



CONTRIBUTED
A family enjoys
the Huahine
coast.

Paradise found in French Polynesia

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SPECIAL TO THE ADVERTISER

I knew I'd like French Polynesia when I spotted a rooster in the airport.

I was fulfilling a lifetime dream. At some point in my childhood, I'd seen "Swiss Family Robinson" and fell for the idea of a South Sea paradise. In December, I was able to finally live that fantasy.

Tahiti didn't disappoint. As the plane descended over Papeete, I could see deep blue water, spotted by black patches where clouds blocked the sun, then a circle of bright green

surrounding the island. As the plane dropped low in its descent over the Pacific, I was sure we'd land in the water until, at the last minute, the runway suddenly appeared.

French Polynesia, an overseas territory of France, lies in the South Pacific about halfway between California and Australia. Scattered over an area of 1,200 miles, it's made up of 118 islands, of which Tahiti (where the capital Papeete is located) is the most populated. To get a taste of the tropical life in our two-week sojourn, my husband and I planned to visit not

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