

Nuku Hiva, Marquesas Islands, French Polynesia

The largest and wildest of the Marquesas Islands, Nuku Hiva rewards adventurous cruisers with ancient ceremonial platforms, one of the world's tallest waterfalls, and a living culture of stone carving and tattoo art untouched by mass tourism.

 Tender (no pier)  Typical call: 7-9 hrs  CFP Franc (XPF) — bring cash  French & Marquesan

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender into Taiohae village pier (10-20 min ride)

Best For: Archaeology, volcanic scenery, Marquesan art & culture

Walk to center: Tender lands in the heart of Taiohae — 0 min

Don't Miss: Vaipo Waterfall hike or Hatiheu archaeological sites by 4x4

 Getting around:  Rideshare  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Hatiheu Archaeological Sites & North Coast** — A full-day 4x4 journey over mountain passes to Hatiheu Bay, visiting the Hikokua and Kamuihei tohua (ceremonial...)
- **Vaipo Waterfall Hike (Hakau Valley)** — Boat to Hakau Bay then a 3-hour valley trek to Vaipo Waterfall — at 350 metres one of the tallest in Polynesia — past...
- **Taipivai Valley — Melville's Typee Country** — Drive into the lush valley Herman Melville immortalised in his novel Typee, explore ancient tiki and terraces, and see...
- **Anaho Bay Snorkel & Beach** — Reach Anaho, the Marquesas' only coral-reef bay with a white-sand beach, by boat or by hiking from Hatiheu.
- **Scuba Diving — Basalt Arches & Mantas** — Dramatic wall dives with basalt arches just outside Taiohae Bay attract manta rays, hammerhead and grey reef sharks...

BEST WALKS

- **Taiohae Waterfront & Cathedral Loop** 1.5 km · 30-45 min · Flat · Free — From the tender pier, stroll along the palm-fringed waterfront to the Cathedral Notre-Dame des Marquises to see carvings from all six...
- **Muake Hill Viewpoint** 4 km return · 1.5 hrs · Moderate climb · Free — A steep but rewarding trail rises behind Taiohae to Commandant Gravier Peak (Muake Hill), delivering panoramic views of the horseshoe...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 5:53AM–5:47PM · Jun 6:03AM–5:39PM · Aug 6:00AM–5:49PM · Sep 5:44AM–5:46PM · Oct 5:27AM–5:44PM	
Apr	83°	78°	23d		
Jun	81°	77°	22d		
Aug	80°	76°	21d		
Sep	81°	76°	21d		
Oct	81°	76°	21d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Buy Monoi-Tamanu oil at the pier. Nono biting flies are invisible and DEET won't stop them — oil coating your skin is the only reliable defence. Bites itch for weeks.
- Cash only in most places. The Banque de Tahiti ATM in Taiohae runs out fast on cruise days. Exchange XPF on the ship or in