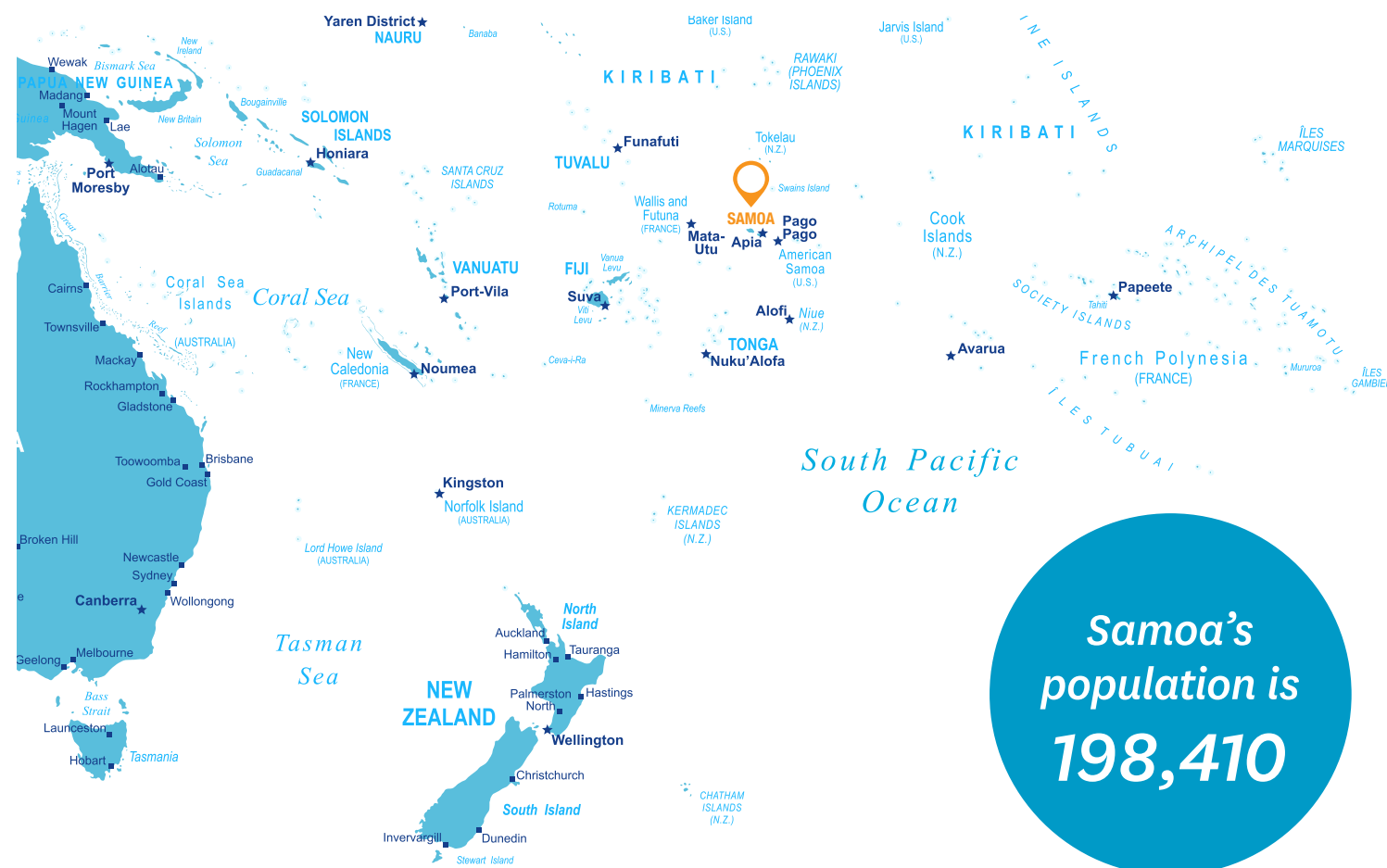




Samoan Language Week | Sunday 28 May – Saturday 3 June

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.

Samoa is located 2600km north-east of New Zealand.
A three and a half hour flight from Auckland, New Zealand.



Quick facts

Relationship with New Zealand: During the 1950s New Zealand extended their search for labourers to Samoa, resulting in a great migration of Samoans to New Zealand to fill the labourer industry.

Taro: Taro is a staple starchy crop in Samoa. Traditionally cooked in an umu (earth oven)

Everyday words you can use in person and in emails

Gagana Samoa	English
Tālofa lava	Greetings/Hello
Tōfā	Goodbye
Fa'amolemole	Please
Fa'afetai	Thank you
I la'u imeli talu ai...	As per my previous email...
O ā mai oe?	How are you (singular)?
O ā mai oulua?	How are you (dual)?
O ā mai outou?	How are you (plural)?
Malie / Fa'amalie atu / Fa'amalulu atu	Sorry

Find out more: [How different is New Zealand to Samoa?](#) | [Samoan language video](#)