



Orpheus Island *Australia*

Where In the Queensland Islands in Australia's Great Barrier Reef. One of the only private islands in the area, it features a national park and a marine park that is World Heritage listed.

Size 11 kilometres around the coast.

Accommodation Rooms are for two people (there is one villa for four) and no more than 34 guests can stay. All rooms feature private terraces and views out over the Coral Sea and, unusually for island accommodation, are equipped with TVs and iPod docks.

Activities Manta rays, humpback

whales and spawning corals make this a snorkeller's paradise. Guests can take dinghies to private beaches, fly by helicopter to the national park of Hinchinbrook Island or discover Orpheus' indigenous heritage.

Eating and drinking Romantic private meals are served on the pier. The resort's wine cellar has won awards for its vast Australian collection including impressive vintages.

How to get there It is a 25-minute flight from Townsville on the mainland.

www.orpheus.com.au



Vahine *French Polynesia*

Where Almost invisible on the map, Motu Tu Vahine lies in the Society Islands archipelago just north of Tahiti.

Size 0.9 square kilometres.

Accommodation With only nine bungalows or *farés*, this is the ultimate private paradise. Each comfortable *faré* sits either on stilts over the water or on the beach, backing on to coconut groves and manicured lawns.

Activities Views of Bora Bora make this the perfect place to explore from the water, and guests can row in the resort's flat-bottomed Polynesian pirogues to

cruise the lagoon. Two private coral gardens are great for snorkelling. You can also learn to weave coconut leaves, fish in the reef and take nature tours.

Eating and drinking The resort's French chef has worked with Michelin-starred colleagues to create Polynesian and Mediterranean dishes. Traditional local dancers entertain in the evenings.

How to get there Fly to Raiatea airport from Bora Bora or Papeete (flight time less than an hour) and take a 35-minute boat transfer. There is also a helipad.

www.vahine-island.com

