

Meaning "Yellow Lizard", in the local Tahitian language, was originally named "Aimeo", until the middle 1800's.

Approximately 12,000 people call Moorea home, with many commuting by plane or ferry to work on Tahiti. The

majority of Moorea's population lives along the coast, which is 39 miles or 67 km around Serviced by one main road, which splits off and ventures into the twin volcanoes of the lush and majestic interior.

Moorea's main resources are tourism, farming, and fishing. Up until the early 1990's, Moorea remained a quaint "cuter island" for tourists and locals alike. Today, you can board a plane or ferry almost on the half hour for Moorea.

SIGHTS - SITES

The "Belvedere Lookout" is probably one of the most spectacular panoramas anywhere in the world. Located between Cock's and Opunohu Bays, in the lush interoir of the island, the Belvedere is a must for all visitors. Picture taking is best in the morning before Dam, while the sun is not directly in your eyes. Access is easy from either Cock's or Opunohu Bays. Also, the Opunohu Agricultural School is an interesting stop. Depending on the

season, they offer either fresh fruit juice or a selection of local-

ly grown fruits.

Most of the good public beaches are now Moorea's better hotels, however. ALL BEACHES ARE PUBLIC, but one remains larger and more accessable than the others. On the south side of the island, between the Ia Ora Hotel and the airport gas station, there is a dirt road turnoff and a short 1/4 mile drive that takes you to the best public beach on the island.

In the village of Afareaitu, near the hospital, is an access road (pk9) to the waterfall Of course, the amount of water does depend on our rainfall. It is recommended you have a four wheel drive vehicle, or visit the waterfall with one of the many 4x4 excursions offered.

The road does not go directly to the waterfall and there is about a 15 minute walk uphill. If you do visit on your own, there is a CFP 200 per person fee for crossing private property. The owner will greet you and you can pay him directly.

TAHITIAN TEMPLES (MARAE)

There are 3 major temples on Mocrea. The most restored is 3/4 of the way up the Belvedere road, on your left-hand side. The Marae Tetiirea has been



rebuilt/restored and is as authentic as when it was built over 1,000 years ago. There is another Marae in the district of Haapiti, as well as the district of Maatea.

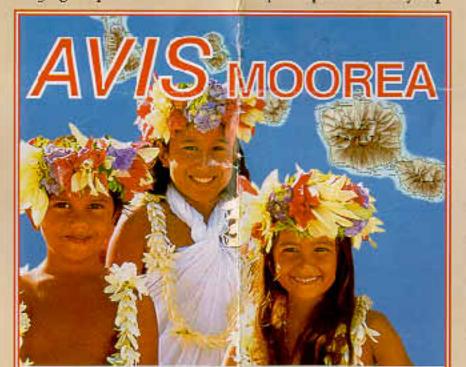
EXCEPTIONAL TOURS

Not to be missed:

DOLPHIN AND WHALE VITCHING EXPEDITION

Join marine biologist, Dr. Michael Poole, who has been studying the dolphins and whales in these waters for over 10 years, in the most informative, exciting and adventurous boat tour in French polynesia.

Departing daily, see and learn about wild, freeranging dolphins and whales. Your participation directly sup-



Since the island is only 39 miles around, transpostution is offered by buses, bicycles, or individually rented cars and scooters. It is possible to visit Moorea in 1/2 day to 1 day rentals. AVIS RENT-A-CAR has locations all around the island, with new and safe cars CLUB MED...... 56 50 01

vailable, reservations can be nade at the following Moorea ocations:

VAIARE (central

reservation) 56 32 68 AIRPORT..... 56 32 61 BALI HAI HOTEL., 56 52 04

ports scientific research on these magnificent animals. This tour fills up fast and has limited seating, so make your reservations at your hotel activities desk, or call 56 28 44.

TEA WUI FISHING CHARTERS

Come aboard with Capt. Chris Lilley for a 1/2 day or a full day of deep sea fishing. Call 56 15 (8 for reservations, or contact your hotel's activity desk. Arrangements can be made for pickup and return transportation.

These waters are full of marlin, mahi mahi and tuna, so don't miss this opportunity to catch one of these deep sea creatures.

BLACKPEARLS

Tahitian cultured black pearls have been produced in Tahiti for less that 25 years. In this short time, they have become one of the world's most sought after natural gems, and are found in all the leading jewelery stores from Parts, New York and Hong Kong.

Here in French Polynesia, there are literally hundreds of atolls (islets) with pearl farms that produce this exotic gem. You will be bombarded with information, some correct and some misleading, perhaps leaving you a little bit confused. Some information tells you to buy unset (using the excuse of the high cest for gold, taxes and tariffs), others say their farms produce the finest quality and color, while some tell you they are farm producers and deal directly to you, they can give you the lowest and best prices available.

There is really only one way to find out whose information is correct, SHOP AROUND ! We encourage you to visit as many pearl shops as you feel comfortable with, before deciding where to buy. We recommend you come to Ron Hall's Island fashion Black Pearls. As recommended in these prestigious publications, Frommer's South Pacific Guide, Conde Nast Traveler and Radisson's Seven Seas Style Turn the map over and follow the arrow to the most down-to-earth, logical, and easy to understand explanation of how to take the mystery out of buying a Tahitian Black Pearl. Our short, but educational "pearl school" will give you all the knowledge you will need to make an educated choice in purchasing a truly lovely gem and an everlasting souvenir of your trip to Moorea and French Polynesia.

Remember: "The bitterness of POOR QUALITY remains long after the sweetness of LOW PRICES"

Bring this map with you to Ron Hall's Island Fashion Black Pearls and receive up to a 15% discount on your purchase.

