

Included excursions

Marquesas Islands

At each island stopover, an excursion is included as part of the cruise fare and per our daily itinerary. On our Marquesas cruises only, where freight is carried, our guides will escort guests ashore while supplies are unloaded, and goods destined for Tahiti are loaded. Each excursion has been designed and developed by Aranui and the local islanders to show off the highlights of each destination.

Rangiroa

Enjoy Rangiroa's white sand beach and translucent lagoon. The "mamas" stands will have an excellent display of shell necklaces and other small souvenirs. After lunch on board, you will enjoy your afternoon at the public beach.

Nuku Hiva

A 4x4 excursion from town to the Cathedral Notre Dame, known for its stonework and wood sculptures; the Tohua Kamuihei in Hatieu, an archaeological site; and the valley of Taipivai, where a traditional Marquesan lunch will be served. Stops at scenic viewpoints on the return, with free time in the town of Taiohae in the afternoon.

Ua Pou

Following a morning hike to a hill overlooking the bay and surrounding valleys for breathtaking views, walk into the village to sample local fruits and visit the arts and crafts centre. Locals will perform the island's Bird Dance before a Marquesan lunch at a local restaurant.

Ua Huka

A 4x4 excursion from Vaipae to the villages of Hokatu and Hane, with stops at the botanical garden, three museums featuring replicas of Marquesan artifacts, ancient maritime objects, and petroglyphs, woodcarvers' studios, followed by a traditional local lunch.

Hiva Oa

In the main village of Atuona, visit the Calvary cemetery where French artist Paul Gauguin is buried, the Gauguin and Jacques Brel museums, and an arts and crafts centre.

Tahuata

Visit the Catholic Church built by the Vatican and decorated with beautiful carvings and a stained-glass window with the Marquesan cross, and an arts and crafts centre featuring some of the finest bone carvings, for which the island is known.

Fatu Hiva

Visit the village of Omoa in the morning to see demonstrations of tapa, a cloth from the bark of various trees, and the kumuhei, a floral bouquet unique to this island and worn by women to perfume their hair. A 16km hike to the village of Hanavave is offered to active guests. For those who do not wish to partake, the ship will reposition to Hanavave, where non-hiking guests can disembark for a visit and a demonstration of coconut oil fabrication.

Fakarava

Passengers will have time to discover its small village, the church built out of coral, the local crafts, and a demonstration of the many uses of the coconut. Enjoy a day of relaxation, sun and beach, swimming, or snorkelling among colourful tropical fish.

Bora Bora

Upon arriving in Bora Bora's stunning lagoon, you'll be greeted by the majestic Mount Otemanu, the island's highest peak. This paradise offers the option to relax on the beach and enjoy a barbecue on the private Motu Tapu surrounded by clear waters.