

An aerial photograph of a tropical island. The island features lush green mountains in the background, a white sandy beach along the coast, and clear turquoise water in the foreground. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The text "FORMER BRITISH ISLANDS" is overlaid in white, serif font, underlined.

FORMER BRITISH ISLANDS

SOLOMON AND COOK ISLANDS



SOLOMON ISLANDS

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Solomon island is an independent country consisting of a large number of smaller islands in the Pacific Ocean.

These islands are near Australia, and are a nice place to stay on holiday and relax.

They were British colonies, and they still have English traditions.

CULTURE

In the traditional culture of the Solomon Islands, customs are handed down from one generation to the next.

Music: traditional Melanesian music in the Solomon Islands includes both group and solo vocals. In the 1920s, bamboo music gained a following.

Literature: writers from Solomon Islands include the novelists Rexford Orotaloa and John Saunana and the poet Jully Makini.

Sport: rugby is played in the Solomon islands. The Solomon Islands national rugby union team has been playing internationals since 1969.

POLITICS

Solomon Islands' National Parliament building was a gift from the United States. The queen Elizabeth II is the Monarch of the Solomon Islands and the Head of State.

The head of government is the Prime Minister, who is elected by Parliament and chooses the cabinet.

On 13 December 2007, Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare was toppled by a vote of no confidence in Parliament, following the defection of five ministers to the opposition.

LOCATION & LANGUAGE

PIDJIN

The spoken language is Pijin, (in English Pidgin). It's a dialect from English consisting of little changes in pronunciation.

Solomons islands have 10 smaller islands: Central, Coiseul, Isabel, Makira-Ulawa, Malaita, Rennell and Bellona, Temotu Western, and its capital: Honiara city.

English Sound – IPA	Pijin Sound – IPA	Pijin example	English Origin
ch – [tʃ]	s – [s]	tisa, sea, mas (haomas)	teacher, chair, much (how much?)
	si – [si]	sios	church
sh – [ʃ]	s – [s]	sot, bus, masin	short, bush, machine
th – [θ]	s – [s]	maos	mouth
	t – [t]	torowe, torowem, ating, andanit	throw, throw away, I think, underneath
th – [ð]	t – [t]	brata, barata,	brother
	d – [d]	deswan, diswan,	this one
	r – [ɹ]	nara, narawan	another, another one
z – [z]	s – [s]	resa	razor
-er – [-ɹ]	a – [ɑ]	mata, mada (mami), soa, faea	matter, mother, pain sore, fire
or; ir/er – [oɹ]; [ɹ]	o; a/e – [o];[ɑ]/[ɛ]	bon, bonem, bone, fastaem, festime (festaem)	born, burn, borne, first time

THE HISTORY OF THESE ISLANDS

In 1568, the Spanish navigator Álvaro de Mendaña was the first European to see and visit the Solomon archipelago.

It is said that they were given this name in the mistaken supposition that they contained great treasures.

During most of the period of British rule the territory was officially named "the British Solomon Islands Protectorate".

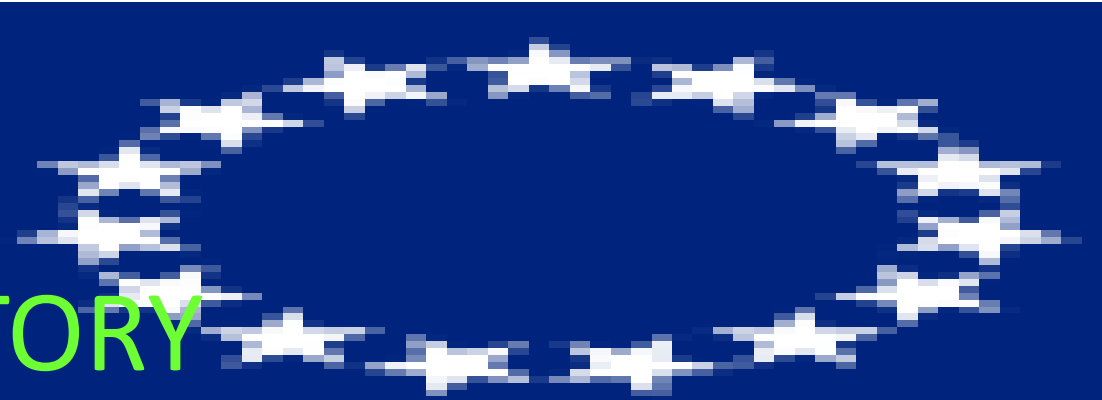
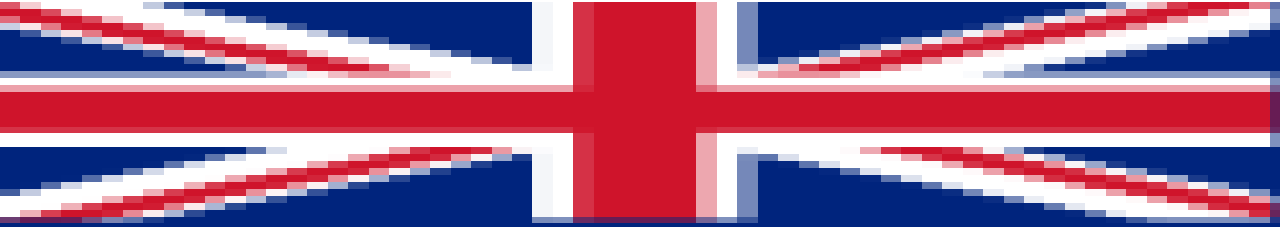
On 22 June 1975, the territory was renamed "Solomon Islands". When Solomon Islands became independent in 1978, they retained the name. The definite article, "the", is not part of the country's official name but is sometimes used, both within and outside the country.

THE INDEPENDENCE DAY

The official name was changed from "the British Solomon Islands Territory" to "Solomon Islands" in 1975. Self-government was completed in 1976. Independence was obtained two years later. Today, Solomon Islands is a constitutional monarchy with the Queen of Solomon Islands, currently, Queen Elizabeth II, as its Head of State.

COOK ISLANDS





COOK ISLANDS HISTORY

The Cook Islands were first settled in the 6th century by Polynesian people who migrated from Tahiti to this island, 1,154 kilometres to the northeast.

British navigator Captain James Cook arrived in 1773 and 1777 and named the islands the Hervey Islands; the name ``Cook Islands``, in honour of Cook, appeared on a Russian naval chart published in the 1820s.

Spanish ships visited the islands in the 16th century; the first record of contact with the islands came, was Alvaro de Mendaña de Neira, who called it San Berdand. Pedro Fernandes de Queiros called it in 1606, ``Gente Hermosa``.

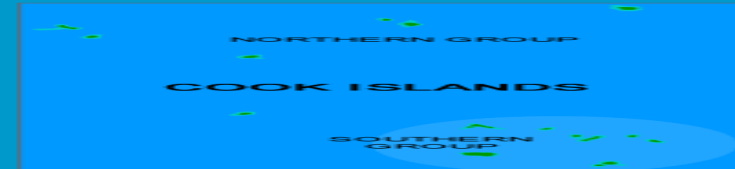
WHERE ARE THEY?

- The Cook Islands are in the South Pacific Ocean, northeast of New Zealand, between French Polynesia and American Samoa.
- The islands were formed by volcanic activity; the northern group is older and consists of six atolls, which are sunk volcanoes topped by coral growth. The climate is moderate to tropical.





ITS ISLANDS



There are 15 major islands spread over 2,200,000 sq km divided into two distinct groups: the Southern and the Northern Cook Islands.

They are islands of corals atolls.

15 islands and two reefs are grouped as follows:

- Atiu (Enua Manu or) Island of Birds
- Ma'uke (Akatokamanava)
- Mitiaro (Nukuroa)
- Takutea
- Manihiki (Te Fuinga o Niva)
- Nassau (Te Nuku o Ngalewu)
- Penrhyn te Watu)
- Rakahanga (Tapuahua)
- Suwarrow also called Suvorov
- Tema Reef (submerged)
- Aitutaki (Araura Enea)
- Palmerston Island (Pamati).
- Manuae
- Winslow Reef (submerged)
- Atoll (Tongareva or Mangarongaro)
- Pukapuka
- Mangaia (Auau Enea)
- Rarotonga

Cook Islands

- The Cook Islands is an island country in the South Pacific Ocean.
- The Cook Islands' main population centers are on the island of Rarotonga where there is an international airport.
- The capital is Avarua.
- The Cook Islands are named after Captain James Cook.
- The Cook Islands became a British protectorate in 1888.
- By 1900, the islands were annexed as British territory.
- In 1901, the islands were included within the boundaries of the Colony of New Zealand.

POLITICS

The Cook Islands is a representative democracy with a parliamentary system in an associated state relationship with New Zealand. Executive power, with the Chief Minister as Head of Government. The Judiciary is independent of the executive and the legislature. The Head of State is the Queen of New Zealand, who is represented in the Cook Islands by the Queen's Representative.

Culture

LANGUAGE

The languages of the Cook Islands include English, Cook Islands Māori, or "Rarotongan," and Pukapukan.

English and Cook Islands Maori are official languages of the Cook Islands.

MUSIC

Music in the Cook Islands is varied, with Christian songs being quite popular, but traditional dancing and songs in Polynesian languages remain popular.

ART

Art in island Cook is very varied because it has four different types of ways of expressing traditions:

- Carving.
- Weaving.
- Tivaevae.
- Contemporary art