

# TOP 25 Reasons To VISIT

**1.** Pristine beauty, “hands down, Aitutaki is the most beautiful place I have ever seen in my life” says senior editor of Sports Illustrated MJ Day

**2.** Untouched charm and seclusion in the very center of Polynesia. Like Hawaii was 50 years ago, but with all of the modern conveniences.

**3.** Rarotonga, one easily accessible and diverse resort, ringed by boutique resorts, restaurants, gift shops, galleries, coffee spots and convenience stores.

**4.** Aitutaki, “the world’s most beautiful lagoon,” say s Tony Wheeler, founder of Lonely Planet. Cruise to Honeymoon Island, partake in sport fishing, snorkel with colorful fish.

**5.** Easy to get here – fly non-stop from Los Angeles, Sydney or Auckland to Rarotonga’s lagoon-side international airport. Be in your resort within minutes of leaving the airport.

**6.** Wellness – unwind with sunrise yoga session or tick off the bucket list by trying stand up paddle board yoga on the lagoon.

**7.** Same time zone as Hawaii

**8.** Exquisite cuisine is everywhere with over 52 cafés and restaurants on Rarotonga alone. Delicious fresh seafood and locally grown fruit abound.

**9.** Exceptional value – local currency is the New Zealand dollar. With restaurants and little markets everywhere, prices are very competitive. Tipping is not customary.

**10.** Authentic modern Polynesian culture – easy to engage with the warm local Maori people.

**11.** English speaking and safe – there’s no stranger danger in the Cook Islands. Relax and feel safe and comfortable.

**12.** Boutique family owned resorts and hotels, ranging from self-contained villas to full-service hotels. No chain resorts, no building higher than a coconut tree, no traffic lights.

**13.** Spa treatments at one of the many spas and salons around the island. Massage, body wraps and scrubs, facials and beachside treatments are just some of the indulgences on offer.

**14.** Land activities including mountain treks, walking tours, cave tours, cycling tours, 9 hole golf, orientation tours, historical and cultural tours, cultural shows, quad biking, tennis and much more.

**15.** Saturday morning market – Punanga Nui market in the main town offers free entertainment, fresh food stalls, organic coffee, shopping for pearls and other wonderful souvenirs.

**16.** All travelers suit the Cooks – couples, honeymooners, friend getaways, special celebrations, families and more – no matter who you are traveling with, or traveling solo, you’ll love it

**17.** Romance is in the air – whether it be a secluded romantic honeymoon, a destination wedding, or a special anniversary, the Cook Islands is your private paradise, perfect for romance.

**18.** Fun nightlife – easygoing fun outdoor nightclubs in Rarotonga, such as Whatever Bar, Viania's Beach Bar or Rehab nightclub. Only the best parties in the South Pacific!

**19.** Spectacular scenery – watch whales (Jun-Oct) from the foreshore, explore the turquoise lagoons – no nasty sting rays! Star gaze at a trillion stars, and marvel at the jagged mountain peaks.

**20.** Perfect for families – many resorts have excellent Kids Clubs, with group leaders that are very involved and interactive. A Cook Islands family vacation will bring everyone in the family closer together.

**21.** Experience Atiu, land of rare birds, amazing cave tours, locally grown Arabica coffee, and the landing site of Captain Cook in 1777

**22.** Participate in a church service on Sunday – visitors are most welcome to join in a church service. Enjoy beautiful singing and a welcoming, uplifting experience that you will never forget.

**23.** Air Rarotonga – provides ready access to Aitutaki, Atiu and our other sister islands – plus an amazing Aitutaki day tour, including scenic flights and a cruise of the turquoise lagoon.

**24.** Combine your vacation with New Zealand or Australia – The Cook Islands is an ultimate Pacific Island stopover flying Air New Zealand nonstop between countries – the perfect place to unwind.

**25.** Easy to get around – Rarotonga is 20 miles in circumference and takes just 45 minutes by car to circle the island. Easy access to explore the island by scooter, the island bus service or rental car.