



Tahiti
Global Sailing Destinations

September 5-15, 2017



Modern Sailing School and Club
(415) 331 – 8250

Dave Russell
Trip Leader

THE BOATS—Sunsail 444 Catamaran



Double Berths in each cabin
Four Cabins with fans, lights, and AC
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 new catamaran uniquely balances comfort, space and a sailing performance unrivaled by most catamarans. She has a narrow profile and unlike traditional Catamarans point fairly high. She has easy access off the stern to swim. Electric davits to raise and lower tender. Galley up so you can prepare meals while being involved in the social dynamics with the rest of the crew.



Description of the Boat

Sleeping Accommodations

- Wall mounted fans and AC 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 about \$1600 to \$2200 per person. Direct flights on **Air Tahiti Nui** from Los Angeles and Honolulu, HI. The best routing appears to be through Los Angeles. If you would like to use a travel agent to book your flights, we suggest Sandra Marron at Millennium travel at (415) 898-7974.

WHAT TO BRING

Luggage

We suggest traveling light. Your gear should fit in a medium duffel bag and small carry-on bag. 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 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. A great way to bring only what you use is to lay all your items out and reduce it by 50%. Lay them out again and then reduce again.

Gear weight depends on weather conditions of course, but light weight clothing that is layered and wicks well to dry fast is essential. Your total gear weight should be less than 55lbs including carry-on.

Sun conditions can be very different than in San Francisco bay. You should consider lightweight clothes that cover exposed areas without adding bulk or weight. There are a variety of lightweight pants/slacks, shirts/blouses that are UV protected. Sunscreen and hats are essential.

Suggested Packing List

<u>Clothing</u>	<u>Non-Clothing</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Quick-Dri T-shirts, sun shirt● Shorts w/ zipper pocket● Swim Suits● Sweater or fleece jacket● Foul Weather Gear● Deck shoes, water shoes, Reef shoes, or sandals (they will get wet)● Hiking shoes for exploring beyond the shore● Long sleeve 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, surf boards (it has happened), fireworks and dive tanks.

Linens, towels AND pillows are provided on boat and not necessary to bring.

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 bulkier and heavier. A reasonable compromise may be to bringing your own mask and snorkel and use the fins provided on board.

PFD's (lifejackets) are on board the boat, however, you are more than welcome to bring your own. [THIS IS REALLY NOT WORTH THE HASSLE OF GETTING CO2 CANISTERS THROUGH TSA]

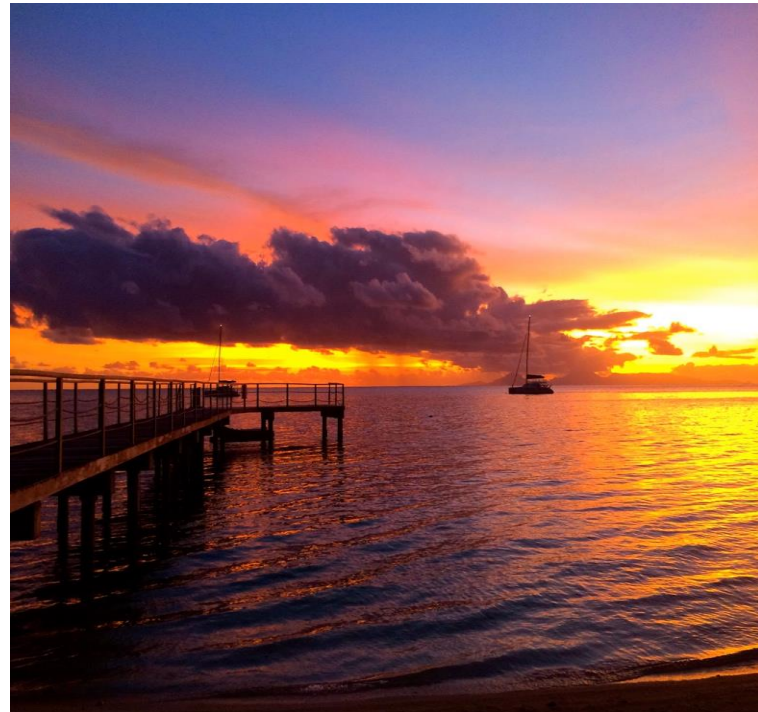
WEATHER

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" in September.

Relative humidity typically ranges from 52% (mildly humid) to 87% (very humid) over the course of this time period, 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, typical wind are out of the South East at 15-20 knots and occasionally building to 25 knots. When the swell is coming from the South West, 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) and the full moon will be on September 5.

GALLEY AND PROVISIONING

Provisioning will be discussed at the crew meeting and initial menus will be made for staples. 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 crew's desires and final provisioning will be completed once they arrive in Raiatea.

Raiatea, Huahine and Bora Bora have large markets and small shops for provisioning needs. Each Skipper will work with the participants to select items for individual tastes on board. It is a real experience to wander through a grocery store and see what fresh specialty items they have. Recognize all commercial goods must be ferried to the islands which decreases availability and increases costs.



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

The crew will decide on how many meals they plan on eating ashore and provision accordingly. Food and beverage costs vary based on individual crews' desires. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provisioned and one dinner through SunSail and additional meals will be decided and purchased as a collective by the crew depending on tastes.

Global Destinations recognizes that people have different experiences and tastes in personal beverages (alcohol) and provisioning time will be provided for members to make their own purchases. One or two crew members are assigned to stowing the provisioning items.

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

Special Dietary Needs

Skippers will be consulting with participants at crew meeting regarding advanced provisioning. This is your opportunity to let them know if you have specific dietary needs or restrictions. We can plan ahead to accommodate you. If there are unique items you desire you will have time to purchase them during the provisioning trip.

Breakfast

Breakfast will be around 7:00AM to 9:00AM each day and a certain amount of flexibility based on the itinerary, group and individual desires. We have enjoyed full course breakfasts, complete with bacon, eggs, etc. We have also enjoyed granola bars and fruit, depending on the crew.

The goal is to meet your needs so you can enjoy the rest of your day.

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 dingy to a meal ashore eating at a local restaurant or picnic on the beach.

Snacks

Snacks are always a very personal thing and whatever the crew desires. Sometimes they can be chips and salsa, or cheese and crackers. Fresh fruit and nuts are always good (and delicious) as they are easy snacks 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 needs to be included in case we find a secluded anchorage and decide not to move, but enjoy the peace and serenity.

Dinner Ashore

If we choose to go ashore in the evening, meal costs will be the responsibility of each person. Usually most establishments will be willing to split checks. Be sure to carry some cash with you as small “mom & pop places” are sometimes on a cash only basis.

Perishables

Over the years, we have discovered that some items do not particularly like a marine environment and seem to have a very short shelf life. We will try and anticipate and get the fewest possible perishables and restock in route. Often times we 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.



Modern Sailing School and Club PROPOSED TAHITI ITINERARY*



September 5 to September 15, 2017

The itinerary is designed around typical weather conditions in French Polynesia for September, 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 insure a safe and enjoyable trip.

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

DAY 1 Tuesday September 5: Arrive at Sunsail Base, Marina Apooiti, Raiatea

Check in at base before Noon and meet your other crew mates. Crew will split duties: some will inventory and store the provisions, while others visit the local market in Uturoa town for items that were not pre-ordered, while the skippers attend chart briefings. Check the fit of the snorkel gear provided by Sunsail.

Depart mid-afternoon for a short sail to **Apu Bay, Taha'a**. Swim, visit a Black Pearl farm, then gorge on a Polynesian dinner and fire dance ashore. Enjoy the full moon over the tropical island.



DAY 2 Wednesday September 6: 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 fine reach, making our first ocean passage especially pleasant. As we leave the islands of Taha'a and Raiatea in our wake, the mountain of Bora Bora 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 town we'll find delicious fresh fish for dining onboard later in the trip. But for this night's dinner we can choose between two of Bora Bora's best restaurants - MaiKai Yacht Club or St. James.



DAY 3 Thursday September 7: 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. Either way there is much to see - 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 past the high-end resorts with their overwater bungalow and follow a manta ray 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 another snorkel opportunity to see colorful giant clams embedded in the coral and vibrant colored fish. 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 Friday September 8: Baie de Povai, Bora Bora ~ 11nm

After a morning swim, travel back to the Western side of Bora Bora to Vaitape Town and 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 dawn snorkel gear to drift along the tidal river exploring the coral garden as the incoming tide carries you magically along.

Alternatively we'll pick up a mooring ball at the Bora Bora Yacht Club and explore their extensive cocktail menu. Dine ashore.



DAY 5 Saturday September 9: Bora Bora to Taha'a (Motu Tautau or Tapuamu Bay) ~ 25nm



Sail to Taha'a and anchor off the reef at Motu Tau Tau. 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. Anchor for the night or pick a mooring ball in Tapuamu Bay then tour the one of the many Tahitian Rhum distilleries ashore.

DAY 6 Sunday September 10: 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 and makes for a picturesque tour down it's East side. We have many choices of destinations there: take the dinghy up Tahiti's only navigable river, or have *Poisson Cru* at a serene *Pension Atiapiti* (Tahitian for bed and breakfast inn), or take tour of the holy *mare of Taputapuatea*, ancient center of all Polynesian culture, or cruise to the far Southern end of Raitea to anchor off Motu Naonao for more snorkeling.

DAY 7 Monday September 11: Raiatea to Fare, Huahine ~21nm

Exit one of Raiatea's many passes and set set sail for Huahine. This 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 it's more famous sister islands, but is becoming a favorite of many cruisers due to it's 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 Tuesday September 12: Fare to Haapu Bay (snorkel) then Baie d'Avea ~7nm



In the morning go for a nice 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. A 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, with water so clear you can see every detail. Snorkeling off 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 Wednesday September 13: Baie d'Avea layover

Spend the day relaxing in this beautiful bay, take an island tour, visiting a Black Pearl Farm, vanilla plantation, an ancient archaeological *Mare*, and feed fresh water blue-eyed eels (thought to possess magical powers). Or, rent a car, scooter or bike and go exploring at your own pace. Just off the point of beach is also some very good snorkeling.



DAY 10 Thursday September 14: Huahine to Haamene Bay Taha'a or Raiatea ~26-29nm

Leave Huahine in the morning, sailing along the island's west coast, then exit Passe Avepehi and head West across the Pacific Ocean for about 20nm and enter Taha'a through Passe Taohotu. Take a snorkel and lunch stop at Motu Ceran/Motu Mehaea, stroll on the beach, then make the short hop across the lagoon into Haamene Bay. Explore the beauty of Haamene Bay, swim and snorkel along the reef or 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 Restaurant as you settle in for your final night in this divine tropical paradise.

DAY 11 Friday September 15: Return Boat 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 a lifetime of memories of sailing adventures, tropical sunsets, and new friends, we'll say to ourselves *"Til next time."*



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