vineyard. Situated on a small islet with a backdrop of coconut trees it produces the only wine in the world made from grapes grown on a coral atoll. Sample this unique award-winning wine before returning to the hotel to watch the sunset and enjoy dinner overlooking the lagoon.

Overnight: *Hotel Kia Ora Resort and Spa – Overwater bungalow (B, L, D)*

Day 04. Sept 29, 2019. Rangiroa / Dive & Snorkel Passes

Today immerse yourselves in the wealth of marine life that Rangiroa has to offer. The 'passes' were ranked by Jacques Cousteau as the most beautiful and richest in the world. The Tiputa and Avatoru passes offer some of the most action-packed and exhilarating drift dives with many pelagic species, including sharks, rays, wrasses, barracudas and dolphins.

See for yourself the beauty of the passes and inner lagoons, with huge schools of surgeon fish, mullets, wrasses, jacks, barracudas, gliding mantas and Eagle rays, Grey-, Black tip-, white tip Reef sharks and potentially Hammerhead sharks. Snorkel the famous natural aquarium inside the lagoon with vibrant coral plateaus teeming with macro life and passing turtles and rays, where the water is crystal clear and there is never a shortage of something to see.

Overnight: *Hotel Kia Ora Resort and Spa – Overwater bungalow (B, L, D)*

Day 05. Sept 30, 2019. Dive/Snorkel or Blue Lagoon

Option 1 – If you are a scuba diver, you can choose to spend the morning doing 2 dives on the surrounding reefs or passes before taking lunch at the hotel. Spend the afternoon relaxing in your wonderful overwater bungalow or on the beach or rent a bicycle or scooter to explore Avatoru Village and observe the simple village life of French Polynesia.

Option 2 – Blue Lagoon Full Day

For snorkelers or any scuba divers interested, Blue Lagoon is a popular spot about an hour away from the hotel by boat. This is what many people visualize when imagining a Polynesian paradise. A string of motus (small islets) and coral reefs have formed a natural pool on the edge of the main reef, a lagoon within a lagoon. The lagoon isn't deep and offers wonderful snorkeling among the myriad little fish. Enjoy a beach BBQ lunch, before visiting Shark city and observe the many reef sharks both large and small inhabiting the water here, before returning to the hotel for dinner.

Overnight: *Hotel Kia Ora Resort and Spa – Overwater bungalow (B, L, D)*

Day 06. Oct 01, 2019. Fly to Fakarava / Board the MV French Polynesian Master Yacht

Spend a leisurely morning relaxing in a hammock by the beautiful lagoon, kayaking or renting a scooter to explore the island, before taking a short flight to Fakarava where you will embark the M/V French Polynesia Master yacht, your home for the next week. After lunch onboard, set sail on an amazing adventure to explore the beauty and diversity of the marine life of the Tuamotu islands and Atolls of French Polynesia.

Built of steel in 2016, the French Polynesia Master plies the waters of this island archipelago. The 4 decks provide ample space for relaxation and dive equipment and camera preparation. Their very experienced crew will ensure you receive only the highest quality service on your dive and snorkel vacation.

Each cabin has an en-suite and individual air conditioning units. Communal relaxation areas are split between the middle and upper decks; comprising of a spacious indoor lounge area, camera set up station and guest storage drawers, with pillowed bench seating and a plasma screen. There is an extra shaded outdoor lounging area to the rear of the upper deck with more cozy seating. Finally, there is a sun deck on the upper level with comfortable lounge chairs from where you can unwind and soak up the stunning views of the French Polynesian islands.

All guests are allocated an individual set up station, with under bench storage for masks, fins and other personal items. A camera table can be used to store prepared equipment ahead of the dive, with dedicated rinsing tanks provided

Overnight: *M/V French Polynesia Master (B, L, D)*

Day 07-12. Oct 02-7, 2019. Tuamotus Dive & Snorkel

Spend the next week diving or snorkeling the beautiful atolls that make up the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve that is the Tuamotus and French Polynesia. The nutrient rich waters, and strong currents are home to large congregations of sharks. Black tip, white tip,

hammerhead, tiger, silky, hammerheads and oceanic white tip are amongst common species seen in the area. Large schools of big eyes and yellow snapper swarm over the reefs, joined by turtles, morays and lionfish. Coral gardens, huge hard coral formations and sponges, steep drop offs and plateaus swarming with vibrant corals. Whilst drift diving and snorkeling through the channels you can experience incredible shark action, see huge Napoleon wrasses, Jacks, schooling fish and rays. A typical day will see you cruising through channels and exploring the outer reefs of the atolls, yet there are also numerous shallow dives and wonderful snorkel sites within the lagoons, each with stunning hard coral gardens, sheltering all manner of fish life, crustaceans and molluscs.

Overnight: *M/V French Polynesia Master* (B, L, D)

Some of the many atolls, dive and snorkel sites we plan to visit:

FAKARAVA ISLAND

Garaue Pass- The northernmost channel of Fakarava Island and arguable the best site in the region for consistent shark sightings. The pass itself is 1600m wide and is only dived at slack water due to potentially strong currents. Starting at the outer wall we encounter the huge “wall of sharks” where up to hundreds of grey reef sharks can congregate. Black tip, white tip, hammerhead, tiger, silky and oceanic white tip sharks are amongst the other species seen. Napoleon wrasse, surgeon fish and the typical schools of big eyes and yellow snapper swarm over the reefs, joined by turtles, rays, morays and lionfish.

Maiuru- A submerged plateau on the outer edge of the pass, levels out at 18m into a lovely hard coral garden. At the ‘drop off’ you can encounter shark activity, whilst over the reef large schools of paddletail snapper and barracuda form. Manta rays and eagle rays come by for cleaning and there are plenty of smaller creatures including nudibranchs and crabs to spot amongst the corals and sponges.

Ohutu- The second plateau starts at 12m and drops to 30m with vibrant corals this is a superb place to watch manta rays.

Restaurant Pier- This shallow site is perfect for an afternoon dive and snorkel where schools of snapper, black tip reef sharks and Napoleon wrasse are common with a stunning atmosphere for photography.

Tumakohua- The southern pass of Fakarava is just as dramatic as the north, though only 200m across, it can be dived with both ingoing and outgoing tides. Big schools of grey reef sharks can be seen in the deeper water whilst along the shallower reef black tips dart about. Manta rays and leopard whip rays are also frequently seen.

TOAU ISLAND

Otugi Pass- The 400m wide channel is best dived on an incoming tide for the schools of grey reef sharks and silvertips.

Teahuroa- The outer reef wall is where huge schools of snapper congregate. Reef sharks, Napoleon Wrasse, barracuda, surgeon fish and big eyes join them, whilst manta ray sightings are possible too.

Kauehi Island- Outer Wall – The sloping outer wall of Kauehi Island is encrusted with huge hard coral formations and sponges. Butterfly fish, surgeon fish, banner fish and snappers all form large schools over the reef. Puffer fish, morays, tuna, barracuda, wrasse and lionfish are a common sight, whilst mantas, grey reef shark, eagle rays and the occasional hammerhead make up the larger visitors. Great for spotting leafy scorpion fish and nudibranchs too.

Day 13. Oct 08, 2019. Depart Tahiti / Fly Home

After a final breakfast onboard, bid farewell to the crew and disembark the ship in Rangiroa and transfer to the airport for your flight to Papeete and home.

B

Day 14. Oct 09, 2019. Arrive home



RURUTU HUMPBACK WHALES EXTENSION

Day 01. Sept 16, 2019. Depart Home / Enroute to Papeete, Tahiti

Day 02. Sept 17, 2019. Arrive to Papeete

Arrive into Tahiti and transfer to the nearby Intercontinental Tahiti Resort facing the island of Moorea. Located in a lavish garden setting stretching along the crystal-clear waters of a lagoon, with the volcanic peaks rising up in the distance this is a perfect launch-point for your French Polynesian adventure. Join your Wild Earth Expedition leaders for a welcome cocktail party followed by dinner in this tropical paradise.

Overnight: *InterContinental Tahiti Resort – Overwater Bungalow (D)*

Day 02. Sept 18, 2019. Fly to Rurutu / Welcome Dinner

After breakfast and a leisurely morning enjoying your overwater bungalow, fly to the remote island of Rurutu, the northernmost island of the Austral archipelago in the far south of French Polynesia. Steep sea cliffs of ancient coral encircle the island, riddled with caves. Rurutu is largely unique among the islands of French Polynesia in that its historic inhabitants were cave-dwellers. Its tiny community still subsists primarily on fishing and basic agriculture. Largely untouched, the island is surrounded by cliffs and white sandy beaches with lush tropical flora. Enjoy a special welcome dinner at our homestay, prepared with the freshest local ingredients, as you prepare for the amazing days ahead exploring this rustic and rural island.

Overnight: *Le Manotel (B, L, D)*

Day 04 - 06. Sept 19 - 21, 2019. Whale Watching & Swim / Rurutu Island Exploration

After breakfast, spend the morning on the waters surrounding Rurutu looking for Humpback Whales. Endowed with a fringing reef, the island is renowned for the whales visiting the island between July and October each year to reproduce and give birth. Local fisherman will be our expert guides as we seek these magnificent creatures in the surrounding waters of Rurutu. This is one of the only places in the world where snorkeling with these gentle giants is allowed. Slide into the water for an amazing in-water encounter. After lunch back at the lodge, our host Yves will take us on a safari to explore the island. With the grottos of *Toarutu* cliff, plantations of Taro, coffee, vanilla and pine, the steep and windy roads and dirt tracks will lead us from volcanos to isolated white sandy beaches. Return to the *Le Manotel* for dinner. On one of the days enjoy a horseback riding excursion.

Overnight: *Le Manotel (B, L, D)*

**Please note that there is no dive operator or fancy boat on the island and you will be going out on a local fishing boat to see and swim with the whales. This will be a very unique but simple and true local experience.*

Day 07. Sept 22, 2019. Return to Tahiti

After a last breakfast on Rurutu, fly back to Tahiti for the Tahiti and Moorea **extension**.

Overnight: *InterContinental Tahiti (B, L, D)*



PRE EXTENSION – TAHITI & MOOREA

Day 01. Sept 21, 2019. Depart home / En-route to Papeete, Tahiti

Depart your home and journey to Tahiti, flying into Pape'ete international airport. We highly recommend arriving at least a day before the expedition departure, so you can acclimatize, are well rested and most importantly, don't miss the trip. We can assist you with making a booking for additional hotel nights in the 5*star *Intercontinental Tahiti Resort*, which is a nice way to start the expedition.

Day 02. Sept 22, 2019. Arrive Pape'ete

Arrive into Tahiti and transfer to the nearby *Intercontinental Tahiti Resort* facing the island of Moorea. Located in a lavish garden setting stretching along the crystal-clear waters of a lagoon, with the volcanic peaks rising up in the distance this is a perfect launch-point for your French Polynesian adventure. Join your Wild Earth Expedition leaders for a welcome cocktail party followed by dinner in this tropical paradise.

Overnight: *InterContinental Tahiti Resort- Overwater Bungalow (D)*

Day 03. Sept 23, 2019. Whale Swim / Tahiti Tour

After an early breakfast, get ready to observe the migration habits of the Humpback whales. They come to the Polynesian waters to mate and give birth before returning to Antarctica for feeding. Growing up to 18metres and weighing around 30ton, these enchanting whales are one of the larger rorqual species with a very distinctive body shape, with their long pectoral fins and a knobby heads. Watch them breach the surface and flip their tails. Breaching, spy hopping, fin slapping are all behaviors regularly encountered. Be ready to jump in the water at a moment's notice to get up close and personal with the Humpbacks and their calves and have the ultimate encounter. After swapping stories over lunch, spend the afternoon getting to know the island of Tahiti on a guided tour to discover some of its treasures. Visit the famous *Marae Arahurahu*, a religious site dedicated to the ancient gods, see the beautiful gardens and waterfall of *Vaipahi* with it's wonderful selection of endemic plants set in a very exotic decor. Head across to the East Coast and the *Arahoho* Blow Hole, a lava tube created by liquid lava flowing under cold and hard lava creating a channel. The waves crash against the rocks and enter this channel, the result is a powerful sea water geyser. Follow in the footsteps of James Cook at the beautiful black sand beach at famous Venus Point. Then finish the afternoon with a breathtaking 360 panoramic view of Tahiti and Moorea at the *Taharaa* View Point, before returning to the hotel for dinner.

Overnight: *InterContinental Tahiti Resort- Overwater Bungalow (B,L,D)*

Day 04. Sept 24, 2019. Tiger Sharks / Ferry to Moorea

Scuba divers head out for the ultimate Tiger Shark experience. With several shark species meeting at White Valley this is a unique opportunity to see these large majestic sharks in close proximity. For snorkelers head out to sea and spend the morning observing and swimming with playful bottle-nose dolphins in crystal clear waters. After lunch take a short ferry across to the second largest and one of the most spectacular of the French Polynesian

Islands, Moorea. Relax in your overwater Bungalow, go for a dip in the warm sea and enjoy the spectacular views before a special BBQ Tahitian Feast accompanied by a traditional dance show and music under the stars.

Please note: Snorkelers are unable to enter the water at the area for the Tiger Sharks. Due to their behavioral patterns this would not be safe, so therefore snorkelers and divers will visit separate areas on separate boats and will be split for the mornings activity on this day.

Overnight: InterContinental Moorea Resort – Over water Bungalow (B, L, D)

Day 05. Sept 25, 2019. Dive or Snorkel / 4 x 4 Island Exploration

Spend the morning snorkeling or diving the surrounding coral reef of Moorea. Opened by 12 passes, with clear waters, look out for stingrays and many species of reef fish of every color, it is also a sanctuary for Lemon sharks. After lunch set off on a 4x4 safari to explore Moorea. The island is about 2 million years old – a volcano risen up from the depths of the ocean giving the variety of flora and fauna creating a complex ecosystem unique to the island. Explore the volcano's internal crater and incredible landscapes. Visit a pineapple plantation, Moorea's *Lycee Agricole* and its huge vanilla, banana, grapefruit and lemon plantations. Then head to a *marae* before driving to the Belvedere for stunning views of Cook and *Opunoho* bays, the most picturesque panoramic views of the island and for many the whole of French Polynesia.

Please note: Due to the conditions and wildlife present, it is necessary that snorkelers and divers visit separate sites, therefore will be split for the mornings activity.

Overnight: InterContinental Moorea Resort – Over water Bungalow (B, L, D)

Day 06. Sept 26, 2019. Moorea Dolphins & Whales

Join our expert marine biologist with over 20years experience with the dolphins in French Polynesia for this combination eco-tour and research expedition focusing on wild, free-ranging dolphins. Take a scenic ride to Moorea's reef edge. Spinner dolphins, the slightly larger rough-tough dolphins and pilot whales can be seen around Moorea, regularly swimming inside the reef. Dolphins are found on 95% of the tours, but the engaging narrative and sheer magnificence of Moorea's coastline will ensure a rewarding time. There may even be an opportunity to see a passing Humpback Whale, as it is peak Humpback whale mating and birthing season. After a delicious lunch back at the hotel, head for an afternoon walk on the 3-Coconut trail, through lush tropical rainforest with its vibrant flowers and exotic birds, as our guide explains the uses of the many endemic species of plants while taking you to some of the most spectacular view points on the island. Cool off in a waterfall before heading back to the hotel, for a special dinner.

Overnight: InterContinental Moorea Resort – Over water Bungalow (B, L, D)

Day 06. Sept 27, 2019. Travel to Tahiti / Start Main Trip

For your last morning on Moorea, relax and enjoy your overwater bungalow, kayak in the lagoon, take a hike on an ancient trail, or go on a horse riding safari to explore the island further. After lunch take the short ferry ride back to Tahiti and meeting the rest of the group for the main expedition.

Overnight: InterContinental Tahiti Resort – Overwater Bungalow (B, L, D)

WHAT TO EXPECT

All *Wild Earth Expeditions* are very active, and participants need to be in good general health. For most activities a moderate to good level of fitness is required. This expedition is very active and will include snorkeling and scuba diving coral reefs where strong currents may be present, hiking nature trails on sometimes rough terrain, climbing in and out of boats and other physical activities. Due to the locations of some of the dive and snorkel sites prior to the *MY French Polynesia Master* snorkelers and divers will be on separate boats on some days to ensure that both groups get then maximum enjoyment from the incredible marine life. We have timed this expedition during peak Humpback whale season in the hope to have fantastic encounters. The Accommodations we have chosen are at high-end 5* resorts, upgraded to overwater bungalows, and onboard the brand new *MY French Polynesia Master* yacht. The accommodations in Rurutu at *Le Manotel* is very simple and rustic in bungalows, due to the remote and un-spoilt location there are no fancy hotels. You will be going out in a local fishing boat to see and swim with the whales. It's the best available. Rurutu is a new destination for Wild Earth and it has been on Thomas' bucket list for a very long time. Only a few will have the chance to join Thomas on this little scouting trip to Rurutu to swim with the whales, so let us know soonest if you wish to participate in Rurutu. All accommodations have a/c, running hot water and ensuite bathroom facilities. Detailed Pre-departure information will be sent to you 4 months prior to the expedition. Your expedition will be led by 2 Wild Earth Expeditions leaders, including a dive instructor and snorkel guide/Marine Biologist and the best, most experienced local guides.

ITINERARY

Wild Earth Expeditions will make every reasonable effort to operate the expedition as advertised, but alterations may occur, usually due to flight schedule changes, weather, tides or wildlife sightings. We will discuss our planned itinerary daily with our local expert guides and will always choose the best available option. Accommodations and arranged tours are subject to change or cancellation at any time due to unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond *Wild Earth Expeditions* control. Please note that 2019 flight schedules and airfares will only be released 11 months prior to the end of the expedition.

WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS

Although we have reported honestly and accurately about our sightings and experiences, we would like to point out that we are working in the wilderness and despite all of our good intentions and utmost preparation, Mother Nature may not cooperate with us at times. We believe that with good planning and a realistic approach, you will have a successful time witnessing the natural behavior of the wildlife we have set out to see.



COST & INFO

MAIN EXPEDITION- PEARLS OF THE PACIFIC & HUMPBACK WHALES

Double Occupancy: USD \$14,590 per person

Single Supplement Surcharge: USD \$6,890 per person

RURUTU HUMPBACK WHALES EXTENSION

Double Occupancy: USD \$3,150 per person

Single Supplement Surcharge: USD \$1,240 per person

PRE-EXTENSION – TAHITI & MOOREA

Double Occupancy: USD \$5,450 per person

Single Supplement Surcharge: USD \$2,540 per person

INCLUDED

All accommodations in twin/double share rooms as outlined in the itinerary; Upgrade to Overwater bungalow in Moorea, Tahiti and Rangiroa at 5* resorts; All group meals; Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions; Soft drinks, drinking water, tea and regular filter coffee during lunch/dinner at all hotels and onboard the *MV French Polynesian Master*; Drinking water while on tours; All group transfers and baggage handling; All tours, excursions, diving and snorkeling as outlined in the itinerary; Exclusive services of English speaking professional guides and naturalists; Services of 2 Wild Earth Expedition Leaders (including Expedition Leader/Dive Guide and Marine Biologist/Snorkel Guide); All gratuities to porters, guides, drivers, dive crew, ship-, resort- and wait staff; Government- Service- and Room taxes; All permits, Harbor fees, Entrance and Marine park fees; Complimentary slideshow and photos; Recaps and Lectures by marine biologist; Dive tanks/weights for Scuba divers; Donation to Reef Conservation Project.

NOT INCLUDED

All international and domestic airfares; Domestic routes must be booked via Wild Earth Expeditions to ensure that spaces are secured and we have our ground operators handle any flight delays, cancellations if they occur; Any airport arrival and departure taxes; Passport and visa fees; Immunization costs; Meals outside the group travel itinerary; Mandatory Travel insurance (including medical, medical evacuation and accident); Excess baggage charges; Personal items, such as laundry, any alcoholic beverages or bar charges (unless specified above), WiFi/email, telephone, fax calls; Tips for your 2 Wild Earth Leaders and any non-group services; Nitrox air fills and dive gear rental. Any sudden increase in price, due to currency fluctuations, a steep hike in fuel cost, change in government tax policy or for any reason beyond our control, will be adjusted with the final invoice due 4 months prior to the expedition.

SINGLE OCCUPANCY

We only have limited single spaces available on this expedition and single occupancy rates apply. If you are wanting to share accommodations, a roommate will be assigned to you and double occupancy rates apply. If we cannot pair you with a roommate, the single supplement surcharge applies.