

2026 - 2027

VALID FOR TRAVEL: 01 APRIL 2026 - 31 MARCH 2027

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

ATIU, MANGAIA, MITIARO & MAUKE



Photo Credit: Cook Islands Tourism

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS PACKAGES

Atiu, Mangaia, Mauke & Mitiaro



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CLOSE ENCOUNTERS PACKAGE

ATIU

Atiu, known as the “Land of Birds,” is part of the Cook Islands’ Southern Group trio called ‘Nga-Pu-Toru,’ along with Mitiaro and Mauke. As the third-largest island, it boasts a striking ecosystem: coral cliffs ring its shores, hiding coves and caves, while lush rainforests thrive inland. A haven for wildlife, Atiu is home to rare bird species, including some native to nearby Takutea Island. Beyond its natural beauty, Atiu also offers a deep cultural and historical experience.



3 Night Package Includes:

- Return domestic airport transfers in Rarotonga
- Return airfares Rarotonga / Atiu / Rarotonga
- Return airport transfers in Atiu
- 3 Night accommodation: Choose from Atiu Villas, Atiu Kia Orana Bungalows or Are Manuiri
- Daily breakfast: Two at Areora Café with transfers, one Sunrise Breakfast on the beach
- Daily dinner
- Choice of one of the following tours on day 2:
 1. Island Eco Tour with Birdman George
 2. Bird Tour with Birdman George
 3. Punarea Cultural Tour

- Choice of one of the following tours on day 3:

1. Anatakitaki (Kopeka Bird) Cave Tour
2. Tumunu Tour (adults aged 18+ only)

PRICED FROM:

\$1672.00 Per adult (Double/Twin Share)

\$1008.00 Per child (under 12 years)

* Valid for travel: 01 April 2026 - 31 March 2027

* Booking code: IHCLOSE26

* Pricing is quoted in NZD

* Terms & Conditions apply and will be advised upon booking



ATIU ACCOMMODATIONS



Are Manuiri

Standard

Are Manuiri, formerly known as Atiu Guesthouse, has reopened with a fresh new look, modern amenities, and all the comforts of home. Ideal for a large family or a group of friends travelling together, this 4-bedroom property is located on the main road in Areora and offers a private, self-catering stay for those seeking both comfort and independence. Just a short 5-minute walk away is Super Brown, a well-stocked grocery store offering fresh produce and essential supplies. The store also features a takeaway serving affordable burgers and plated meals.



Atiu Kia Orana Bungalows

Standard

Atiu Kia Orana Bungalows is an intimate property featuring six stand-alone Twin Share Rooms, located just off the main road in Areora, the main village of Atiu. Surrounded by lush tropical greenery, it offers a peaceful and relaxing atmosphere, making it an ideal stay for friends, couples, or small families looking to experience the island's natural charm.



Atiu Villas

Standard

Atiu Villas is peacefully located on the outskirts of Areora, the island's main village. This charming and intimate property offers six villas, comprising five self-contained Standard Units and one Family Unit, all thoughtfully crafted from locally sourced materials such as mahogany, mango, and coconut wood. Each villa is strategically positioned to ensure privacy and to blend seamlessly into the lush tropical landscape.



Anatakitaki Cave Tour

Your Anatakitaki Cave Tour begins with a 30-minute trek through lush rainforest and across the rugged makatea (raised coral limestone) terrain. This tour is suitable for those with reasonable fitness and agility, as it includes some climbing and walking over uneven and rugged ground. It is not recommended for individuals who have difficulty walking long distances, the elderly, or those with knee problems or mobility issues.



Bird Tour with Birdman George

Your guide George Mateariki also known as Birdman George, leads you along unpaved trails through native bush, where you'll encounter the island's diverse and vibrant birdlife—an experience that truly reflects Atiu's traditional name, Enuamanu, "The Island of Birds."



Island Eco Tour

Explore the natural wonders of Atiu on the Island Eco Tour with local ecosystem expert George Mateariki. Journey along hidden trails, visit pristine white-sand beaches, and experience the island's diverse coastal and bush landscapes. Along the way, discover Atiu's rich bird and marine life, learn about the Enuamanu people's history, customs, and conservation efforts.



Punarea Cultural Tour

This 3-hour tour brings Atiu Island's traditional practices to life, focusing on sharing knowledge passed down through storytelling, art, and hands-on demonstrations. It offers a fascinating, interactive learning experience that connects visitors with the island's rich cultural heritage.



Tumunu Tour

Tumunu Tour offers an authentic Atiuan experience: enjoy freshly brewed bush beer and join the locals in sharing their ancestors' traditional ale. Please note, this tour is for adults aged 18 and over only.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS PACKAGE

MANGAIA

Mangaia, traditionally known as Au'au Enea, lies 203 kilometres southeast of Rarotonga and is estimated to be 18 million years old - a key discovery for geologists. The island is renowned for its encircling band of makatea (raised coral cliffs), sunken plateau, lush wetlands, hidden caves, golden shells, and ancient stone carvings. This Close Encounter package to Mangaia offers a natural haven of adventure and discovery. Explore this untouched gem of the Southern Group - its distinct beauty, rich culture, deep history, and welcoming people..



3 Night Package includes:

- Return domestic airport transfers in Rarotonga
- Return airfares Rarotonga / Mangaia / Rarotonga
- Return airport transfers in Mangaia
- 3 Night accommodation at Babes Place
- Daily breakfast
- Daily dinner
- Island Tour
- Oneroa Ei Pupu Tour

PRICED FROM:

\$1327.00 Per adult (Double/Twin Share)

\$859.00 Per child (under 12 years)

* Valid for travel: 01 April 2026 - 31 March 2027

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Babes Place

Budget

Babes Place is a tidy, small property located in Oneroa Village, offering a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. The accommodation includes four simple units and two double rooms in the main house, which also features a shared lounge, communal kitchen, and laundry facilities. Each unit is equipped with a double and single bed, a pedestal fan, and a private bathroom with a toilet and shower.



Oneroa Ei Pupu Tour

Join the women of Oneroa village and learn how to make ei pupu, Mangaia's traditional shell garlands. Using locally collected white and gold pupu shells, you'll craft a beautiful keepsake while gaining insight into a cherished local tradition.



Island Tour

Explore Mangaia's rugged makatea cliffs, plantations, and historical sites on a guided Island Tour aboard the Island Primary School Bus. Led by a knowledgeable local guide, this tour is ideal for first-time visitors or anyone wanting a deeper connection to Mangaia, offering a rich introduction to the island's landscapes, legends, and way of life.

MAUKE

Mauke, traditionally known as Akatokomanava, is one of the three close Southern Group islands called the 'Nga-Pu-Toru,' alongside Mitiaro and Atiu. Often called the Garden Island of the Cook Islands for its rich soil and lush tropical growth, Mauke is also a natural playground filled with hidden treasures. This package invites you to experience and enjoy Mauke's untouched natural beauty, the simple way of life embraced by its people, and the rich history and culture they warmly share with visitors.



2 Night Package includes:

- Return domestic airport transfers in Rarotonga
- Return airfares Rarotonga / Mauke / Rarotonga
- Return airport transfers in Mauke
- 2 Night Accommodation at Ri's Retreat or Moemoea Mauke
- Daily breakfast
- Daily dinner
- Island Tour with light refreshments

PRICED FROM:

\$ 1268.00 Per adult (Double/Twin Share)

\$ 924.00 Per child (under 12 years)

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Moemoea Mauke

Budget

Moemoea Mauke is a peaceful, secluded retreat nestled within lovely gardens. The accommodation includes a fully equipped kitchen with a fridge, freezer, and cooktop, along with a washing machine for added convenience. Guests can unwind with the comfort of both indoor and outdoor showers, and a local shop is just a short walk away for any essentials.



Ri's Retreat

Standard

Ri's Retreat, set among lush tropical gardens and green lawns, offers three modest self-contained bungalows and a two-bedroom self-contained house with similar amenities, accommodating up to six guests. For dining and socialising, guests can gather at the communal hut, creating a friendly and inviting atmosphere.



Island Tour

Experience the beauty of Mauke on a guided tour through its lush interior, freshwater caves, and dramatic coastline. Known for its fertile volcanic soil, Mauke is home to unique plants like the Maire, traditionally used to weave ei maire garlands. Visit historic landmarks and learn about the island's rich culture and heritage. As you explore, you'll hear fascinating stories, uncover local traditions, and discover what sets Mauke apart from its islands, while appreciating their shared roots. This immersive journey offers a glimpse into the relaxed pace of island life and the deep connection locals have to their land.

MITIARO

Mitiaro, traditionally known as Nukuroa, is one of the three islands that make up the 'Nga-Pu-Toru' group — along with Mauke 45 kilometres northwest, and Atiu 82.3 kilometres southeast of Mauke. Like Mangaia, Mitiaro is surrounded by makatea (raised coral cliffs) and has a rich interior. The island is famed for its twin freshwater lakes at its centre, home to the Itiki (eel), a prized local delicacy. Mitiaro also features limestone caves with clear water pools, the native *Pritchardia mitiarioana* fan palm, and intricately woven baskets made by local women from Pandanus leaves.



2 Night Package includes:

- Return domestic airport transfers in Rarotonga
- Return airfares Rarotonga / Mitiaro / Rarotonga
- Return airport transfers in Mitiaro
- 2 Night accommodation at Divine Retreat
- Daily breakfast
- Daily dinner
- Island Tour with light refreshments

PRICED FROM:

\$ 1474.00 Per adult (Double/Twin Share)

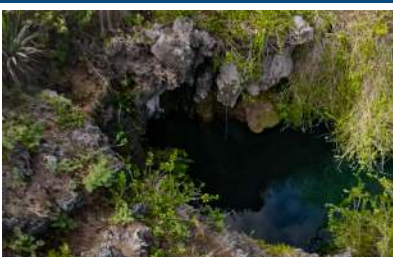
\$ 996.00 Per child (under 12 years)

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Divine Retreat

Superior

Divine Retreat is a bright, contemporary holiday home owned by Junior and Cindy Abraham, your friendly on-site hosts dedicated to creating a memorable stay. Accommodation includes two Guest Bedrooms inside the house, sharing a bathroom and suited for small families or groups of friends. The Honeymoon Suite, accessed via the veranda, offers added privacy with its own ensuite bathroom. In addition, two separate One Bedroom Villas offer independent stays. Guests have access to a fully equipped modern kitchen, self-service laundry facilities, and a spacious veranda with a large dining table and outdoor lounge suites, perfect for relaxing, socialising, and unwinding.



Island Tour

The Island Tour explores Mitiaro's highlights, including the twin lakes Te Rotonui and Te Rotoiti, home to Itiki (eel) and Silapia (milkfish), introduced in the 1970s. Explore freshwater limestone caves like Vai Nauri, a favourite swimming spot, and Vai Marere, a sulphuric cave believed to have healing properties. Both are easily accessible, while Vai Tamaroa requires a 20-minute trek over sharp coral, so sturdy shoes are recommended. The tour also stops at the Community Hall, where you will learn about local history and browse handcrafted souvenirs like Pandanus-woven baskets and Tivaevae bedspreads.



About us

Established in 1990, Island Hopper Vacations Cook Islands is part of the locally owned Turama Pacific Travel Group, bringing together a team of passionate professionals dedicated to showcasing the very best of the Cook Islands.

Originally specializing in the outer islands, Island Hopper Vacations has grown to become the largest inbound operator in the region. With three offices, including a personalised airport arrivals center and a retail travel agency, we are committed to delivering innovative and memorable experiences to our partners and international guests.

Please contact our dedicated team for assistance with any bookings or enquiries.

Kia Manuia

Terms & Conditions

- Prices are in NZD, inclusive of local taxes and may be subject to change. Prices are based on direct bank deposit payment; surcharges apply for credit card payments.
- Valid for travel 01 April 2026 - 31 March 2027.
- Packages include domestic airfares from and to Rarotonga. International flights to and from Rarotonga are not included.
- Booking code must be used on all booking communications.

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