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with pride and passion. Sheryl roasts five different blends including their Gold Medal blend Daily Havoc. They also supply the local supermarket, various cafes and restaurants, a growing number of small businesses, and internet customers. The coffee is roasted at their Black Barn Roastery at their rural property. www.havoccoffee.co.nz or 06.348 4979

Alluring Aitutaki

The Ultimate location location, location Just west of Tahiti, In the deliciously different Cook Islands you'll find the fabled isle of Aitutaki, described by the prestigious Conde Nast Traveler magazine as 'exquisite'. Once the landfall of Captain William Bligh and the HMS Bounty, just 17 days before the infamous mutiny, Aitutaki is fast becoming one of the world's most sought-after South Seas exotic escapes. Aitutaki's sublime Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa was featured by Conde Nast on its cover and described as "exquisite" for its vast vast, breathtakingly beautiful lagoon. Reached by a 2-minute private ferry ride from the main island of Aitutaki, the resort rests on its own private island - Motu Akitua - encircled by sandy beaches the colour of champagne. The Cook Island's only private island resort, The Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa enjoys Aitutaki's best resort location - directly on the expansive lagoon with unparalleled views across the surreal aqua waters to the enchanting motu (small isles) beyond.

The resort features the Cook Island's only over-water bungalows, a quintessentially Polynesian experience complete with thatched roof, pandanus-lined walls, spacious bathroom, beautiful appointments and a delightful open-air shower with direct access



to the inviting lagoon waters. And just launched is Aitutaki's and the resort's first private pool villa, Villa Te Arau, the Grand Honeymoon Pool Villa. Named after the favourite wife of the great Polynesian navigator and warrior chief Ru, credited with the discovery of Aitutaki and Motu Akitua, this luxurious villa complex is completely enclosed in its own private lush tropical garden and features a pool, open air spa pavilion, daybed pavilion, romantic four-poster bed, ensuite with double vanities, open-air rainshower, and separate full kitchen with indoor / outdoor dining. A retreat within a retreat it's perfect for couples in love seeking secluded luxury to just be together. P.S. You don't have to be on your first honeymoon to book in!

Aitutaki is the place to loll on the beach, laze in a hammock, take a languid dip in the luminous lagoon, then deeply relax into one another's company and re-discover the best in yourself and each other. For when the mood takes you there is a wide range of complimentary diversions available including snorkelling, fish feeding, wind-surfing, crab hunting, kayaks, beach volleyball, bicycles and a coconut tree climbing and husking show. Cruises on the world-famous Aitutaki Lagoon, bone fishing, game fishing, scuba diving, walking tours and safari tours of Aitutaki Island are all available nearby. The outlying fringing reef encircling Aitutaki Lagoon is excellent for diving, with vibrant marine life, colourful coral, wrecks and caves. The sights are just as delightful on dry land - the vast blue sky and the shimmering turquoise

Cafe Style



lagoon frame tiny green islands which appear to exist somewhere between heaven and earth. Guided walking or 4WD safari tours lend visitors a glimpse of the interior life of the main island, including visits to sites of ancient sacred marae (temples). Visitors can admire the charming architecture of old coral and limestone churches and attend a Sunday mass, a wonderful way to experience a slice of true island life. No matter where you go during your stay, the genuinely warm welcome you receive from the people of Aitutaki will stay in your heart forever. For the truly romantic there are hidden beaches to wander along, or for a truly memorable experience, deeply relax with a soothing massage or even a couple's jacuzzi and sauna at the resort's SpaPolynesia. As evening draws night, you can kick back with a cool sunset cocktail at the enchanting Flying Boat Beach Bar & Grill and gaze out together across the magnificent lagoon as the moon and a trillion southern stars come out to play. Aitutaki is the ultimate hideaway in the heart of the South Pacific for all incurable romantics. -

"The First Love,

the first sunrise, the first South Sea island, are memories apart."

Robert Louis Stevenson



This year, promise to take time to smell the frangipani. Promise to take yourself and the one you love off to the heart of the South Pacific where you can melt into island time, mellow out on the champagne sands, be spellbound by stunning lagoon views, savour mouthwatering cocktails and take time to smell the frangipani. Stay at the Cook Islands' signature resort, The Rarotongan Beach Resort & Spa, overlooking the crystal clear blue waters of Aro'a Lagoon Marine Reserve (the Lagoon of Love), an underwater wonderland to explore together. Or take advantage of superb special offers for combined stays with her sublime sister resort, The Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa, where you can be tucked up in your own private bungalow right on the world's most beautiful lagoon. Bliss.

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