

# SAMOA

*With a Taste of Fiji*

*'So Beautiful and Pure,  
it will take your breath away!'*

  
Trade Travel  
"Group Travel Specialists"

AWAY WITH  
A  
DIFFERENCE

**Fully Escorted by Val Henry**

**Departing Brisbane: Friday 13 July 2012 – Wednesday 25 July 2012**

**Tour Cost from: \$3895.00 per person Twin Share (\$TBA single supplement)**

\*Airlines taxes NOT INCLUDED - approx \$226.00

\*Minimum 25 Paying Passengers

\*Tour Price is Valid until December, 2012.



## The Itinerary

### **Day 1. Friday 13th July 2012: Brisbane / Apia**

### **Flight Meals & Supper**

We arrive at the Brisbane International Airport for our flight to beautiful **Samoa** after a short **stopover in Nadi**. We arrive into **Upolu** (Samoa's Main Island) just before midnight. We are met by our guide and transferred to our accommodation where we check into our rooms to find a light supper and then enjoy some sleep.

**Overnight: Aggie Grey's Hotel and Bungalow's**

### **Day 2. Saturday 14th July 2012: Upolu**

### **Breakfast, Morning Tea & Dinner**

After breakfast we are met by **Aggie Junior, Aggie Grey's granddaughter** who will take us on a **tour of the property** and answer any questions we might have. We take a short drive to visit **Robert Louis Stevenson Museum** and the **Mt Vaea Scenic Reserve**. The famous author Robert Louis Stevenson came to live in Upolu five years before his death, and his mansion, Vailima, features many of his belongings, including part of his library and travel mementos. We enjoy morning tea on the verandah of this magnificent property. We make our way back into town where we stop in at the **Museum of Samoa** which is located in the main compound of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture. This Museum has many historic displays as well as ancient artefacts including Lapita pottery and stone adze heads. We make our way back to our hotel to enjoy happy hour by the pool and a sumptuous dinner.

**Overnight: Aggie Grey's Hotel and Bungalow's**

  
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### Day 3. Sunday 15th July 2012: - Upolu

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we head out of town to the eastern part of the Island and the **Aleipata District (Faofao Beach)**. We drive through **lush rainforests, waterfalls, plantations and villages** and we can **swim, snorkel, sunbathe or just relax** in a Samoan Fale at **Faofao Beach**. We are shown the numerous uses of the coconut which is demonstrated at the beach and also where we have our wonderful **BBQ lunch**. Our return is made via the South West until we reach the cross island road where we will have our last stop at **Papapapaiuta waterfalls** for photographs. Awesome views are seen as we head back into Apia. This afternoon we are taken to the Markets where an abundance of local handicrafts and curios are available. Once again we have plenty of time to freshen up before happy hour and a wonderful dinner with entertainment.

**Overnight: Aggie Grey's Hotel and Bungalow's**

### Day 4. Monday 16th July 2012: Upolu - Manase

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning after a full breakfast we make our way to the **markets to do some shopping**. The markets have a vast array of local handicrafts. We then we head to the south west of the Island, a place we have yet to explore! We see the country side change as we hug the coastline on our way to **"Return to Paradise" Beach** - a beach made famous by the 1950's movie starring Gary Cooper. Recently, "Return to Paradise Beach was also used for another major filming, this time for the popular American TV series, "Survivor".

We visit the **Mailelani Soap Factory**, a modest family operation where we get involved in how the locals make soap and we are able to sample and purchase their products.

We then make our way to the ferry terminal for our extended visit to the beautiful and unspoilt island of **Savaii**. This is **Samoa's largest island** and is known for its gentle and traditional way of life, pristine scenery and archaeological sites. We check into our accommodation and enjoy an amazing view of the Pacific Ocean. If time permits enjoy a swim before preparing for dinner later tonight. We participate in a **Welcome Kava ceremony** tonight followed by the staff outlining our entertainment over the next few days at the hotel.

**Overnight: Stevenson's at Manase**

### Day 5. Tuesday 17th July 2012: Manase - Savaii

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before embarking on a **round the island tour in Savaii** stopping at **Lata Plantation** where uncle Bob a 78 year old manager of the plantation will introduce us to Samoan vegetables, fruits and hydroponic operation which he manages. Lata also produces natural bottled water. Next we visit the famous **Alofaaga Blowholes**, this is power in it's purest form. They are particularly worth watching when locals throw coconuts into the holes and these are blasted into the air with the magnificent force of the ocean. We travel back to Manase this afternoon with time to have a swim before dinner. Tonight we are **entertained** by the very impressive voice harmony of **Safotu Roman Catholic Choir**.

**Overnight: Stevenson's at Manase**

### Day 6. Wednesday 18th July 2012: Savaii

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Today after breakfast we are again joined by our local historian, Warren Jobling, to visit the **Saleaula Lava Fields**. These Lava fields are a result of an **eruption from Mt Matavanu** from 1905-1911. Most of the village is now covered with lava flows, historical sites - the "Virgin's Grave" and the remains of the Methodist Church. Our historian has so much knowledge he nearly transports us back 100 years as we have a unique understanding of what went on at the time. Our next stop is the wonderful **"Swimming with the Turtles"** - some of these turtles are aged over 50 years and is one of the most popular attractions on Savaii! If you don't feel like having a swim with them, you can certainly feed them! We continue our way around the Island and enjoy lunch in a beautifully scenic spot. After lunch we have a short village visit before we head back to our accommodation. This afternoon we witness a **Samoan umu and fiafia performance**. Here we witness the preparation of a pig, laying the umu to heat up the cooking stones and over the next hour observe the peeling and preparing of the meal. We observe the making of palusami, (coconut cream wrapped in tender taro leaves), scrape the coconut, preparing of coconut cream, scraping of taro and breadfruit, placing of food on hot stones, covering it with leaves. During the happy hour from 5:30 to 6:30 over cocktails, we can observe the umu being uncovered and food prepared for the feast near the umukuka facility. Later tonight we are invited for dinner whilst being **entertained by Stevensons staff**. This will include **traditional Samoan dance and the fire-knife dance** on the stage in the hotel gardens.

**Overnight: Stevenson's at Manase**

### Day 7. Thursday 19th July 2012: Savaii

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After breakfast this morning we explore the rest of the beautiful island of Savaii. First stop is **Mataolealelo Pool**, believed to be the birthplace of the **coconut** in **Samoa culture** and one of Samoa's very significant legends and attractions site. We travel to **Salailua** and observe the **tapa making** from the bark to the finish before heading off to **Cape Mulinuu**, the **last spot in the world where you can watch the sun set** each day. According to legend, this is also the place where the dead pass into the underworld. We then return to our accommodation where we can enjoy a swim before our **farewell dinner of Steak and Lobster** with **local entertainment**.

**Overnight: Stevenson's at Manase**

**Day 8. Friday 20th July 2012: Savaii / Nadi Stopover****Breakfast, Lunch (flight meal) Dinner**

Sadly this is our last day in our Samoan paradise. We enjoy breakfast together and are transferred to the Ferry Terminal and then to the airport for our **flight to Nadi**, Fiji where we look forward in sampling another fascinating South Pacific culture. On arrival in **Nadi** mid afternoon we are greeted by our hosts at the First Landing Resort where we have the rest of the afternoon at leisure. Why not take in a massage, have a Spa treatment or just take the time to sit under a tree with a good book! We meet later this evening for a traditional Fijian Feast

**Overnight: First Landing Resort****Day 9. Saturday 21st July 2012: Yasawa Islands****Breakfast & Dinner**

This morning we enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the resort with some free time before making our way down to the waters edge. Here we witness our Captain Cook Cruises vessel cruise into the bay where we are then transferred across to board our **3 Night Captain Cook Cruise** and begin our discovery of the **Southern Yasawa Islands**. The **pristine islands of Waya, Naviti and Viwa** boast some of the most beautiful beaches, coral reefs and sand cays in Fiji. On our journey through the Southern Yasawa Islands you'll experience a **traditional village sevusevu ceremony** and meet the **children of an island school**. Music and song is an integral part of Fijian life and the special choral church service on Sunday is an unforgettable experience. Swimming, snorkelling, beach combing and glass bottom boat tours complete your daily list of activities giving you the freedom to do as much or as little as you like. This afternoon we cruise to **Tivua Island** for a late afternoon visit - a sanctuary for breeding turtles this is a beautiful spot to swim and explore. Time to freshen up before meeting in the Lounge for cocktails (own expense) followed by a Welcome Dinner and entertainment throughout the night.

**Overnight: Captain Cook Cruise****Day 10. Sunday 22nd July 2012: Yasawa Islands****Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Journey into the birthplace of Fijian culture on the Sacred Island and see the ancient **gift-giving ceremony of Sevusevu** to gain admission to the island which is exclusive to Captain Cook Cruises. You can relax with a midday swim or drift above the island's coral reefs in a glass bottomed boat. Other optional activities are available onboard and late afternoon we cruise to **Nalauwaki on Waya Island** for a special treat ... **a choral service in the village church** - this is an exhilarating experience listening to the choir that practises 2 hours each day - truly amazing. Wander through the village and meet some of the local elders before returning to the ship. In the evening we sit down to another delicious three course dinner and afterwards we are entertained by the crew.

**Overnight: Captain Cook Cruise****Day 11. Monday 23rd July 2012: Yasawa Islands****Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

This morning we enjoy swimming, coral viewing and island exploration before we visit a **local Fijian school and handicraft market**. Hear the children sing and watch them at work - an unforgettable experience. Swimming, snorkelling, beach combing and glass bottom boat tours complete your daily list of activities giving you the freedom to do as much or as little as you like this afternoon.

This evening we enjoy a **scrumptious Captains Farewell Dinner** for our last night onboard our Captain Cook Cruise.

**Overnight: Captain Cook Cruise****Day 12. Tuesday 24th July 2012: Nadi****Breakfast & Dinner**

Sadly we farewell the crew this morning before disembarking the vessel and embarking on a **half day tour** to experience the **sights and sounds of Nadi**. Our tour will be a great orientation into Fiji's History, Culture and the lifestyle of the people. We visit **Viseisei Village**, situated on the site where the first Fijians landed more than 3,500 years ago in canoes before dispersing to other parts of the country. After discovering Fiji's history we move along to **Vuda Lookout**, a tropical fruit farm perched on a cliff face. Here we relax in a **Fijian bure and enjoy tropical fruit juice and seasonal fresh fruit whilst enjoying the** 360 degree view of Nadi Bay. Next we visit the **Garden of the Sleeping Giant**. In 1985 the Garden was founded by the famous American actor, Raymond Burr. The garden houses the **biggest Orchid collection in the South Pacific**. There will be time today to wander through **Nadi Municipal Market** and free time in the Centre of Nadi before being transferred back to our accommodation. We have some time at leisure this afternoon before gathering for our "FAREWELL DINNER" Bula!

**Overnight: First Landing Resort****Day 13. Wednesday 25th July 2012: Nadi/Brisbane****Breakfast (flight meal)**

Well, all good things come to an end. This morning we are transferred to the airport with many great memories of our Samoan and Fijian experience with Trade Travel.

**Please note that itinerary is subject to change without notice.**

### **Tour Price Includes:**

- Return Economy flights with Air Pacific Brisbane – Samoa – Nadi – Brisbane
- 7 Nights Accommodation in Samoa
- 2 Nights Accommodation in Fiji
- Hot Breakfasts & Dinners each day
- Captain Cook Cruises 3 Night Yasawa Islands Cruise
- All touring, entry fees, guides and attractions as per the Itinerary

**Tour Highlights:** Robert Louis Stevenson Museum; Mt Vaea Scenic Reserve; Museum of Samoa; Faofao Beach; Papapapaiuta Waterfalls; Apia Markets; Mailelani Soap Factory; 'Return to Paradise' Beach; Island of Savaii; Saleaula Lava Fields; Swimming with the Turtles; Mataolealelo Pool; Cape Mulinuu; Alofaaga Blowholes; Captain Cook Cruises - 3 Night Yasawa Islands Cruise; Nadi Half Day Tour; Viseisei Village; Vuda Lookout; Garden of the Sleeping Giant; Nadi Municipal Market and more.

For information and bookings contact Trade Travel  
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