

SUPERYACHT EXPLORER^o

a journey of discovery



NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN

INDIAN OCEAN

SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN

Of all the cruising destinations in the world, the Asia-Pacific remains the last stronghold of untouched beauty spots, crystal clear waters, and an authentic history and culture. It is no surprise that more and more superyachts are venturing here to explore and experience a once in a lifetime trip.

To visit the Asia-Pacific region by yacht is to continue a long-standing legacy of exploring these waters by boat. Humans first arrived in the Pacific by watercraft, kick-starting an enduring and sacred relationship with the ocean, and this love affair with the sea has never died.

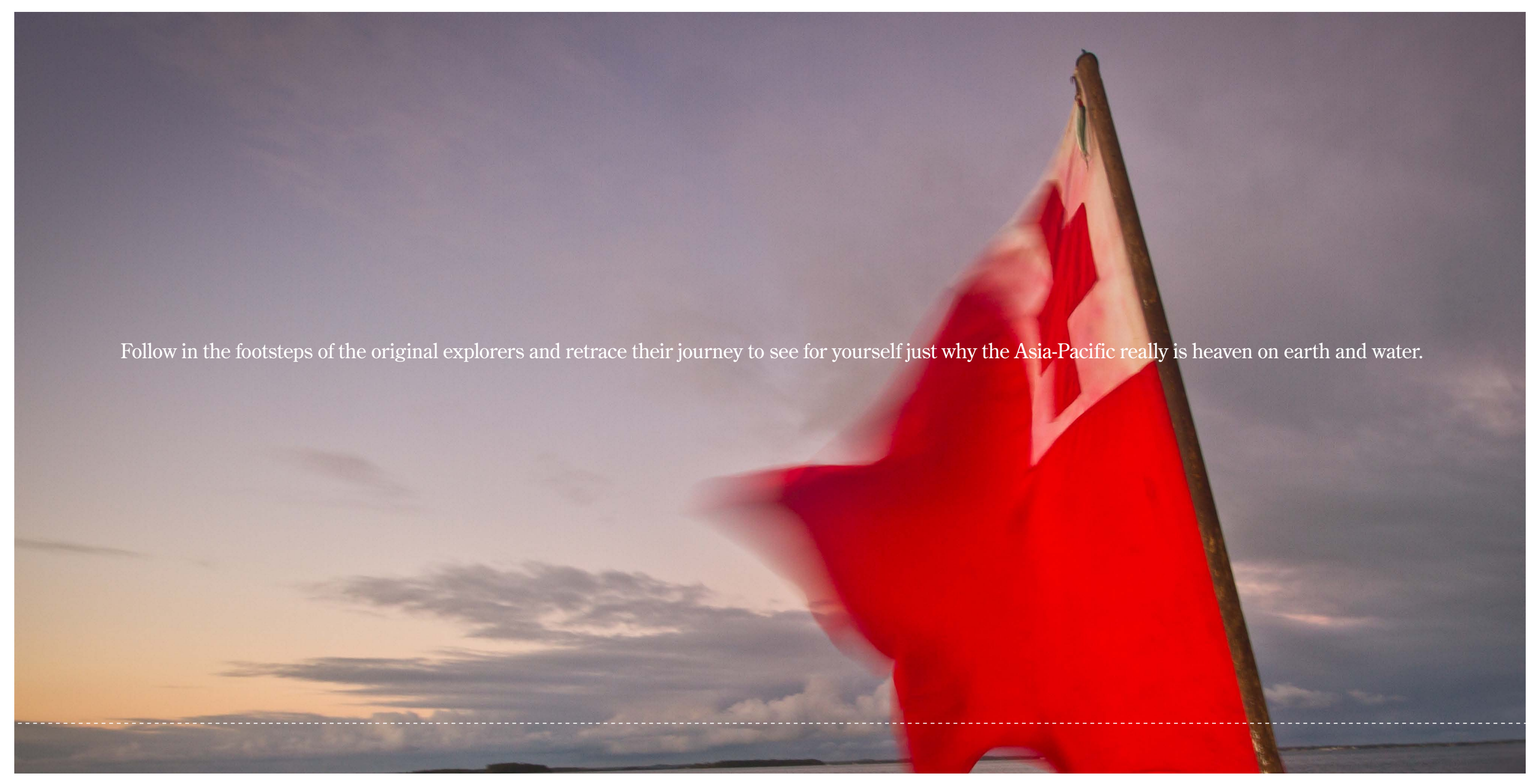
The first Polynesian settlers set out from South Asia in their outrigger canoes in search of a new heaven. The greatest ocean explorers of the time, they used the sun, moon, stars, ocean and wildlife as their guides to fearlessly navigate their way across the seas.

Awaiting them was a special place in the middle of the South Pacific Ocean, which was to become their home. The first settlers remained isolated from the rest of the world for at least 1500 years, exploring the islands over the centuries and building their own unique culture. Today the area they settled is known as the Polynesian Triangle, covering 10 million square miles of water, with the three island groups of Hawaii, Rapa Nui (Easter Island) and Aotearoa (New Zealand) at its corners. The history, culture and beauty of this magnificent part of the world is as pure as ever.

Long after the Polynesians had settled in the South Pacific, the global trade routes grew. New routes to the Pacific were forged and people travelled to the region via the clipper route, sailed by clipper ships between Europe and the Far East, Australia and New Zealand. Running from east to west the route, which was often treacherous, made use of the strong westerly winds of the Roaring Forties through the Southern Ocean. Eventually the clipper route fell into commercial disuse with the introduction of steamships and the opening of the Panama and Suez Canals. Those great canals are now the gateways to the Pacific and Indian Oceans and where many yachts make their first entry into the region. Countries and ports are simple stepping stones along the way: destination to destination, experience to experience, culture to culture.

Follow in the footsteps of the original explorers and retrace their journey to see for yourself just why this region really is heaven on earth and water. From the Panama Canal in the east, travel through the island dotted Pacific Islands, to the diversity of New Zealand, on to the ancient land mass of Australia and on up to the exotic Middle East and on to the Suez Canal in the West.

The romantic imagery of times gone by remains, but with the high levels of support and provisioning of the modern day, visiting the Asia-Pacific has never been easier. Focusing on many of the region's most special destinations, we hope this guide inspires you to embark on the trip of a lifetime. We are proud to provide world-class yacht support for every step of the way.



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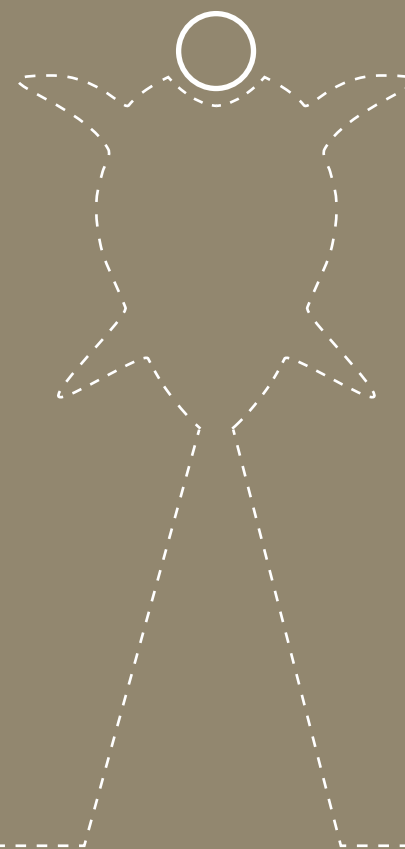
TAHITI

The first South Pacific hub for superyachts after Panama, beautiful Tahiti (also called French Polynesia) counts 118 beautiful islands as her own. The islands, all of volcanic origin, are divided into five different archipelagos: Marquesas, Tuamotu, Gambier, Austral and Society Islands, all with different geographical features. Tahiti is a cruising paradise for visiting yachts and very popular with charter yachts.

Visitors arriving by sea are able to feel the emotion that moved Captain Cook when he first spotted what is now known as Tahiti in 1768. Cook was delighted at how easy it was to navigate amongst these islands and sail into the various lagoons through the passes naturally made in the coral fringed reef, and this remains true today.

Abundant marine wildlife can be found in Tahiti's waters, which are renowned as a diving destination and for all water-based activities. Dive with a group of wild dolphins in Rangiroa, flirt with hundreds of sleek grey reef sharks in Fakarava, encounter the friendly sea turtles, admire thousands of groupers breeding and enjoy speeding in the drift with pelagic fish.

Tahiti and her islands offer much more than peaceful scenic landscapes and incredible underwater worlds. Discover the well-balanced mix of Polynesian culture and luxury lifestyle in some of the lush mountainous islands and their high-end resorts, and delight in tucked-away atolls where you will feel like explorers on desert white sand islets. Enjoy the French heritage while dining in the finest restaurants or eating crusty fresh baguette.





Tahitians use music as a means
of communication, telling stories
and legends through dance and song.

17.29°S 149.51°W CULTURE°

Having been isolated for so many centuries, the Tahitians take pride in sharing their culture and lifestyle with guests. Always friendly, with a broad smile on their face, it will be with great pleasure that they will narrate their ancestors’ ocean oriented legends and take you to a ‘marae’, one of the ancient archeological sites where religious and political events were held prior to the arrival of the Europeans.

The Tahitians have always loved and considered music and singing as one of their means of communication. To the sound of the ukulele and toere drums, graceful traditional dancers will depict moving stories through refined gestures, songs and exquisite costumes.

Te Moana Nui (the big ocean) has always played a prominent role in the Polynesians’ everyday life, especially in the remote islands. Dancers and musicians will arrive on outrigger canoes for a private show on your yacht. These canoes reflect how attached the people are to the sea as it has remained the most popular sport in Tahiti. You will often see them practice at sunset for the famous yearly Hawaiki Nui canoe race, which takes place in November. There, hundreds of modern colourful outrigger canoes compete for a three day contest between the islands of Huahine and Bora Bora.

Of course, nothing symbolises Tahiti more than the Tahitian cultured pearl. Preciously cultured in the islands’ warm lagoons, and worn by all the Polynesians as a symbol of their attachment to the ocean this delicate pearl, the result of tireless efforts, features various shapes and incredible colours. None is alike and their uniqueness makes them rare and special. In the Tuamotu and Gambier islands, a visit to a pearl farm is a must.

THE TASTE OF TAHITI° 17.29°S 149.51°W

Tahitian cuisine is renowned for its fresh ingredients, especially fish, vegetables and fruits, which are prepared with a combination of Polynesian influence and French flare. Because of Tahiti's long period of isolation its cuisine is very unique and distinct. Every fresh fruit imaginable, including famously sweet pineapples, is on offer: more than 300 varieties of banana can be found here alone. The national dish is 'Poisson Cru', a melt-in-your-mouth fish marinated in coconut and lime. Make sure you also try Chevrettes, tasty freshwater shrimps. Local pork is also popular. For those with a sweet tooth, try 'po'e', a sweet pudding made from the taro root, flavoured with banana, vanilla, papaya and topped with coconut sauce.

Enjoy the very best of Tahitian cuisine at a 'tamaara'a' (a Tahitian feast). Local dishes are served from an 'ahima'a' (earth oven) and guests entertained with the beautiful Polynesian songs and dance.

The Tahitian love for fresh ingredients is brought to life in dishes such as 'Poisson Cru' - fish straight from the sea, marinated in just-picked coconut and lime juice.





17.29°S 149.51°W KEY CRUISING AREAS°

With so much on offer in Tahiti, it is hard to know where to start when visiting.

The preferred sets of islands (archipelagos) to cruise on a first trip are the Society Islands and the Tuamotu atolls.

Should you have only one week it is best to focus on just one set of islands. Those with more time will enjoy visiting two different archipelagos and exploring the incredible diversity from one place to another.

The Society Islands, with their amazing lush green mountainous peaks, are the perfect place to enjoy pristine lagoons as well as land activities such as horse-riding, quad-biking, inner island safari, golf, shopping, etc.

Should you be keen on phenomenal diving, the Tuamotu atolls, remnants of volcanoes at a former stage than the Society Islands, await you for some of the most incredible dives in the world with the most exciting encounters and fabulous desert white or pink sand beaches. Cruising on a yacht will allow you to dive unspoiled areas or visit islets with not a soul in sight.



17°29'S 149°51'W
Maui

SAMPLE ITINERARY TAHITI°

DAYS ONE AND TWO

Fakarava atoll – south pass (UNESCO biosphere)

Dive and snorkel one of the most beautiful places in French Polynesia. Picnic on a desert pink sand beach. Choose your Tahitian cultured pearl at a local farm.

DAY THREE

Toau atoll

Explore uninhabited islets, looking for funny coconut crabs and snorkel in untouched coral reefs. The perfect spot for all water sports.

DAYS FOUR & FIVE

Rangiroa atoll

Drift dive with wild dolphins. Go to the untouched “blue lagoon” or do a wine tasting session at the local vineyard.

DAYS SIX & SEVEN

Bora Bora

Discover one of the most beautiful lagoons in the world. Enjoy a spa session and fine dining in one of prestigious resorts on the island.

DAY EIGHT

Huahine

Picnic on a private white sand beach, go for a hike up the mountain.

DAYS NINE AND TEN

Moorea

Horseback riding in pineapple fields, swimming with stingrays, diving with lemon sharks / swim with humpback whales (between Aug and Nov).

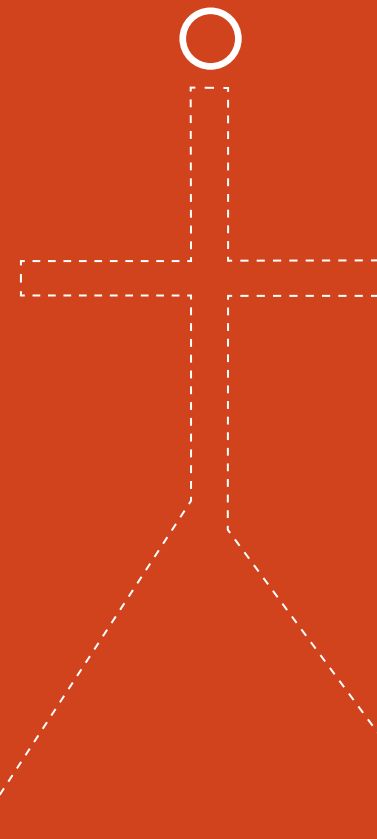


KINGDOM OF TONGA

Consisting of over 180 islands, the Kingdom of Tonga is cruising heaven. Uninhabited pristine islands await the intrepid traveller who doesn't mind sharing the waters with behemoth humpback whales, manta rays and infinite reef fish. With hundreds of safe anchorages and quaint harbours for your stay The Kingdom of Tonga offers a journey like no other. Tonga is famous for providing opportunities to swim with whales, as the humpbacks gather in the warm waters of Vava'u to breed from July to October. On offer is a very intimate experience swimming with the curious and friendly whales, all set to the haunting backdrop of the humpbacks' love songs.

The Ha'amonga 'a Maui (burden of Maui) trilithon, made of stones weighing 30-40 tonnes each, is thought to have been created to act as a gateway to the royal compound, Heket, and symbolises the brotherhood of the eastern and western stones. It's a must-see to get a grasp on Tonga's rich cultural history and start unearthing the fascinating layers of local tradition. Don't pass up the chance to see stirring fire dance floor shows and sample a traditional Tongan feast.

The Kingdom also provides spots to see impressive blowholes, visit markets teeming with fresh produce and handicrafts, explore remote parts of the islands on a kart safari and try your hand at game fishing. Dive into Tonga's crystalline waters and discover the true South Pacific.





21.8 °S 175.12 °W CULTURE°

In Tonga, time moves to
the rhythm of the ocean, and the sound of
church bells come Sunday.

With over 2000 years of self rule the Tongan culture is at the forefront of everyday life. Whether traditional fishing, carving, weaving or agriculture, visitors will take a step back in time for those who take the time to experience a past world. In Tonga, time moves to the rhythm of the ocean, and the sound of church bells come Sunday. The Kingdom boasts more churches per head of population than anywhere else in the world and Sunday is legally a day of rest across the islands. Visitors are welcomed in any congregation and joining the islanders as their uplifted voices carry hymns across the soft fields and powdery sands is something that can't be recommended highly enough.

Tonga's monarchy can be traced back many centuries, and Tonga is one of the only Pacific island nations never colonised by a foreign power - something to which many attribute its slow, rhythmic way of life and deep respect for tradition. The Tongan people are a unified, kind and respectful people who will leave you truly touched by their warmth and open-heartedness.

THE TASTE OF TONGA° 21.8 °S 175.12 °W

European and traditional Tongan fare go hand in hand in a special blended cuisine. From hand-caught raw fish dishes to local fresh vegetables and traditional Umu (cooked in an earth oven) feasts, the Kingdom offers the true Pacific dining experience. Sample the locally produced beer, or venture into a Kava circle - where to imbibe is to share. If that makes the next morning a little less fun, put the spring back in your step with Tonga's beautifully-smooth local coffee and enjoy a platter of mango, pawpaw and passionfruit (the passionfruit variety in Tonga grows to the size of a medium watermelon). For lunch, try octopus, mudcrab, coral trout or lobster, all caught fresh that morning, and cooked for you onboard by the chef.

Hand caught fish are
on your plate within an hour
of being caught.





21.8 °S 175.12 °W KEY CRUISING AREAS°

Share the warm waters
of the Kingdom of Tonga with
whales and countless fish.

With over 180 islands scattered over four main island groups, yachts are spoiled for choice.

Clearance is available in all four island groups with the capital, Nuku'alofa, and Vava'u, 160m further north, the most popular. Careful navigation with the tender through reefs will be rewarded with perfect, powdery white sand beaches to explore lonely lagoons, while a short stroll inland will see you treated to your own green cathedral of tropical vegetation.

SAMPLE ITINERARY TONGA°

Itinerary for Nukalofa - Ha’apai group - Vava’u group

DAY ONE

Nuku'alofa, Tongatapu Island. Tour to the Polynesian monuments of the Hamonga trilithon.

DAY TWO

Enjoy incredible diving off the 32 acre uninhabited Kelefishia Island.

DAY THREE

Island hop to Pangai in the Ha'apai group and anchor off Sandy Beach Resort or steam overnight to Vava'u.

DAY FOUR

Snorkelling at the Vava'u Group, a mini limestone archipelago with 89 islands covered with lush vegetation and deep channels running between them.

DAY FIVE

Tours of the islands, followed by a traditional floor-show on Mounu island.

DAY SIX

Swim with the whales. These gentle giants will leave you spellbound with their beauty and agility.

DAY SEVEN

Clearance, farewell and a sail to Fiji.

21.8°S 175.12°W





Aotearoa, or New Zealand, translates as ‘the land of the long white cloud’.

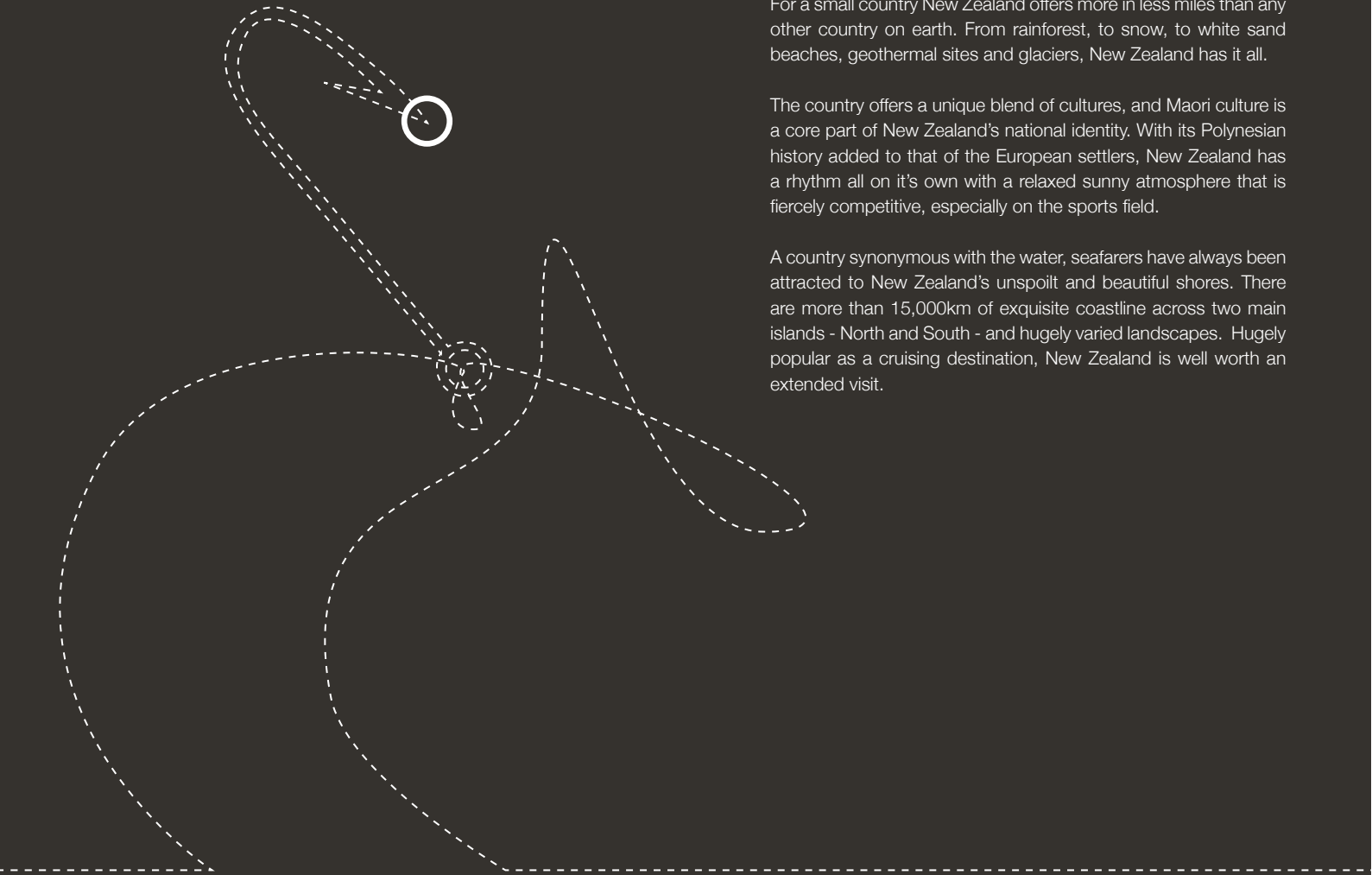


NEW ZEALAND

It's no wonder that New Zealand (or Aotearoa, meaning 'land of the long white cloud') is known as 'the whole world in one country'. For a small country New Zealand offers more in less miles than any other country on earth. From rainforest, to snow, to white sand beaches, geothermal sites and glaciers, New Zealand has it all.

The country offers a unique blend of cultures, and Maori culture is a core part of New Zealand's national identity. With its Polynesian history added to that of the European settlers, New Zealand has a rhythm all on it's own with a relaxed sunny atmosphere that is fiercely competitive, especially on the sports field.

A country synonymous with the water, seafarers have always been attracted to New Zealand's unspoilt and beautiful shores. There are more than 15,000km of exquisite coastline across two main islands - North and South - and hugely varied landscapes. Hugely popular as a cruising destination, New Zealand is well worth an extended visit.





Maori culture is a crucial part of New Zealand’s identity and is an integral part of both the culture and landscape.

36.52°S 174. 45°E CULTURE°

New Zealand’s culture is largely European interwoven with Maori and Polynesian traditions. Over four hundred years before Christopher Columbus and the rest of Europe worried about falling off the edge of the world, Maori people discovered and became the first inhabitants of Aotearoa New Zealand. Today Maori culture is a crucial part of New Zealand’s identity and is an integral part of both the culture and landscape.

Maori legend tells the story of how New Zealand came to be. Maui, a demi-god who lived in Hawaiiki, possessed magic powers that not all of his family knew about. One day Maui hid in the bottom of his brothers’ boat in order to go out fishing with them. Once out at sea, Maui was discovered by his brothers, but they were not able to take him back to shore as Maui made use of his magic powers, making the shoreline seem much further away than it was in reality.

Once they were far out into the ocean Maui dropped his magic fishhook over the side of the waka (canoe). After a while he felt a strong tug on the line. This seemed to be too strong a tug to be any ordinary fish, so Maui called to his brothers for assistance. After much straining and pulling, up suddenly surfaced Te Ika a Maui (the fish of Maui), known today as the North Island of New Zealand. Maui told his brothers that the Gods might be angry about this, and he asked his brothers to wait while he went to make peace with the Gods.

However, once Maui had gone his brothers began to argue among themselves about the possession of this new land. They took out their weapons and started pounding at the catch. The blows on the land created the many mountains and valleys of the North Island today.

The South Island is known as Te Waka a Maui (the waka of Maui). Stewart Island, which lies at the very bottom of New Zealand, is known as Te Punga a Maui (Maui’s anchor), as it was the anchor holding Maui’s waka as he pulled in the giant fish.

THE TASTE OF NEW ZEALAND° 36.52°S 174. 45°E

New Zealand is heaven-on-earth for lovers of fine cuisine and award winning wines. Drawing on influences from the many different cultures that make up the New Zealand's population, including indigenous Maori cuisine, New Zealand's cuisine is innovative and sophisticated. Part of New Zealand's secret lies in its fortuitous geography. The diverse landscape that makes it an outdoor playground also means that an unusually wide variety of ingredients can be grown here. Add that to the rich coastline teeming with fish, shellfish and other goodies and you have the recipe for a very special local cuisine.

Multicultural influences and a wide selection of ingredients to draw on make New Zealand a very natural home for the fusion approach to cooking. Blending flavours from around the Pacific Rim, this vibrant style is internationally popular, and trend-setting. When it comes to cooking and eating in New Zealand, relaxed is often the key word. Dining in New Zealand is generally an easy and unaffected time and protocols are few.

New Zealand's coastline is teeming with fish and shellfish.





36.52°S 174. 45°E KEY CRUISING AREAS°

New Zealand is a land of variety from the subtropical white sandy beaches in the North Island to the deep and mysterious Sounds and fiords in the South.

New Zealand is a land of variety from the subtropical white sandy beaches in the North Island to the deep and mysterious Sounds and fiords in the South. New Zealand can provide something for everyone from sitting reading in a quiet bay to jetboating and bungy jumping, fishing, diving, snorkelling all surrounded by stunning scenery.

Only a one hour steam from Auckland’s CBD, the Hauraki Gulf offers many options for guests from Waiheke Island, New Zealand’s version of Martha’s Vineyard, to Great Barrier Island with it’s amazing diving. Enduringly popular is the Bay of Islands, the gateway to the North of the North Island, and it’s 100+ islands offering shelter, sandy beaches and activities.

Head to the South Island and it’s a different world with the same laid back kiwi culture. The Marlborough Sounds offer amazing diving and access to New Zealand’s leading white wine vineyards. For the adventurous, Fiordland is perfect, with its dramatic almost Jurassic scenery and adventure.

To see the whole country allow seven to eight weeks to truly enjoy the total experience. If you have less time, stick to Auckland’s Hauraki Gulf and the sunny Bay of Islands in the North.



36.52°S 174.45°E

SAMPLE INTINERARY NEW ZEALAND°

DAY ONE

Arrive into Auckland and enjoy views from the Sky Tower, the city's shopping precincts or enjoy a trip out to the wild west coast and see black sand beaches.

DAY TWO

Waiheke Island. Only 14nm from Auckland's CBD, Waiheke has a host of wineries to visit and is also home to many of New Zealands leading artists. At dusk enjoy a sail on one of the traditional Waka (maori canoe).

DAY THREE

Great Barrier Island. Spend the day fishing, diving, hiking or soaking in the natural hot mineral springs.

DAY FOUR

Bay of Islands in the North. Spend a day relaxing and soaking up the pristine solitude, snapper fishing and an unforgettable Maori show on-board.

DAY FIVE

Bay of Islands. Travel to 90 mile beach on the West Coast and go quad biking on the sand dunes, and enjoy a beach BBQ.

DAY SIX

Whangaroa Harbour – a “Sounds” like Harbour and home to the country's best game fishing. Enjoy a round of Golf or a day at the spa at Kauri Cliffs Lodge.

DAY SEVEN

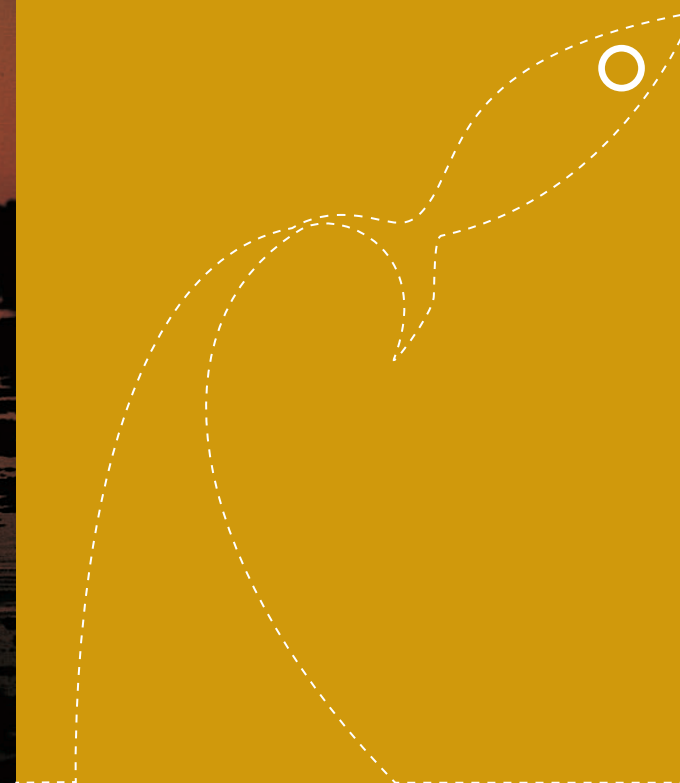
Return to Auckland via Poor Knights Marine Park to enjoy some incredible diving.

FIJI

Fiji is a nation studded with 322 islands, in 18,376 square kilometres of the Pacific Ocean. It is one of the warmest, friendliest nations on earth and caters to those looking for adventure, timeout experiences with locals and very remote cruising.

Like everywhere in the Pacific, there is plenty of variety on offer and Fiji's beautiful islands range from being large and volcanic with high peaks and lush terrain, to sand keys so small they peek out of the warm aqua water when the tide recedes, to rugged up thrust limestone cliffs.

With five distinct cruising areas, there really is something for everybody with diverse areas and plentiful anchorages that are refreshingly unpopulated. The outer islands in particular offer deserted white sand beaches and good opportunities to experience true Fijian culture and traditions.





17.41°S 177.23°E CULTURE°

A ‘Meke’ uses song and dances to tell the legends and histories of the island.

Fiji offers the perfect fusion of its original and indigenous culture - which is an active and central part of everyday life in Fiji - and the influences of the modern world. Grass skirts are Fiji’s traditional attire, but today the modern national dress is the sulu (a skirt like wrap worn by men and women alike). The nation is multi-racial and multi-cultural and many religions are followed, it’s highly encouraged to join in on Sunday worship even if you aren’t religious.

Like everywhere in the Pacific, family is hugely important to all Fijians, and visitors are welcomed into the close knit communities to experience the Fijian way of life first hand.

Music is an integral part of the Fijian culture and the ‘Meke’ uses traditional song and dance to tell the legends and histories of the islands. Interpreted in many different ways, these beautiful performances are a must-see.

THE TASTE OF FIJI° 17.41°S 177.23°E

Fijian food is fresh and vibrant, and makes good use of all that the land and the sea has to offer. Modern Fijian fare is a delectable blend of traditional dishes, and influences from Indian foods and spices.

Enjoy a range of just-caught seafood, in particular the signature dish 'kokoda', raw fish marinated in coconut cream, lime, onions and tomatoes. Another must-try is the 'lovo': translating to 'feast cooked in the earth', the lovo process sees heated rocks placed in a shallow pit which are then used to bake food. Similar to the New Zealand hangi, food wrapped in leaves is added and covered until the food is cooked, taking on a delicious smokey flavour. Try these foods alongside staple accompaniments including sweet potato, taro and cassava.

Of course, no visit would be complete without sampling the national drink 'kava' (or 'yaqona'), made from the roots of the Kava plant. The order of serving is dictated by status of those present.

The national drink 'Kava' is made from the roots of the Kava plant and is served by order of status.





Refresh your soul with time
in the water: diving and surfing in Fiji’s
warm waters is a must do.

17.41°S 177.23°E KEY CRUISING AREAS°

Fiji offers white beaches, small boutique resorts, snorkelling, diving and endless sunshine in the western group of islands, or the Yasawas and Mamanucas, close to the main airport Nadi.

Yachts can leave the civilised hub of Port Denerau and quickly be able to experience the nearby rural outer islands: with no running water or electricity, culture and tradition still run deep here.

Adventure can be found close to Pacific Harbour, South Viti Levu near Beqa, in thrilling shark dives; white water rafting and kayaking through highland gorges; diving, surfing and fishing in and around Beqa and Kadavu Islands close by to the south.

World class surfing can be found at Cloud Break, close to Nadi, Frigate Passage in Beqa Islands, Cape Washington in Kadavu and up and coming spots Mataku, Totoya and Moala in the Yasayasa Moala Group.

Diving in Fiji is spectacular and the whole of the Lamaiviti (Mid) Group has many world class dive sites. In the Savasavu, Vanua Levu, Taveuni and the Rignold Islands you can dive and cruise near the lush volcanic island of Taveuni - famous for its waterfalls and the nearby famous white wall - and rainbow reef dives in the Somosomo Straits.

Lastly the very special Northern and Southern Lau islands in the east of the Group, offering remote and stunning cruising; amazing cultural experiences and turquoise blue waters.



17.41°S

177.23°E

SAMPLE ITINERARY FIJI^o

DAY ONE

Cruise to Waya Island from Port Denerau, where snorkelling amongst the reefs awaits you.

DAY TWO

Depart for Blue Lagoon Islands Nanuya Lailai, a delight for water lovers. Enjoy a traditional Lovo feast and Meke (Fijian dancing) in the evening.

DAY THREE

Yawini Island, top of the Yasawa island chain, full of sandy white beaches. Make a sevusevu (presentation of kava to the chief) at Yasawairara village.

DAY FOUR

Snorkel at Liku beach, before departing for Vawa Island for diving and fishing.

DAY FIVE

Depart for Sawilau. Visit underwater caves and lagoons, before visiting Malakati village for some local culture.

DAY SIX

Vunayawa Bay. Snorkel out to a World War II Plane wreck. Depart later for East Drawarqa islet to swim with manta rays.

DAY SEVEN

Explore the beautiful Nanuya Balavu islets before returning to Port Denerau.

Vanuatu has twice been named the World's Happiest Country.



VANUATU

Located in the Southwest Pacific, Y-shaped Vanuatu lies between Fiji, New Caledonia and the Solomon Islands. Virtually every one of Vanuatu's major islands have safe anchorages close by and most of Vanuatu's 300,000 people are found in and around Port Vila and Luganville; leaving plenty of secret spots among Vanuatu's 82 islands to drop anchor, solo. Active volcanoes and a non-stop growing season make for lush rainforests, abundant waterfalls, blue holes and plentiful fresh food for Vanuatu's inhabitants and visitors. Bali Ha'i, the show tune about an exotic off-limits island, from the 1949 Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, South Pacific, is based on the real island of Ambae in Vanuatu's Central Islands. While not off-limits in actuality, its rough black basalt shoreline, nearly unbroken vegetation, crater lakes and cacao and coconut plantations make it the perfect spot to create your own South Pacific escape. Vanuatu's small population and lack of infrastructure keep it as one of the world's least developed countries and best kept secrets and it's twice been named the World's Happiest Country. Spend a few days basking in the warmth of the Ni-Vanuatu community and you'll soon see why. The best time to cruise Vanuatu's waters is between April and November.



17.7°S 168. 3°E CULTURE°

Vanuatu's population is primarily Melanesian and the people are known for their friendliness, sense of peace and contentment. Explore Vanuatu's reaches and you'll encounter different languages, customs and art on each island and in some cases, varying from village to village. During World War II, Vanuatu (then known as the New Hebrides) was home to the most US soldiers in the Pacific outside of Pearl Harbour. England and France occupied Vanuatu as a condominium for 74 years, up until Independence in 1980, and Port Vila retains a fascinating mixture of British, French, American, NZ, Australian, Vietnamese and Chinese influences. Step out of Port Vila, however, and you instantly find yourself in a very simple, traditional lifestyle, where people live off the land and practice tribal law and medicine.

Make sure you watch one of the custom dances that are still practiced for indigenous ceremonies; most famous are Rom Dance, Water Music and Snake Dance.

THE TASTE OF VANUATU° 17.7°S 168. 3°E

Vanuatu is a South Pacific oasis with regards to what’s available to eat and drink. The Ladies Market here is said to be the best in the Pacific.

For those whose paradise comes with a big helping of luscious tropical fruit and vegetables, you’ll love the bananas, paw paw, aubergine, cucumber, beans, limes, kumala, yams, taro, ginger, nuts, bok choy, cabbage, green capsicum, watercress, lettuce and coconuts which are available all year round, not to mention the fresh basil, mint, coriander and parsley. Seasonally you’ll find mangoes, pineapples, tomatoes, raspberries, oranges, pomegranate, and pumpkin: all organic, fresh and sold by the individual families that grow them. Vanuatu has top quality beef; some of which is exported to Japan for sale as high grade Wagyu. While cruising the islands, you’re bound to catch a yellow fin tuna, wahoo, mahi mahi or marlin. Ask the locals to find lobster, fresh water prawns, or even a pig. Fresh tropical food heaven.





Swim in crystal clear fresh water swimming holes, beside waterfalls and white sand beaches.

17.7°S 168. 3°E KEY CRUISING AREAS°

All of Vanuatu is safe, friendly and full of culture, with many attractions worth visiting.

For game fishing and remote islands head to the Northern Islands for uninterrupted cruising at its finest.

The Central Islands have plenty of activities on offer. Try the Coolidge Dive (one of world’s most accessible wreck dives, formed when the Coolidge sank as a troop ship during World War II), or visit Million Dollar Point where the US military dumped all their equipment in the water at the end of World War II.

You can also see Land Diving, where vines are tied to legs before jumping of multi-storey towers, this is only possible just after the wet season when the vines don’t break.

Throughout your Vanuatu adventure you’ll get up close and personal with multiple active volcanoes, for a visit to the famous Mt. Yasur volcano, head to the Southern Islands.

You’ll have the chance to collect local art, tam tams from Ambrym, masks from Malekula, clay pots from Santo and bags and mats the length and breadth of the islands.

But the highlight of your Vanuatua cruise, without doubt, will be the water. Swim in crystal clear fresh water swimming holes, beside waterfalls and white sand beaches; snorkel and dive, then trek through lush bush to find your own blue swimming hole. Vanuatu is a cruising dream, safe, friendly and full of culture.

SAMPLE ITINERARY VANUATU °

DAY ONE
Guests are welcomed at Tanna - see the sunset on the volcano, and go swimming in the hot pools after dark if you dare.

DAY TWO
Wake up in the large, protected Havannah Harbour or Port Vila - great for snorkelling, diving and walks.

DAY THREE
Maskelyne Islands - enjoy snorkelling, diving and fishing and enjoy custom dances.

DAY FOUR
Go land diving or visit Ranon for a Rom Dance or black magic.

DAY FIVE
NW Maewo - visit the big waterfalls, sleep in the village of Asanvari, and go snorkelling, diving, and visit local caves.

DAY SIX
Luganville - dive the Coolidge/Million Dollar Point or float down a river to a blue hole.

DAY SEVEN
Anchor at Champagne Beach - the beautiful white sand beach - before the guests’ farewell at Santo.

17.7°S 168.3°E



AUSTRALIA

Beautiful scenery, wildlife, great weather and a laid back lifestyle are the hallmarks of Australia's coastlines, while the interior burns with the fierce intensity of millennia-old landscapes and one of the oldest cultures on earth. As for the other things that call Australia home - kangaroos, koalas, crocodiles, platypus and some of the deadliest snakes - they're all here, but don't let that deter you, most of them can't swim.

Australia has six states and one territory and each brings a flavour worth exploring. With more than 25,000km of coastline, there is so much on offer for visitors. Australia's iconic destinations - both man-made and natural - include the Great Barrier Reef, Red Centre, Great Ocean Road, Kakadu, the Kimberley, Kangaroo Island, Byron Bay, the Tasmanian wilderness, Flinders Ranges, Fraser Island and the Blue Mountains, and many of them are accessible to the cruising yacht, or just a short-hop inland.



Australian Aboriginal people
have a rich culture stretching back
at least 50,000 years.

Australia’s history traces back to the Aborigines right through to the colonisation of the country by English explorer Captain Cook. Cook first sailed to Australia in 1770 and claimed the east coast, later naming it New South Wales.

The words Down Under and Aussie larrikin are synonymous with Australia and that’s not a bad thing. Australia has a strong, unique culture all of its own - you’ll find people informal, open and willing to lend a hand or welcome you into their world. Australia today has been forged by the peoples of many cultures united in the search for a better life, and this has made the country one where informality reigns and a strong appreciation of the good things in life stands supreme - enjoying life, close friends and family, good food and wine, and beautiful scenery.

Australian Aboriginal people have a rich culture stretching back at least 50,000 years with an intuitive understanding of the land, and a deeply-spiritual approach which can be seen in the rock-art remaining and in contemporary Aboriginal art. Discover places steeped in Aboriginal history in the Northern Territory. Visit Australia’s Red Centre and walk around the base of Uluru with a guide. Browse Aboriginal art in Alice Springs, where the Arrernte people have lived for 20,000 years or learn about Dreamtime myths in the intricate rock art galleries of World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park.

Wine lovers will not be disappointed with Australia’s offerings. Some of the best wineries are in the Hunter Valley in New South Wales, the Barossa Valley in South Australia and Margaret River in Western Australia. Don’t miss the Yarra Valley, just out of Melbourne - a rolling pastoral landscape, old homesteads and long reaching vistas are the perfect companions for beautiful wines and great food. Hire a driver for a tour of the vineyards, your driver will know each winery’s history, be friendly with the people who own it and make sure you get an instant tasting session when you arrive. Many vineyards are home to beautiful art collections or gardens.

Australian cuisine is a fascinating fusion of the many cultures that call the country home, and food has heavy influences from both the Med and Asia. No visit would be complete without an Aussie BBQ, where you can enjoy some of the high quality meats and delicious seafood that Australia has in abundance.

Australian cuisine is a fascinating fusion of the many cultures that call the country home.





32.34°S 135°E KEY CRUISING AREAS °

Visitors to Australia will be spoilt for choice. Moor up in the heart of New South Wales Sydney for some of Australia’s most famous icons including the Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House, Taronga Zoo, Bondi Beach, Darling Harbour and Luna Park. Cruising in the inner harbour is truly spectacular as is tying up under the iconic bridge, and from there it’s a short drive to the majestic Blue Mountains.

In Queensland, the capital Brisbane has good superyacht facilities and is the gateway to the sun, sand and surf on the Gold Coast and the quieter though no less beautiful Sunshine Coast.

In the north the rainforest meets the reef at the Daintree Rainforest. The Great Barrier Reef is one of the Seven Wonders and Cairns Marlin Marina, which is on the edge of the Great Barrier Reef, is a world-class facility which offers custom-designed berths as well as acting as gateway to the spectacular Reef - without doubt a bucket-list destination.

Superyachts have visited Cairns for more than 17 years and the marina is located in the heart of the city, walking distance to the casino, restaurants, bars and cafes.

Cruise around the Whitsundays and claim one of the 74 islands for yourself. In particular, don’t miss Whitehaven Beach, one of the world’s best beaches. For those heading inland, Daintree Rainforest in Far North Queensland is more than 135 million years old and is the oldest rainforest in the world.

Don’t miss multi-cultural Melbourne where you’ll tie up in Docklands, in the heart of the city. Melbourne leads the pack in Australian cuisine and beautifully demonstrates the country’s approach to food - incredible quality and freshness, beautifully prepared in innovative surroundings - without pomp or ceremony. Head to Western Australia for a taste of isolation. Take a camel ride along a deserted beach, head into the desert for a taste of real quiet in the vast red interior.

Up north, Darwin is the capital of the Northern Territory and it’s from here that you can most easily reach the Kimberley - a vast corner of Australia, formed of landscapes created before the dinosaurs. Cruise the Kimberley’s river systems to moor up under waterfalls and walk in spots where no human has been before.

Back in Darwin, also known as the Top End, go crocodile spotting on the Adelaide River, swim in the waterholes of Litchfield National Park or sit down for a meal or drink on Darwin’s bustling waterfront.



32.34° S 135° E

SAMPLE ITINERARY AUSTRALIA°

DAY ONE

Depart Cairns for the Low Isles Reef, home to 150 species of coral and resident turtles.

DAY TWO

Upolu Cay. Dive and snorkel in the lagoon and enjoy the “Wonder Wall” dive site.

DAY THREE

Cruise along the inside of the Barrier Reed, arriving at the Ribbon Reefs - heaven for underwater photographs

DAYS FOUR & FIVE

Lizard Island – relax and be pampered, visit one of the island’s 24 beaches, or go fishing. Stay two days to make the most of this amazing destination.

DAY SIX

Cooktown. A bucket list ‘must do’ is to hire a local guide to learn the aboriginal story of the region.

DAY SEVEN

Swim off the shore of the Mackay or Undine Sandy Cay. Finish at Port Douglas for shopping and great food.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

For the adventurous or curious seeking an untouched world, Solomon Islands offer a far flung tropical setting incorporating all the elements of a first class novel - 'pirates', cannibals, white sand beaches, friendly islanders and romance. There are 992 islands extending 900 miles (1,400 km) SE from Papua New Guinea. The islands are infrequently visited by tourists and are the Pacific's best kept secret. The islands are home to 416,000 people of whom an estimated 60,000 live in the capital, Honiara.

The main islands of Choiseul, New Georgia, Santa Isabel, Guadalcanal, Malaita, and Makira are of mainly volcanic origin. With rugged, rainforest-clad mountain ranges, deep narrow valleys, coconut palms and reefs-a-plenty, the country offers a multitude of choices for the adventurous. Motor or sail to one of the smaller atolls for your own desert island paradise. Often spectacularly beautiful, these uninhabited spots are the perfect place to have the chef serve up a picnic for two, without another soul in sight.



Solomonians believe that customs are transferred from generation to generation, from the ancestral spirits themselves.

Solomon Islands were first settled at least 30,000 years ago by Papuans from New Guinea. Subsequent waves of settlement introduced many new peoples. While the majority of the current population is Melanesian, there is a sizable portion of Polynesian and Micronesian residents and a small number of Chinese and European residents. The local populations vary distinctly in culture from village to village. This diversity contributes to a setting of rich cultures and customs where over 120 vernacular languages are spoken although English is widely spoken. Solomonians believe that customs are transferred from generation to generation, from the ancestral spirits themselves.

There are a number of pre-European cultural monuments worth visiting, notably the Bao megalithic shrine complex (13th century AD), and the Nusa Roviana fortress with its surrounding complex of shrines and villages which were the hub of their regional network during the 14th - 19th centuries. Most famous is the Tiola shrine at the eastern end of Roviana. Well protected by natural cliffs and 3 metre high walls, legends tell that it is devoted to a dog who barked in the direction from whence the enemy came. When this dog died, it was replaced by a stone dog, which also turned to face an on-coming enemy or perhaps in the direction the warriors should take for their next head hunting raid.

THE TASTE OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS° 9°S 160°E

Cuisine in the Solomon Islands takes its influence from many parts of the world. Fish is a staple and visitors will delight in trying the catch of the day straight off the boat. Like much of Polynesia traditional accompaniments for fish and meat are root vegetables and the pick of the abundant supply of vibrant fruits and vegetables. Food is extremely seasonal, and meals are dictated by what's fresh and available: the best way to eat! 'Poi', made with fermented Taro roots, is served during any Solomonian celebration.

Food is eaten seasonally,
and meals are dictated by what's
fresh and abundant.



As the setting for some of the most bitter battles during the Pacific War, reminders of the conflict can be seen on land and under the water.

As a diving destination, Solomon Islands boast clarity of water and diverse underwater terrain, marine life, coral reefs and wrecks. There are a multitude of dive sites to choose from. As the setting for some of the most bitter and desperate battles during the Pacific War, the wrecks of hundreds of ships and aircraft litter the ocean floor, and now form spectacular artificial reefs which attract masses of fish and an incredible variety of coral life.

The islands are becoming known as one of the last remaining frontiers for travelling surfers, with plenty of opportunity for surf exploration. Long period ground swells pulse consistently from the North Pacific. The famous swells that hit the north shore of Hawaii reach the Solomons some days later and break on perfect coral reef passes. These coasts are remote areas with little tourist facilities and even fewer people.

Make sure you visit and experience some of the country's volcanos. A two-day hike to the top and back will see guests scale Kolombangara - a perfect cone-shaped volcano that rises to 1770 metre from a one kilometre-wide coastal plain. Tinakula is the most active volcano in the Solomon Islands. One of the least known active volcanoes, its remote location in the eastern Solomons means that it is seldom visited, perfect then to sit back and get a taste for the majesty and power of this corner of the world.

SAMPLE ITINERARY SOLOMON ISLANDS°

DAY ONE
Kayak out to war wrecks in Tokyo Bay.
Cruise to Tulagi Harbour for an afternoon of diving.

DAY TWO
Russell Islands.
Visit Karamaloun Village for panpipe music and dancing.

DAY THREE
Spend the day snorkelling around the beautiful Mary Island.
Cruise to Marovo Harbour.

DAY FOUR
Visit freshwater eels at Mbiche village, before diving in the spectacular waters of Mbulo Island.

DAY FIVE
Snorkel with sharks around the Marvolo Lagoon.
Overnight cruise to Russell Islands.

DAY SIX
Dive the Rainbow reef and snorkel at White Beach.
Cruise through Sunlight Passage before overnight cruise to the Florida Islands.

DAY SEVEN
Watch cultural dancing at Tumbila Village.
Paddle dugout canoes and dive at Anuha Island.
Return cruise to Honiara.

9°S 160°E





Come and join us on a journey of magical underwater adventures



A WORLD OF UNDERWATER WONDERS



There is a common thread to the various destinations around the Pacific Ocean: unparalleled and healthy marine wildlife offering unlimited dive and snorkelling adventures.



With the increasing popularity of recreational diving, the Pacific will without doubt unveil some of its treasures to guests in quest of unique marine encounters only reachable by boat. The Pacific is a place where every country visited hosts as much abundant life under the water as above.



This vast ocean from Tahiti to South-East Asia offers unlimited and varied underwater experiences - snorkelling safaris, scuba exploration, technical rebreather diving or take a dive in your own submarine! Most of these countries have a very strong awareness for ocean conservation and various governments have taken measures to protect their marine wildlife. Therefore, one of the less populated areas in the world is proud to feature some of the most beautiful marine sanctuaries on Earth.





SWIM WITH A HUMPBACK WHALE AND HER CALF°

Between July and November every year, humpbacks travel from the Antarctic to the tropical waters of Tahiti or Tonga to give birth or find a mate. Throughout their migration they stay around these islands and do not feed, while their newborn can gain up to 100kg a day. They often stay close to reefs so it's a once in a life time opportunity to swim with these majestic sea giants, watch a calf play or listen to a singing male looking for a mate. Tahiti has been a sanctuary for marine mammals since 2002 and they are best seen around Moorea and the Tahiti Peninsula. Tonga is another location to encounter these creatures especially around some of the remote islands where there is not a soul in sight. Manta rays are very popular around our part of the world.

SNORKEL AMONG MANTA RAYS°

In some areas of Asia and the South Pacific, it is not unusual to see a school of these magnificent fish, cousins to the shark, feeding or being cleaned by smaller fish, gliding gracefully under the water. Encounters are frequent throughout our region with noted highlights around Baa atoll in the Northern Maldives, Myanmar, Thailand, Komodo and Raja Ampat in Indonesia, Fiji and the Islands of Tahiti.

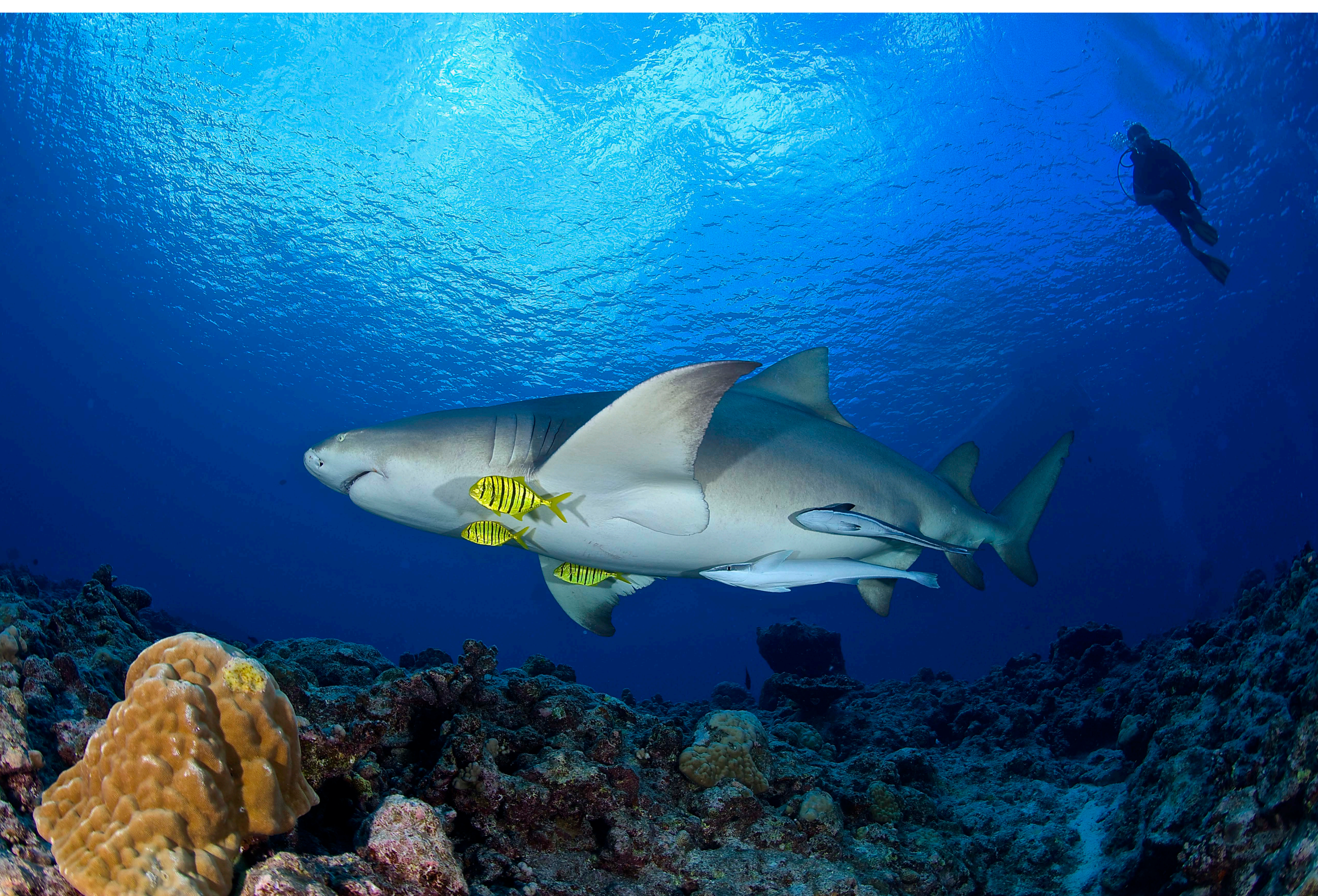
DIVE AMONG A SCHOOL OF GIANT BUMPHEAD PARROTFISH°

South-East Asia and Australia boast incredible colourful underwater worlds. A popular encounter here during a snorkel or dive, is a pod of majestic giant bumphead parrotfish whilst cruising around Malaysia, Borneo and Indonesia. They nonchalantly munch their way through acres of coral reef. Normally travelling in schools they often appear like a squadron of marauders filling divers' ears with their noisy crunching. They are listed as an endangered species and are protected in the Western Pacific. Considering they live up to 40 years and grow to 130cm, this results in slow replenishment of the species. Diving with them is a memorable experience.





All this and much more can be experienced during your time in the region.



ENCOUNTER FRIENDLY SHARKS OF ALL SIZE, INCLUDING “GREAT WHITES” AND “TIGERS”^o

Given its remoteness from the rest of the world sharks are still a big part of the local eco-system in the Pacific and Asia. They are found basically everywhere and offer incredible encounters when safely organized. In New Zealand’s colder waters you can encounter great white sharks off Stewart Island. The Islands of Tahiti offer more than a dozen species of sharks and the country have proudly been protecting its sharks since 2006. Here you can dive with tiger, lemon or hammerhead sharks. In Fiji, do not miss the famous “Bega dive” with bull sharks. In Australia, around the beautiful Great Barrier Reef, they regulate the eco-system and are easy to spot. With our regions being so friendly, our sharks are too!

DIVE WITH WILD BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS^o

There is one place in the world where divers can fulfil a dream: dive with wild dolphins. Rangiroa atoll in the Tuamotu archipelago of French Polynesia is the place. A sedentary pod of bottlenose dolphins are used to seeing divers dive their home pass (a natural channel between the lagoon and the ocean) and are known to swim with divers looking for interactions. Should the dolphin not get the expected attention, he will simply swim to the next diver in the group! This is a unique encounter and definitely on all divers’ bucket list.

DISCOVER THE WORLD OF COLOURFUL MACRO LIFE°

Whether you cruise to New Zealand, the tropical waters of Australia, Fiji, Vanuatu or Asia, the common thread will be the abundance of colours and macro life. Far from human developments and thanks to conservation programmes, these areas offer untouched healthy reefs with thousands of different species of fish, nudibranchs, shrimps and crabs, soft and hard corals. They are fantastic for photographers but also for divers in quest of rare species in other parts of the world, such as the shy and tiny pygmy seahorse or some species of sea slugs looking like they are flamenco dancers when swimming.

EXPLORE THE MOST SPECTACULAR SEA GARDENS AMONG VIVID COLOURS OF SOFT AND HARD CORALS AND MYRIADS OF TROPICAL FISH°

Easily accessible to everyone - children, snorkellers, divers, go on a "seafari" around any of the regions destinations in idyllic conditions. The region is considered a perfect area to learn to dive in some of the last untouched spots of the Earth. Your journey will be filled with adventures and discoveries found nowhere else.





DIVE AMAZING WRECKS°

Wreck diving is impressive as it involves some of the largest sunk ships in the world and most are still intact. In Vanuatu, dive the 187m SS President Coolidge sunk during WWII. This cruise ship was turned into a freighter to transport US troops and military equipment. The wreck is close to the shore and offers up to 20 thrilling dive possibilities. Everything in the ship is untouched like the day it sank. It is breathtaking! Along the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, the 109m steel-made SS Yongala sank during a hurricane taking the lives of her 121 passengers. The wreck is in very good condition and lies 30m down on the sea floor with the upper decks located at a depth of about 15 meters. She is one of the largest shipwrecks to dive worldwide and features stunning marine life all around.

EXPLORE FJORDS AND TROPICAL REEFS°

In New Zealand, go on a different kind of shipwreck dive adventure. The sceneries are not tropical but offer incredible life and the wreck of the 175m luxury liner Michael Lemontov in the South Island, which sunk in 1986, is home to many species of fish and anemones. Greenpeace Rainbow Warrior in the Bay of Islands in the North Island is another of New Zealand's dive highlights, located not too far from world famous "Poor Knights". This region has it all: untouched reefs, pristine marine life, tropical crystal clear waters and lagoons. They even have fjords where it is common to encounter orcas and seals. Go on a journey filled with adventure and exploration, be the first to discover new dive areas, to snorkel in remote areas that are safe and with not a soul in sight. Take the dive/snorkelling cruise of a lifetime.



In Asia's waters you find diversity and countless cruising choices.

ASIA

The Asia region and the Indian Ocean is one of the best cruising grounds in the world. This is a well known fact to those who have cruised here for many years, but is only now becoming common knowledge.

At first sight, the diverse and expansive Asia region may seem daunting. However, with the abundance of stunning cruising possibilities and the excellent shore based support now available, it really is a joy to cruise through Asia's waterways.





6.17°S 109.7°E INDONESIA°

The largest country in South East Asia, Indonesia offers the most diverse cruising, allowing for year round adventure.

From the world class diving in Raja Ampat, to the famous dragons of Komodo, the exotic splendor of Bali to the unexplored wonders of Kalimantan, there is something for every season.

1°N 114°E BORNEO°

Whilst you will find excitement all along the Borneo Coast, it is the North Western State of Sabah that offers the most opportunities for exploration.

Excellent cruising from Labuan to Sipadan, offer pristine reefs, deserted beaches and abundant wildlife.

Once in a lifetime trips inland to explore the jungle wonders are not to be missed.

THE PHILIPPINES° 11.87°N 122.86°E

While the Philippines offers a wealth of cruising from North to South, most yachts stay around the brilliant scenery and prime anchorages of the Puerto Galera and Northern Mindano areas. Day trips and overnight stays can be made to the white beaches of Mindano and Maricaban islands. There are great bars and restaurants along the beaches and a wealth of local culture to experience.

HONG KONG° 22.2°N 114.10°E

Hong Kong, at the mouth of the Pearl Delta, is a special economic zone of China, with a very unique flavour all its own. Hong Kong's 236 islands studded with beaches provide unexpectedly stunning cruising, offsetting the fast pace of life in the world's third largest financial centre.

SINGAPORE° 01.23°N 103.57°E

Returning south along the Malay Peninsula you will arrive at the island city of Singapore. This is the financial shining star of South East Asia, and offers all the trappings of a modern city, all packaged together on a tropical island.

Singapore is also one of the busiest ports in the world and as such offers an unparalleled level of support facilities, as well as commercial shipyards and marinas. You will require some pre-arrival formalities, and pilotage for any vessel over GRT300, which must be booked well in advance.





2.31°N 111.5°E MALAYSIA°

The cruising in Peninsular Malaysia stretches from Singapore all the way to Thailand.

Colonial architecture, mixed with a multi ethnic population, provide an endless variety of experiences.

Yachts are now discovering the majestic 99 islands of the Langkawi Geopark, located on the northern sea border with Thailand. These islands offer Malaysia’s best cruising with beautiful anchorages, pristine beaches and virgin rainforest.

As a duty free island, there is also nowhere better to fuel and re-stock your yacht. There are two superyachts marinas and a dedicated superyacht repair facility for any routine maintenance and provisioning you may require.

15.35°N 101.01°E THAILAND°

Thailand offers cruising on both coasts. On the east you will find the island of Ko Samui, with it’s clear waters, white beaches and amazing shore line and the Angthong National Marine Park with its spectacular group of 42 different and exciting islands.

On the west coast you will find the island of Phuket and her surrounding islands, including the Similan and Surin island groups.

Offering exceptional cruising, beaches and diving, amazing shore facilities and the famous “Thai Smile”, cruising Thailand is an opportunity not to be missed.

BURMA (MYANMAR)° 22°N 96°E

The shining jewel in the Burma coastline is the Mergui Archipelago. Closed to foreigners for decades, the area has now been made public. These stunning islands offer a true “Robinson Crusoe” experience. Hundreds of small islands, each offering crystal clear water and pure white sandy beaches stretch as far as the eye can see.

Inhabited only by the reclusive sea gypsies, this outstanding cruising ground offers the perfect chance to get away from it all and converse with nature.

ANDAMAN ISLANDS° 11.68°N 92.7°E

Falling under the protection of India, this remote island group offers some of the region’s most peaceful cruising. From pristine reefs, to primeval rainforest, to active volcanoes, the Andaman Islands always astound.





3.2°N 73.30°5E MALDIVES°

This world famous vacation destination consists of several atolls lying off the coast of Sri Lanka and stretching south into the Indian Ocean.

The Maldivian atolls are made up of hundreds of small islands, each ringed by white sandy beaches and dotted with pristine coral reef. Between the islands, the water is an average of 50 metres deep, dotted with patches of vibrant reef, allowing great cruising during daylight hours.

At the edges of the atolls the water drops away to depths of over 2000 metres, offering some of the region's best game fishing opportunities.

7°N 81°E SRI LANKA°

Sri Lanka's 18 million strong population provide an intoxicating mix of cultures and diverse ethnic groups. With several deep water ports, there are plenty of places to go ashore and explore the wonders that lie inland. Explore the tea plantations, see the giant buddhas carved into the stone cliffs or take an elephant ride into the local villages.

YEAR-LONG SAMPLE ITINERARY ASIA°

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Start your Asian adventure in the Maldives and Sri Lanka (the best cruising times are from November to April).

NOVEMBER

Malaysia is best cruised in the easterly monsoon season when a gentle 10-15kt north-easterly breeze provides calm seas and blue skies.

DECEMBER/JANUARY

Spend the holiday season in Thailand - the best months to visit are May through September.

FEBRUARY/MARCH

Dive through February and March in the crystal waters of Myanmar and the Andaman Islands - best cruised between November through to April.

APRIL

Singapore is a great destination to have a city break, while making any repairs and reprovisioning.

MAY

From Singapore head to Hong Kong. The occasional typhoon may occur between June-September; however, Hong Kong waters are mainly protected.

JUNE/JULY

The Philippines are the perfect spot to begin winding down your Asian sojourn.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

End your time in Asia with Borneo and Indonesia, at their best from November to March.



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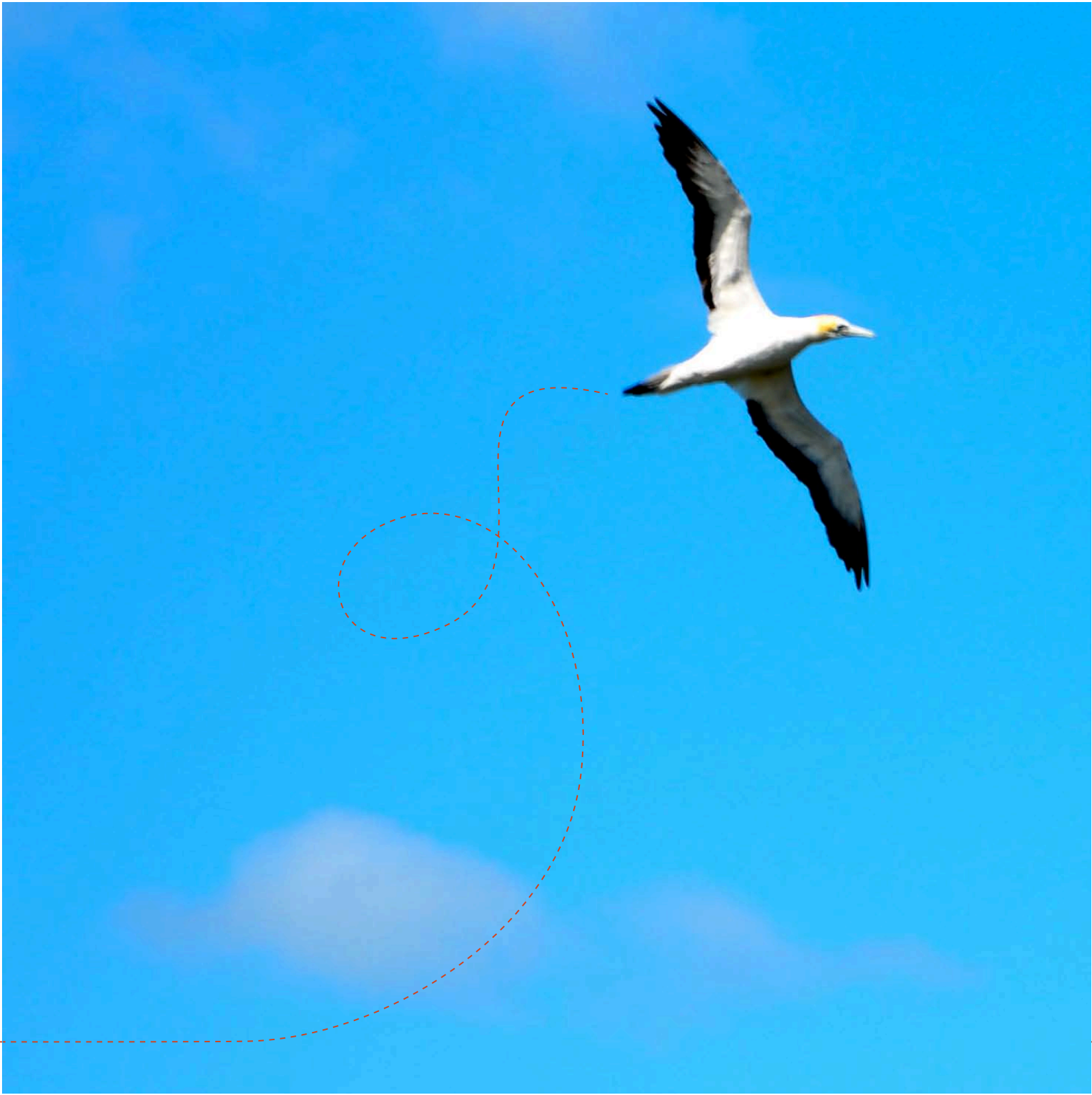
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