

Fatu Hiva Island, Marquesas, French Polynesia

The most remote island in the Marquesas rewards visitors with cathedral-like volcanic spires rising from the Bay of Virgins, living traditions of Tapa bark-cloth painting, and an island life unchanged for generations.

Tender only (no pier)

Typical call: 5–8 hrs

Cash only — XPF, USD, EUR

French / Marquesan

Remote & undeveloped

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: Arrive: All aboard:

Excursion: Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender into Hanavave or Omoa village beach

Best For: Dramatic scenery, authentic Polynesian crafts, hiking

Walk to center: 5–10 min from tender dock to village

Don't Miss: Tapa cloth art & the Bay of Virgins rock spires

Getting around: Rideshare not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Bay of Virgins Walk & Scenic Stroll** — Step off the tender in Hanavave and simply look up.
- Tapa Cloth Art & Craft Market** — Fatu Hiva is one of the last places where traditional Tapa bark-cloth is actively made.
- Omoa–Hanavave Cross-Island Hike** — A legendary 17 km ridge-and-valley trail connecting the two villages over a 700 m mountain pass.
- Hanavave Waterfall Hike** — A 40-minute walk inland from Hanavave village through lush rainforest leads to an impressive waterfall.
- Omoa Petroglyphs & Musée Grelet** — A local guide can lead you to ancient rock carvings in the valleys around Omoa, including the famous 'Paoa' tuna petroglyph.

BEST WALKS

- Hanavave Village & Bay Loop** ~1.5 km · 20–30 min · Easy · Free — From the tender landing, walk the length of the village to the church, then back along the black-sand shoreline.
- Omoa Village Stroll** ~1 km · 15–20 min · Easy · Free — From the Omoa tender landing, wander through the village to the craft market and church.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		82°	79°	12d
Jun		80°	78°	13d
Aug		79°	77°	12d
Sep		79°	77°	12d
Oct		79°	77°	11d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:48AM–5:40PM · Jun 6:00AM–5:30PM · Aug 5:56AM–5:41PM · Sep 5:38AM–5:40PM · Oct 5:20AM–5:40PM

Cash only — XPF, USD, EUR

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Cash only — no ATMs. Bring XPF (French Pacific Francs) or small USD/EUR bills. Credit cards are not accepted anywhere on the island.
- Nono sandflies are savage. These near-invisible flies bite relentlessly and the welts itch for days. Wear long sleeves and trousers, apply strong DEET repellent, or buy local Monoi-citronella oil at the dock — it works.
- Swimming is not recommended. Swells, currents, and sharks make the black-sand beaches better for photography than swimming.
- Buy Tapa directly from the maker. Fatu Hiva is one of the last islands where true hand-painted Tapa bark cloth is made. Prices paid here go directly to the artisan family.
- Weather changes fast. Pack a lightweight rain jacket and reef-safe sunscreen — brilliant sunshine can give way to tropical downpours within minutes.
- Kaoha! Very little English is spoken. A simple 'Kaoha' (Marquesan greeting) or 'Bonjour' opens doors and smiles from locals.

Fatu Hiva Island, Marquesas, French Polynesia — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1

Bay of Virgins, Hanavave

Dramatic volcanic spires ringing a small bay, considered one of the most photographed anchorages in the Pacific.
- 2

Hanavave Village Church

Small Catholic church at the center of Hanavave, decorated with Marquesan wood carvings.
- 3

Omoa Village, Fatu Hiva

Southern village known for traditional tapa cloth-making and monoi oil production.
- P

Cruise port / terminal