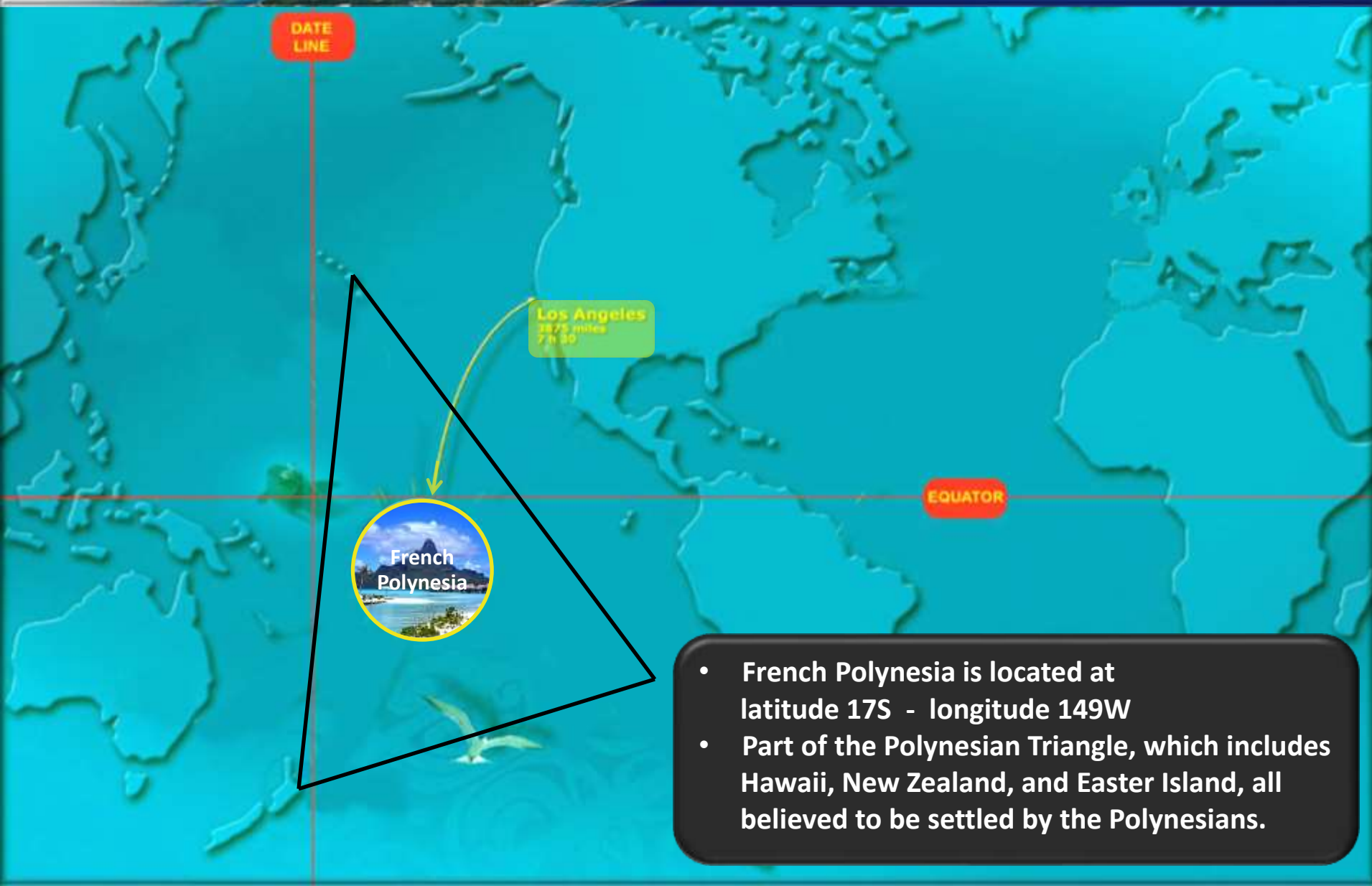


Chartering French Polynesia



Where is French Polynesia?



- French Polynesia is located at latitude 17S - longitude 149W
- Part of the Polynesian Triangle, which includes Hawaii, New Zealand, and Easter Island, all believed to be settled by the Polynesians.

French Polynesia

- French Polynesia consists of 130 islands in five archipelagos.
- Roughly the size of Europe!
- Tahiti in the leeward Society Islands

Society Islands

Bora Bora
Huahine
Moorea
Paiatea
Tahiti

Tuamotu Islands

Marquesas Islands

Gambiers Islands

Austral Islands

- Tahiti is the capital of French Polynesia
- Tahiti is 7.5 hours from LAX, 8.5 from SFO
- Time zone: Same as Hawaii UTC -10
- Currency: XFP (French Pacific Franc)

Society Islands



Raiatea, Taha'a, Bora Bora and Huahine are the typical cruising grounds.

Tahiti to Uturoa Airport (RFP) on Raiatea is a 35-minute plane ride (130 miles).

- The Society Islands consist of 15 land masses. 10 mountainous islands and 5 coral atolls.
- Named by Captain Cook in 1769.
- Tahiti is the largest island and the capital of French Polynesia

International flights fly into Faa'a Int'l Airport (PPT) in Tahiti's capital city of Papeete.





When To Go?

Prime season (driest, most expensive) July-Sept

Shoulder season (slightly more rain and less expensive) May-June & Oct-Nov

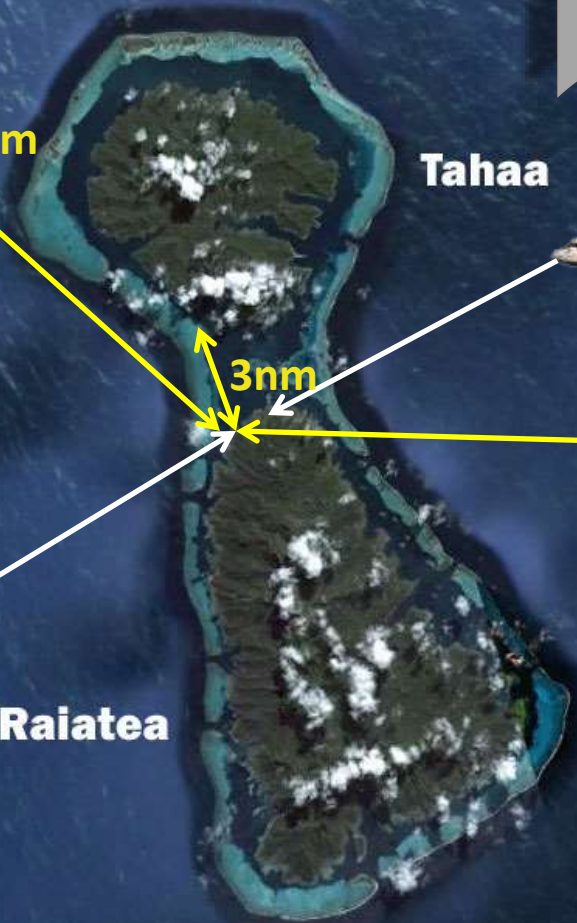
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
AVG High (F)	89	89	89	89	87	86	86	86	86	87	88	88
AVG Low (F)	72	72	72	72	70	69	68	68	69	70	71	72
RAIN (Inches)	13.2	11.5	6.5	6.8	4.9	3.2	2.6	1.9	2.3	3.4	6.5	11.9

Cruising Grounds



Bora Bora

25nm



Tahaa

3nm



Huahine

27nm



Raiatea

WIND

Feb –Apr	E	15-20 kts
May-Oct	SE	15-20 kts
Nov-Jan	NE	15-20 kts

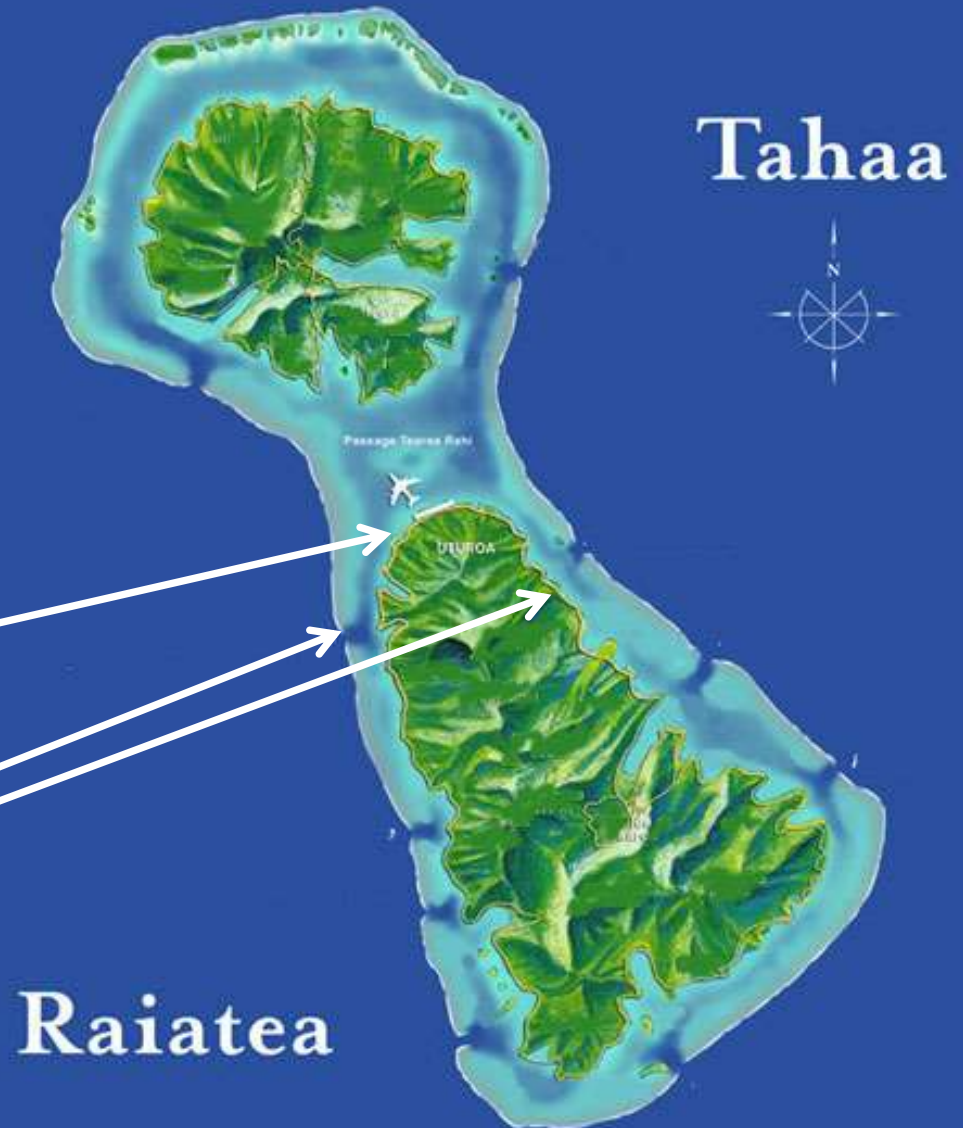


Raiatea & Taha'a



Raiatea & Taha'a

- 130 miles from Tahiti.
- Share a common sailable lagoon 90' deep.
- Arrival airport
- *Charter bases*



Raiatea

The Sacred Island

Uturoa is the only large town on Raiatea. Three miles from charter base. Three supermarkets and many restaurants.



Raiatea

The Sacred Island

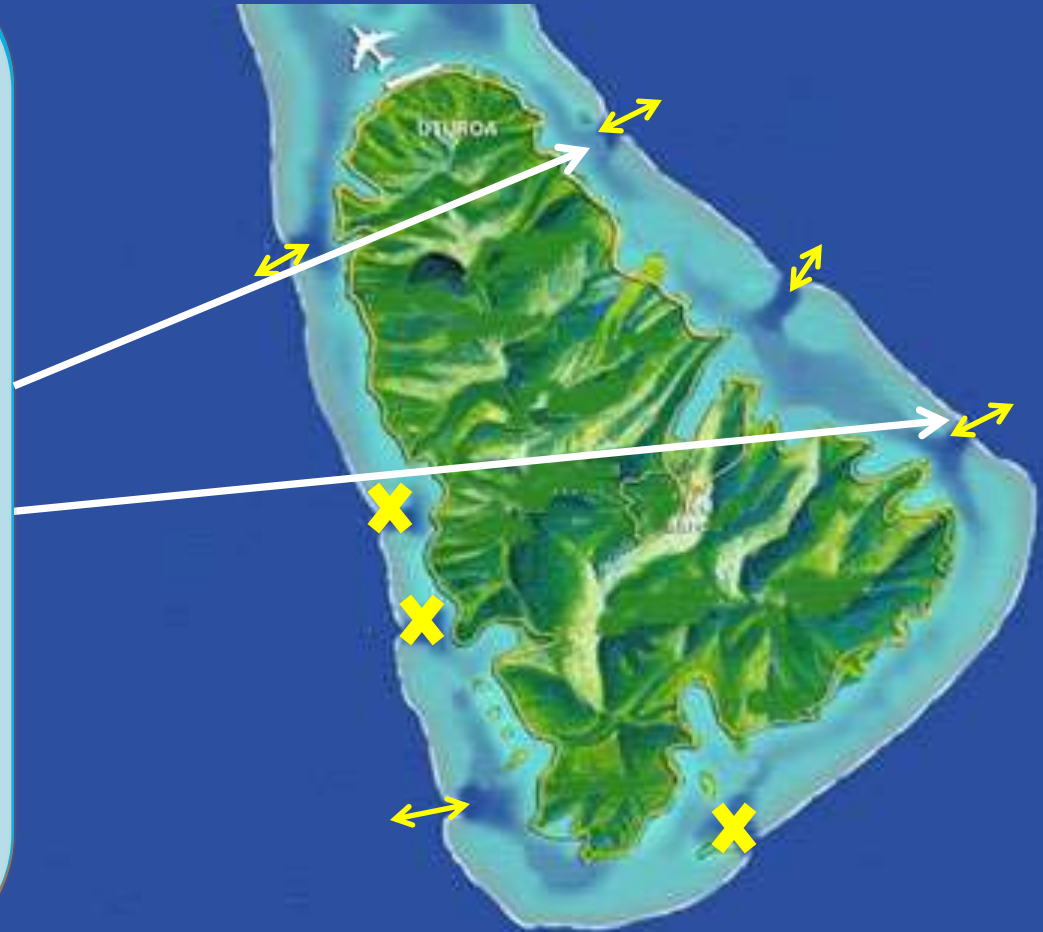
- Very few beaches.
- Eight passes through the barrier reef. Three are closed to charterers.
- Passes clearly marked on charts. Many have range markers.



Raiatea

The Sacred Island

Motus (small coral islands)
abound on the barrier reefs.



Raiatea

The Sacred Island

Faaroa River



Raiatea

The Sacred Island

Faaroa Garden/Farm Tour



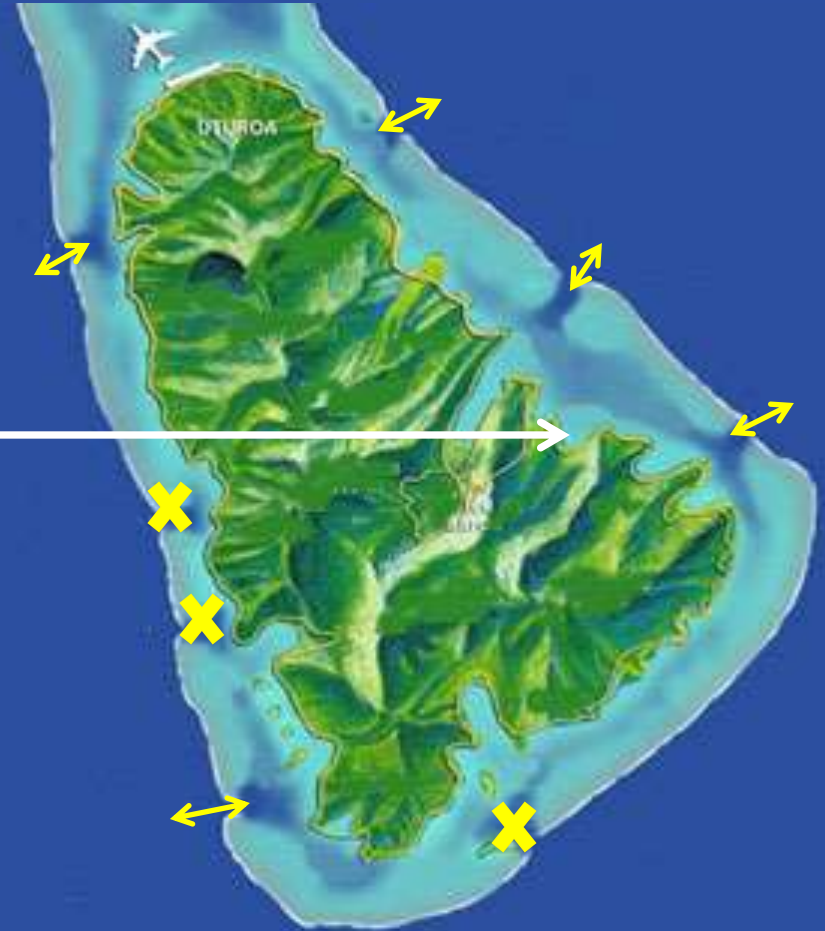
Raiatea

The Sacred Island

Marae (temple) Taputapuatea



Rafted at nearby concrete dock.



Taha'a

The Vanilla Island



Quiet island. Only 4500 people.
Eight tiny villages.
Two barrier reef passes.
Vanilla, Pearl & Palm Tree Farms.
Entire lagoon excellent sailing!





Taha'a

The Vanilla Island



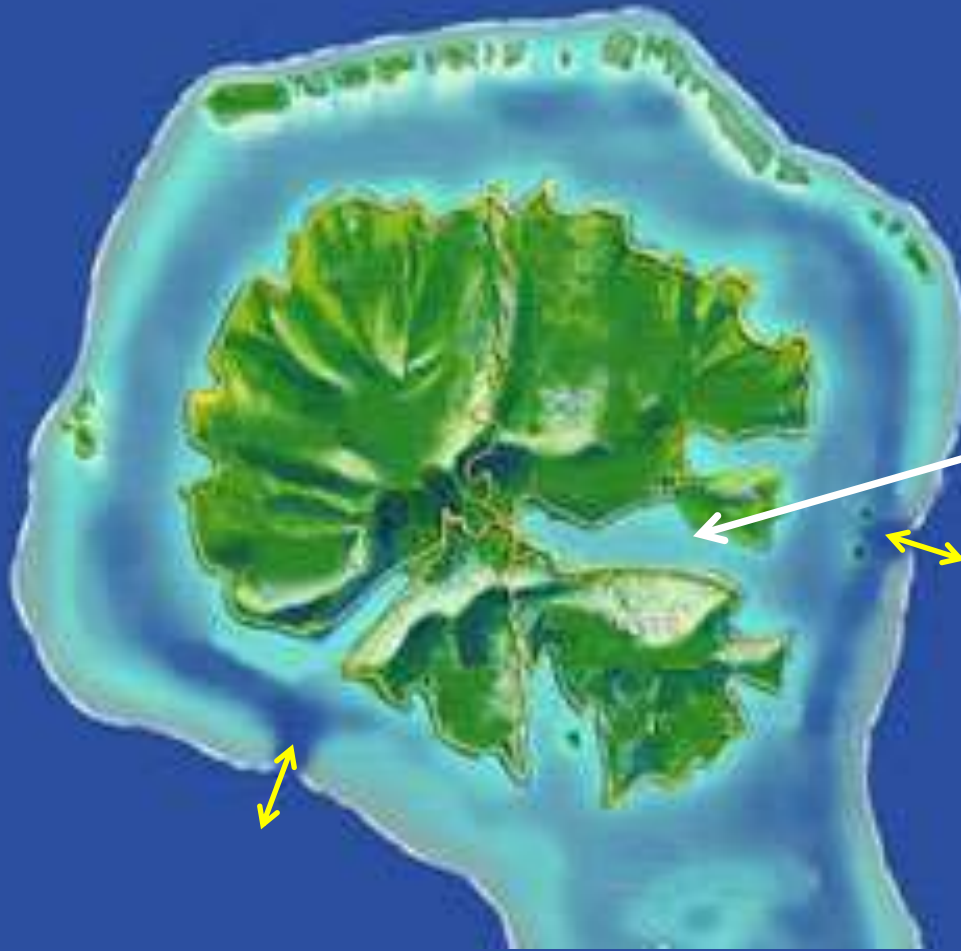
Champon Pearl Farm



\$800
Mooring ball

Taha'a

The Vanilla Island



L'Hisbiscus YC/Restaurant/Hotel



Foundation for protection of the
Sea Turtles



Taha'a

The Vanilla Island



Vanilla Farm Tour



Bora Bora

The Pearl Of The South Seas



Bora Bora

The Pearl Of The South Seas

Mt. Pahia 2168', Mt. Otemanu 2385'.

5,400 people, 20 miles shoreline rd.

Roads and airport built by in WWII
by US Army.

Only substantial town is Vaitape.

No sewerage in lagoon.

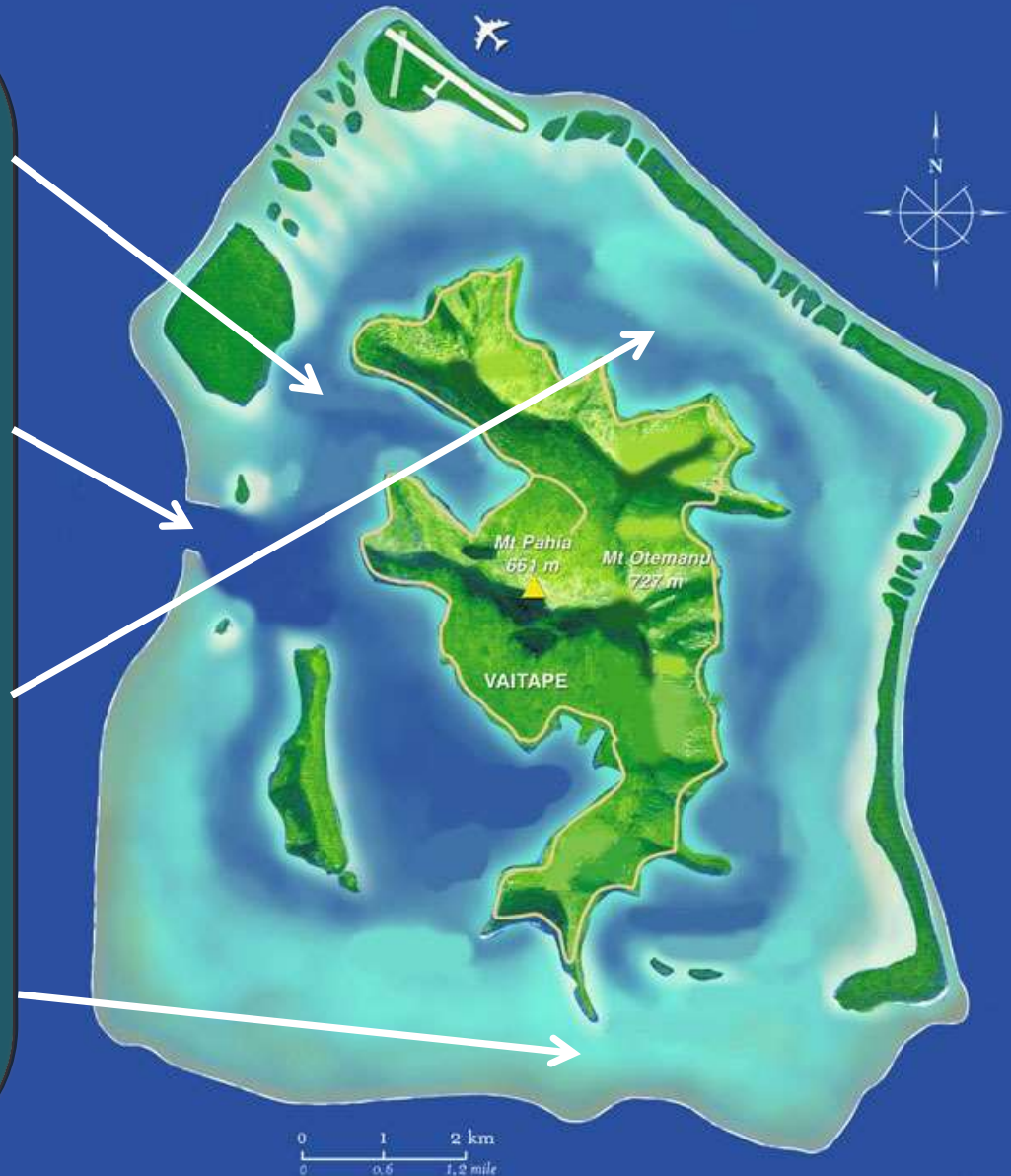
Few cemeteries. Mausoleums on
family property.



Bora Bora

The Pearl Of The South Seas

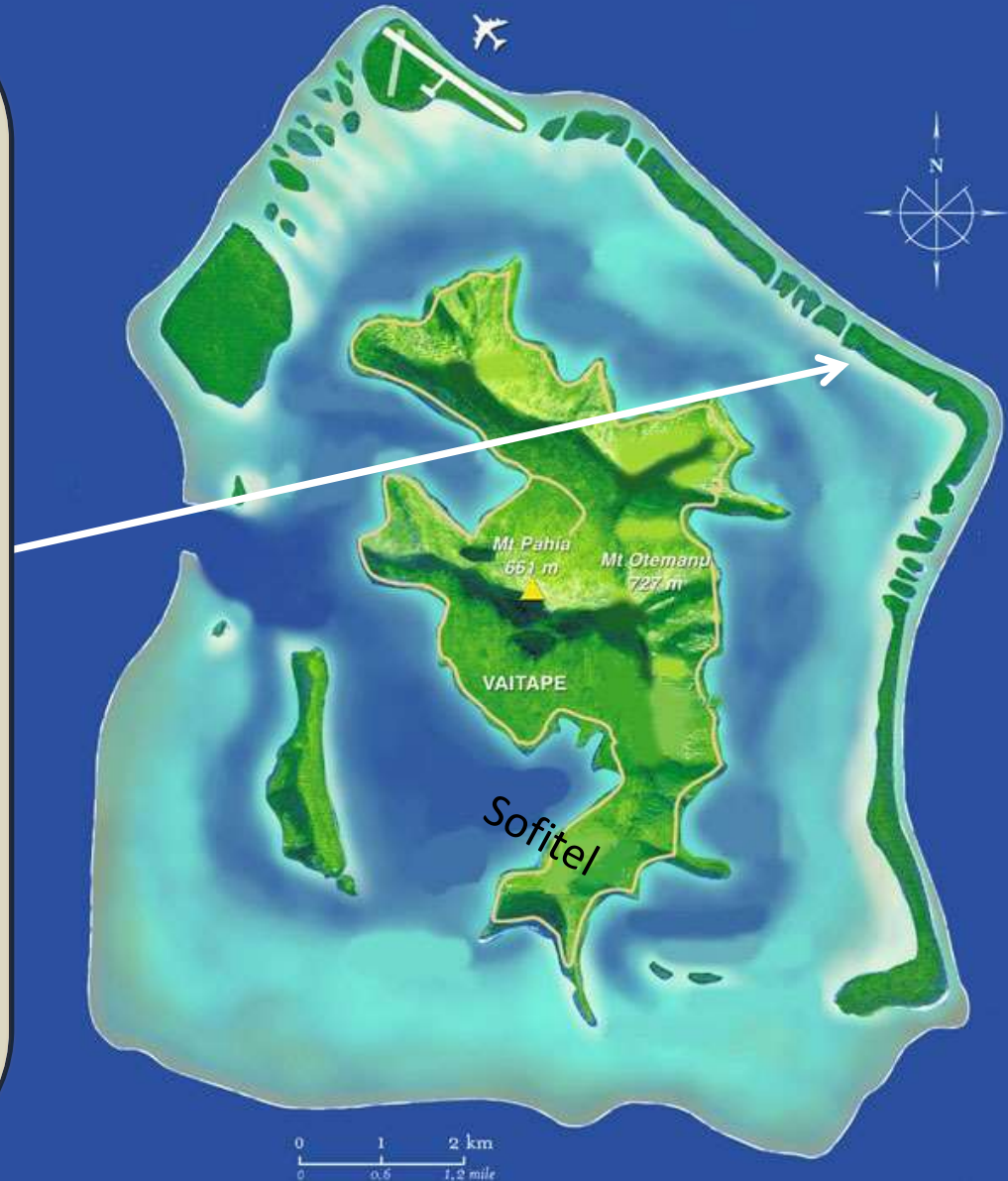
- North & West lagoons deep and sailable.
- One pass through barrier reef.
- East lagoon shallow. Must motor.
- South lagoon impassable.



Bora Bora

The Pearl Of The South Seas

Lagoonarium – fenced in natural lagoon where you can swim with turtles, sharks, rays and open ocean fish.





Hauhine

The Savage Island



Hauhine

The Savage Island

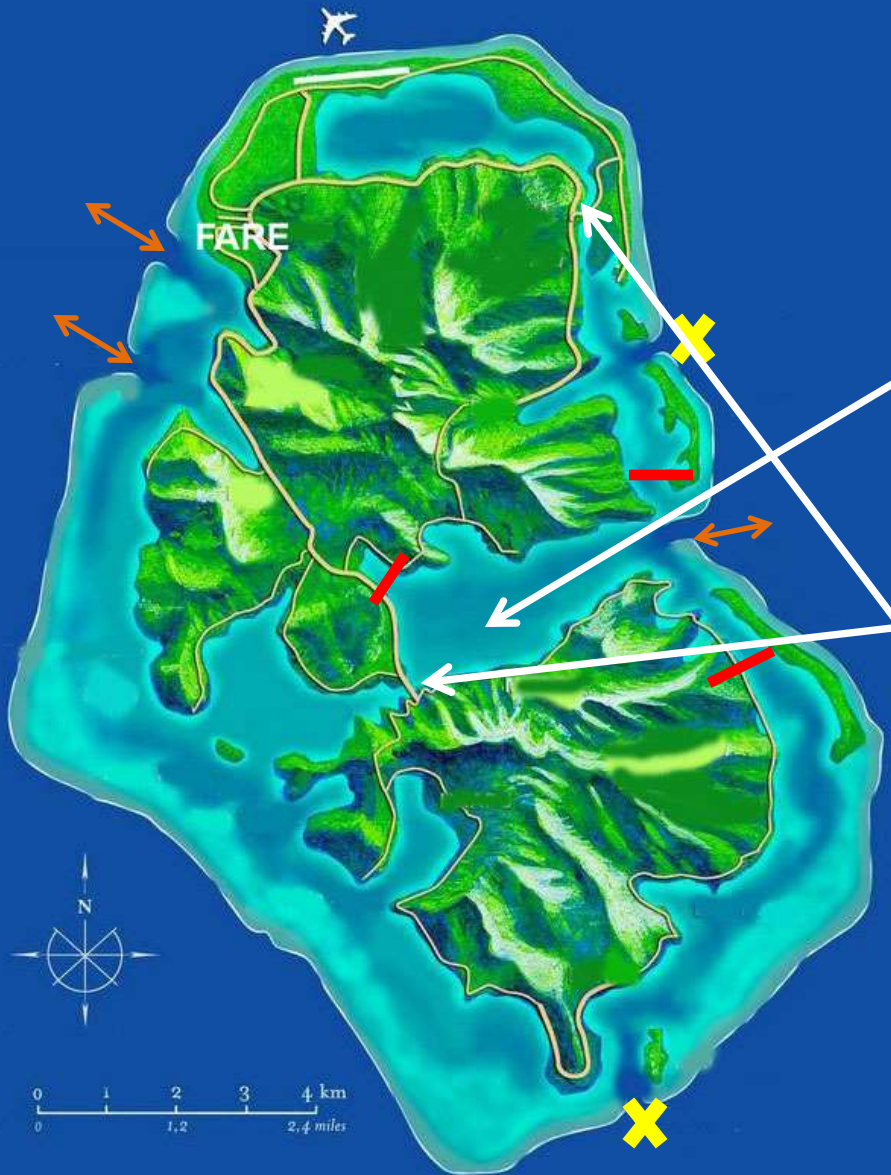


Two very quiet islands attached by a bridge. 20 miles of road. Pop. 5000.



Hauhine

The Savage Island



Three usable passes through barrier reef (**ORANGE**). Two closed (**YELLOW**). Restricted areas (**RED**).

No moorings or anchoring in Maroe Bay

Look south from Fare to see Pregnant Lady laying down mountain range.



Hauhine

The Savage Island



Fare only town on island.



Hauhine

The Savage Island



Over 280 Ancient Maraes (Temples)



Hauhine

The Savage Island



Hawaiki Nui Va'a - 6 person canoe race.

Every Nov: 3 days, 78 miles, 100 canoes.

Huahine/Raiatea /Taha'a /Bora Bora.



Moorea

Sister Island of Tahiti



Moorea

Sister Island of Tahiti

Lagoonarium



Moorea

Sister Island of Tahiti

ATV Tours



Moorea

Sister Island of Tahiti

Jet Ski Tours





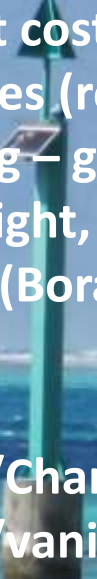
SUMMARY

Starting June 2025 reservations will be required for anchoring and mooring balls.

Fees imposed for mooring balls in Bora Bora.

Anchoring locations very limited.

For more details see www.escales.gov.pf

- 
- Boat cost and groceries similar to BVI's
 - Services (restaurants and tours) expensive
 - Chartering – good selection of charter companies
 - Navigation - line of sight, well marked waterways, good charts provided
 - Sailing - 2 open water sails (Bora Bora & Huahine). Good sailing in protected lagoons
 - Raiatea – Airport/Charter Base/Larger grocery stores/Restaurants
 - Taha'a – quiet/vanilla & pearl farms/few restaurants/lovely
 - Bora Bora – many resorts but still relatively quiet. Beautiful east lagoon.
 - Huahine – very quiet
 - Moorea – most activities for tourists. Not in typical charter sailing grounds



Information

Airline

- Air Tahiti – www.airtahitinui-usa.com

Charter Companies

- Moorings - www.moorings.com
- Sunsail - www.sunsail.com
- Tahiai Yacht Charter - www.tahitiyachtcharter.com

Charts & Cruising Guides

- On Line Chart Viewer - <http://www.charts.noaa.gov/NGAVIEWER/83392.shtml>
- Chart: 83392 – (Raiatea, Tahaa, Bora Bora, Huahine)
- Chart: 83397 – (Bora Bora)
- Moorings cruising guide - http://view.vcab.com/fs/00000320/00025054/00194981/_uploads/Tahiti%20Guide.pdf
- Sunsail cruising guide - <http://mymoorings.com/info/broguide/ssdestgde/raiatea.pdf>
- Charlie's Charts of Polynesia – www.charliescharts.com
- Cruising Guide to Tahiti and the French Society Islands by Marcia Davock - www.amazon.com

Tourism Websites

- Islands of Tahiti- www.tahiti-tourisme.com/
- Tahiti Guide - www.tahitiguide.com/

Taha'a

- Champon Pearl Farm - www.tahiti-pearl-online.com
- L'Hibiscus Hotel/YC - <http://www.hibiscustahaa.com/>

Bora Bora

- Bora Bora Yacht Club - www.boraborayachtclub.net/
- Mai Kai Marina - <http://www.maikaimarina.com/>
- Bloody Mary's - <http://bloodymarys.com/>
- Lagoonarium - <http://boraboraisland.com/lagoonarium/>