



Cook Islands Language Week | Sunday 30 July – Saturday 5 August

The overarching theme for the 2022 Pacific Language Weeks was sustainability, which aligned with our Pacific Languages Strategy and fed into the UNESCO Decade of Indigenous Languages to sustain and revitalise heritage languages. This theme of sustainability has resonated strongly with our Pacific communities, who have agreed to carry it over for Pacific Language Weeks 2023.

The Cook Islands are made up of 15 islands with Rarotonga being the largest and most populated island.



Cook Island's population is 17,564

Quick facts

In 1888 the Cook Islands were taken under a British protectorate. Then in 1901, they became NZ's first south Pacific island colony. In August 1965, The Cook Islands established a free association agreement with NZ.

Since the 1970s, the Cook Islands have been professionally farming black pearls and are the world's second-largest producer, behind Tahiti.

Everyday words you can use in person and in emails

Te Reo Māori Kuki 'Āirani	English
<i>Kia Orāna</i>	Greetings/Hello
<i>'Aere rā/ 'Aere atu ra</i>	Goodbye to those who are leaving (only if it applies)
<i>'Ē no'o rā/'Ē no'o ake rā</i>	Goodbye – to those who are staying (only if it applies)
<i>Meitaki</i>	Thank you
<i>'Inē?</i>	Please
<i>Mei tāku imēre i tuku atu i mua ake...</i>	As per my previous email...
<i>Tatarā'ara</i>	Sorry