

Ahoy Pacific Puddle Jumpers

Please take a few minutes to read the important topics below:

Fleet Letter #4

Early-Departers Make the Jump

Although the majority of Pacific Puddle Jumpers head west in March and April, it's not unusual to have a few early birds in every PPJ fleet.

This year, as you can see on our fleet tracking page <https://forecast.predictwind.com/tracking/rally/pacificpuddlejumps2023/>, the first boat to complete the crossing was Sam Whittemore's Transpac 49 *Havili*. She made landfall at Nuku Hiva February 14, having departed from Ventura, CA in late January.

Sailing on a completely different course, the St. Francis 50 *Side Two*, is the second track seen on the PPJ tracking map. Before departing from Panama, Mark and Angela Johnson combined cruising with philanthropy: "We just completed over 4 months of service with Floating Doctors in Bocas del Toro, Panama. We provided dental care to over 25 indigenous communities every 12 weeks with the equipment we brought down on our boat, and donated to Floating Doctors when we were done."

Side Two is based in Tiverton, Rhode Island. With any luck, she could make landfall tomorrow at Hiva Oa.

Congratulations to both crews!

Making Landfall — What to Expect

French Polynesia's Department of Maritime Affairs, DPAM, lists more than a dozen places where visiting sailors could clear in. But in reality almost all arriving cruisers clear in at either Nuku Hiva or Hiva Oa in the Marquesas. A few clear in at Rikitea, in the Gambier Archipelago, and some – generally megayachts – travel directly to Tahiti and clear in there.

What about Fatu Hiva? Despite what you may have heard or read in old cruising guides, it is illegal to first make your initial landfall at famously beautiful Fatu Hiva — the most easterly isle in the archipelago. You can incur substantial fines if you do.

Here are a few notes about your arrival in the Marquesas that we hope will be useful:

If you've heard veteran Puddle Jumpers talk about making landfall in the Marquesas, you know that it's usually a joyful, uplifting experience. The dramatic volcanic peaks of the larger islands are often seen from offshore a day or more before arrival. And during the final hours of approach, it's not unusual to smell the sweet fragrance of tropical flowers wafting on the breeze.

The main argument for clearing in at Hiva Oa is that it lies farther to the east than most of its sister isles, which means your travels from there to other islands within the archipelago will usually be off the wind. Conversely, Nuku Hiva has a much larger main anchorage, Taiohae Bay, and more services, but if you choose to go there first, you'll have to do a bit of upwind sailing in order to visit the other islands in this group.

About Nuku Hiva

Taiohae Bay is well-protected from almost all sides, as it was formed from an ancient volcano's caldera. With plenty of room for 100 boats or more, its broad anchorage offers good holding on a mud bottom, roughly 35 - 50 feet deep.

While most prudent skippers lay offshore until daylight to enter, nighttime entry into the outer bay is possible, especially with substantial moonlight. Most sailors find Taiohae to be a fine refuge in which to rest, recuperate and resupply, despite the common complaint (particularly from monohullers) that it's often a bit roly.

The administrative center (including the Gendarmerie) is located near the NE corner of the Bay, a three-minute walk from the town quay, where local fishing boats Med-moor behind a concrete sea wall. Adjacent is a small-boat launch ramp, beyond which is a busy dinghy docking area along the quay, equipped with two steel ladders. When the harbor is churned up it can be a bit dicey to scramble ashore here, but normally it's relatively easy — especially if you plan your arrival with a high tide in settled weather. Note: Always tie-up with a long dinghy painter to accommodate the swell, and allow room for other dinghies.

For most new arrivals, your first stop ashore will probably be at Nuku Hiva Yacht Services, less than 50 yards from the dinghy dock. NHYS is run by American ex-pat Kevin Ellis, who arrived here on a sailboat, fell in love with a lovely Polynesian girl named Annabella, and eventually decided to fill a much-needed niche, offering a wide range of services for cruisers. Phone: 689 40 92 07 50

NHYS is an independently operated company, but Kevin and his crew also function as sub-agents of TahitiCrew yacht agency. As such, Kevin can assist you with clearing in, obtaining a duty-free fuel certificate (25-40% savings), organizing and turning in paperwork to the High Commissioner's office to complete your Long Stay Visa (Carte de Sejour) process, and a range of other local services.

Even If you're operating without an agent, you'll probably want to check in with Kevin to learn about local regulations and procedures. Kevin is basically the go-to guy for a wide range of services. (And no, as we reiterate every year, you

cannot get the duty-free fuel certificate here without the help of an agent. In Tahiti, yes, but here, no.) Kevin will charge you on an à la carte basis if you need his help.

You can get free WiFi at the quayside snack stand, or a stronger signal for a fee from Kevin at NHYS. Also, ask Kevin for **your official PPJ burgee** if you didn't get one from us already in Nuevo Vallarta or Panama.

At the snack stand try the local favorite, poisson cru. It's fresh tuna marinated in coconut milk; sort of a Marquesan ceviche. It's awesome. And if you're thirsty, try a glass of fresh-squeezed pampelmousse juice.

Within a few minutes walk from the quay, you'll find a bank with ATM machines, an Air Tahiti ticket office, an excellent tattoo parlor, a pharmacy, a public trash bin, a recycling center, a post office, a (reservations-only) pizza restaurant, at least two pensions, two small hardware stores, a recently opened marine store and a fuel station (behind to commercial wharf, east side of the entry channel).

But after first coming ashore, kissing the ground, and clearing in, you'll probably be most interested in reprovisioning. There are five food stores (magasins), three along the waterfront, and two a short walk uphill. If the word uphill sounds like a deal-breaker, know that most food shops will give you a ride back to the dock if you make substantial purchases. And, as we discovered during the initial Covid lockdown here in 2020, some will actually allow you to email in an order, then they'll deliver it to the dinghy dock the same afternoon. (Generally, cash only.)

See details at the end of this Fleet Letter.

Please note also, that new arrivals are requested to stop either City Hall and pay a fee of 1500 XPF (about \$US 15) for garbage collection and water access.

About Hiva Oa

Hiva Oa's main anchorage, Tahauku Bay, is well protected, but it can get pretty full during the peak 'arrival' season -- May through July -- requiring most boats to anchor bow and stern. If the acreage is too crowded you can anchor outside the seawall when the weather is mild or moderate.

A lovely Marquesan woman named Sandra Wullaert is a great resource here. Like Kevin, she operates independently, and when called on, as a sub-agent for TahitiCrew. She will do your laundry, provide you with Wi-Fi, deliver fresh produce to you, and give you a ride to Atuona, the Island's administrative center, where you can clear in at the Gendarmarie.

In this small town, you'll also find a bank with an outdoor ATM, a post office, several grocery stores, a couple of restaurants and other services.

Because of the Marquesas' location so close to the equator it is virtually impossible for them to experience hurricane-force storms, which is why some

cruisers choose to leave their boats on the hook and unattended in Taiohae Bay or on the hard at Hiva Oa's boatyard, Maintenance Marqueses Service, located adjacent to Tahauku anchorage. Phone 689 87 20 99 49

A big shout-out to Laura of the Swiss cat Olena and Linny of the Aussie ketch Peregee, for helping me put together the comprehensive, multilingual shopping list below. Use it to cut and paste into your email order. (We encourage you to spread around your patronage, but I must say I had great service from Hoata, which is a 15-minute walk from the quay.)

Have fun!

— Andy Turpin, PPJ

Save This Shopping List!!!

Here are the phone numbers and emails for the five food stores in Tiaohae Bay:

Magasin Kamake 689 40 920 322; magasinkamake@mail.pf

Larson 920 222; larsonmag@gmail.com

Putoka 920 332; putoka@hotmail.com

Celine 920 163; smc@mail.pf

Hoata 920 021 (Marie speaks English); leauchoymarie@gmail.com

The idea is to use this list as a starting point so you'll know the proper words to use in French. Cut and paste items into a new list or just subtract everything you don't want from this list. Bon appetite!

Don't forget to add quantities of the items that you want.

Fresh Products / Produits frais:

Eggs / œufs

Onions / oignons

Garlic / ail

Carrots (if available) / carottes

Tomatoes (if available) / tomates

Other fresh products / autres produits frais

Milk Products / Produits laitiers :

Butter / beurre

Butter - Tinned / beurre en boîte de conserve

Cheese - Brie / fromage - Brie

Cheese - Camembert / fromage - Camembert

Cheese - Emmental / fromage - Emmental

Cheese - Feta / fromage - Feta

Cheese - Grated / fromage râpé

Cheese - Other / fromage - autre

Cheese - Sliced / fromage en tranches

Cheese Processed Cheddar / fromage cheddar fondu (Bega)

Cream - UHT sauce / crème UHT pour sauce
Cream - UHT whipping / crème UHT à fouetter
Milk - Powdered / lait en poudre
Milk - UHT low fat / lait UHT écrémé
Milk - UHT whole milk / lait UHT entier
Yogurt nature / yaourt nature
Yogurt nature sweetened / yaourt nature sucré
Yogurt – flavoured / yaourt aromatisé
Yogurt – plain / yaourt au lait entier
Other milk products / autres produits laitiers

Bread & Baked Goods / Pains et pâtisseries:

Baguette – fresh / baguette fraîche
Bread frozen white / pain blanc congelé
Other Bread & Baked Goods / autre pains et pâtisseries

Grains & Cereals / Céréales:

Cereal / céréales (corn flakes)
Museli – Granola / muesli – granola
Oats / flocons d’avoine
Popcorn / popcorn
Rice / riz
Rice noodles / pâtes de riz
Pasta / pâtes
Spaghetti / spaghetti
Other grains & cereals / autres céréales

Biscuits - Cookies / Crackers – petits gâteaux:

Crackers / crackers (Primo, SAO)
Cracker biscuits – multigrain / crackers multigrain (Huntley palmers)
Cream Crackers / crackers à la crème
Sweet biscuits – cookies / petits gâteaux sucrés (Lu, Oreo, Arnott’s, Petits écoliers, Palmitos, Petit Beurre)
Other biscuits – cookies / autres petits gâteaux sucrés

Baking Needs / Ingrédients de boulangerie:

Baking powder - Baking Soda / levure chimique – poudre à lever
Bicarbonate of soda / bicarbonate de soude
Bread flour – white / farine blanche
Bread flour white with baking powder / farine blanche avec levure
Plain Flour / farine complète
Cornflour / farine de maïs
Corn stark / fécule de maïs (Maizena)
Powdered almonds / amandes moulues
Packet cake mix / paquet de mix pour gâteaux
Raw sugar / sucre roux
White sugar / sucre blanc
Icing sugar – frosting / sucre glace

Yeast / levure boulangère
Other baking needs / Autres ingrédients de boulangerie

Condiments & Sauces / Condiments & sauces:

Capers / câpres
Gherkins / cornichons
Dill pickles / cornichons-concombres aigre-doux
Fish sauce / sauce poisson
Oyster sauce / sauce aux huitres
Hoisin sauce / sauce chinoise (Hoisin)
Soy sauce / sauce soja
Salad dressing / sauce à salade
Mayonnaise / mayonnaise
Mayonnaise Dijon / mayonnaise à la moutarde de Dijon (Dijonnaise)
Mustard / moutarde
Mustard – Dijon / moutarde de Dijon
Tomato paste / concentré de tomates
Tomato sauce (ketchup) / sauce tomate (ketchup)
Vinegar – balsamic / vinaigre balsamique
Vinegar – white / vinaigre blanc
Olive Oil / huile d'olive
Sunflower Oil / huile de tournesol
Vegetable Oil / huile végétale
Stock cubes – Beef / bouillon de bœuf en cube
Stock cubes – Chicken / bouillon de volaille en cube
Stock cubes – Vegetable / bouillon végétal en cube
Other condiments / autres condiments

Herbs & Spices / Herbes et épices:

Basil / basilic
Bay leaves / feuilles de laurier
Cinnamon / cannelle
Cloves / clous de girofle
Coriander - Cilantro leaves / feuilles de coriandre
Dill / pointes d'aneth
Ground cardamom / cardamome en poudre
Ground Chili / piment en poudre
Ground Coriander – Cilantro / coriandre en poudre
Ground Cumin / cumin en poudre
Nutmeg / noix de muscade
Oregano / origan
Paprika / paprika
Parsley flakes / persillade
Pepper / poivre
Rosemary / romarin
Salt / sel
Thyme / thym
Other Herbs & Spices / autres herbes et épices

Meat / Viande:

Beef - Entrecote Steak – frozen / bœuf – steak d'entrecôte - congelé
Beef – minced / bœuf hâché
Beef - Rump Steak – frozen / bœuf – rumsteck - congelé
Chicken – breasts / blanc de poulet
Chicken - legs – frozen / cuisses de poulet - congelé
Chicken - whole – frozen / poulet entier - congelé
Duck – leg / cuisse de canard
Duck –breast / magret de canard
Lamb – chops / côtelettes d'agneau
Lamb – leg / gigot d'agneau
Lamb – shanks / jarrets d'agneau
Pork – chops / côtelettes de porc
Pork – minced / porc hâché
Sausages – frozen / saucisses - congelé
Other meat / autre viande

Small Goods / Charcuterie:

Bacon / lard
Ham – sliced / jambon en tranches
Ham – tinned / jambon en boîte
Lardons – frozen / lardons congelés
Salamis - long life sausages / salamis – saucisses sèches
Sliced salami / salami en tranches
Turkey – sliced / tranches de dinde
Turkey – tinned / dinde en boîte
Other small goods / autre charcuterie

Frozen Goods / Produits congelés:

Frozen peas / pois congelés
Frozen spinach / épinards congelés
Frozen cauliflower / chou-fleur congelé
Frozen courgette-zucchini / courgettes congelées
Frozen broccoli / brocoli congelés
Frozen vegetables mix / mélange de légumes congelés
Other frozen goods / autres produits congelés

Dried Goods / Produits secs:

Black beans / haricots noirs
Instant mashed potato / purée de pommes de terre en poudre
Lentils / lentilles
Walnuts / noix
Almonds / amandes
Hazelnut / noisettes
Raisins / raisins secs
Red Kidney Beans / haricots rouges
Split Peas / pois cassés

Other dried goods / autres produits secs

Tinned Goods / Conserves en boîte:

Coconut cream / crème de coco

Coconut Milk / lait de coco

Evaporated Milk / lait condensé non sucré

Sweetened condensed Milk / lait condensé sucré

Tinned Beef / bœuf en conserve

Duck confit / canard confit en conserve

Black beans / haricots noirs

Tinned Red Kidney Beans / haricots rouges en conserve

Tinned Chickpea / Pois chiches en conserve

Tinned asparagus / asperges en conserve

Tinned beans / haricots en conserve

Tinned champignons / champignons de Paris en conserve

Tinned corn kernels / grains de maïs en conserve

Tinned peas / petits pois en conserve

Tinned tomatoes – whole / tomates entières en conserve

Tinned tomatoes – diced / pulpe de tomates en dés en conserve

Tinned tomatoes – crushed / tomates concassées en conserve

Tinned carrots / carottes en conserve

Tinned carrots – diced / carottes en dés en conserve

Tinned Beetroots / betteraves rouges en conserve

Tinned Spinach / Epinards en conserve

Tinned vegetables mix / macédoine de légumes en conserve

Tomato sauce – passata / sauce tomate en conserve

Tinned Tuna – thon en conserve

Tinned Raviolis / Raviolis en conserve

Tinned pineapples - sliced / ananas en tranches en conserve

Tinned pineapples - pieces / ananas en morceaux en conserve

Tinned pears / poires en conserve

Tinned peach / pêches en conserve

Tinned fruit mix / macédoine de fruits en conserve

Tinned chocolate cream / crème dessert chocolat en conserve

Tinned vanilla cream / crème dessert vanille en conserve

Tinned mocha - coffee cream / crème dessert café en conserve

Tinned caramel cream / crème caramel en conserve

Other tinned goods / autres conserves

Jams & Spreads / Marmelades & pâtes à tartiner:

Honey / miel

Jam – marmalade (strawberry, apricot, mango) / confiture (fraise, abricot, mangue)

Nutella / Nutella

Peanut butter / beurre de cacahouète (Skippy)

Other jams & spreads / autre marmelades & pâtes à tartiner

Confectionary / Confiserie:

Dark Chocolate / chocolat noir
Milk Chocolate / chocolat au lait
Other Confectionary / autre confiserie

Snacks / Snacks:

Chips / chips
Corn Chips / chips de maïs (nachos, tortillas)
Peanuts / cacahouètes
Mixed nuts / mélange de noix
Olives – black / olives noires
Olives – green / olives vertes
Olives - stuffed green / olives vertes farcies
Paté / pâté de campagne
Twisties – Cheetos / chips twisties - cheetos
Other snack foods / autres snacks

Drinks / Boissons:

Bottled water (1.5 litres) / eau en bouteille (1.5 litres)
Bottled water (5 litres) / eau en bouteille (5 litres)
Bottled water (500 ml) / eau en bouteille (500 ml)
Cola / Cola
Lemonade – Sprite / limonade - Sprite
Cordial – Syrup / Sirop
Fruit Juice / jus de fruit
Powdered – Tang / boisson en poudre - Tang
Tonic Water / Eau tonique (Schweppes)
Other drinks / Autres boissons

Hot Drinks / Boissons chaudes:

Coffee - decaffeinated - instant / café instantané décaféiné
Coffee - decaffeinated - Nespresso pods / café décaféiné – capsules Nespresso
Coffee – instant / café instantané
Coffee - Nespresso pods / café – capsules Nespresso
Chocolate / cacao
Milo / Milo
Sugar cubes / sucre en morceaux
Tea (black) / thé
Tea (fruits, herbs) / tisane
Tea - Earl Grey / thé Earl Grey
Tea – Peppermint / Tisane à la menthe
Other Hot drinks / autres boissons chaudes

Household / Produits ménagers:

Aluminium foil / papier d'aluminium
Baking paper / papier sulfurisé
Cling film / papier cellophane
Freezer bags / sacs de congélation
Zip lock bags / sacs de congélation avec fermeture Zip

Rubbish - garbage bags – small / sacs à poubelle – petit (20L)
Rubbish - garbage bags – medium / sacs à poubelle – moyen (30L)
Rubbish - garbage bags – large / sacs à poubelle – grand (50L)
Garbage bags heavy / sacs à poubelle très résistants
Pegs – clothepins / pinces à linge
Tooth picks / cure-dents
Other household / autres produits ménagers

Cleaning / Nettoyage:

Laundry detergent / produit de lessive
Dishcloth – cleaning cloth / torchon
Dish brush / Brosse à vaisselle
Dish sponge / éponge à vaisselle
Scourer / tampon à récurer (vaisselle)
Cream cleanser - Jif / crème de nettoyage (p.ex. cif)
Disinfectant / désinfectant (Sanytol)
General purpose cleaner / nettoyant tout usage
Rubber gloves / gants en caoutchouc
Toilet cleaner / nettoyant WC
Cleaning vinegar (8° or 12°) / Vinaigre de nettoyage (8° ou 12°)
Other cleaning products / autres produits nettoyants

Paper Goods / Papiers ménage-WC:

Paper towels / Papier ménage (Sopalin)
Tissues towels / mouchoirs en papier
Serviettes / serviettes en papier
Toilet paper / papier WC
Other paper goods / autres papiers ménage-WC

Toiletries / Articles de toilette:

Conditioner / démêlant
Cotton buds / tiges de coton
Deodorant / déodorant
Diapers / couches culottes
Sanitary pads / serviette hygiéniques
Sanitary tampons / tampons hygiéniques
Face cream / crème pour le visage
Skin moisturizer / crème de visage hydratante
Hand cream / crème pour les mains
Liquid hand soap / savon pour les mains - liquide
Mouth wash (Listerine) / Bain de bouche (Listerine)
Razor blades / lames de rasoir
Shave cream / crème à raser
Shampoo / shampoing
Shower gel – wash / gel de douche
Soap – cake / pain de savon
Sunscreen / crème solaire
Toothpaste / dentifrice

Other Toiletries / autres articles de toilette

Miscellaneous / Divers:

Birthday candles / bougies d'anniversaire

Other miscellaneous / autres divers