



TAHITI
Global Sailing Destinations

September 23 - October 3, 2019



Modern Sailing School and Club
(415) 331-8250

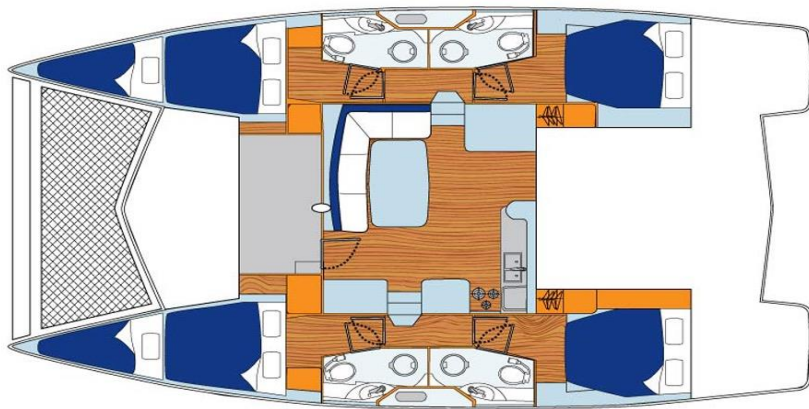
Stephen Spoja
Trip Leader

THE BOATS—Sunsail 444 Catamaran



Double berths in each cabin
Four cabins with fans, lights, each with its own head and shower
Stern shower with hot/cold water
Engine: two Yanmar 39hp
Length Overall 42.5 ft.
Beam 23.75ft
Draft 1.27m
Sail Area 117m²

This revolutionary catamaran uniquely balances comfort, space, and sailing performance unrivaled by most common catamarans. She is steady downwind with limited roll, helping keep the mai tais on the table. This model provides easy access off the stern to swim and electric davits to raise and lower the tender. The galley faces aft towards the outside entertaining area so you can prepare meals while being involved in the social dynamics with the rest of the crew.



Sleeping Accommodations

- Wall-mounted fans in every cabin
- Hanging locker in each cabin
- Storage with shelving
- LED reading lamps and LED overhead lights
- 6'1 to 6'5 maximum head room
- Bed linens and pillows included
- Private ensuite shower and electric head (no pumping required)

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

You are responsible for booking your own airfare. Based on our research, airfare will likely be priced about \$1600 to \$2200 per person. Direct flights are available on **Air Tahiti Nui** from Los Angeles, SFO, and Honolulu. If you would like to use a travel agent to book your flights, we suggest Sandra Marron at Millennium Travel. Sandra can be reached at (415) 898-7974.

WHAT TO BRING

Luggage

We encourage you to travel light. Your gear should fit in a medium duffel bag and small carry-on bag and your carry-on should be less than 15 pounds. We recommend using a dry bag or backpack. Both bags should be collapsible for easy storage on the boat in a small space. Do not bring bags with hard frames as they are difficult to stow.

Gear

We have found that people often only use about half of what they bring. When packing, lay all your items out and reduce them by 50%. Lay them out again, then reduce once more.

Clothing and gear weight depends on weather conditions. Lightweight clothing layers that wick well and dry quickly are essential. Your total gear weight should be less than 55 pounds, including your carry-on bag.

Sun conditions can be very different than on San Francisco Bay. Consider lightweight clothing that covers exposed areas without adding bulk or weight. A variety of lightweight pants/slacks and shirts/blouses that are UV-protective can be purchased at marine and outdoor recreation stores before the trip. Sunscreen and hats are essential.

Suggested Packing List

<u>Clothing</u>	<u>Non-Clothing</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Quick-drying t-shirts, sun shirt● Shorts w/zipper pocket● Swimsuit(s)● Sweater or fleece jacket● Foul weather gear● Deck shoes, water/reef shoes, or sandals (they will get wet)● Hiking shoes for exploring beyond the shore● Long-sleeved shirt for snorkeling● Lightweight rain jacket● Sailing gloves● Extra towel (microfiber quick dry)● Long pants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Passport (copies)● Cash● Sunscreen● Insect repellent● Polarized sunglasses (2 pairs)● Camera● Personal hygiene items● Medications with prescriptions● Special dietary items● Flashlight/batteries● Dry bag & backpack● ZipLock bags● Bio-degradable soap/shampoo● Electronics with chargers● French wall socket adapter

What NOT to bring

Different states and countries have different travel rules, regulations, and considerations. If you have specific questions about an item, ask us. Some general items you should **not** bring are illegal drugs, weapons, hair dryers, expensive jewelry, pets, rigid suitcases, surfboards (it has happened), fireworks, and dive tanks.

Linens, towels, and pillows are provided on the boat and not necessary to bring. Your own quick-dry swim towel is handy to have.

Considerations

The charter base will have a variety of snorkel gear and equipment to choose from. These items are included in the cost of the trip. Again, you are more than welcome to bring your own. Keep in mind that these items tend to be bulky and heavy. A reasonable compromise may be to bring your own mask and snorkel and use the fins provided on board. Water shoes are also a good idea.

PFDs (life jackets) are on board the boat, however, you are more than welcome to bring your own. Be aware that getting CO2 canisters through TSA can be a hassle that is not really worthwhile.

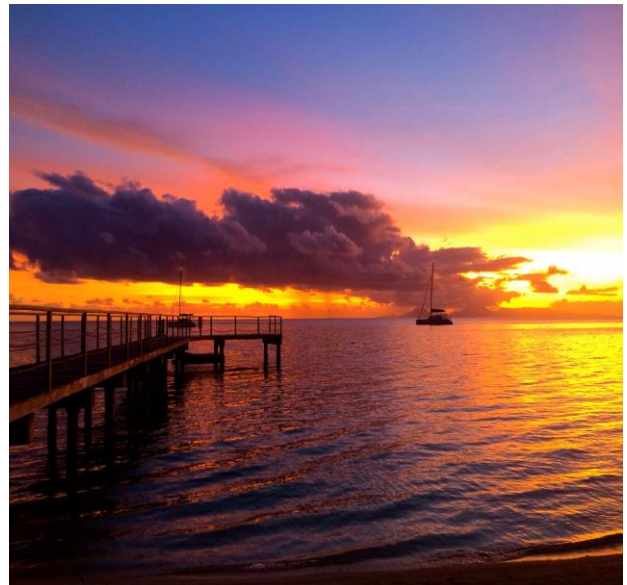
WEATHER

The weather in French Polynesia is beautiful and mild year-round. The month of September is characterized by an average temperature of 78°F or above. Daily low temperatures range from 70°F to 75°F, although there can be a chill in the air when it rains.

The most common forms of precipitation are brief squalls or thunderstorms. Rain averages approximately 2 inches in September.

Relative humidity typically ranges from 52% (mildly humid) to 87% (very humid) over the course of the season, rarely dropping below 38% (comfortable).

The weather data are based on the average temperatures in September from historical records from 1998 to 2012 for the island of Tahiti.



Wind Conditions

In September, wind typically blows out of the southeast at 15-20 knots and occasionally builds to 25 knots. When the swell comes from the southwest, a cross-swell occurs and seas can build three to five feet in squalls and in higher winds.

Tides

Tides tend to be diurnal and have a range of approximately 12 inches from low (~0600/1800) to high tide (~0000/1200).

GALLEY AND PROVISIONING

Provisioning and menu ideas will be discussed at the crew meeting. The lion's share of provisioning for breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be done in advance through the charter company and are included in the cost of the trip. Additional provisioning will depend on the crew's desires. Final provisioning will be completed once the crew arrives in Raiatea.

Raiatea, Huahine, and Bora Bora have large markets and small shops for provisioning needs. Each skipper will work with his or her crew to select items for individual tastes. Wandering through a grocery store to see what fresh specialty items they have is a not-to-be-missed experience. Recognize all commercial goods must be ferried to the islands which decreases availability and increases costs.



- 3-burner cooktop and oven with grill function
- 46 US gal. / 175L fridge with front access, 12v compressor
- 21 US gal. / 80" icebox with front access
- Upper storage cabinets
- Microwave and BBQ

The crew will decide on how many meals will be eaten ashore and provision accordingly. Food and beverage costs vary based on individual crews' desires. One dinner is provided by Sunsail. Additional meals will be decided and purchased as a collective by each crew.

Global Destinations recognizes that people have different experiences and tastes in personal beverages (alcohol). Alcohol purchased at airport Duty Free stores can be cheaper than Tahiti prices. Provisioning time will be provided for members to make their own purchases. One or two crew members are assigned to stowing provisions.

While galley duty is a shared responsibility, those who stow provisions can help others to find stored items.

Special Dietary and Health Needs

Skippers will consult with participants at crew meetings regarding advanced provisioning. This is your opportunity to let your skipper know if you have specific dietary needs or restrictions. Please inform us of any special dietary needs or health equipment (such as a CPAP machine) that you may need to bring with you. We can plan ahead to accommodate you. If there are unique food items you desire, you will have time to purchase them during the provisioning trip.

Breakfast

Breakfast will be around 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM daily with some flexibility based on the itinerary, group, and individual desires. We have had full course breakfasts, complete with bacon, eggs, etc. We have also enjoyed granola bars and fruit, depending on the crew's appetites.

The goal is to meet your body's energy needs, so you will be nourished well enough to enjoy your swim and shore adventures.

Lunches

Lunches are very casual with no set schedule. They can be soup and sandwiches, veggie sticks, or local fare. Lunch is often served under way and conditions may dictate what we have on a particular day. If the crew is in agreement and a nice lunch spot is found, we can take the dinghy ashore to dine at a local restaurant or picnic on the beach.

Snacks

Snacks are always a very personal thing and can be whatever the crew desires, such as chips and salsa or cheese and crackers. Fresh fruit and nuts are always good (and delicious) as they require little to no preparation and help maintain energy.

Dinners

Dinners provide the most flexibility. We can choose to relax on board, cook and watch the sunset, or go ashore and sample the local culture and cuisine. When we make provisioning plans, one dinner meal on board will be included in the plan in case we find a secluded anchorage and decide to stay and enjoy the peace and serenity.

Dinner Ashore

If we choose to go ashore in the evening, meal expenses will be the responsibility of each person. Usually most establishments will be willing to split checks. Be sure to carry some cash (CFP franc), as small "mom and pop" establishments sometimes accept cash only.

Perishables

Some food items do not keep well in a marine environment and have a very short shelf life. We will provision the fewest possible perishables and restock whenever going ashore. We often come across fresh fish on the docks or at open markets. There is something special and nothing as delicious as fresh seafood caught that very day from local waters.



**Modern Sailing School and Club
PROPOSED TAHITI ITINERARY*
September 23 to October 3, 2019**



The itinerary is designed around typical weather conditions in French Polynesia for September and October but may be adjusted based on local conditions and weather patterns. The Trip Leader will make prudent decisions based on wind, weather, and sea state to ensure a safe and enjoyable trip.

We will visit the four islands of Raiatea, Taha'a, Bora Bora, and Huahine. Each of these islands provides a unique glimpse into the history and culture of the Polynesians and offer a wide variety of dining, snorkeling, diving, island touring, hiking, and shopping activities. The primary economy of the islands is upscale tourism followed by black pearl farming. All flights arrive on the main island of Tahiti. You can layover there before catching an inter-island flight to Raiatea.

DAY 1 - Monday, September 23: Arrive at Sunsail Base, Marina Apoiti, Raiatea

Check in at base before noon and meet up with your other crew mates. While the skippers attend chart briefings, crew members will split provisioning duties. Some will inventory and store the provisions, while others visit the local market in Uturoa town for items that were not pre-ordered. It's a good idea to check the fit of the snorkel gear provided by Sunsail before departure.

Depart mid-afternoon for a short sail to Apu Bay, Taha'a. Ashore you may swim, visit a black pearl farm, gorge on a Polynesian dinner, and be dazzled by a traditional fire dance.



DAY 2 - Tuesday September 24: Apu Bay, Taha'a to Bora Bora (~24nm)

Get underway and exit the lagoon through Passe Paipai for a beautiful sail across the open Pacific Ocean to mystical Bora Bora. This is usually a broad reach, making our first ocean passage especially pleasant. As we leave the islands of Taha'a and Raiatea in our wake, the iconic Mount Otemanu looms ever larger, enticing us with the magic of Bali Hai from the movie *South Pacific*. Be on the lookout for humpback whales and dolphins. In Vaitape, we'll find delicious fresh fish for dining onboard later in the trip. For this night's dinner we can choose between Bora Bora's best restaurants — Bora Bora Yacht Club, MaiKai Yacht Club or St. James.



DAY 3 - Wednesday, September 25: Motu Piti Aau & Taurere, Bora Bora (~9nm)



Make way around the north and east sides of Bora Bora through the turquoise lagoon surrounded by coral gardens and sandy shallows. Keep an eye out for coral heads and the cardinal marker navigation aids for those who want to practice their piloting skills in shallow water. There is much to see either way. The cruise is a photographer's delight. Anchor near the Lagoonarium and snorkel with the tame reef sharks, rays, and tropical fish in a protected environment. Continue south, skirting the high-end resorts with their overwater bungalows and follow manta rays as they gracefully glide through the water, skimming just above the bottom.

Drop anchor in the shallows off Motu Piti Aau, enjoy a swim, a stroll on the beach, or snorkel to see colorful fish and giant clams embedded in the coral. Have a relaxing evening and meal aboard. The views of Bora Bora's mountainous landscape change with every passing minute — it's one of the most beautiful places on Earth!

DAY 4 - Thursday, September 26: Baie de Povai, Bora Bora (~11nm)

After a morning swim, travel back to the southwest side of Bora Bora to the famous Bloody Mary's restaurant, named after the character from the movie *South Pacific*.

Tour the town shops, the beautiful churches, and rent an electric car or motor scooter to cruise around the island. There's only one road so you cannot get lost.

Dinghy ashore then don snorkel gear to drift along the tidal river exploring the coral garden as the incoming tide carries you blissfully along.

Alternatively, we'll take a mooring ball at the Bora Bora Yacht Club. The view is rivaled by their extensive cocktail selection and dining menu.



DAY 5 - Friday, September 27: Bora Bora to Taha'a (Motu Tautau or Baie Tapuamu) (~25nm)



Sail to Taha'a and anchor off the reef at Motu Tautau. Enjoy lunch and spend the afternoon snorkeling in the shallows.

Experience the multicolored fish as they dart to and fro in the coral garden.

Explore this tiny sandy island and the single beautiful resort of the same name. Moor for the night or pick a mooring ball in Tapuamu Bay, then tour a Tahitian rum distillery ashore.

DAY 6 - Saturday, September 28: Taha'a to Raiatea's East Side (Faaroa Bay ~16nm, or Hotupuu Bay (~19nm), or Motu Naonao (~26nm)



In the morning we will sail within the protective fringing reef that surrounds both Taha'a and Raiatea. Raiatea is relatively large, with craggy steep mountains making for a picturesque tour down its east side. We have many choices of destinations there. We can take the dinghy up Tahiti's only navigable river, or have *Poisson Cru* at a serene *Pension Atiapiti* (Tahitian for bed and breakfast inn), tour the holy *mare of* Taputapuatea, the ancient center of all Polynesian culture, or cruise to the far south end of Raiatea to anchor off Motu Naonao for more snorkeling.

DAY 7 - Sunday, September 29: Raiatea to Fare, Huahine (~21nm)

Exit one of Raiatea's many passes and set sail for Huahine. This leg of the trip is usually a close reach, testing your sail trim skills to make the most of the easterly breeze. Our destination is Fare, the small village capital center. Huahine is often overshadowed by its more famous sister islands but is becoming a favorite of many cruisers due to its friendly local vibe, unspoiled lands, and variety of bays and touring opportunities. We can have dinner along the bay at the laid-back Huahine Yacht Club with our feet in the sand.

DAY 8 - Monday, September 30: Fare to Haapu Bay (snorkel) then Baie d'Avea (~7nm)



In the morning go for a swim, tour the village of Fare, and enjoy the wonders of an eclectic market to stock up on fresh baguettes and other local delights. Then head south along Huahine's picturesque west coast and pick up a mooring just south of Bourayne Bay for one of the island's top snorkel destinations. An outrigger canoe might hitchhike a ride, surfing down your boat's bow wave. End this relaxed cruise within the lagoon at serene Baie d'Avea, where the water is so clear that you can see every detail beneath the surface. Snorkeling off nearby Pointe Tiva is amazing. The two restaurants on the beach are very different from one another, but both serve excellent Polynesian food and drinks.

DAY 9 - Tuesday, October 1: Baie d'Avea Layover Day

Spend the day relaxing in this beautiful bay, take an island tour, visit a black pearl farm, vanilla plantation, an ancient archaeological *mare*, and feed freshwater blue-eyed eels, which are thought to possess magical powers. You may also choose to rent a car, scooter, or bike and explore at your own pace. Just off the point of the beach there is some very good snorkeling to be found.



DAY 10 - Wednesday, October 2: Huahine to Haamene Bay Taha'a or Raiatea (~26-29nm)

Leave Huahine in the morning, sail along the island's west coast, then exit Passe Avepehi and head west across the Pacific Ocean for about 20 nautical miles. Enter Taha'a through Passe Taohotu. Have a snorkel and lunch at Motu Ceran/Motu Mehaea, stroll on the beach, then make the short hop across the lagoon into Haamene Bay. Swim and snorkel along the reef, take the optional trip to Hibiscus Sea Turtle Protection sanctuary, or make a final visit to the Haamene Bay Pearl Farm. Relax and enjoy the protected, fjord-like bay. Experience the dining attraction of Polynesian food at Hibiscus or Tahaa MaiTai as you settle in for your final night in this divine tropical paradise.

DAY 11 - Thursday, October 3: Return to Sunsail Base, Apooti Marina, Raiatea ~6nm

After a light breakfast, we sail back to the base and disembark from our yachts. We reflect on our adventure among some of the most beautiful islands in the world. Having created priceless memories of sailing adventures, tropical sunsets, and new friends, we'll say to ourselves, *"Til next time, Tahiti!"*



**Itineraries are subject to change based on sea state, weather and anchorages and may be adjusted based upon Trip Leader's judgment.*