



INFORMATION NOTE FOR ClimSA Forum Participants

Second Annual Intra-ACP Climate Services and related Applications Programme (ClimSA) Forum 26th to 29th September 2022, Apia, Samoa

1. The Second Annual Intra-ACP Climate Services and related Applications Programme (CLIMSA) Forum will be held at the Taumeasina Island & Resorts.



Travel Arrangements

2. Samoa opens its borders on the 1st of August 2022 after two and half (2.5) years of lockdown and travel restrictions. Most of the international flights to Samoa come through New Zealand, Australia and Fiji. There are also other flights through Tonga and American Samoa.
3. All travelers are expected to check-in for your flights 4 hours before departure to allow time for any processing delays.
4. Participants are required to fulfill any Passport and VISA processing that may be needed to arrive at the meeting. Payment for any VISA costs will be borne by the participant or their respective organization.
5. Travel insurance will not be provided for participants however, we highly encourage you or your organization to organize for travel insurance in the case that an emergency does arise.
6. Flight Schedules for airlines which fly to Samoa can be found in **Annex A**



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Entry Requirements to Samoa & Passport

7. ALL foreign passport holders (except US Nationals of American Samoa) are issued a gratis ninety (90) days Visitor's Permit upon arrival in Samoa, assuming that they meet the following requirements:
- a passport valid for at least 6 months beyond the intended stay
 - confirmed onward tickets (Return Ticket)
 - visas for the next country of destination
 - sufficient funds to support themselves (while in Samoa)
 - confirmed residential contact address
 - Have no record or deportation from other countries;
 - Have no health problems that would pose a risk to Samoa;
 - Have no history of criminal charges resulting in a minimum of one year sentencing; and
 - Not appear on any alert or warning lists.

<https://mpmc.gov.ws/divisions/immigration/permits-2/>

8. Immigration will not allow entry into Samoa should your passport expire within 6 months thus encourage all participants to check all supporting documents including passport expiry date before travel.

9. It is important to prepare the following documents as per Samoa Health Requirements:

a. Pre-Departure

- Must be **Fully Vaccinated** (12 years and above)
- Proof of Vaccination
- Negative Covid-19 Test (Supervised RAT within 24-hours before departure or PCR within 48-hours of departure.
- Legitimate Vaccine Certificate (more detail can be found in the link below)

10. COVID-19 Restrictions

For all relevant information related to covid-19 for pre-departure and in-country, please visit this link: [Special Travel advice for Travelers Entering Samoa](#), or here <https://www.samoa.travel/pagepreview/redalert> and <https://www.health.gov.ws/>.

11. Yellow Fever Certificate

Travellers coming from countries affected by Yellow fever may be required to present a Yellow Fever Vaccine Certificate.

Airport Transport Arrangements

12. Participants will be required to arrange their own airport transfer, public transport is available by TAXI or shuttle services (based outside the arrival area). TAXI fares range from 70-100 SAT.

Communication and Foreign Exchange

13. On arrival, there is a Vodafone Samoa and Digicel Booth at the airport which sell sim



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cards and credit. You can also buy sim cards from designated shops in town. There is also a Western Union- Number 1 Currency counter and Various ATM's in the terminal for foreign exchange. It is recommended that you convert some funds into the local currency (Samoa Tala) before you depart the airport.

Meeting Arrangements

14. The in-person elements of the workshop will be conducted in English, while the hybrid components will have French and Spanish with translation services available. All working documents, as well as the provisional and final reports of the forum, will be available in English only.
15. It is planned that the registration of participants will start at 8.30am at the registration desk located outside of the meeting room. Participants will receive identification badges at the time of registration, please wear these badges throughout the duration of the forum for security purposes.
16. Full detail on the forum for each day is included in the agenda which will be available leading up to the forum via email and the registration site.

Coordination

17. The Coordinators for the Forum are:
 - OACP Secretariat and WMO with assistance by SPREP

For any queries on the working arrangements and/or workshop and logistics please email:

SPREP Staff: Teuila Fruen @teuilajane@sprep.org and Foini Fesolai @foinijaneyf@sprep.org.

OACPS Staff: Nsadisa Dieudonne Faka, nsadisa.faka@acp.int

WMO: Vanessa Mazarese, vmazarese@wmo.int

Banking and Currency

18. Samoan currency is the Samoa Tala (SAT). All major currencies are generally accepted in main banks and foreign exchange counters.
19. Please note the most common form of payment in Samoa is Samoan tala with only selected vendors able to process card payments and provide foreign exchange services (apart from banks).



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20. General banking hours: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm weekdays (Monday – Friday). The current exchange rate is roughly USD 1 \approx 2.79 Tala, subject to fluctuation. Credit cards are accepted by all major hotels and some supermarkets, however rarely accepted at most small shops.

Electricity and Plug Type

21. The electrical current in Samoa is 220-240 Volts, and the type of plug normally used is shown below (type Australian AS-3112).



22. Please bring an adaptor if your power plugs are different for your own use during the forum.

Health and Safety

23. Samoa is one of the safest destinations in the world, with a low crime rate, no terrorist activity, and very few diseases. However, we still recommend that you apply the same common-sense approach to your health and safety as you would at home, by not leaving valuables unattended, and investing in both travel insurance and a basic travel first aid kit.
24. In the event of an unlikely emergency please call 911.
25. It is recommended that you hand carry your vaccination card before you depart your country of origin as this will be checked at the border in Samoa. Please refer to this link for more information on important preventative measures to take note of <https://www.health.gov.ws/> and <https://www.samoa.travel/pagepreview/redalert>.
26. It is also recommended to check with airlines regarding transit requirements and entry requirements before you depart from your country of origin.

Accommodation

27. Participants are advised to book their own accommodations at the Taumeasina Island & Resort. To book, please send an email directly to Layota at group@taumeasinainislandresortsamoa.com and use the code CLIMSA22. If you require assistance, please email Teuila Fruean @teuilajane@sprep.org and Foini Fesolai @foinijanceyf@sprep.org.



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28.

Additional Information should this be your first-time visiting Samoa and you'd like to

learn more, please refer to the Samoa Tourism Authority website which has a wealth of information on Samoa → <https://www.samoatourism.org/>.




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Annex A

Air New Zealand

Days of the Week							Flight Number	Depart	Arrive	Route	Aircraft Type
AIR NEW ZEALAND 											
AIR NEW ZEALAND WEEKLY FLIGHT SCHEDULE											
Effective from : 01 Aug - 30 Oct 2022											
Issued: Rocky Matatumua											
Updated : 03 June 22											
<i>Monday 01 Aug - Sunday 07 Aug 2022 AKL/APW</i>											
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	32Q
	2		4			7	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	78N
					6		NZ998	1555	2040	AKL/APW	32Q
<i>Monday 01 Aug - Sunday 07 Aug 2022 APW/AKL</i>											
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
	2		4			7	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	78N
					6		NZ999	2140	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
<i>Monday 08 Aug - Sunday 14 Aug 2022 AKL/APW</i>											
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	32Q
	9		11			14	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	78N
					13		NZ998	1555	2040	AKL/APW	32Q
<i>Monday 08 Aug - Sunday 14 Aug 2022 APW/AKL</i>											
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
	9		11			14	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	78N
					13		NZ999	2140	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
<i>Monday 15 Aug - Sunday 21 Aug 2022 AKL/APW</i>											
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	32Q
	16		18			21	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	78N
					20		NZ998	1555	2040	AKL/APW	32Q
<i>Monday 15 Aug - Sunday 21 Aug 2022 APW/AKL</i>											
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
	16		18			21	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	78N
					20		NZ999	2140	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
<i>Monday 22 Aug - Sunday 28 Aug 2022 AKL/APW</i>											
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	32Q
	23		25			28	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	78N
					27		NZ998	1555	2040	AKL/APW	32Q
<i>Monday 22 Aug - Sunday 28 Aug 2022 APW/AKL</i>											
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
	23		25			28	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	78N
					27		NZ999	2140	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
<i>Monday 29 Aug - Sunday 04 Sep 2022 AKL/APW</i>											
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	32Q
	30		01			04	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	78N
					03		NZ998	1555	2040	AKL/APW	32Q



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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun					
	30					04	<i>Monday 29 Aug - Sunday 04 Sep 2022 APW/AKL</i>				
			01				NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
						03	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	78N
							NZ999	2140	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
							<i>Monday 05 Sep - Sunday 11 Sep 2022 AKL/APW</i>				
	06					11	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	32Q
			08				NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	78N
						10	NZ998	1555	2040	AKL/APW	32Q
							<i>Monday 05 Sep - Sunday 11 Sep 2022 APW/AKL</i>				
	06					11	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
			08				NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	78N
						10	NZ999	2140	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
							<i>Monday 12 Sep - Sunday 18 Sep 2022 AKL/APW</i>				
	13					18	NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	32Q
			15				NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	78N
						17	NZ998	1555	2040	AKL/APW	32Q
							<i>Monday 12 Sep - Sunday 18 Sep 2022 APW/AKL</i>				
	13					18	NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
			15				NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	78N
						17	NZ999	2140	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
							<i>Monday 19 Sep - Sunday 25 Sep 2022 AKL/APW</i>				
						25	NZ990	0845	1230	AKL/APW	32Q
	20						NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	32Q
			22				NZ990	0845	1330	AKL/APW	789
						24	NZ998	1555	2040	AKL/APW	32Q
							<i>Monday 19 Sep - Sunday 25 Sep 2022 APW/AKL</i>				
						25	NZ993	1350	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
	20						NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
			22				NZ993	1450	1800	APW/AKL	789
						24	NZ999	2140	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
							<i>Monday 26 Sep - Sunday 02 Oct 2022 AKL/APW</i>				
	27					02	NZ990	0845	1230	AKL/APW	32Q
			29				NZ990	0845	1230	AKL/APW	789
						01	NZ998	1555	1940	AKL/APW	32Q
							<i>Monday 26 Sep - Sunday 02 Oct 2022 APW/AKL</i>				
	27					02	NZ993	1350	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
			29				NZ993	1350	1800	APW/AKL	78N
						01	NZ999	2040	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
							<i>Monday 03 Oct - Sunday 09 Oct 2022 AKL/APW</i>				
			06				NZ990	0845	1230	AKL/APW	789
	04			07		09	NZ990	0845	1230	AKL/APW	32Q
						08	NZ998	1555	1940	AKL/APW	32Q
							<i>Monday 03 Oct - Sunday 09 Oct 2022 APW/AKL</i>				
			06				NZ993	1350	1800	APW/AKL	789
	04			07		09	NZ993	1350	1800	APW/AKL	32Q
						08	NZ999	2040	0050*1	APW/AKL	32Q
							<i>Monday 10 Oct - Sunday 16 Oct 2022 AKL/APW</i>				
			13				NZ990	0845	1230	AKL/APW	789
	11			14		16	NZ990	0845	1230	AKL/APW	32Q
						15	NZ998	1555	1940	AKL/APW	32Q
							<i>Monday 10 Oct - Sunday 16 Oct 2022 APW/AKL</i>				
			13				NZ993	1350	1800	APW/AKL	789
	11			14		16	NZ993	1350	1800	APW/AKL	32Q



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Fiji Airways

Sundays/Mondays/Wednesdays from 01st August to 30th September 2022

<u>7M8</u>		<u>DEP</u>	<u>ARR</u>
FJ 255	NANAPW	1310	1605
FJ 254	APWNAN	1655	1800

Quantas

Quantas will continue to operate services between Samoa and Australia every Tuesday throughout the months of August and September.

If you would like to travel between Samoa and Australia in August and September, you can now book your flights via the links below.

These flights are operated under Australia's Pacific Flights Program so you must use the links provided below to book.

Australia to Samoa

<https://www.qantas.com/.../r/2022/qantas-flight-to-apia.html>

Samoa to Australia

<https://www.qantas.com/.../2022/qantas-flight-from-apia.html>

Australian High Commission Samoa Fb link → <https://www.facebook.com/AusHCSamoa>