

PPJ passage makers,

Currently, there have been no cases of Coronavirus (Covid-19) in French Polynesia. But there is great concern, and the Ministry of Health and Prevention is taking precautionary measures, explained here:

"Starting March 9th, 2020, ALL PASSENGERS (including airline crew) traveling to/via French Polynesia must present a medical certificate, or a doctor's certificate, dated within 5 days of departure and certifying the state of health free of any clinical sign of detectable infection. This measure will be mandatory until March 31st, 2020 included, from which date the government will decide to possibly extend the measure.^{[1][1][1]}_{[SEP][SEP]} This information is available on the Health Department's website and is updated accordingly to the epidemiological evolution of the virus."

[See also: <https://www.service-public.pf/dsp/covid-19/>]

To date, however, we have not received definitive info on how the regulation below will apply to arriving yachts, but we will, of course, update you if a yacht-specific policy is announced.

In the meantime, crews that have not yet left the West Coast would be wise to visit a doctor and obtain a statement of good health. Regarding those of you who are now at sea, the policy as written today indicates that those arriving after March 31 may be exempt from the requirement to show a doctor's note.

Safe travels,

-- Andy Turpin
Director, Pacific Puddle Jump
Editor-at-Large, Latitude 38 magazine