

Ahoy Pacific Puddle Jumpers

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

Pacific Puddle Jump 2022 — An Impressive International Fleet

As you may have noticed, we did almost no advance promotion for this year's rally. That low-key attitude seemed appropriate this year, given the fact that French Polynesia still hasn't officially "opened" its borders to international yachts. Nevertheless, as I write this, we have an impressive fleet of 50 boats from a dozen nations, ranging in size from Terrence Seaman's Farallon 29, Quark, to Ray Thackeray's Molenmaker 97, Zeepaard. (See "2022 Entries" on the PPJ website.)

As is typical, Panama is the most popular place to jump from (15 boats), followed by Banderas Bay, Mexico (eight boats). Also typical is that many 'southern route' boats will visit the Galápagos Islands before making the jump to French Polynesia (seven boats).

Another recurring theme from year to year is that 2022 participants come from vastly different backgrounds and professions, including at least one commercial diver, pilot, professor, freelance writer, engineer, state trooper, and physician.

Most skippers plan to leave sometime late this month or in April. One of this year's 'early bird' is the French-flagged F/P 46 cat Oceane from Martinique, which will have made landfall in Nuku Hiva by the time you read this. Ironically, another early bird is also named Ocean (but the English spelling). Sailing their Newport, RI-based Dolphin 460 cat, Tom and Harriet Linskey jumped off from the Galapagos on February 26, bound for Nuku Hiva.

We wish each member of the fleet a fabulous passage.

Checking in & Tracking

As noted in a previous Fleet Letter, we strongly encourage all PPJ boats to check in once a day while offshore with your lat / long position and a brief status report if you like, via some form of satellite-based email or text messaging. Please note, the rally's dedicated check-in address is PPJ.checkin@gmail.com. Alternately, the easiest way to allow us, as well as your friends and family, to keep track of you is to set up GPS tracking via PredictWind, a PPJ 2022 sponsor. The tracks of all participating PPJ boats will be displayed on a special fleet tracking map, accessible from the rally's homepage www.pacificpuddlejump.com. Contact support@predictwind.com to get your boat included.

if you missed PredictWind's excellent webinar last month, it will soon be available on YouTube. We'll let you know when.

Making Landfall — What to Expect

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 Nuku Hiva 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.

Nuku Hiva's well-protected Taiohae Bay is the Marquesas archipelago's only port of entry these days. With plenty of room for 100 boats or more, its broad anchorage — actually the flooded remains of an ancient volcano's caldera — 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 rolly.

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 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. (No, despite the seemingly obvious 'necessity,' there is no place on the quay to buy a frosty-cold Hinano beer!) NHYS is run by American ex-pat Kevin Ellis, who arrived here on a sailboat, fell in love with a lovely Polynesian girl, Annabella, and eventually decided to fill a much-needed niche, offering a wide range of services for cruisers.

If you have chosen to work with the TahitiCrew yacht agents, Kevin will assist you in clearing in (as he operates locally to facilitate the needs of TahitiCrew's clients), plus obtaining a duty-free fuel certificate (40%+ savings), organizing and turning in paperwork to the High Commissioner's office to complete the Long Stay Visa (Carte de Sejour) process.

If you're operating without an agent you'll 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 an agent. In Tahiti, yes, but here, no.) Kevin will charge you on an ala 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 a PPJ burgee if you didn't get one in Nuevo Vallarta or Panama.

Before we move on, let me interject that it is illegal to first make landfall at Hiva Oa (a pre-Covid clearance port) or famously beautiful Fatu Hiva — the most easterly isle in the archipelago. You can incur substantial fines if you do.

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.)

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

Shopping in Taiohae Bay, Nuku Hiva

Here are phone numbers and emails for the five food stores in Taiohae 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

Again, 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 kernals / 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