

# FAKARAVA

## A DREAM CRUISE IN THE TUAMOTU

### THE TUAMOTU

This archipelago, 350km (215 miles) north east of Tahiti, is made up of 78 atolls, hardly half of which are inhabited. It stretches over 160 000 square km (sq ft). The Paumotu atolls are rings of coral sand, dotted with coconut trees, harboring the turquoise waters of their inner lagoons. The locals' activities consists of copra, fishing, and in the last few years, pearl culture (from the *pinctada margaritifera* oyster) which gives the famous black pearl - endemic to the Tuamotu. The lagoon is a sheltered environment – an ideal location for pearl farms and fish parks... Fakarava, a one-hour flight from Tahiti, is the second largest Paumotu atoll in surface, and is still isolated from major touristic activity. This stunning atoll has two passes, one of which over 1 km wide (over half a mile) – the widest pass in all of Polynesia. Passes offer an amazing opportunity for scuba divers to observe pelagic fauna in remarkable density and diversity. The cruises we run from Fakarava explore some of the most beautiful atolls of Paumotu, within a few hours' boat ride. You will be able to discover sensational dive sites and touch land on stunning, deserted motus (reef islets). These cruises offer many activities beyond scuba-diving: land excursions, tours of ancient villages, of the oldest church in the Paumotu, and of coconut plantations... which will provide many opportunities to meet the particularly welcoming locals and experience life as it was a century ago. You will also discover the techniques for extracting copra, the secrets of the black pearl graft, and the skills to achieve tasty coconut-based recipes. The heavenly lagoons we will navigate will allow you to indulge in many water sports such as: snorkeling or scuba-diving, water-skiing, wake-boarding, kayaking and big-game fishing. With all these options, there's something for everyone, diver or non-diver. **Our main goal: your satisfaction and safety.** For everyone's well-being, **the AQUA TIKI II is strictly non smoking**, as the on-board storage of fuel, gas and oxygen prohibits it. Smokers will be able to smoke during land-based trips, but they must pick up their cigarette butts (our cruises take place inside the Fakarava Biosphere Reserve).

### SCUBA-DIVING INFORMATION

This itinerary offers challenging dives that will satisfy the most adventurous divers. Diving in the passes is extraordinary, which is why we require a certain level of scuba-diving certification: CMAS level 2, PADI Advanced open water or equivalent. **Please note: CMAS level 1 and PADI Open water divers will not be able to participate in some of the dives (due to currents and depths).** Look out for: sharks, mantas, dolphins, tunas, jacks, barracudas... a luxuriant fauna in density and diversity. We also cater for scuba-diving beginners, since there is always one instructor on-board, but in that case the dives will take place in the lagoon and the departures will be at specific dates (contact us). We offer on-board training for CMAS qualifications, as long as a medical certificate is provided. The minimum water temperature varies between 25°C (77°F) in winter (September) and 29°C (84°F) in summer (march), with no thermocline and an outstanding visibility year-round. **Formalities: you must take with you your diving qualifications, dive logs and medical certificates (or CMAS up-to-date licenses).**

### WHY WE OFFER "ONLY" TWO DIVES A DAY

In the passes of the polynesian atolls, the most interesting (and safest) dives are drift dives, flowing with the incoming tide (very good visibility, rich marine life...). However, there are only, at best, 6 hours of incoming current in one day... Activities are therefore scheduled so that we can offer two incoming-tide drift dives per day, but this means we have to adapt the sailing and meal times according to tide times, which usually doesn't allow more than 2 dives per day... Furthermore, most suggested dives are fairly saturating (depth, dive time, strong current...) hence it is reasonable to limit oneself to 2 immersions, as far away as we are from a decompression chamber... (the number of close immersions being a promoting factor in decompression illnesses). Besides, each member in a buddy pair is equipped with a 15L cylinder at 230 bar, which for two dives, corresponds to a greater autonomy than 3 dives with 10L cylinders at 200 bars! Finally, in Polynesia, in contrast to some diving destinations, there is life beyond the dives and so many more things to discover...

### PRICES INCLUDE

Airport/boat/airport transfers, full board accommodation with tap water and squash (mineral water, sodas and alcohol are extras), cruise with crew and dive instructor, scheduled land excursions (village tours, motu exploration, etc...), and open water sports: kayaking, big-game and underwater fishing, snorkeling... For the scuba-diving cruises: 2 dives per day supervised by a professional dive instructor (no dives on the first and last days), scuba gear, cylinders (steel 12 and 15 liters to 230 bar).

### PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE

The bar (mineral water, sodas and alcohol), the dives on the non-scuba cruises (50 euros per dive), oxygen decompression stage (10 euros), water-skiing (10 euros).

### AQUA POLYNESIE'S LITTLE EXTRAS

A professional and friendly crew of 3 people: skipper, diving instructor and hostess – for 9 passengers!

Exceptional dives, drifting in the Paumotu passes! (not the lagoons...)

8 divers maximum! And guaranteed departures from 2 passengers!

A schedule based on the tides, to ensure the best diving conditions.

A in-depth knowledge of the sites from over 15 years of experience, on a unique itinerary that no one else offers!

Personalized itineraries without supplements (8 – 10 – 12 – 15 – 21 nights...)

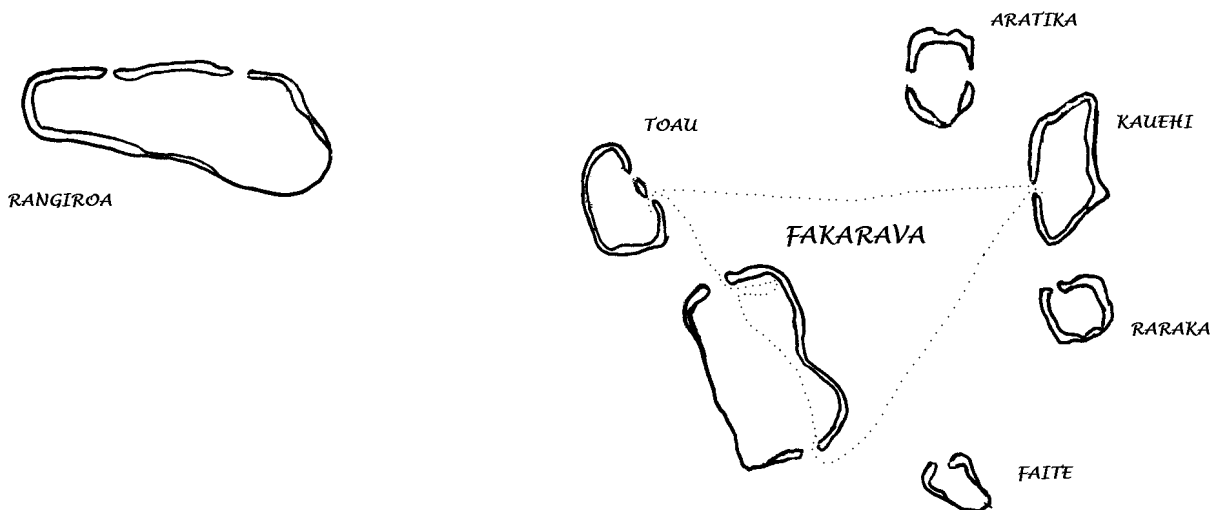
An office in Paris to answer all your questions and help you plan your stay.

# FAKARAVA THE TOP DIVING !

## 9 days / 8 nights dreaming in the Tuamotu

- 1<sup>st</sup> day.** Arrival at the airport of Fakarava, welcome by the crew of the AQUA TIKI, then transfer onto the boat. Settling into your private cabin, tour of the village, water sports, swimming. Sunset with a cocktail, presentation of the trip, welcome party.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> day.** Early-morning departure for Fakarava's southern end, smooth sail through the lagoon, troll fishing. Anchorage off the Tetamanu village (pop. 6). Water sports or scuba-dive. Lunch. Land excursion, shell collecting, tour of the ancient village of Tetamanu and its church, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice, kayak. BBQ evening.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> day.** Morning rise in Fakarava's stunning lagoon, scuba-dive or water sports, then excursion to the untamed beauty of the "pink sand motu", beach, swim. Lunch, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice. Sunset on the lagoon, option of a Polynesian party on land.
- 4<sup>th</sup> day.** Early sailing departure for Kauehi, big-game fishing or sailing initiation. Anchorage on the coral reef, scuba-dive or water sports. Lunch. Scuba-dive or water sports, kayak, troll fishing in the Kauehi pass, with the sun setting down. BBQ evening.
- 5<sup>th</sup> day.** Water sports of your choice, swim, scuba-dive. Lunch, option of a land excursion, exploration of the reef to look for shells, water sport or scuba-dive. Dinner.
- 6<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning departure for Toau, sunrise at sea, smooth sailing helped by the trade winds, breakfast, big-game fishing. Anchorage off of a stunning coral sand beach, water sports or scuba-dive. Lunch, option to visit a pearl farm, water sports or scuba-dive. Sunset on the lagoon, BBQ evening.
- 7<sup>th</sup> day.** Sunrise on the spectacular Toau lagoon, water sports, scuba-dive. Land excursion, swim, coconut tasting (you will learn how to extract the coconut milk that is so prevalent in Polynesian cooking). Lunch. Water sports of your choice or scuba-dive. Sunset on the lagoon, dinner.
- 8<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning departure for the northern end of Fakarava. Short sail and anchorage off the coral reef. Snorkeling or scuba-dive in the famous Garuae pass (over half a mile wide!). Lunch, scuba-dive, then a smooth sail to the village of Rotoava. Last sunset with a cocktail, farewell party.
- 9<sup>th</sup> day.** Village tour, water sports and last swims, then back to shore and transfer to the airport. Polynesian farewell!

This schedule is approximate and may be modified without notice.



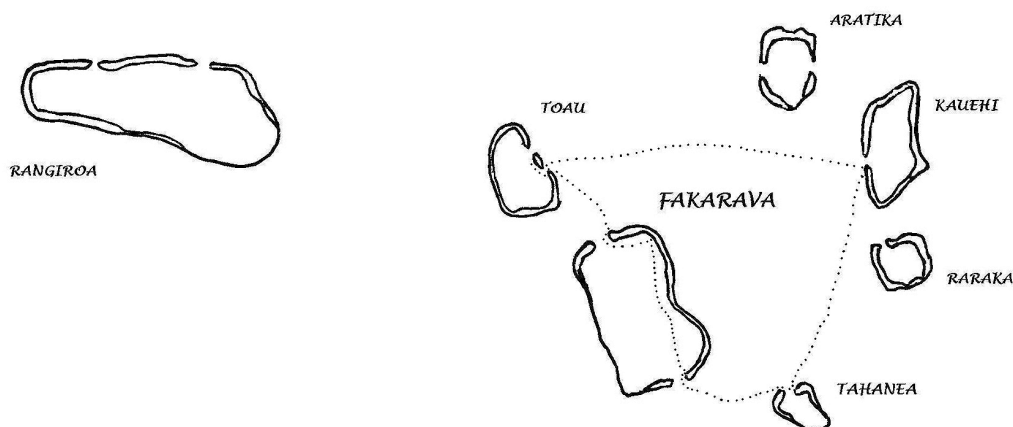
# FAKARAVA

## THE TOP DIVING !

### 11 days / 10 nights dreaming in the Tuamotu

- 1<sup>st</sup> day.** Arrival at the airport of Fakarava, welcome by the crew of the AQUA TIKI, then transfer onto the boat. Settling into your private cabin, tour of the village, water sports, swimming. Sunset with a cocktail, presentation of the trip, welcome party.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> day.** Early-morning departure for Fakarava's southern end, smooth sail through the lagoon, troll fishing. Anchorage off the Tetamanu village (pop. 6). Water sports or scuba-dive. Lunch. Land excursion, shell collecting, tour of the ancient village of Tetamanu and its church, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice, kayak. Option of a Polynesian party on land.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> day.** Morning rise in Fakarava's stunning lagoon, scuba-dive or water sports, then excursion to the untamed beauty of the "pink sand motu", beach, swim. Lunch, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice. Sunset on the lagoon. Evening departure towards Tahanea.
- 4<sup>th</sup> day.** Early anchorage off of a stunning, wild motu in Tahanea, scuba-dive or water sports, kayak, land excursion on a beautiful, deserted beach... Swims, shell collecting, lunch. Tour of the island in the RIB, scuba-dive, then trip back to the boat for a BBQ evening.
- 5<sup>th</sup> day.** Morning rise in Tahanea's heavenly lagoon, early-morning scuba-dive looking for manta rays, water sport of your choice. Lunch, swim in crystal clear waters, scuba-dive, then departure for Kauehi, big-game fishing, sunset at sea.
- 6<sup>th</sup> day.** Anchorage on the coral reef, scuba-dive or water sports. Lunch. Scuba-dive or water sports, kayak, troll fishing in the Kauehi pass, with the sun setting down. BBQ evening.
- 7<sup>th</sup> day.** Water sports of your choice, swim, scuba-dive. Lunch, option of a land excursion, exploration of the reef to look for shells, water sport or scuba-dive. Dinner.
- 8<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning departure for Toau, sunrise at sea, smooth sailing helped by the trade winds, breakfast, big-game fishing. Anchorage off of a stunning coral sand beach, water sports or scuba-dive. Lunch, option to visit a pearl farm, water sports or scuba-dive. Sunset on the lagoon, BBQ evening.
- 9<sup>th</sup> day.** Sunrise on the spectacular Toau lagoon, water sports, scuba-dive. Land excursion to look for shells, swim, coconut tasting (you will learn how to extract the coconut milk that is so prevalent in Polynesian cooking). Lunch. Water sports of your choice or scuba-dive. Sunset on the lagoon, dinner.
- 10<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning departure for the northern end of Fakarava. Short sail and anchorage off the coral reef. Snorkeling or scuba-dive in the famous Garuae pass (over half a mile wide!). Lunch, scuba-dive, then a smooth sail to the village of Rotoava. Last sunset with a cocktail, farewell party.
- 11<sup>th</sup> day.** Village tour, water sports and last swims, then back to shore and transfer to the airport. Polynesian farewell!

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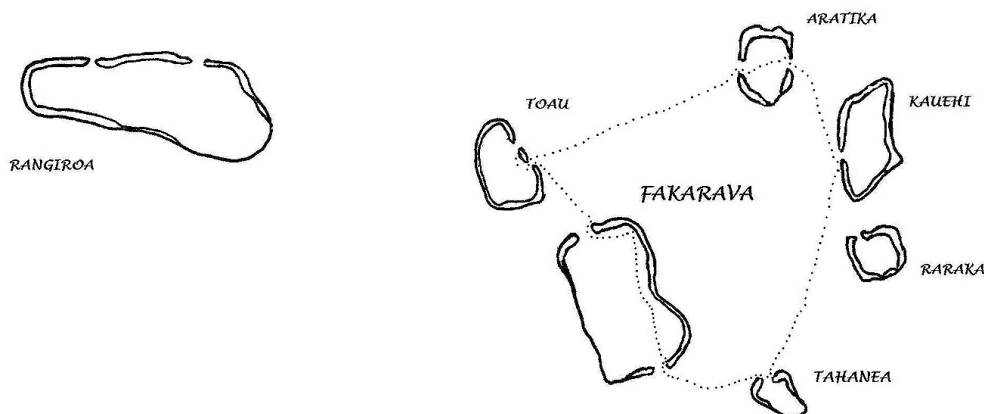


# FAKARAVA THE TOP DIVING !

## 13 days / 12 nights dreaming in the Tuamotu

- 1<sup>st</sup> day.** Arrival at the airport of Fakarava, welcome by the crew of the AQUA TIKI, then transfer onto the boat. Settling into your private cabin, tour of the village, water sports, swimming. Sunset with a cocktail, presentation of the trip, welcome party.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> day.** Early morning departure for Toau, sunrise at sea, smooth sailing helped by the trade winds, breakfast, big-game fishing. Anchorage off of a stunning coral sand beach, water sports or scuba-dive. Lunch, option to visit a pearl farm, water sports or scuba-dive. Sunset on the lagoon, BBQ evening.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> day.** Sunrise on the spectacular Toau lagoon, water sports, scuba-dive. Land excursion to look for shells, swim, coconut tasting (you will learn how to extract the coconut milk that is so prevalent in Polynesian cooking). Lunch. Water sports of your choice or scuba-dive. Sunset on the lagoon, dinner.
- 4<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning scuba-dive then sailing for Aratika, big-game fishing, anchorage in front of a sublime bay, scuba-dive. Lunch, scuba-dive or water sports, BBQ evening.
- 5<sup>th</sup> day.** Sunrise, smooth sail in the lagoon, scuba-dive on an exciting wall, tour of the charming little village of Aratika, where you will meet many pearl farmers. Lunch, scuba-dive, swim in a divine setting, dinner.
- 6<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning scuba-dive, then departure for Kauehi, big-game fishing or sailing initiation. Anchorage on the coral reef, scuba-dive or water sports. Lunch. Scuba-dive or water sports, kayak, troll fishing in the Kauehi pass, with the sun setting down. BBQ evening.
- 7<sup>th</sup> day.** Water sports of your choice, swim, scuba-dive. Lunch, option of a land excursion, exploration of the reef to look for shells, water sport or scuba-dive. Late afternoon departure for Tahanea.
- 8<sup>th</sup> day.** Anchorage off of a stunning, wild motu in Tahanea, scuba-dive or water sports, kayak, land excursion on a beautiful, deserted beach... Swims, shell collecting, lunch, scuba-dive, then trip back to the boat for a BBQ evening.
- 9<sup>th</sup> day.** Morning rise in Tahanea's heavenly lagoon, early-morning scuba-dive looking for manta rays, water sport of your choice. Lunch, swim in crystal clear waters, tour of the island in the RIB, scuba-dive (in the potential company of beautiful dolphins!) then trip back to the boat. Sunset, dinner.
- 10<sup>th</sup> day.** Early-morning departure for Fakarava's southern end, smooth sail, troll fishing. Anchorage off the Tetamanu village (pop. 6). Water sports or scuba-dive. Lunch. Land excursion, shell collecting, tour of the ancient village of Tetamanu and its church, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice, kayak. Option of a Polynesian party on land.
- 11<sup>th</sup> day.** Morning rise in Fakarava's stunning lagoon, scuba-dive or water sports, then excursion to the untamed beauty of the "pink sand motu", beach, swim. Lunch, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice. Sunset on the lagoon. BBQ evening.
- 12<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning sailing departure for the northern end of Fakarava. Big-game fishing. Anchorage near the pass, scuba-dive in the famous Garuae pass (over half a mile wide!). Lunch, scuba-dive, then a smooth short sail in the lagoon. Anchorage near the village of Rotoava. Dinner.
- 13<sup>h</sup> day.** Village tour, water sports and last swims, then back to shore and transfer to the airport. Polynesian farewell!

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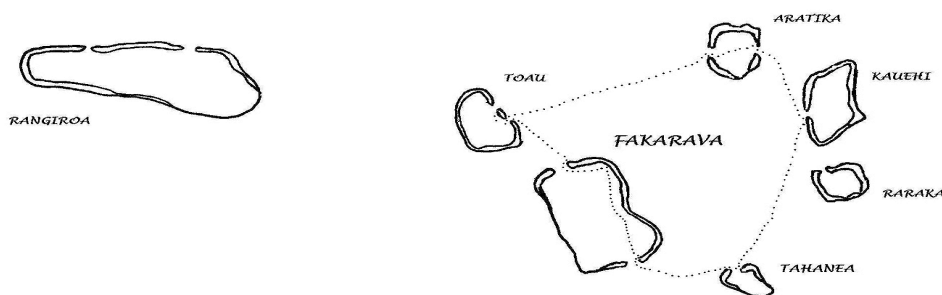
# FAKARAVA

## THE TOP DIVING !

*15 days / 14 nights dreaming in the Tuamotu*

- 1<sup>st</sup> day.** Arrival at the airport of Fakarava, welcome by the crew of the AQUA TIKI, then transfer onto the boat. Settling into your private cabin, tour of the village, water sports, swimming. Sunset with a cocktail, presentation of the trip, welcome party.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> day.** Early morning departure for Toau, sunrise at sea, smooth sailing helped by the trade winds, breakfast, big-game fishing. Anchorage off of a stunning coral sand beach, water sports or scuba-dive. Lunch, option to visit a pearl farm, water sports or scuba-dive. Sunset on the lagoon, BBQ evening.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> day.** Sunrise on the spectacular Toau lagoon, water sports, scuba-dive. Land excursion to look for shells, swim, coconut tasting (you will learn how to extract the coconut milk that is so prevalent in Polynesian cooking). Lunch. Water sports of your choice or scuba-dive. Sunset on the lagoon, dinner.
- 4<sup>th</sup> day.** Early-morning sail towards the Amyot bay, big-game fishing, anchorage in a cove, scuba-dive. Lunch, scuba-dive or water sports, BBQ evening.
- 5<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning sail for Aratika, big-game fishing, anchorage in front of a sublime bay, scuba-dive. Lunch, scuba-dive or water sports, BBQ evening.
- 6<sup>th</sup> day.** Sunrise, smooth sail in the lagoon, scuba-dive on an exciting wall, tour of the charming little village of Aratika, where you will meet many pearl farmers. Lunch, scuba-dive, swim in a divine setting, dinner.
- 7<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning scuba-dive, then departure for Kauehi, big-game fishing or sailing initiation. Anchorage on the coral reef, scuba-dive or water sports. Lunch. Scuba-dive or water sports, troll fishing in the Kauehi pass, with the sun setting down. BBQ evening.
- 8<sup>th</sup> day.** Water sports of your choice, swim, scuba-dive. Lunch, option of a land excursion, exploration of the reef to look for shells, water sport or scuba-dive. Late afternoon departure for Tahanea.
- 9<sup>th</sup> day.** Anchorage off of a stunning, wild motu in Tahanea, scuba-dive or water sports, kayak, land excursion on a beautiful, deserted beach... Swims, shell collecting, lunch, scuba-dive, then trip back to the boat for a BBQ evening.
- 10<sup>th</sup> day.** Morning rise in Tahanea's heavenly lagoon, early-morning scuba-dive looking for manta rays, water sport of your choice. Lunch, swim in crystal clear waters, tour of the island in the RIB, scuba-dive (in the potential company of beautiful dolphins!) then trip back to the boat. Sunset, dinner.
- 11<sup>th</sup> day.** Early-morning departure for Fakarava's southern end, smooth sail, troll fishing. Anchorage off the Tetamanu village (pop. 6). Water sports or scuba-dive. Lunch. Land excursion, shell collecting, tour of the ancient village of Tetamanu and its church, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice, kayak. Option of a Polynesian party on land.
- 12<sup>th</sup> day.** Morning rise in Fakarava's stunning lagoon, scuba-dive or water sports, then excursion to the untamed beauty of the "pink sand motu", beach, swim. Lunch, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice. Sunset on the lagoon. BBQ evening.
- 13<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning sailing departure for the northern end of Fakarava. Big-game fishing. Anchorage near the pass, scuba-dive in the famous Garuae pass (over half a mile wide!). Lunch, scuba-dive, then a smooth short sail in the lagoon. Anchorage near the village of Rotoava. Dinner.
- 14<sup>th</sup> day.** Anchorage near the pass, scuba-dive in the Garuae pass, lunch, water sports of your choice, scuba-dive, then a smooth short sail in the lagoon. Anchorage near the village of Rotoava. Dinner.
- 15<sup>th</sup> day.** Village tour, water sports and last swims, then back to shore and transfer to the airport. Polynesian farewell!

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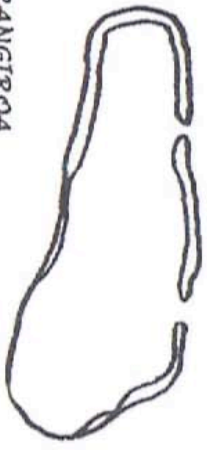
## THE TOP DIVING !

*17 days / 16 nights dreaming in the Tuamotu*

- 1<sup>st</sup> day.** Arrival at the airport of Fakarava, welcome by the crew of the AQUA TIKI, then transfer onto the boat. Settling into your private cabin, tour of the village, water sports, swimming. Sunset with a cocktail, presentation of the trip, welcome party.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> day.** Early morning sail for Aratika, big-game fishing, anchorage off of a coral reef, scuba-dive. Short sail in the lagoon during lunch then anchorage in front of a sublime bay, scuba-dive or water sports, BBQ evening.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> day.** Sunrise in the Aratika lagoon, smooth sail in the lagoon, scuba-dive on an exciting wall, tour of the charming little village of Aratika, where you will meet many pearl farmers. Scuba-dive, then a smooth sail during lunch in the lagoon, anchorage outside of the atoll, sheltered by the motu. Dinner.
- 4<sup>th</sup> day.** Early-morning scuba-dive then sail towards Apataki, big-game fishing, anchorage off of a motu, scuba-dive. Lunch, scuba-dive or water sports, BBQ evening.
- 5<sup>th</sup> day.** Sunrise in Apataki's lagoon, early-morning scuba-dive, then tour of the motu. Lunch, scuba-dive then departure towards Toau. Anchorage in the Amyot cove.
- 6<sup>th</sup> day.** Morning rise in a paradise setting: the Amyot cove. Breakfast then a scuba-dive along a magnificent wall. Tour of the only village in the island (pop. 5). Lunch, scuba-dive or water sports, swims, then dinner.
- 7<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning departure for Toau, big-game fishing, sunrise at sea. Anchorage off of a stunning beach, scuba-dive. Lunch, water sports or scuba-dive, land excursion and swims, then back on board for a BBQ evening.
- 8<sup>th</sup> day.** Sunrise on the spectacular Toau lagoon, water sports, scuba-dive. Land excursion to look for shells, swim, coconut tasting (you will learn how to extract the coconut milk that is so prevalent in Polynesian cooking). Lunch. Water sports of your choice or scuba-dive. Departure towards the northern end of Fakarava, sunset at sea, anchorage off of the Fakarava village, dinner.
- 9<sup>th</sup> day.** Early-morning departure for the northern Fakarava pass, scuba-dive for those who stay on-board. Disembarkation for those who are leaving. Lunch, scuba-dive, then short sail towards the village, dinner.
- 10<sup>th</sup> day.** Early-morning departure for Fakarava's southern end, smooth sail in the lagoon, troll fishing. Anchorage off the Tetamanu village (pop. 6). Water sports or scuba-dive. Lunch. Land excursion, shell collecting, tour of the ancient village of Tetamanu and its church, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice, kayak. Option of a Polynesian party on land.
- 11<sup>th</sup> day.** Morning rise in Fakarava's stunning lagoon, scuba-dive or water sports, then excursion to the untamed beauty of the "pink sand motu", beach, swim. Lunch, scuba-dive or water sport of your choice. Sunset on the lagoon, dinner. Evening departure towards Tahanea.
- 12<sup>th</sup> day.** Early-morning anchorage off of a stunning, wild motu in Tahanea, scuba-dive or water sports, kayak, land excursion on a beautiful, deserted beach... Swims, shell collecting, lunch, scuba-dive, then trip back to the boat for a BBQ evening.
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- 14<sup>th</sup> day.** Anchorage on the coral reef, scuba-dive or water sports. Lunch. Scuba-dive or water sports, kayak, troll fishing in the Kauehi pass, with the sun setting down. BBQ evening.
- 15<sup>th</sup> day.** Water sports of your choice, swim, scuba-dive. Lunch, option of a land excursion, exploration of the reef to look for shells, water sport or scuba-dive, dinner.
- 16<sup>th</sup> day.** Early morning sailing departure for the northern end of Fakarava. Anchorage near the pass, scuba-dive in the famous Garuae pass (over half a mile wide!). Lunch, scuba-dive, then a sail towards the village of Rotoava. Last sunset with a cocktail, farewell party.
- 17<sup>th</sup> day.** Village tour, pearl farm tour if time allows, water sports and last swims, then back to shore and transfer to the airport. Polynesian farewell!

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RANGIROA

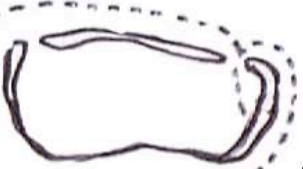


Anse Amyot

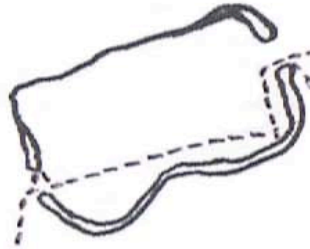


TOAU

APATAKI



FAKARAVA



ARATIKI



FAITE



KAUENI



RARAKA



TAHANEA

