

# EXTENSION: PACIFIC ISLAND STOPOVER



*This information should answer some of your questions about the trip and give you a better idea of what we do day-to-day. It doesn't hope to answer everything. If you have any questions please get in touch.*

## Pacific Island stopover - Cook Islands

Do consider a few days in the exotic South Pacific before or after your trip. Air New Zealand has the best options for Pacific stopovers en route to/from New Zealand via Los Angeles and the Pacific. Our own favourite is the Cook Islands, with very much a New Zealand style, NZ\$ currency, relaxed living etc. The main island, Rarotonga, is a classic Pacific island, 35kms circumference, with palm fringed beaches, coral lagoons and a rugged mountainous interior.



*Chalet near Muri Beach, Rarotonga*

Tourism remains fairly low key here and while there are 4-5 resorts around the island, most independent visitors rent chalets, hire scooters, use the local bus and swim, snorkel or dive at their own favourite beaches.

If you are feeling more energetic, consider doing the cross island trek via the 413m Te Rua Manga ('the Needle') with a colourful local guide.

A day or overnight trip to the beautiful island of Aitutaki with its huge lagoon offers magnificent snorkelling.

Note that Dec-Mar is the wettest season but also fine sunny weather is likely with some 'heavy' showers. Although cyclones are possible between November and March, they are rare.

If you are interested in a '**Pacific Islands stopover**', check out your international flight options then contact our New Zealand Office for accommodation and activity options.

We can make all bookings or give practical advice for the Cook Islands, but for **Hawaii** **Fiji**, **Tahiti** or **Tonga** we suggest you do your own research.

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