



COOK ISLANDS

MOANA SANDS LAGOON RESORT & TAMANU BEACH RESORT

(TOUR CODE: 11737)

STARTS AND ENDS	TRAVEL PERIODS	EXPERIENCE	TRAVEL STYLE
in Rarotonga	01 Mar 23 - 31 Mar 24	Beach	Independent Holiday Packages

Escape to the Cook Islands, from lush mountains and pristine rain forests of Rarotonga, to dreamy turquoise waters of the Aitutaki Lagoon.

Highlights

- Stay in a **Beachfront Studio** located on the ground with a private balcony or patio at Moana Sands Lagoon Resort
- Stay in an Intimate **Beachfront Bungalow** boasting an additional outside garden shower **with private access directly from the beach** at Tamanu Beach
- Cruise to 3 fantastic, **remote islets** and stop for **snorkelling** where you can feed tropical fish and see giant clams during the **Lagoon Cruise on The Vaka!**
- Enjoy the myths and legends and visit sacred **maraes** (sacred meeting places) on the **Aitutaki Punarei Cultural Tour**
- **Fresh Flower Ei Meet and Greet** on arrival
- **Internal Flights** Rarotonga – Aitutaki – Rarotonga
- **Aluminum water bottle** for keepsave - eliminate plastic on the islands
- **Private Transfers** with **Piccollo Bubbly** on arrival in Rarotonga
- **Transfers** on Aitutaki
- 1x **Freedom of Choice** Activity

Your escape starts with a 5 night stay at Moana Sands Lagoon Resort. The resort offers a quiet, intimate environment where you can truly relax and enjoy nature's green surroundings and tropical ambience. Located close to the popular Muri Village, the resort is framed with swaying palm trees with a lovely backdrop of the majestic lush mountains. Soak up the sun or explore the lagoon and its rich marine life with complimentary

kayaks and snorkelling gear. Enjoy a cocktail or two poolside or lounge around on the complimentary sun loungers and enjoy the stunning views.

You will then fly to Aitutaki for another 5 night stay at Tamanu Beach. The resort offers guests a truly wonderful experience combining a blend of culture, tradition, superb beachfront location and friendly local Cook Islands hospitality. Located near the Arutanga township, the resort has all the facilities one expects of a superior resort. From the beautiful beachfront bungalows to the private beach to the Tamanu Restaurant, this resort is sure to impress. Relax by the pool and enjoy a cocktail or take time to explore the lagoon through a bit of snorkelling, kayaking or swimming.

There's a unique choice of tours designed for you to explore the culture and beauty of the islands and its people on your escape to the Cook Islands.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

- 5 nights at Moana Sands Lagoon Resort - 3*
- 5 nights at Tamanu Beach - 3*
- Fresh "Flower Ei" meet and greet on arrival
- Return airfares Rarotonga to Aitutaki
- Private return transfers from Rarotonga Airport to Moana Sands Lagoon Resort
- Private return transfers from Aitutaki Airport to Tamanu Beach
- 5 Tropical Breakfasts at Moana Sands Lagoon Resort
- 5 A la Carte Breakfasts at Tamanu Beach
- Lagoon Cruise on The Vaka with BBQ lunch and transfers
- Aitutaki Punarei Adventures Cultural Tour
- Aluminium water bottle with pure water for use and keepsake

Freedom of Choice Days

Freedom of Choice



Our Freedom of Choice program offers flexibility, by allowing you to choose from different options on pre-selected days.

Our per person price includes one tour on each Freedom of Choice day, as follows:

- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 2-3
- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 4-5

Expand the itinerary below for more details.

Please note, if more than one room is selected during the booking process, our team will contact you afterwards to discuss options.

ITINERARY

Day **1**

Rarotonga Airport Moana Sands Lagoon Resort

Upon arrival at Rarotonga Airport you will be greeted with Fresh "Flower Ei" and escorted to your private transfer to Moana Sands Lagoon Resort. Along the way you will enjoy a refreshing juice or piccolo bubbly with chilled towels.

In an effort to eliminate plastics on the island, you will also receive an aluminium water bottle with pure water for use and keepsake.

Arrive at Moana Sands Lagoon Resort for check-in and enjoy the resort facilities for the rest of the day.

Overnight stay at **Moana Sands Lagoon Resort** in a Beachfront Studio.



Day 2-3 Rarotonga

It's time to explore the island! Enjoy a pre-selected tour from our **Freedom of Choice** options below. These tours can be taken on any day of your stay on Rarotonga with a maximum of 2 tours per itinerary as outlined below.

Overnight stay at **Moana Sands Lagoon Resort** in a Beachfront Studio.

Breakfast

Freedom of Choice Options

- **Tumutoa Tours Umu Feast & Fire Show:**

Available Monday- Saturday

This interactive tour has you learning hands-on how our ancestors once lived, and the traditional skills many Cook Islanders still practice today. Tumutoa's focus is to share his knowledge passed down to him through demonstration which he showcases in a special way through the Umu Walking Tour.

OR

- **Island Discovery Private Tour:**

Available Monday to Friday

Explore Rarotonga as our experienced local guide takes you on a fascinating 3 hour sightseeing tour, your perfect introduction to the island's rich culture & history. You will visit many points of interest including ancient marae (sacred sites), local arts & crafts shops, the Library & Museum, the Garden of the 7 Canoes, and many more. Light refreshments will be served at the end of your tour.

OR

- **Ocean and Earth Private Tour:**

Available Monday to Friday

Rarotonga is well known for its lush tropical surroundings, great beaches, and stunning lagoons that are all surrounded by the beauty of the Pacific Ocean. This tour gives you a more in-depth experience of the natural surroundings from the comfort of an air-conditioned car or mini van, and with your very own experienced local tour guide. Over 3 hours you will visit a few of the sites including Te Ara Museum, Black Rock and Te Maire Nui Tropical Gardens.

OR

- **Myths and Legends Private Tour:**

Available Monday to Friday

Your personal tour guide will take you on a fascinating journey through history to learn about our culture & traditions. See the first limestone church which was built in 1841 and is still being used to this day. Visit ancient maraes (ceremonial & sacred sites), the departure point of the 7 canoes, the National Museum & Library, and also Pa Arikis Palace Museum, the only exhibition on the ancient chiefs of Rarotonga. Then before your tour ends enjoy a delicious lunch served at the Mooring Fish Cafe.

OR

- **Arts and Crafts Private Tour:**

Available Monday to Friday

In the comfort of an air-conditioned private car or mini van, your friendly local tour guide will take you around Rarotonga to visit a number of local sites including Rito Factory, Natua Ukulele Workshop, Tokerau Jim Pearl Carving, and the Beachcomber to name a few. This 4 hour tour allows you the opportunity to visit and learn about the values of our Arts and Crafts and meet locals who are very passionate about their culture and history.



Day 4-5 Rarotonga

It's time to explore the island! Enjoy a pre-selected tour from our **Freedom of Choice** options below. These tours can be taken on any day of your stay on Rarotonga with a maximum of 2 tours per itinerary as outlined below.

Overnight stay at **Moana Sands Lagoon Resort** in a Beachfront Studio.

Breakfast

Freedom of Choice Options

- **Highland Paradise Kaara Island Night:**

Available Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Highland Paradise, also known by the locals as 'the lost village' is locally owned by the descendants of those who once lived there. They look forward to welcoming you, and taking you on a journey back in time to experience what the life of their ancestors was like 600 years ago. This tour includes guided coach transfers, complimentary cocktail, warrior welcome, tour of cultural village, marae tapu lifting ceremony, umu feast and cultural stage show.

OR

- **Te Vara Nui Overwater Island Night Show & Dinner:**

Available Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

The Cook Islands greeting Kia Orana, “may you live on” reflects the beauty not only of our islands but also of our Cook Islands people. At Te Vara Nui Village you will meet local Cook Island Maori people who will share their stories, knowledge and heritage with you during the Cultural Village Tour. Finish with Rarotonga’s finest dancers and musicians as they perform by flaming torchlight on the floating and fixed stages of our waterfall garden while enjoying our delicious buffet. This stunning Over Water Night Show reflects the experience of our Village delivering an electric and authentic cultural performance like no other on the island.



Day 6 Rarotonga Aitutaki

After your tropical breakfast check out from Moana Sands Lagoon Resort and take your private transfer to Rarotonga Airport.

A quick and comfortable forty-five minute flight from Rarotonga takes you to the sublime turquoise waters of one of the world's most beautiful tropical lagoons.

Arrive at Tamanu Beach and check-in. The rest of the day is at your leisure.

Overnight stay at **Tamanu Beach** in a One Bedroom Beachfront Bungalow.

Breakfast



Day 7-10 Aitutaki

Days at leisure, take advantage of the many complimentary activities Tamanu Beach has to offer.

While you are on Aitutaki you can enjoy the following two tours:

- **Lagoon Cruise on the Vaka** with lunch and transfers
This superb cruise takes you to three fantastic, remote islets and a snorkelling area where you can feed tropical fish and see giant clams. Visit Akaiami, Moturakau and One Foot Island. Relax, enjoy warm tropical waters and be amazed by the natural beauty of Aitutaki's world famous lagoon. The Vaka Cruise includes a substantial barbecue lunch with fresh fish and alcoholic beverages and soft drinks are available for sale. Towels, snorkels, masks and fins provided. The cruise provides complimentary tea, coffee and cold water onboard and biscuits for the hot drinks.
- **Aitutaki Punarei Adventures Cultural Tour** - Monday, Wednesday or Friday
Enjoy the myths & legends that will be told to you during the tour. You will visit sacred maraes (sacred meeting places). There is a lot of interaction on tour that will allow you to experience, and enjoy what was practised by their ancestors. Learn to weave, prepare your lunch in the umu (underground oven), explore the lush tropical gardens and learn of the plants used for traditional medicine, you'll also have the chance to learn the basics of the art of Cook Islands dancing. There is so much more that you will learn before you enjoy the traditional feast you prepared earlier in the day.

Overnight stay at **Tamanu Beach** in a One Bedroom Beachfront Bungalow.

Breakfast, Lunch



LAGOON CRUISE ON THE VAKA

Day

11 Aitutaki Rarotonga

Enjoy your A la Carte breakfast and check out. Relax on your return flight to Rarotonga after your escape in the Cook Islands.

Breakfast

ACCOMMODATION

Moana Sands Lagoon Resort

Rarotonga

Situated on the famous Muri Beach overlooking Rarotonga's famous pristine lagoon, this modern 'adults only' 18+ resort offers deluxe studios and suites spread across two levels (ground and first floor), a large spectacular swimming pool, cabana, sun lounging deck, kayaks, guest laundry, Hibiscus spa and the contemporary and stylish Laguna Restaurant & Bar.



Tamanu Beach Resort

Aitutaki

Tamanu Beach Resort is located on the western coast of Aitutaki, with stunning sunset views from the beachfront Restaurant and Bar and offers guests a truly unique Polynesian experience. The private, white sand beach borders Aitutaki Island's crystal clear lagoon providing endless opportunities for island activities such as swimming, snorkelling, stand up paddleboards and kayaking in the azure waters.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE Cook Islands Maori and English	LOCAL CURRENCY New Zealand Dollar (NZD)
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Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package