



Tonga Language Week | Sunday 3 September – Saturday 9 September

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.

Tonga is a collection of 170 islands with 36 inhabited. Tonga is located near Fiji and Samoa.

Tonga's population is 103,000



Quick facts

Tonga has connections with New Zealand due to the large populations living in New Zealand. In 2020 Tonga and New Zealand celebrated 50 years of diplomatic relations.

Humpback whales make the 4830km journey to Tongan waters to breed, give birth and raise their young before returning to the Antarctic.

Everyday words you can use in person and in emails

| Tongan | English |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Mālō e lelei | Greetings/Hello |
| 'Alu ā | Goodbye to those who are leaving (only if it applies) |
| Nofo ā | Goodbye – to those who are staying (only if it applies) |
| Mālō 'aupito | Thank you |
| Mālō 'aupito | Please |
| Hangē pe ko 'eku 'imeli ki mu'a.... | As per my previous email... |
| Kātaki fakamolemole | Sorry |

NUKU'ALOFA Tongatapu
'Eua



SCIENCE