



## French Polynesian Country Guide

### Page 1 of 5 Important Information Prior to Travelling to French Polynesia Passport and Tourist Visa Conditions

Australian ordinary passport holders usually do not require a visa to enter French Polynesia as a tourist for a period of up to 90 days in any six month period. It is recommended that passports be valid for six months beyond the period of intended stay. Travellers should also be able to show documentation confirming their ability to financially maintain themselves, their travel insurance and tickets and entry documents for their next destination.

For further information and to confirm that you are eligible to travel to French Polynesia without a visa, please contact a French mission on the details provided below.

#### Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Thu, 1st November 2018.

*Exercise normal safety precautions in French Polynesia. Use common sense. Look out for suspicious behaviour, as you would in Australia. Mosquito-borne diseases, including dengue fever and Zika virus, are risks. Protect yourself against mosquito bites. Outbreaks of leptospirosis, scabies and diarrhoea also occur. See [Health](#). Medical costs in French Polynesia are high. Make sure you have adequate travel insurance, including for any pre-existing conditions. See [Health](#).*

*Industrial disputes and strikes can cause disruption to essential services and transport, including international and domestic flights. Monitor developments and plan accordingly. Avoid demonstrations and large public gatherings, as they could turn violent. See [Safety and security](#). Cyclone season is normally from November to April but you could encounter tropical storms or cyclones at any time of year. See [Natural disasters](#). Fa'a'a? International Airport in Papeete is sometimes closed during periods of heavy rain. See [Natural disasters](#).*

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in French Polynesia at [www.smartraveller.gov.au](http://www.smartraveller.gov.au).

#### Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a traveller's individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against Hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to French Polynesia. Vaccination against Hepatitis B should be considered by frequent or long stay travellers. Vaccination against Typhoid should be considered particularly when travelling to areas with poor sanitation and hygiene. As Dengue Fever occurs in French Polynesia, insect avoidance measures may be required.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including for Tetanus and Diphtheria (with a booster within the last 10 years), Whooping Cough, Polio (with a booster in adult life), Measles, Mumps and Rubella (two combination vaccinations through life), Chicken Pox and a recent annual Influenza vaccination.

Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to French Polynesia should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit [www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips](http://www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips).

#### French Polynesian Representation in Australia

Embassy of France, Canberra

6 Perth Avenue  
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

Tel: (02) 6216 0100  
Fax: (02) 6216 0127

Web: [www.ambafrance-au.org](http://www.ambafrance-au.org)

Consulate General of France, Sydney

Level 26, St Martins Tower  
31 Market Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Tel: (02) 9268 2400  
Fax: (02) 9268 2431

French Polynesia is a French territory, and thus is represented around the world by the Government of France.

France also maintains honorary consulates in all Australian states, however, the two posts previously outlined should first be contacted as honorary consulates offer limited services.



## French Polynesian Country Guide

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### Time Differences between French Polynesia and Australia

Most of French Polynesia is Greenwich Mean Time -10 hours, while the Marquesas (GMT-9.5) and Gambier Islands (GMT-9) are in different times zones. The applicable time zone in most of French Polynesia is called Tahiti Time (THAT). Daylight saving time is not observed. The following times in Australia are a day ahead of the time in the French Polynesia, for instance, if it's Sunday in French Polynesia, it's Monday in Australia.

Tahiti Time, 12 noon, Winter (Jun) = Perth 6am; Adelaide, Darwin 7:30am; Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 8am.

Tahiti Time, 12 noon, Summer (Dec) = Perth 6am; Darwin 7:30am; Brisbane 8am; Adelaide 8:30am; Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 9am.

### Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Tahiti: +689

To Dial Australia Call: 00 61 <City> <Number>

Travelex Card Services:  
Call the US on (00 1 954) 838 8294

Visa Global Assist:  
Call the US on (00 1 303) 967 1090

MasterCard:  
Call the US on (00 1 636) 722 7111

American Express Travellers Cheques:  
Call Australia on (00 61 2) 8223 9171

The Visa, MasterCard and American Express assistance numbers can be called reverse charges by first contacting the international operator.

International Operator: 3600

Emergency Services:  
Fire - 18  
Ambulance - 15  
Police - 17

These services may not have English speaking staff. To avoid delay it is best to seek the assistance of a French speaker to call the emergency services.

### Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals, and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

#### Passports

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport #: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport #: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

#### Credit Cards

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

#### Travel Insurance

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency #: \_\_\_\_\_

### Australian Representation in French Polynesia

Australian Consulate General,  
New Caledonia

Norwich Building  
Level 2, 11 rue Georges Baudoux  
Artillerie  
NOUMEA

Tel: (+687) 272 414

Web: [www.australianconsulatenoumea.embassy.gov.au](http://www.australianconsulatenoumea.embassy.gov.au)

Australian Honorary Consulate,  
French Polynesia

C/- Petropol Central Office  
Papeava Port Zone  
Papeete, TAHITI

Tel: (+689) 40 468 806

The Honorary Consulate in French Polynesia provides limited services. The Australian Consulate General in Noumea, New Caledonia is accredited to this country and can provide consular assistance. Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (00 61 2) 6261 3305. Australians in French Polynesia are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at [www.orao.dfat.gov.au](http://www.orao.dfat.gov.au).



## French Polynesian Country Guide

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### Duty Free Allowances for French Polynesia and Australia

Duty Free limits when entering French Polynesia:

Alcohol: Up to 2 litres.  
 Tobacco: 200 cigarettes or 200 cigarillos or 100 cigars.  
 Perfume: Up to 50 grams.

Please go to [www.tahiti-tourisme.com](http://www.tahiti-tourisme.com) for further details on French Polynesian Customs and Duty Free regulations. Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply to these and other goods, travellers should familiarise themselves with these restrictions before entry.

### French Polynesian Holidays 2018

Public Holidays

01 Jan:	New Year's Day	21 May:	Whit Monday
05 Mar:	Gospel Day	29 Jun:	Autonomy Day
30 Mar:	Good Friday	14 Jul:	Bastille Day
02 Apr:	Easter Monday	15 Aug:	Assumption Day
01 May:	May Day	01 Nov:	All Saints' Day
08 May:	Victory Day	11 Nov:	Armistice Day
10 May:	Ascension	25 Dec:	Christmas Day

Duty Free limits when entering Australia:

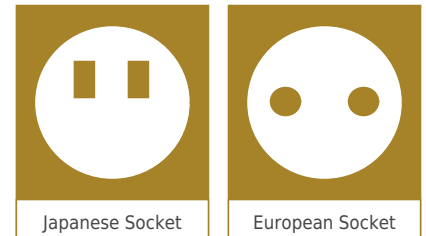
Alcohol: 2.25 L.  
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.  
 Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

For further details on Australian duty free allowances and other customs restrictions please go to [www.homeaffairs.gov.au](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au).

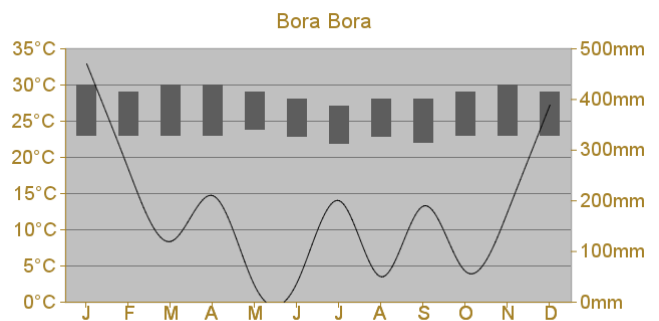
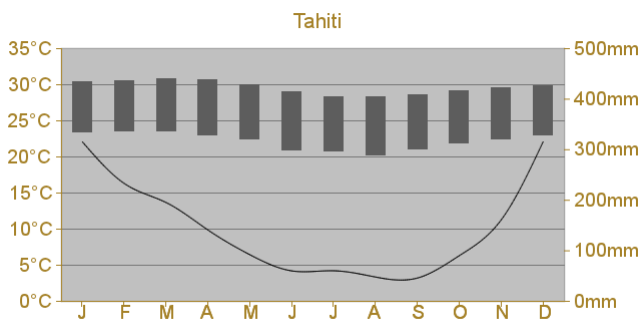
### Electrical and Telephone Adaptors

Electrical Socket: European and Japanese  
 Voltage: 220-240 volts (same as Australia) or 110-120 volts depending on the resort.  
 Modem Plug Type: French/USA

Source: Korjo Travel Products.  
 To purchase electrical adaptors or for further information on this matter, please view the Korjo adapter guide at [www.korjo.com.au](http://www.korjo.com.au).



### Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in French Polynesia



For five day local forecasts please go to [www.bbc.co.uk/weather/4033936](http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/4033936).

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## French Polynesian Country Guide

### Page 4 of 5 French Polynesian Currency Information and Cheat Sheet Exchange Rate with French Polynesia

#### Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 74.84 CPF Francs  
 100 CPF Francs (XPF) = 1.34 Australian Dollars

#### Buy Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) buys 67.43 CPF Francs  
 100 CPF Francs (XPF) will cost 1.48 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "Buy Rate" adds 11% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin paid when buying XPF notes in Australia. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

### Currency Cheat Sheet

50 F = \$0.74 AUD		1,000 F = \$14.83 AUD		10,000 F = \$148.31 AUD	
100 F = \$1.48 AUD	200 F = \$2.97 AUD	2,000 F = \$29.66 AUD	3,000 F = \$44.49 AUD	20,000 F = \$296.63 AUD	30,000 F = \$444.94 AUD
300 F = \$4.45 AUD	400 F = \$5.93 AUD	4,000 F = \$59.33 AUD	5,000 F = \$74.16 AUD	40,000 F = \$593.25 AUD	50,000 F = \$741.56 AUD
500 F = \$7.42 AUD	600 F = \$8.90 AUD	6,000 F = \$88.99 AUD	7,000 F = \$103.82 AUD	60,000 F = \$889.88 AUD	70,000 F = \$1,038.19 AUD
700 F = \$10.38 AUD	800 F = \$11.87 AUD	8,000 F = \$118.65 AUD	9,000 F = \$133.48 AUD	80,000 F = \$1,186.50 AUD	90,000 F = \$1,334.81 AUD
900 F = \$13.35 AUD				100,000 F = \$1,483.13 AUD	

This cheat sheet uses the "Buy Rate" of exchange listed above.

### Banknotes of French Polynesia

The currency of French Polynesia is the French Pacific Franc, which is abbreviated using the term "CFP Franc" or the currency code "XPF". The French Pacific Franc is also used in New Caledonia and Wallis and Futuna. The following units of currency are the most common however other units are also in circulation (including a new set of banknotes slowly being introduced). As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travellers are advised to remove the below images before travelling.





# French Polynesian Country Guide

## About French Polynesia

Full Name: Pays d'outre-mer de la Polynesie Francaise (Overseas Lands of French Polynesia).

Dependency: United as a French protectorate in 1889. Currently an overseas collectivity of France since 2003.

Size: 3,827 km<sup>2</sup> (60% larger than the Australian Capital Territory. Land only).

Population: 274,512 persons. Papeete (capital) 133,000 persons.

Ethnicity: Polynesian 78%, Chinese 12%, local French 6%, metropolitan French 4%.

Language: French (official) 61%, Polynesian (official) 31%, Asian languages 1.2%, other 6%.

Religion: Protestant 54%, Roman Catholic 30%, other 10%, no religion 6%.

GDP Per Capita: US\$18,000 (Australia US\$40,800).

### Significant Dates:

- 300 AD - Polynesians settle in the Marquesas Islands.
- 800 AD - Polynesians settle in the Society Islands.
- 1521 - Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan sights the Gambier Islands.
- 1721-69 - British, Dutch & French navigators explore the islands.
- 1774 - Christian missionaries begin to convert the Polynesians.
- 1880 - France annexes Tahiti, followed by other islands.
- 1946 - Polynesians become French citizens, colony becomes a French overseas territory.
- 1962-96 - France uses outlying atolls as nuclear testing sites.

