

Tahiti>Moorea SAILING Rendez-Vous

Press Release



14TH EDITION

JUNE, 2019

21 TO 23RD

*with
Latitude 38*



NEWS & REGISTRATION
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TAHITI
TOURISME



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Following the success of the Tahiti Pearl Regatta in the Leeward Islands, the Windward Islands are again taking up the challenge and bringing together an even larger fleet for the 13th edition of the Tahiti Moorea Sailing Rendez-Vous.

More than 50 yachts and 200 people from a dozen countries, including the USA, Canada, NZ, GB, France, Germany and Australia, will gather on June 21 in Papeete and June 22 and 23 in Moorea for three days of festivities.

The crews of these cruising yachts will be warmly welcomed to an event combining sailing, traditional sports and local culture. The TMS gives our visitors the opportunity to explore the beauty of our islands, their warm-hearted inhabitants and their rich culture, in the context of a friendly sailing rally.

The Tahiti-Moorea Sailing Rendez-Vous is organised by the Commune of Papeete, Tahiti Tourisme, the Commune of Moorea-Maiao, Air Tahiti Nui, and the Port Autonome de Papeete, as well as several Tahitian partner companies (Tahiti Crew, Eco Car Tahiti, STH Marine, Multihull Solutions, Aremiti Ferry) and international partners: Latitude 38 (USA), Whangarei Marine Group (NZ), Bay of Islands Marina (NZ), Port Whangarei Marine Center (NZ), Vuda Marina (Fiji), The Boatyard Vavau, Sail South Pacific, Yoti, PredictWind and South Pacific Sailing Network.

They have all joined forces to bring the cruising sailors a wonderful weekend of Polynesian festivities: the Tahiti-Moorea Sailing Rendez-Vous.

History / Context



Each year, between May and August, nearly 700 sailing boats and superyachts cross the Pacific Ocean and stop over in our lagoons. July is the busiest month due to the good downwind sailing at this time of year, and Tahiti's Heiva festival also attracts these sailors.

In 2006, Stéphanie Betz met Andy Turpin, managing editor of Latitude 38, the premier magazine for American round-the-world sailing enthusiasts. The magazine's network attracts many sailors and organizes an informal annual transpacific rally, the Pacific Puddle Jump, to support those who set sail across the Pacific.

However, because they arrive by sea, the Puddle Jumpers did not receive a Polynesian welcome like visitors arriving at Fa'aa airport. So Archipelagoes dreamt up a welcome day, a rendez-vous at the high-point of the season. With support from Tahiti Tourisme and Air Tahiti Nui, the first event was held in 2006. Together, they organized the first edition of the Tahiti Tourisme Cup.

This first welcome day for cruising sailors took place on July 1, 2006 in the Raiatea et Taha'a lagoon and brought together 19 yachts and more than 100 people. Pleased with the event's success and the enthusiasm of those who took part, Tahiti Tourisme, the Communes of Papeete and Moorea, and local and international partners decided to make it an annual event.



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Since the Leeward Islands already had a flagship event—the Tahiti Pearl Regatta—it was decided to move this arrival celebration for cruising sailors to the Windward Islands between Tahiti and Moorea, to extend it to three days, and to rename it the “Tahiti-Moorea Sailing Rendez-Vous” or “TMS”.

For two years, the Tahiti-Moorea Sailing Rendez-Vous took place at Vairao bay in Tahiti and on Tamae beach, then for three consecutive years on La Mareto beach in Opunohu bay. For the past six years, the celebrations on Moorea have taken place in the gardens and on the beach of Aimeo Lodge in Cook’s bay, with the active support of the Commune de Moorea.

13 years of the Rendez-Vous

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Place	Raiatea-Tahaa		Tahiti Moorea										
Number of boats	19	23	26	64	66	42	47	35	27	62	65	42	54

In 2018, over fifty yachts signed up and 200 visiting sailors from all over the world enjoyed a warm welcome and the opportunity to explore the culture, food, traditional sports, ukulele music and dancing of Polynesia.

The concept



With a briefing for skippers, a sailing rally and an introduction to V6 canoe racing, the Rendez-Vous is designed to welcome international crews stopping over in Polynesia. It gives them the opportunity to meet sailors from the islands, local people and professionals from the sailing and tourism industry in Tahiti and the South Pacific islands.

There are often two or three sailors aboard, and they generally invite Tahitian locals or tourists to join them on their yacht to experience a day’s sailing with them. And so, each year about thirty residents join the welcome party and experience life on board a round-the-world yacht.

A collaboration in support of sailing

At the forefront is Papeete town council—which is working to increase the impact of sailing on the town by developing Papeete as a renowned port town—is a major player in this cruising sailors’ arrival celebration.

Tahiti Tourisme, who started the Rendez-Vous, contributes its team’s logistics and marketing expertise and works to enhance the destination’s “Sailor Friendly” reputation.

The Port Authority of Papeete is a long term partner of the Rendez-vous, most sailing vessels will be berthed in their marina downtown Papeete prior to the event. This year, the Port is doing some hard work and constructions to improve their services and offer sailors with more facilities, restaurants and crew quarter.





The Commune de Moorea-Maiao, the neighboring island, has developed new facilities to welcome sailors whilst protecting its lagoon. Each year the authorities work hard to support the Rendez-Vous.

Air Tahiti Nui, a reliable partner for 13 years, has enabled us to bring over Latitude 38 magazine to cover the event and assisted our partners from New Zealand, Tonga and Fiji.

Papeete, sailing hub of the Pacific

As Panama is the gate to the South Pacific Ocean, Tahiti gathers most sailors before they head West to Tonga, Fiji, New Cal and New Zealand. Thus, since 2011, the TMS brings together more and more international partners of the nautical industry, placing this event in the heart of the sailing dynamic of the South Pacific navigation basin.

Shipyards, marinas, yacht brokers, aids to navigation services providers (charts, cruising guides, mobil Apps) all over the South Pacific, all recognized the value of the TMS and take advantage of its growing notoriety to promote their own services.

The 14th edition of the TMS is so proudly supported by nautical key players in the Pacific:

- Port Whangarei Marine Center: Located in deep water in Port Whangarei the marine centre offers all-tide access to extensive hardstand & refit/paint sheds. Haul out is by way of a 100t Cimolai travelift capable of handling up to 10m beam.

- Vuda Marina Fiji conveniently located at Vuda Point, which is situated on the western end of Viti Levu between Nadi International Airport and Lautoka city, and provides all repairs from simple reupholstering jobs to extensive all-over refurbishments.

- The BoatYard Vavau: The BoatYard is protected on three sides by steep hills and the old quarry face. The yard is clean and friendly, and run by the owner/operators cruisers for cruisers. It is capable of handling monohulls and specialises in multihulls up to 28 metric tonnes and 58ft.

- Whangarei Marine Group: Whangarei has a strong tradition of boat building and is a leading marine centre with professional companies and talented craftsmen., as well as a user friendly NZ Customs clearance at Marsden Cove Marina in the Whangarei Harbour.

- Bay of Islands Marina - Port Opua: It is the main Port of Entry in to New Zealand and the most popular recreational boating paradise in New Zealand.





- Yoti Bluewater : YOTI is Australia's leading yacht sales platform and experts in the Pacific region with hundreds of completed yacht and multihull sales for world cruisers.

- Multihull Solutions : Multihull Solutions is Asia Pacific's leading new and pre-owned cruising multihull specialist. Multihull Solutions has experienced teams here in Tahiti, as well as Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia and Asia, ready to help you.

- Predict Winds : Predictwind is the best source of the most accurate forecast data, their goal is to provide you with best tools to help you make good decisions based on the forecast.

- Sail South Pacific: Sail South Pacific produce a series of resources to help cruisers "Cruise with Confidence" through the South West Pacific.

- South Pacific Sailing Network: SPSN is a regional non profitable organization that aims to encourage yachts to sail into the South Pacific and to increase the duration and quality of their stopovers, as well as to co-ordinate private and public authorities in the sustainable and profitable development of sailing in the region.



An appropriate time to raise awareness

With the support of the marine environment management committee (PGEM) the TMS is also an opportunity to raise sailors' awareness of the protection of the lagoon and the environment. In Cook's Bay, sailors will be shown how to choose their mooring whilst following the PGEM rules. On the Saturday evening in Moorea, a specially commissioned film will be shown explaining the history and cultural context of the Va'a, the Polynesian canoe, in preparation for having a go the following day.



Showcase of traditional sports and a chance to take part

The Faaroa sports and cultural association and its president, Jordan Temairia, have organized an introductory course. In teams, the sailors try a fruit carriers' race, stone lifting and prepare a coconut.

As its contribution, the Te Firi Nape de Maharepa association will organize a canoe race for the sailors. After a quick briefing on how to hold the oar and turn, held on the beach, each team will set off in one of five V6 canoes to follow a short course of 500 meters. Some may capsize, but the crowds will go wild!



Program



Friday, June 21, 2019: At Tahiti Tourism Information Center – Papeete

2 pm to 5 pm: Participants will be welcomed with music, floral leis and coconuts. There will be registration desks, displays of information about Papeete and the Leeward Islands, and an opportunity to meet our partners from Tahiti, Tonga, Fiji, New Caledonia and New Zealand.

3:30 pm: Skippers’ briefing on navigation in Moorea and the Leeward Islands.

6 pm - 7:30 pm: Welcome cocktail at Tahiti Tourism Information Center. Polynesian skippers blessing ceremony. Speech and briefing for rally participants. Cocktail reception with handmade flower leis for all and a dance performance.



Saturday, June 22, 2019 / Tahiti to Moorea

10 am: Sailing rally from Tahiti to Moorea. Distance 15 NM.

4:30 pm: Landing at Aimeo Lodge.

5 pm: Cocktail reception courtesy of the South Pacific Sailing Network.

7 pm: Dinner and fire dancing display in the gardens of Aimeo Lodge.

Sunday, June 23, 2019 / Moorea

7 am: Fresh baguettes will be delivered to each boat.

9 am: Full day of entertainment on the beach and in the gardens of Aimeo Lodge. Va’a races, demonstrations of traditional sports and games, introduction to Polynesian dance, information stands and a presentation on the attractions of Moorea.

Noon: Polynesian Buffet

2:30 pm: Prize-giving and dancing on the beach.



Monday, June 24, 2019 / Moorea

9 am to 11 am: SPSN informative seminar
PredictWind Pacific Weather talk.





Promotion of the Tahiti Moorea sailing RDV

Throughout the year under the leadership of Tahiti Tourisme, industry players are making communication and promotion operations locally and internationally about our destination's nautical attractions and the industry's dynamics.

This event is one of the key tools of the actions carried out in synergy by Tahiti Tourisme, the City of Papeete, the commune of Moorea-Maiao, the Port of Papeete, Air Tahiti Nui and their partners in the nautical sector.

A website with program, photo gallery and the possibility of online registration: www.tahiti-moorea-sailing-rdv.com.

Posters and a flyer distributed in Panama, and in the marinas of Tahiti.

A press kit and press releases sent to local media and international nautical media network Archipelagoes.

A strong partnership with Latitude 38 magazine, which announces and widely covers the event on its website and in its magazine.

In Panama, in March, a seminar to promote Polynesia and invite boaters to TMS.

To this is added large advertising on the Tahiti Tourisme site, the Port of Papeete, Tahiti Crew, etc., at the arrival of yachts in the Marquesas Islands and in the marinas managed by the Port of Papeete. The operation is also relayed by the shipping agents who extend the invitation to the TMS to their customer browsing at this time of year.



The Organization

The organization of the event is coordinated for its partners by Archipelagoes SARL.

The teams of the Tahiti Tourisme and Papeete City Hall are joining the Welcoming in Papeete on Friday, while the team of the municipality of Moorea is supporting the organization In Moorea.



More information

www.tahiti-moorea-sailing-rdv.com

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