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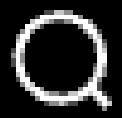


French Polynesia: The Ultimate Celebrity Getaway

French Polynesia, just an eight-hour flight from Los Angeles, is a postcard-perfect destination that offers a range of luxurious experiences. Sienna India, CEO of ultra-luxury travel concierge Sienna Charles, recommends visiting the smaller islands, such as Taha'a, where Tahitian vanilla is from. Many celebrities have visited French Polynesia and stayed at some of the most luxurious resorts in the world.

Le Taha'a Island Resort & Spa

Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie, Mila Kunis, Ashton Kutcher, Sofia Vergara, and Joe Manganiello have all stayed at Le Taha'a Island Resort & Spa. The resort offers overwater suites and beach villas with a range of activities such as swimming with sharks, taking helicopter or yacht trips, and drift snorkeling through a spectacularly crystalline coral garden channel with rainbows of tropical fish. The resort has recently implemented a sustainability agenda that dramatically reduces plastic waste and completed renovations of its two \$2,886-per-night Royal Pool Beach Villas, with plunge pools and not one but two outdoor bathtubs and showers.

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Island Hopping

Island hopping is a popular pursuit in French Polynesia's 118 South Pacific atolls and islands. Diane von Furstenberg has done this, gathering Bradley Cooper, Irina Shayk, Andy Cohen, Anderson Cooper, and Allison Williams for a spin on her yacht.

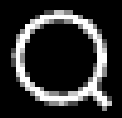
Chelsea Handler's Adventure

Chelsea Handler chartered a yacht for a scuba diving trip with nine friends to Rangiroa, Fakarava, Nuku Hiva, and Tetiaroa islands. They dived twice a day at different spots, often with white and blacktip reef sharks. Handler later returned to French Polynesia for the World Surf League contest at Teahupo'o where she and her friend, then-WSL CEO Sophie Goldschmidt, hung out in a beachside shack. From there, they went to the Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora, which Handler describes as the most magical place she has ever been. The resort's Three-Bedroom Beachfront Villa Estate is the most popular with entertainment-industry folks, who over the years have included Jimmy Kimmel and Jennifer Aniston with Justin Theroux, who buddymoon-ed with pals including Courteney Cox and Jason Bateman.

The St. Regis Bora Bora Resort

Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban reportedly occupied the 13,000-square-foot Royal Estate Villa at The St. Regis Bora Bora Resort, the same resort where Kristen Bell, Vince Vaughn, and Bateman filmed the 2009 film *Couples Retreat*. Justin Bieber spent his vacation in the resort's Overwater Royal Otemanu with a giant suspended pool. The Ultimate Bora Bora Reset is a \$20,000-a-night package including accommodations in The Royal Estate Villa, daily private yoga, a personal chef, spa consultation, private Polynesian performance, bespoke wellness program, coral planting, and a sunset sail on the catamaran complete with champagne sabering. Also occupying that iconic vividly turquoise lagoon: Conrad Bora Bora Nui, where Paris and Kathy Hilton stayed in 2022.

Private Islands



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Private Islands

There are also true private islands such as Nukutepipi, owned by Cirque du Soleil's Guy Laliberté, and the ultra-exclusive getaway spot that's the legacy of Marlon Brando, The Brando. Located on the private atoll of Tetiaroa, it's surrounded by at varying times manta rays, sea turtles, and even humpback whales. It's where Barack Obama escaped post-presidency to write his memoir, and the likes of DiCaprio, Jay Z and Beyonce, Pierce Brosnan, Ellen DeGeneres, and Winfrey have holidayed. Kim Kardashian spent \$1 million on her 40th birthday there mid-pandemic.

The Brando's 35 villas have serious eco credentials, such as a zero-impact air-conditioning system that cools with deep sea water, an organic garden, scientific marine research lab, and even an ice-cold deep-water bath experience. In 2021, Rebel Wilson celebrated her birthday at the resort, which was a filming location for 1962's *Mutiny on the Bounty*. She dubbed it Rebel Island for the week, while hanging with friends including Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow, Arielle Kebbel. The group had a shipwrecked mermaid dinner, '80s-themed pool party and swam in a secret lagoon, explored remote islands and snorkeled.

Conclusion

French Polynesia is a popular destination for celebrities who want to experience luxury and relaxation. The smaller islands, such as Taha'a, offer unique experiences such as Tahitian vanilla. Resorts like Le Taha'a Island Resort & Spa, The St. Regis Bora Bora Resort, and The Brando offer luxurious accommodations and activities such as swimming with sharks, helicopter or yacht trips, and drift snorkeling through a spectacularly crystalline coral garden channel with rainbows of tropical fish. Private islands like Nukutepipi and The Brando offer a more exclusive experience with serious eco credentials. French Polynesia is truly the ultimate celebrity getaway.