



# AITUTAKI DAY TOUR

Aitutaki

## TOUR & EXCURSION FACT SHEET



Everyone visiting the Cook Islands should take the opportunity to spend at least 3 nights on Aitutaki. If however you don't have the time, then take the Award Winning Day Tour of Aitutaki.

The Aitutaki Day Tour is a full day excursion featuring one of the most beautiful lagoons in the world. It's an early start for this tour. You will be picked up at around 7am and transferred to the airport for your short 45 minute flight across to Aitutaki. Your flight departs Rarotonga at 8am. During the flight a light refreshment will be served. Make sure your camera is at the ready for as you approach the island, the view is spectacular. Aitutaki will appear through the morning cloud like an emerald necklace laid out against a turquoise blue lagoon. From the air, the 15

tiny offshore islets known as *motus* appear like beads strung along the protective coral reef. The white sand beaches that border each island appear whiter than usual in the morning sun. Everything about the lagoon at this time of the day seem surreal.

After you land, you will meet with your guide and taken on a tour of the island, visiting the main township of Arutanga, the market place and the inland villages of Tautu and Vaipae. Then it's on to the pier to board your 71 foot traditionally designed catamaran, *Titi Ai Tonga*. The slow cruise across the lagoon to the top reef will take you past many of the offshore *motus* and sand bars that are permanently raised above the high tide mark. At the top reef, everyone gets a chance to snorkel amongst schools of tropical fish and hand feeding them is a lot of fun. Lunch is served on the vessel as you take a slow cruise to One Foot Island, where for a few hours, you can swim in crystal clear waters, explore the island or just laze in the sun on the soft white sand beached, before returning to the mainland for your flight back to Rarotonga, leaving you wishing you had stayed longer.



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

### One Foot Island

Amongst visitors who have been to Aitutaki, this is probably the most talked about feature of their visit there. One Foot Island is picturesque little motu at the Southern end of the lagoon. It is the only uninhabited island in the world with a registered Post Office. The swimming here is fantastic.

### Raui Conservations System

90% of Aitutaki's lagoon has been set aside as a Marine Reserve where a total ban on fishing is enforced. As result the amount of marine life is incredible. You will enjoy snorkelling amongst schools of colourful tropical fish and see giants clams in their natural habitat.

### BBQ Lunch

The Fresh Fish BBQ is one of the highlights of the tour. While you are in the water snorkelling, the crew of *Titi Ai Tonga* will prepare and cook lunch on board. When you smell the onions, lunch is ready. Once everyone is seated, the crew will take the vessel on a slow cruise along more sandbanks towards One Foot Island. This has to be the best restaurant setting with the best view around.

### Total relaxation

The complete setting on the *Titi Ai Tonga* cruise provides for complete relaxation. There are on board restroom, undercover seating with plenty of space to move around.

## TOUR INFORMATION

Rack Rate	Adult \$499      Child \$375
Tour Duration	Full Day Tour
Days of Operation	Monday to Saturday
Time of Operation	Pick up from your hotel on Rarotonga between 7.00am—7.20am am and return from Aitutaki at 4.40pm to Rarotonga, arriving 5.30pm
Special Closed Out Dates	Sundays Only

## VEHICLE DESCRIPTION

Vehicle Type	The flight To Aitutaki is on a Saab 340 pressurised aircraft The Island Tour is on an open air Le Truck style bus The Lagoon Cruise is on a 71 foot catamaran with covered seating and dining area, sun deck with access ladder to the lagoon
Seating Arrangements	Lagoon Vessel takes 40 passengers with 4 pax to a table setting.
Minimum / Maximum	No Minimum—Maximum 40 pax

## SCHEDULE

Pickup	Pickup will be from 7 am. Exact time will be advised when booking.
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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Accessible for Disabled	Suitable for all
Toilet Stops	Throughout Tour
Refreshments	Light Refreshment of Coffee/Tea on flight across to Aitutaki. Full BBQ Fish lunch on board the Lagoon Cruise vessel served with salads. Cash Bar also available with Beers and Soft Drinks
Translators / Foreign Language Guides for Groups	For an additional cost we can offer We can offer guides who speak English as well as the following languages:  German      French      Italian

## WHAT TO BRING

Sunscreen	Hat	Insect Repellent
Change of Clothing	Camera/Film	



Aitutaki from the Air

The view of the island from the air early in the morning is fantastic. This expansive lagoon measures 18kms long and 19kms wide and is 41 feet at the deepest point. The encircling coral reef makes it a very safe place for swimming, snorkelling and a host of water activities.

## AITUTAKI MAP



Secluded - Even with other people on the vessel with you, you will always be able to find a secluded spot on a deserted beach where you can be alone.



Aitutaki's lagoon is a huge aquatic playground teeming with an abundance of marine life.

By the end of the day—you will wish you stayed longer.