

1. Event: Tahiti Regatta & Race to Moorea

- Description: Participating in a regatta in Tahiti and sailing to Moorea in a race against 25 other cruisers.

- Highlights: Initiation ceremony, race start, challenging wind conditions, race outcome.

2. Location: Moorea Island

- Description: Breathtaking Island with volcanic hills, lush forests, and pristine conditions.

- Activities: Swimming with sharks and stingrays, traditional canoe race at Oponu Bay.

3. Sailing Conditions:

- Wind: Varied wind conditions during the race, from no wind to around 6 knots.

- Speed: Sailing at 6.5 knots with 8 knots of true wind.

- Challenges: Slow race due to lack of wind, boats motoring towards the finish line.

4. Cultural Experiences:

- Interaction with Locals: Hosting local boys aboard the sailboat, learning about their way of life.

- Traditional Dancing: Participating in Polynesian dancing, learning about local traditions.

- Promoting South Pacific Cruising: Highlighting the beauty and potential of South Pacific destinations.

5. Activities:

- Races: Participating in the Tahiti Regatta and traditional canoe race at Oponu Bay.

- Swimming: Enjoying early morning shark and stingray encounters.

- Local Interactions: Taking local boys for a sail, engaging with the community.

6. Safety Measures:

- Shark and Stingray Interaction: Locals feeding and taming marine life, ensuring safety for

visitors.

- Stingray Awareness: Mentioning Steve Irwin's incident to raise awareness of stingray risks.

7. Overall Impression:

- French Polynesia: Described as a paradise with remote location, stunning landscapes, and friendly locals.
- Recommendation: Encouraging others to visit French Polynesia for its beauty and sailing opportunities.