# ADVENTURE SEEKERS PARADISE

Samoa is an archipelago in the South Pacific consisting of 10 islands, of which only four are inhabited. The main islands of Upolu and Savai'i are fringed by magnificent coral reefs and lagoons, overlooked by volcanic peaks. Inland, the rugged interior hides lush rainforests, cascading waterfalls, steep gorges and crystal clear cave pools.

Upolu is the most populated of Samoa's two main islands and home to Faleolo International Airport (APW) and the harbour capital of Apia. Must see sites that are within easy reach of Apia include Robert Louis Stevenson's Museum, Palolo Deep Marine Reserve, Piula Cave Pools and the Papase'ea Sliding Rocks. Robert Louis Stevenson, known as 'Tusitala' (Samoan for 'teller of tales') spent his final years in Samoa where he wrote most of his books. His beautiful mansion Vailima has been converted into a museum and is open to the public. Visitors can also visit his grave located at the top of Mt Vaea along a trail named by the locals as "The Road of the Loving Heart".

For those more adventurous, head to the south side of the island where you will discover Lalomanu Beach, named one of the ten most beautiful beaches in the world and To Sua Ocean Trench, a 30 metre deep crater filled with sea water. The Trench is surrounded by beautiful gardens and is a popular picnic spot among Samoans.

The 'big island' of Savai'i is reached by an inter-island ferry which takes approximately an hour or a 10 minute flight. Savai'i is less populated than Upolu and is known for its gentle and traditional way of life, pristine scenery and key archaeological sites. On Savai'i, you will discover the alien-like landscape of Saleaula Lava Fields and the Virgin's Grave, the stunning Afu Aau Waterfall and the spectacular Alofaaga Blowholes. A well paved road encircles the island making it easy to explore and access these sites. Overcome your fear of heights at the Falealupo Rainforest Canopy Walk. Climb the Banyan Tree and cross the suspension bridge for a great view of the rainforest and Savai'i coastline.

## VISIT

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# **TALOFA** & WELCOME TO SAMOA!



## **BEAUTIFUL ADVENTURES AWAIT!**

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In the sacred centre of the Pacific Ocean lies Samoa - the Treasured Islands of the South Pacific.

With its lush jungle trails, inland waterholes and waterfalls, rugged mountainous interiors and lagoons teeming with marine life, Samoa has great offerings for the active traveller of all types of fitness levels.

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Visitors to Samoa are not required to obtain an entry permit for stays of less than 60 days. Visitors must have a return or onward ticket and at least 6 months validity on their passport at the time of entry into Samoa. The islands are free of major tropical diseases and no vaccinations are required.

In Samoa, there is accommodation to suit every kind of traveller and budget, from resorts with spa treatments to budget style open air beach fales. Getting around is easy, rent a car, hop on a colourful island bus or take a taxi and a packed lunch for a fun-filled day.

## **SPORT & SPORTING FACILITIES**

For golfers, the championship 18-hole course at the Royal Samoa Country Club just outside of Apia hosts the annual pro-am Samoa Open which attracts golfers from around Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific.

In Samoa, rugby is not just a national sport, it is a passion. The Manu Samoa team, named after a famous warrior have a fierce reputation and in 2015, the world champion New Zealand All Blacks played its first test match in the Pacific when it took on the mighty men in blue at Apia Park. The impressive Samoa Rugby Union High Performance Facility boasts a gym, recovery and rehabilitation centre, training pitches and accommodation for athletes. Samoa hosted the South Pacific Games in 2007 and in preparation for this major event, sporting facilities underwent a major facelift. Many were newly constructed or improved upon including the Faleata Sports Complex and Aquatic Centre, Apia Park Stadium and Tennis Complex and others. The facilities are close to Apia which is offers a fantastic range of accommodation options, restaurants and cafes. Additionally there are properties which cater to large groups.

If it's local sport you are after, make your trip a memorable on and join in a village kirikiti (cricket) game. See if you can handle the fast paced bowling and triangular shaped bats!







## WATERSPORTS

The lagoons and reefs around the islands are home to some 900 species of fish and over 200 varieties of coral, so if snorkeling or diving is your passion, you will discover unique and colourful corals, fish and sea caves.

# DEEP SEA FISHING

With its waters teeming with marine life, Samoa has gained international acclaim for its deep sea fishing, with an international tournament held annually.

## SWIMMING () WITH TURTLES

Turtles are regular visitors to Samoa's warm waters and you can share an amazing experience by swimming with them on Savai'i or off Namua Island (near Lalomanu Beach on Upolu).

## KITE SURFING & SURFING

With the peaceful lagoons protected by the reef beyond, Samoa is the perfect place for kite surfing enthusiasts. Beyond the reefs are fantastic breaks and Samoa's un-crowded surf spots are the best kept secret in the South Pacific region.