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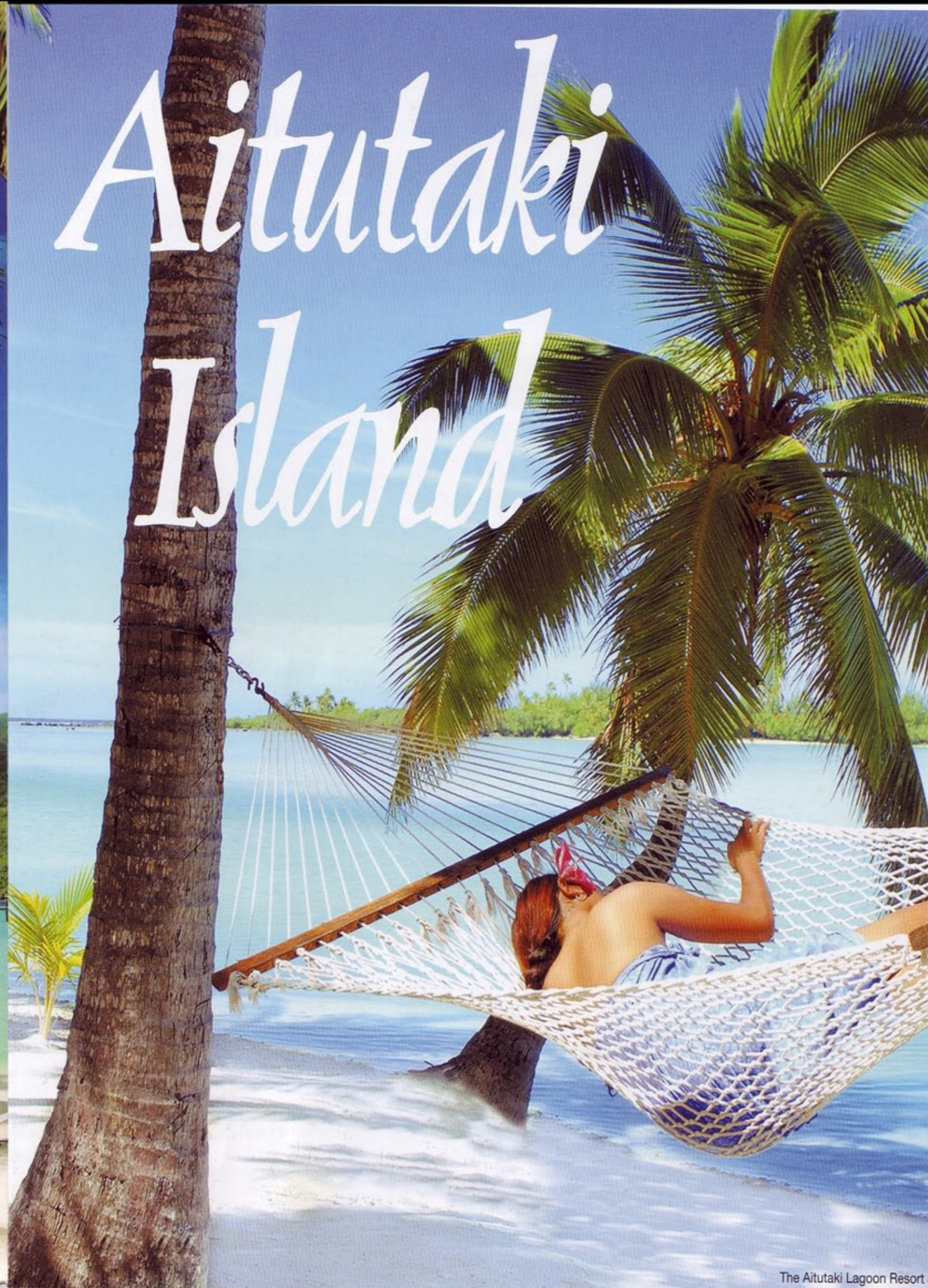
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# Aitutaki Island



The Aitutaki Lagoon Resort



## The Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa

"NO ARTIST'S palette could ever conceive of a more perfect, more luminescent turquoise than that of the lagoon of Aitutaki, arguably the most beautiful in the world," wrote Steve Davey in *Unforgettable Places to See Before You Die* (BBC Books).

For the ultimate South Pacific escape, journey to The Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa which is just a 40 minute flight from Rarotonga and remains a firm favourite of discerning travellers the world over.

Aitutaki has indeed been capturing imaginations for many hundreds of years. Legendary Polynesian voyager Ru made

landfall there well over a thousand years ago. In 1789 Captain William Bligh and the men of the HMS Bounty were the first Europeans to arrive, reputedly bringing with them the succulent pawpaw. In the 1950s a new wave of adventurer came by glamorous Solent Flying Boat for a leisurely refuelling stop along the Coral Route and a swim in the surreal lagoon waters. Much more recently, the prestigious *Condé Nast Traveler* came, observing that: "Aitutaki is an exquisite atoll" with "the most vivid lagoon colours anyone has ever seen". The issue featured The Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa on its cover, saying: "The Aitutaki Lagoon is the resort on the beach ... nowhere could be more idyllic."

### Effortlessly exquisite

The sublime Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa rests effortlessly on its own secluded, private island of Motu Akitua – the Cook Islands' only private island



resort, and the only resort directly on the world famous lagoon. Encircled by expansive beaches, the resort enjoys panoramic views across the vast lagoon to the motu (small isles) beyond.

The Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa features the only overwater bungalows in the Cook Islands, a quintessentially Polynesian experience complete with thatched roof, pandanus-lined walls, beautiful appointments and a delightful open-air shower with direct access to the inviting lagoon waters. Local craftspeople helped build the resort



using traditional materials such as plaited kikau for the roofs, coconut hemp rope and locally carved artifacts. The Resort's 36 spacious bungalows also include Deluxe Beachfront, Beachfront and Garden Bungalows, and offer thatched roofs and tropical furniture along with air-conditioning, spacious private verandah with sunloungers, super-king bed, TV/DVD, CD player/radio, mini fridge and bathtubs.

This resort is the place to loll on the beach, laze in a hammock, take a languid dip in the luminous lagoon, and to relax

deeply into one another's company. Enjoy moonlit dining by the lagoon at the Flying Boat Beach Bar & Grill where sumptuous island cuisine is served. Only the freshest local ingredients are used with seafood being a speciality. The Cook Islands Drum Dance Show is popular with guests as it also includes an authentic umukai (earth oven) feast.

### Explore and experience

Guests at the resort enjoy complimentary use of windsurfers, outrigger canoes, kayaks, snorkelling gear and bicycles. Or embark on one of the tours on offer such as the famous Aitutaki Lagoon Cruise, guided walking tours of ancient marae and 4WD safari tours. Vehicle rentals can be booked onsite. For the more adventurous there is bonefishing, deep-sea fishing and scuba diving to experience.

Inquire about the latest superb special offers or, for the best of both, opt for a twin island stay at the full-service

Rarotongan Beach Resort & Spa followed by the serene Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa. Located just west of Tahiti, The Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa also offers a sublime island wedding package, or enjoy exclusive hire of the entire resort for your conference or private group gathering. Very special. 🌴



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