



ATIU PUNAREA CULTURAL TOUR

ATIU

This 3-hour tour brings to life some of the traditional practices of Atiu Island and its people, with a focus on sharing with visitors, knowledge passed down through storytelling, art and demonstration. The tour is a fascinating learning and interactive experience which can be as hands-on, or not, as you wish it to be.

With your young and knowledgeable tour guide Joshua Jim, see and learn how an umu, or underground oven, is prepared the Atiuan way. Explore Joshua's backyard and see the majestic Banyan tree—the tree in which tapa cloth is made from. Learn of the many uses of the coconut tree including how to weave the (kikau) leaves of this tree of life.

The tour gives special attention to the Tapa cloth, which in pre-European times was used to make everyday clothing. Today, it is still used mainly for special occasions and ceremonial purposes only. In the Cook Islands, making tapa cloth is a lengthy process which can take days to complete—even weeks depending on the length and design.

Amongst his other talents, Joshua has learned the techniques and skills of making tapa from his elders, and is the only tour operator in the Cook Islands to include and share this unique skill as part of a cultural tour. Modernisation has had a large impact on preserving such traditional skills but Joshua holds strong to what he has learned and looks forward to sharing his knowledge with visitors and locals through his tour.

As you near the end of your day's experience, you will enjoy a feast from the umu prepared earlier before you are transferred back to your place of accommodation.



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Great cultural learning and interactive experience

The young and talented Joshua Jim, holds strong to his culture and traditions as he continues to practise and share with visitors knowledge learned from his elders. The tour offers a unique experience and opportunity to learn the traditional ways of cooking and weaving with an emphasis on making the traditional tapa cloth - also known as bark cloth.

TOUR DETAILS

DAYS OF OPERATION	TOUR DURATION	INCLUSIONS
MONDAY - FRIDAY	APPROX. 3 HOURS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RETURN TRANSFERS - HISTORY OF ATIU ISLAND - TRADITIONAL ISLAND FEAST (UMU KAI) - TAPA CLOTH MAKING - NATURAL CANDLE COLLECTING - STAPLE FOOD DEMONSTRATION
VEHICLE INFORMATION	TOILET STOPS	WHAT TO BRING
DOUBLE CAB PICKUP TRUCK	BEFORE TOUR STARTS	SUNSCREEN & SUN HAT, INSECT REPELLANT, GOOD WALKING SHOES, BOTTLED DRINKING WATER, CAMERA
PAX REQUIREMENTS	ACCESS FOR DISABLE	CHILD POLICY
MINIMUM 3 PAX MAXIMUM 10 PAX	N/A	CHILDREN AGED 6 - 11 YEARS CHARGED. UNDER 6 YEARS FOC