



BARE NECESSITIES
TOUR & TRAVEL



With every cruise Bare Necessities charts the question of what type of gift would we like to give our passengers comes up. On the Big Nude Boats we've designed custom lanyards from which to hang our cabin cards. On the Royal Clipper it's usually a bottle of wine from one of the countries we'll be visiting. With cruises on the Paul Gauguin the answer has always been pareos, the Tahitian word for sarong. These versatile garments are perfect for a quick "tie one on" option when clothing is required and they look authentic and natural when visiting the islands of the South Pacific.

Since our first charter in Tahiti many years ago we've always used local craftsman to create our pareos. Since 2013 we've used a company called Tahiti Art Maohi located in Papeete, Tahiti. They have been in business on the island since 1958 and there is a reason they are still going strong. The pareos they have produced and delivered to our charters on the Paul Gauguin have always been unique and beautiful. You can see examples of the pareos in many of our photos and our passengers have always appreciated them.

This year we consulted with Tahiti Art Maohi about producing custom pareos and they created a one-of-a-kind pattern that is absolutely delightful! Our girl-riding-a-fish logo is repeated amongst flowering vines and printed on different colors of fabric using several different dye colors as well. We had a total of 18 different color choices, with half being very masculine and the other half being very feminine colors.

For those lucky enough to have one of these unique creations we thought it would be nice to give them a little behind the scenes tour of the facility where these garments are created. Since our staff arrived a day early to our 2019 South Pacific Escape cruise, they visited the business located near downtown Papeete.



They were greeted by the designer Tenau upon their arrival. She explained how the hand-made pareos were produced using multiple colors and layers of paint pressed into fabric placed over a pattern carved in wood. Because this process is labor intensive these pareos are more expensive. For a more economical way to produce the over 350 pareos for our charter, the pattern was repeated on bolts of fabric by machine and then cut to size with a hem stitched on two sides.

Tahiti Art Maohi is a family owned business run by Tenau along with her brother and father. She and her brother designed the pattern for our pareos. She is also the lead dancer in Tahiti's best dance troupe "O Tahiti E" and we had the opportunity to see a performance onboard the Paul Gauguin on the last night of the cruise when the ship returned to Papeete. We can safely say Tenau is not only an outstanding designer, but also an outstanding dancer.



Now, for our next adventure aboard the Paul Gauguin we need to find a pareo designer in Bali! Any suggestions?

