

POLYNESIA

Revenue
 Pécule
 Taxe de Séjour

After early European visits, the French established a protectorate over Tahiti and Tahuata in 1842, to protect Catholic missionaries. In 1880, the growing French presence allowed the French government to change the status of Tahiti from protectorate to colony. In the 1880s and 1890s, control was extended to outlying islands. In 1889 the island group was named the Etablissements de l'Océanie; in 1902 this was changed to Etablissements Français de l'Océanie, in view of growing French settlement.

Normally, French revenues were used in the islands. Provisionals were locally made for the Pécule tax in 1931, and in the 1950s/early 1960s, stamp shortages led to local surcharges on French Quittance stamps unearthed from the 1920s (seen used on passports). Regular revenue stamps specifically inscribed POLYNESIE were only introduced in 1962.

During WWII the islands opted to join the Free French, and in 1946 the territory's name was changed to Polynésie and it became an Overseas Territory of France, with Polynesians being given French citizenship. At this time the currency became the French Pacific Franc, linked to the dollar rather than French franc, and gained in value about 5 times in relation to the franc. In 1949 it was relinked back to the franc and the exchange rate has remained fixed ever since. High face values are seen, as it is still expressed related to the Old French Franc, not the New Franc or the Euro; actually 1000XPF = 8.38 Euros.

In 1977 Polynesia was granted partial internal autonomy, and this was extended in 1984. In modern times there has been a growing move to demand full independence, but the island (and local politicians) have remained deeply divided on this issue.

POLYNESIA REVENUE



c1955. Quittances stamp of France, locally surcharged with new value and A) three vertical lines plus two ornaments, or B) four vertical lines but no ornaments, through previous value, in black, or in red (R).

1. 50F on 25c pale blue & red A 35.00
2. 100F on 25c pale blue & red B 35.00
3. 200F on 25c pale blue & red A 35.00
4. 1000F on 25c pale blue & red B (R) . 50.00

X

c1960. As above issue, with additional POLYNESIE / FRANCAISE ovpt, reading up.

5. 100F on 25c pale blue & red B 35.00

X

c1960. Similar overprints, but bars are small vertical dashed lines, in red (R)..

6. 25F on 25c pale blue & red (R) 35.00
7. 50F on 25c pale blue & red (R) 35.00
8. 200F on 25c pale blue & red (R) 35.00
9. 500F on 25c pale blue & red (R) 50.00



1962. Daussy key type, inscribed POLYNESIE / FRANCAISE. Wmk.

10. 10F blue, red & black 10.00
11. 25F blue & red 10.00
12. 100F blue, red & black 15.00
13. 200F orange, red-brown & black ... 20.00
14. 500F orange, red-brown & black ... 25.00
15. 1000F green, dark green & black ... 35.00

X

c1975. Daussy key type of Périgueux printing (slightly larger than previous Daussy type). Wmk AGT.

16. 50F blue, red & black 10.00
17. 100F blue, red & black 10.00
18. 500F orange, blue & black 15.00
19. 1000F green, dark green & black ... 20.00
20. 2000F green, dark green & black ... 25.00
21. 5000F green, dark green & black ... 30.00



c1985. Daussy key type of Périgueux printing, new colours. Wmk.

22. 1000F magenta, red & black 15.00
23. 2000F purple, yellow & black 15.00
24. 7500F yellow, blue-green & black . 20.00

POLYNESIA PECULE

A form of insurance and savings or ension for indentured labour.



X



1930. Postage stamps ovpt IMMIGRATION / PECULE and new value.

1. 10F on 20F brown & magenta 350.00
2. 20F on 5F blue & violet 350.00
3. 39F on 4c blue & orange 150.00
4. 60F on 30c vermilion & black 100.00

Quantities printed: 10F(1825), 20F(1725), 30F(4500), 60F(9000).

POLYNESIA TAXE DE SEJOUR

X

c1950. Copies stamp of France, ovpt vertically "TAHITI / Taxe / de / Séjour" in black.

1. 500F on 50c & 2/10 green & red -
(only one copy reported)