

Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia

The capital of French Polynesia docks ships right on the waterfront boulevard — step off into a city of overwater bungalow dreams, black-pearl boutiques, sizzling food trucks, and one of the Pacific's most colourful market halls.

 Docked (downtown waterfront)  Typical call: 8–10 hrs  CFP Franc (XPF)  French / Tahitian

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Papeete waterfront (downtown)

Walk to center: 2–5 min on foot

Best For: Pearls · Market · Lagoon

Don't Miss: Le Marché & les roulottes

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  1,000–2,000 XPF (~\$10–19 USD) ·  **Rideshare**  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Le Marché (Papeete Market)** — The two-storey covered market is the beating heart of Papeete — ground floor overflows with tropical fruit, fish, and flower crowns (ei); upper level...
- **Place Vai'ete — Les Roulottes** — After dark (and some evenings during port days), the waterfront square fills with food trucks — les roulottes — serving poisson cru, crepes, grilled...
- **Lagoon Snorkeling & Swim** — Tahiti's lagoon shelters coral gardens and tropical fish just offshore.
- **Point Venus Lighthouse** — The historic lighthouse where Captain Cook observed the 1769 transit of Venus sits on a black-sand spit at the northern tip of Tahiti, ringed by a...
- **Fautaua Valley & Waterfall Hike** — A marked trail from Papeete's outskirts leads up the Fautaua Valley to a dramatic 985-ft waterfall.

BEST WALKS

- **Waterfront & Market Loop** ~2 km · 1–1.5 hrs · easy — From the pier, walk south along Boulevard Pomare past Place Vai'ete and the waterfront park, then cut inland to Le Marché for fruit, flowers, and pearls.
- **Robert Wan Pearl Museum** ~0.5 km · 30 min · easy — A short walk from the pier, the Robert Wan Pearl Museum showcases the history and cultivation of Tahitian black pearls with free admission.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌤️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				🇫🇷 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain		
Apr	83°	78°	25d		
Jun	81°	75°	21d		
Aug	79°	74°	19d		
Sep	80°	74°	20d		
Oct	81°	75°	22d		

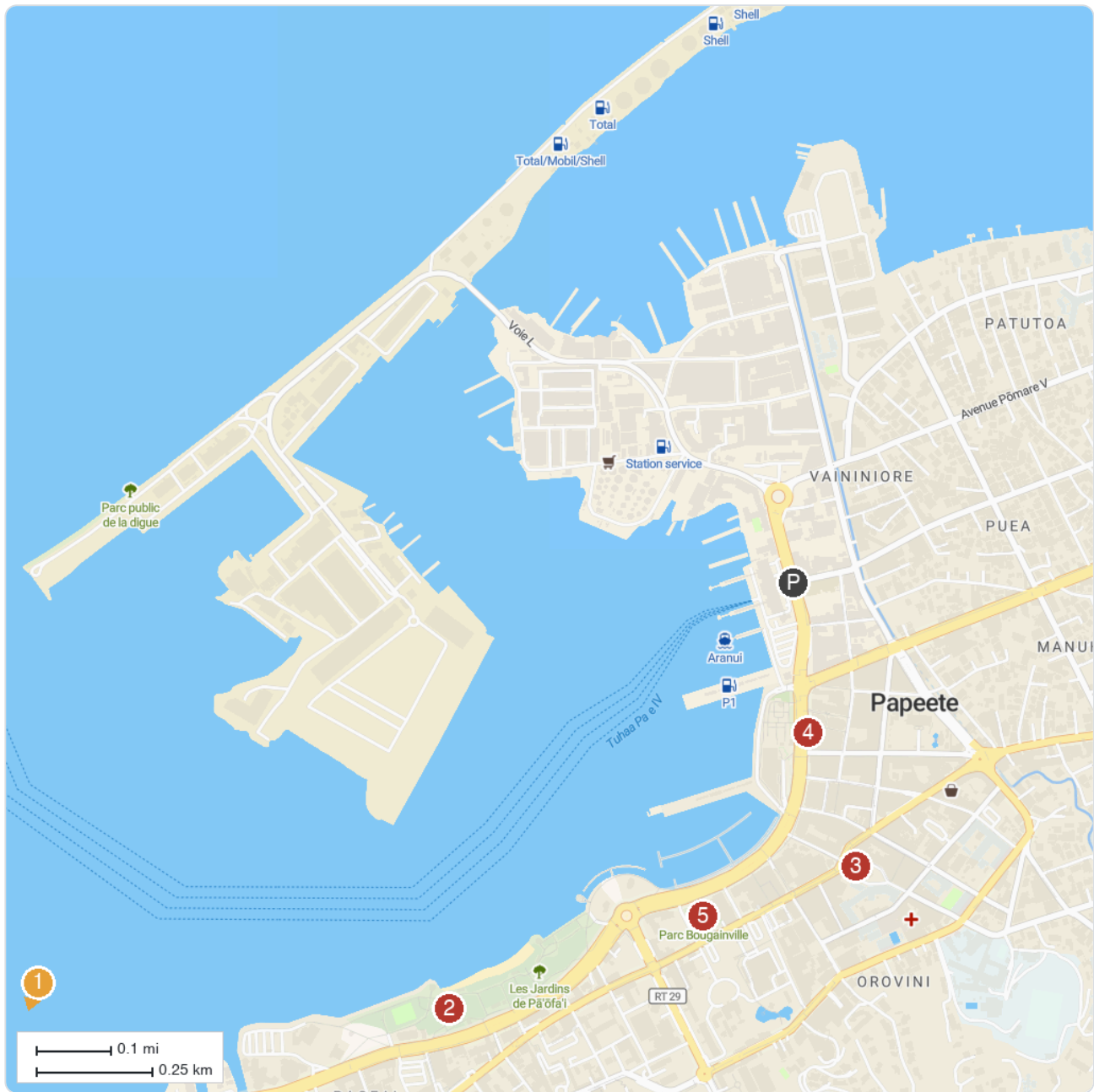
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Budget for black pearls. Tahitian cultured pearls are a legitimate local product — museum prices are better than ship-board boutiques. The market and dedicated jewellers on Rue du Maréchal Foch offer a wide range.
- Try poisson cru. Raw tuna marinated in lime juice and coconut milk is Tahiti's national dish. Order it at a roulotte at Place Vai'ete or any local snack bar — it's outstanding.
- CFP Franc only — cards vary. The XPF (Pacific Franc) is the currency. Most shops and restaurants accept credit cards, but the market and roulottes often prefer cash. ATMs are available downtown near the market.
- Taxis have no meters. Agree on the fare before you get in. Point Venus runs around 2,000–3,000 XPF each way; negotiate a round-trip rate with a wait if you want to explore beyond downtown.
- Heat and humidity are real. Papeete is tropical year-round. Bring sunscreen, a hat, and a water bottle — the market and downtown walks are exposed in the midday sun.
- Moorea is close but time-consuming. The neighbouring island of Moorea is a 30-min ferry ride away — it's tempting, but factor in ferry schedules and your ship's departure time before committing to the crossing.

Papeete, Tahiti, 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 Museum of Tahiti and The Islands
- 3 Notre Dame Cathedral
- 5 Bougainville Park

- 2 Pā'ōfa'i Gardens
- 4 MANUA Exquisite Tahitian Art
- P Cruise port / terminal