



© Daz Wang, Photographer from Taiwan

Thank you for taking the time to visit our islands and we hope that your experience has been a wonderful and a pleasant one. We also hope that what you have seen and learnt of the people and of our culture, will make you appreciate the simple things in life. When you go home, please share your wonderful stories to your family and friends, so they too can come and share that experience. We wish you "Te Mauri" (Good Health), "Te Raoi" (Peace) ao "Te Tabomoa" (Prosperity) in you all your endeavors and future journeys. God Bless You.

"Ko Rabwa" and "Tiabo moa"

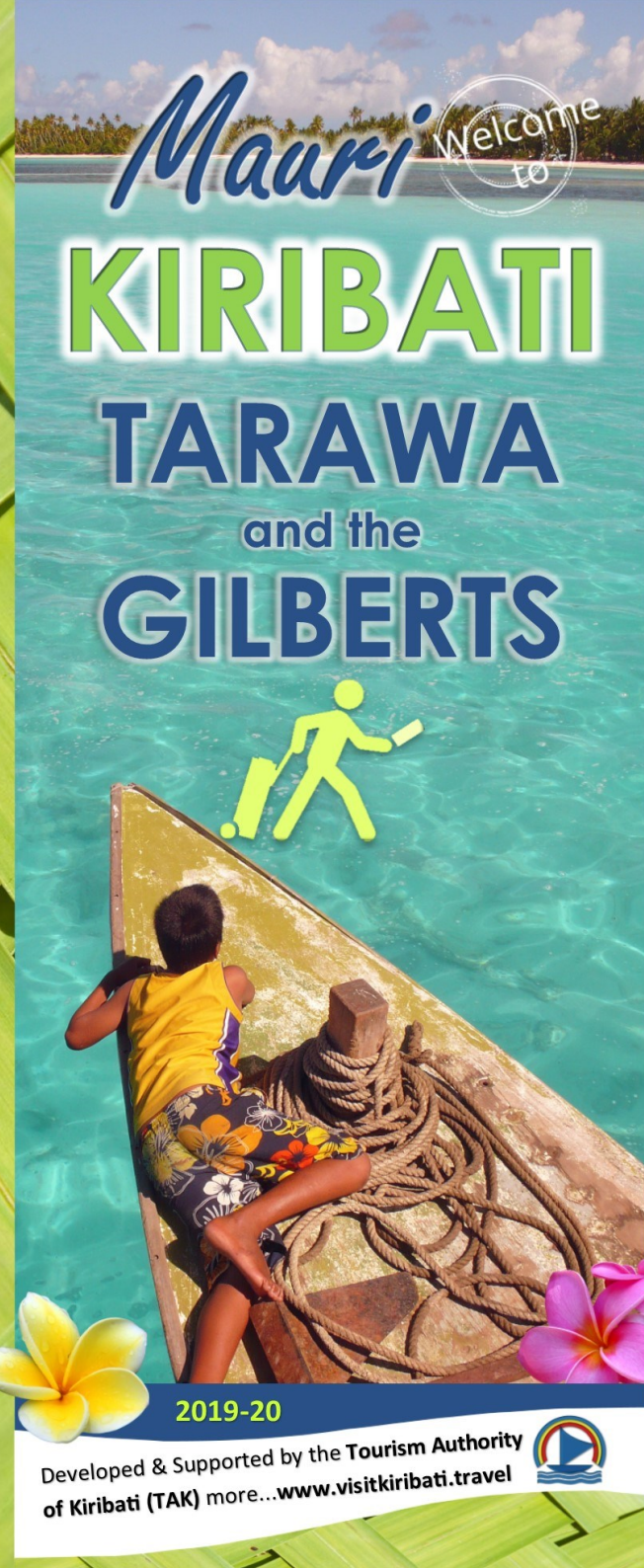


Tourism Authority of Kiribati
Email: info@kiribatitourism.gov.ki

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Mauri Welcome to

KIRIBATI TARAWA and the GILBERTS



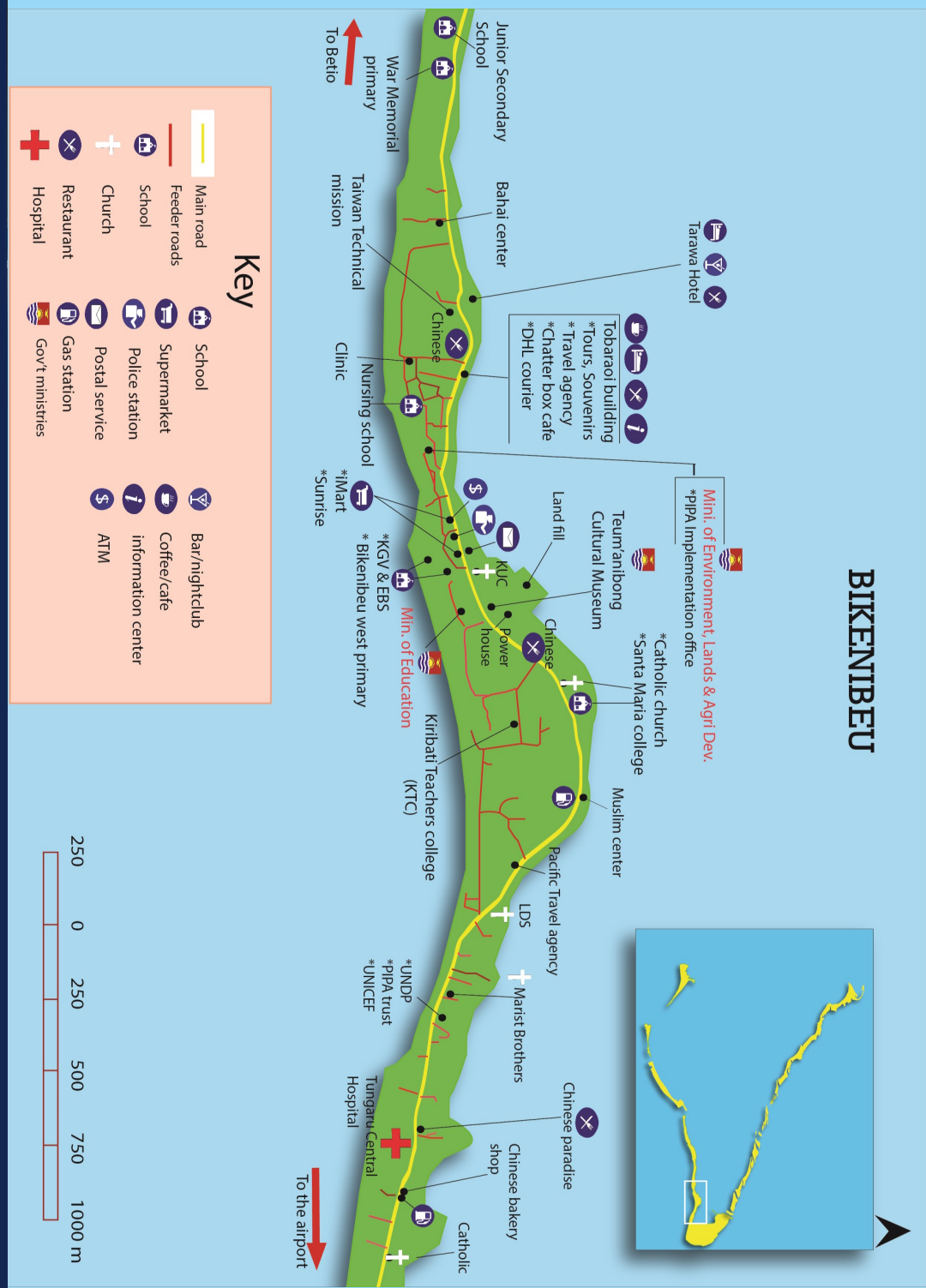
2019-20

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Tarawa & Gilberts Islands Map

Island Name: Tarawa Atoll
Area / Country: Central, Gilbert group, Republic of KIRIBATI
Coordinates:: 1°20'N 173°00'E
Area: 500 sq.km (193 square miles) includes lagoon.
Length: 35.54 km
Elevation: 3m (10ft.) . Highest point at Eita Village
Population: South Tarawa 56,307 and North Tarawa 6318 (2015 Census)





About Tarawa & the Gilbert Islands

TARAWA

The atoll of Tarawa, is the capital of Kiribati and is the second largest of the 16 islands in the Gilbert group. The atoll is a string of islets that stretches from Betio all the way to Naa in North Tarawa. The atoll is divided into South and North Tarawa and is shaped like a backwards "L." Most of Tarawa is less than 3 metres above sea level with the highest point at Eita Village in the South. The atoll is best known for the "Battle of Tarawa" during World War II where Betio was a bloody battlefield between Japanese and US armed forces.

South Tarawa (in Gilbertese Tarawa Teinainano) is the capital, commercial center and hub of the Republic of Kiribati and home to approximately half of Kiribati's population (56,307 as of 2015 Census). South Tarawa consists of all the small islets connected by a main road and causeways stretching from Betio in the west all the way to Tanaea in the east. The capital city is Bairiki where the head of government resides.

Betio, Bairiki and Bikenibeu are the main towns on South Tarawa while Teaoaraereke is emerging as a new town. The growing population, land scarcity for development, rubbish are one of the growing concerns facing urban South Tarawa today. However, in North Tarawa life offers a different picture of what Kiribati really looks like, where tradition and culture are still intact and where one can explore natural island beauty and traditional cultural setting less influenced by urbanization. North Tarawa, stretches from Buota all the way to Naa in Buariki. Most of the islets here are separated by channels that can be crossed during low tide and some are connected by causeways. North Tarawa has a population of 6318 (2015 Census) and it is administered by a local government (the Island Council) stationed in Abaokoro. Accessing North Tarawa is available by ferry services and charter boat. By driving you can reach as far as Buota just across from Tanaea as you cross a bridge.

THE OUTER GILBERT ISLANDS

The islands of the Gilbert Islands group aka. Tungaru (traditional name) or Kingsmill Group are made up of 16 islands which are arranged in an approximate north-to-south line about 420 nautical miles (780 km) between the northernmost island, Makin, and the southernmost, Arorae. The Gilberts form a continuous chain of seamounts which stretches north to the Ratak Chain of the Marshall Islands. Geographically these islands are grouped into Northern and the Southern Gilberts with the Equator serving as the dividing line between them. Another method of grouping the Gilbert Islands that is used today is by grouping them according to districts which is further categorized as Northern, Central and Southern Gilbert Islands.

The Northern Gilberts or Meang (meaning north) includes Makin, Butaritari, Marakei, Abaiang and Tarawa (capital). The Central Gilbert Islands or Nuka (meaning middle) include Maiana, Abemama, Kuria and Aranuka (translated as "Our Middle") is situated closest to the Equator. The Southern Gilberts include the atolls of Nonouti, Tabiteuea, Beru, Nikunau, Onotoa, Tamana and the most southerly island of Arorae. By contrast these islands differ by rainfall patterns with the Northern Islands being wetter than the Central and the Southern Islands.

By far, the Gilbert Islands are referred to as the main stay of the Kiribati people where the true essence of Kiribati culture and community lifestyle can be experienced. The natural scenic beauty of the islands; its beautiful beaches, blue turquoise waters, coconut trees & tropical vegetation, and the peacefulness, are an added bonus to cherish and enjoy. What makes each island unique is that, each one has its own unique story to tell of its own traditions, history and place.





Kiribati has evolved as a result of sparse geography - a landscape of seclusion and beauty, which is no surprise given the country has the biggest water to land ratio in the world, with a land masses of which 32 atolls and 1 ocean island scattered across the pacific equatorial region. Although part of a wider pacific island community, it offers a unique beautiful culture and language; and much of this has been maintained because of this isolation. As a traveller, learning some local words and being observant of cultural norms and customs, and a show of respect and understanding of the Kiribati traditional ways can help preserve this beauty.

I-KIRIBATI PEOPLE & CULTURE

The people of Kiribati are referred to as I-Kiribati who are characterized as Micronesians with medium stature, brown skin and straight hair. There are also minorities of half-castes as a result of inter-marriages between Europeans, Asians and Polynesians. I-Kiribati people are also considered the most friendliest people you will ever meet.

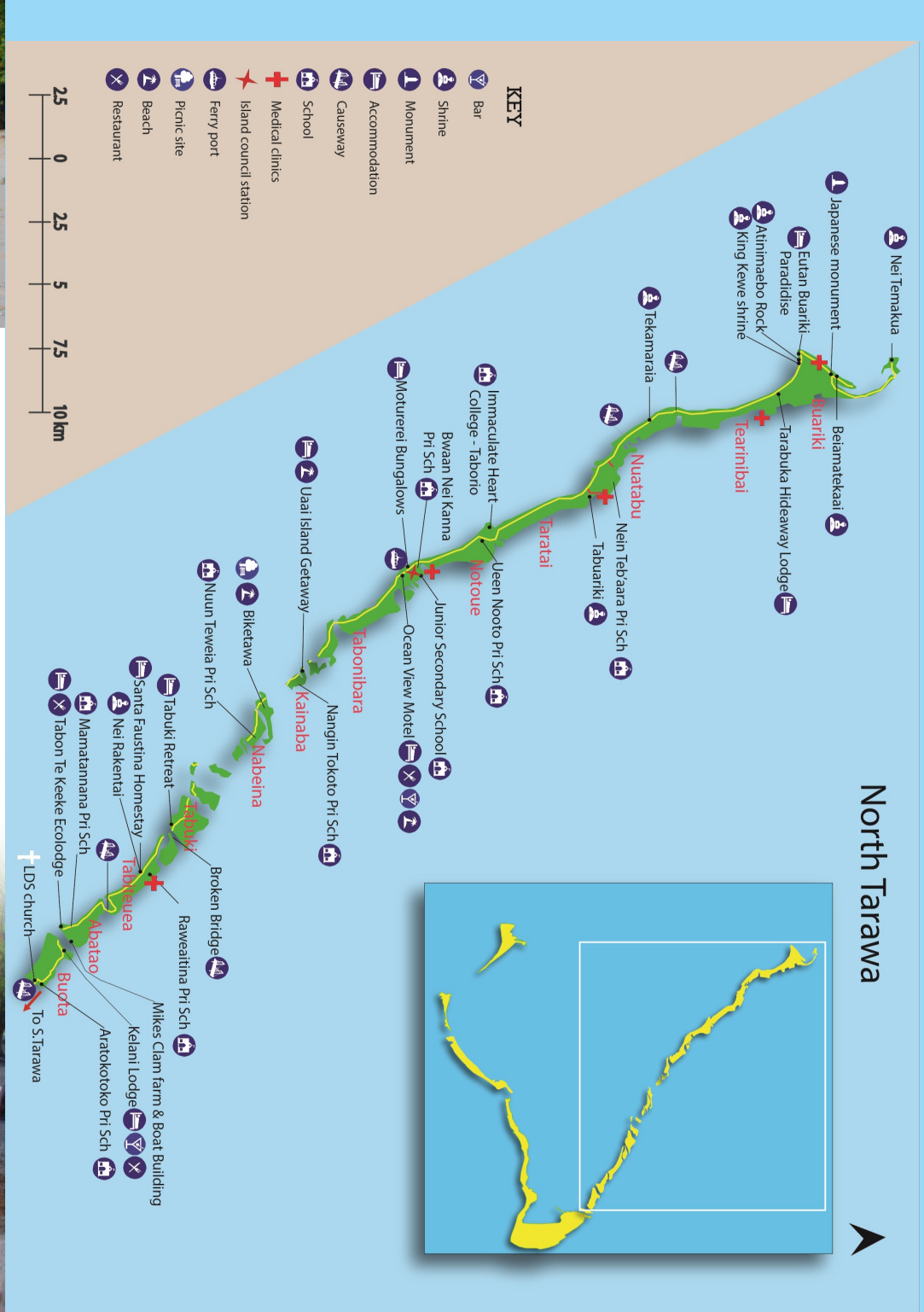
The Kiribati culture has greatly been preserved by the isolation that comes with being at the heart of the Pacific Ocean. It is complex and diverse, with each island having its own unique ways. Many people remain true to the century old traditions and practices that define what it means to be I-Kiribati.

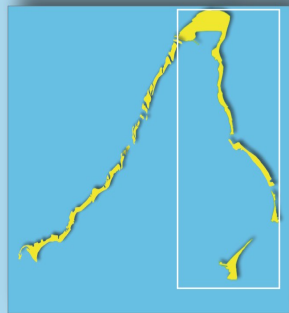
As I-Kiribati; the value and respect for family, friendship, respect of the elderly; the importance of family & community gatherings, and meetings in a mwaneaba (a traditional community meeting house), guest hospitality and the respect for property remain very important facets in the culture of Kiribati. People still live in extended families where everyone supports each other.

Christianity also plays a vital role in influencing the culture of Kiribati since it was introduced during the 1800s, hence accepted as an integral and important part of the Kiribati culture and livelihood of the Kiribati people today.



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South Tarawa



Key

- Government ministries/org
- Information center
- ATM
- Police station
- Hospital/clinic
- Accommodation
- Gas station
- School
- Ferry port
- anchorage site
- Restaurant
- Supermarket
- Picnic site
- War relics
- Postal service
- Bar
- Jogging
- Bridge
- Rental car service
- Church
- Airport
- Swimming
- Local government station
- AGRONYMS
- AVI - Australian Volunteers International
- JICA - Japan International Cooperation Agency
- KPC - Kiribati Protestant Church
- KTC - Kiribati Teachers' college

- KUC - Kiribati Uniting Church
- KFHA - Kiribati Family Health Association
- LDS - Latter Day Saint church
- LMTA - Land & Marine Transport Authority
- MELAD - Min. of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Dev.
- MEMIRD - Min. of Fisheries & Marine Resources Dev.
- MOE - Min. of Education
- RC - Roman Catholics
- SDA - Seventh Day Adventists church
- TTC - Tangitambu Theological college
- TTM - Taiwan Technical Mission
- WGMCM - William Goward Memorial college

COMMUNITY & THE MWANEABA

The essence of community is common – people form community through sharing of objects, environments and spaces, and this is a lot in Kiribati. With many people in a small place, people share the natural resources that they live off. The I-Kiribati people often live in close quarters with their extended family, and living and working in harmony with neighbors and family is of high importance. Few things go unnoticed in a small community, and privacy becomes a premium. As each family still tends for itself, things such as the best places for fishing and special skills are kept within the family. The one thing in common for the Kiribati community is that they all gather under a mwaneaba to meet.

The mwaneaba (social & community hall) was and remains the most important institutional symbol and foundation of community life in Kiribati where matters of political, social, economic and religious life are discussed and resolved with the leadership of the Unimwane (elected elders) and Christian leaders. It is also a place of festivities, accommodation, storage and safe refuge from violence.

Beside the mwaneaba as the traditional function as a community hall, court of judgment/reconciliation, and sanctuary for all, the purpose of the mwaneaba has considerably widened to include shelter for the sick, storage facility for copra, fundraising venue, and more. Despite the additional uses invented for this culturally important structure, the traditional system of governance and leadership still revolves around the mwaneaba and remain largely intact. This was the result, first of colonial support, and later on of Government's recognition of the importance of traditional leadership vested in the 'Unimwane' and secondly by the shortcomings of foreign governance in solving local community issues. In all Island Councils (outer island local governments), there is a seat for a representative of the Island 'Unimwane' Association, who embodies the highest traditional authority for the community on the island.

Women in the mwaneaba play a support role during the mwaneaba discussions, they are however not discriminated as their views are channelled through their husbands or their elder 'unimwane' and by themselves whenever they are up to it.

Replacement of the traditional village 'mwaneabas' by church 'mwaneabas' also resulted in the obliteration of traditionally inherited positions in the church 'mwaneabas'. The church mwaneabas are still used for open discussions, functions and as a focal gathering point for the village church members and church matters but sitting positions are not inherited where they are in a traditional mwaneaba.

TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE & TECHNOLOGY

The nature of their island environments and the surrounding sea with the resources that they provide plays a huge role in shaping the culture of Kiribati, enabling the people to adapt and develop primitive technologies and methods for their very survival. Kiribati is a country that is full of amazing skilled fishermen, dynamic architects & structural engineers, bone setters, traditional doctors, weavers and artists. The buildings, fishing equipment, household items, techniques and skills are so unique to Kiribati – and each of them responds perfectly to the way of life that is lived on the islands. These traditional knowledge, methods, skills and techniques that have been developed by I-Kiribati are ancient.

The most imposing and most significant building is the mwaneaba – the meeting house. A large building that has the same purpose as a local town hall. It's for large meetings, events This large structure has a roof of thatched pandana leaves, held together by rope made from coconut husks. The roof is impressively high while the edges of the roof sit so low that most people have to bow when entering in the building. This keeps the building as cool as possible and is without doubt, the best place to be in the humid middle of the day. There are also various similar structures called 'buia' and 'kiakia' – which are raised huts usually for households.

Another favorite Kiribati architecture is the traditional outrigger canoe – Te Waa. The outrigger canoe is considered a pride of ones family. The canoe would be used as a work horse – patched, worn, repaired – used for fishing, transportation, for fishing and for racing as a sport. The Kiribati racing canoe is a wonderfully elegant piece of engineering, achieving a fine balance between wind, ropes and sail. Reputed to be the lightest and fastest canoe in the Pacific, and a testimony of the ingenuity of the people of these sparsely resourced atolls. The annual event of racing as a sport has helped sustain and revive the future of the Kiribati traditional sailing canoe.



DAILY LIFESTYLE & LIVELIHOOD

The way of living is very simple and people plan their living according to the day, without worrying about their future, living with the moto "Tomorrow is another day." Survival revolves around strength, motivation and ambition to live within that particular day. Daily lives revolve around the rise and fall of the tide, dictating fishing conditions and timing and availability of transport. Sustenance is from the sea, coconut, breadfruit trees and taro pits.

Traditional daily life in Kiribati revolves around living off the resources of the island where the people perform activities to meet their individual and group needs for security, and have no reason to accumulate wealth except to ensure their future survival. The concept of wealth does not exist in its pure form hence there is a high degree of sharing and reliance on existing natural resources and the skills to harvest and maintain resources.

The nature of the subsistence economy is reflected in the social organization of families, who join together to form clans (te kaainga) that function, according to a set of rules and roles. Household chores are divided by gender, with men fishing and collecting toddy and doing heavy construction tasks, while women handle child care and chores, cooking and keeping house, basically controlling domestic chores. While women may fish and often collect shellfish in the lagoon, only the men may go out fishing in the ocean. There is a clear status of ranking in each household, usually headed by the oldest male unless he is too elderly or too sick to be active in which case the next oldest male then heads the family. It is important for the survival of the group that each member fulfils the roles and responsibilities assigned to him/her and this forms their daily livelihood.

Typical subsistence activities include fishing, toddy cutting, cultivation and harvesting of food crops (coconut, pandanus, breadfruit and taro), weaving mats, making thatches, rolling string, fetching water, collecting firewood, making fish traps and hooks, cleaning and washing, cooking and construction work amongst others. Most of these activities are performed by the adult members of the family, while it falls upon the younger members to collect firewood, fetch water, clean the dishes, clean the compound, and assist the adult members to do the easy part of their chores. Unfortunately, subsistence living is slowly disappearing and being replaced by a cash economy where most subsistence activities are now not only catered towards subsistence living but also to generate income to pay for the basic necessities such as food and sanitary needs.

Where most of the fishing was done for subsistence, it is now sold when there is a surplus or given freely to relatives, preserved for later consumption. Due to the increasing dependence on imported goods, the importance of cash as a medium of exchange, has now dominated bartering and sharing that were once strong traditions of Kiribati.

"TE MWAIE" THE DANCE OF KIRIBATI

The traditional dances of Kiribati or 'te Mwaie ni Kiribati' are a unique form of art and expression. The movement of the feet, hands and of course the whole body imitates the movement of the frigate bird and the Pacific golden plover bird while walking and flying. The costumes are made out of local materials. The dancing in Kiribati is just as traditional as the music. There are eight specific dances in Kiribati: Te Buki, Te Ruoia, Te Kabuti, Te Tirere (stick dance), Te Kaimatooa, Te Bino (Sitting Dance). Although distinct, each of these dances share common theme of mimicking the movements of the birds. These bird-like dance moves typically involve outstretched arms, jerking head movements and feet movements.

The mwaie is known to consume the dancers and the singers who sometimes break down during and at the end of a performance due to the emotional intensity of the songs. Robert Louis Stevenson wrote of the Kiribati mwaie (te ruoia) that was performed on one of the northern Gilbert Islands (Butaritari Island); he quoted, "Of all they call dance in the Pacific, the performance I saw on Butaritari was easily the best...Gilbertese dance appeals to the soul: it makes one thrill with emotion, it uplifts one, it conquers one: it has the essence of all great art: an immediate and far from exhausted appeal".



ONOTOA ATOLL



Highlights: Sightseeing tour (see old KPC old church building, Te Kaiti Well, The Legend Teibi Tree), fishing, lobster hunting, Snorkeling, Swimming, canoe sailing, Te Tuae making tour. Beautiful Beaches

Where to Stay:
KUC Kotene Guesthouse
For info & booking, contact Clerk,
E: onotoaclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Tuesdays (via TabNorth)
Flight time: 2hr 10 minutes
R/Airfare: \$168

BERU ISLAND



Highlights: Sightseeing tour (Tabuariki's lake the site of edible mud, salt lake or te nein ni man, LMS school, Paris Catholic site), fishing, snorkelling , canoe sailing, beautiful beaches.

Where to Stay:
Catholic Parish Guesthouse or KUC Rongorongo Guesthouse
For info & booking, contact Clerk,
E: beruclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Mondays (via Nikunau and TabNorth)
Flight time: 2hrs 15minutes
R/Airfare: \$168

NIKUNAU ISLAND



Highlights: Sightseeing tour (see historical sites of Tabakitooa the giant, salt lake, old KPC church etc) shutter shellfish hunting (tenimatatin), fishing, snorkelling, beautiful beaches

Where to Stay:
Nikunau Council Guesthouse
For info & booking, contact Clerk,
nikunauclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Mondays (via Beru and TabNorth)
Flight time: 2hrs+
R/Airfare: \$177

TAMANA ISLAND



Highlights: Sightseeing tour (see the Frigate Bird taming and catching grounds, old church buildings) snorkeling at Katati site and shipwrecks, fishing, beautiful Beaches.

Where to Stay:
Tamana Council Guesthouse
For info & booking, contact Clerk,
tamanaclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Wednesdays (via Tab-North)
Flight time: 2hrs 35mins
R/Airfare: \$196

ARORAE ISLAND



Highlights: Sightseeing tour (see Ancient Navigation Stones, Frigate Bird taming, the giant's grave, Migrating beach, old church buildings, aluminium product factory), fishing, snorkelling, swimming, canoe sailing, Taubati dancing entertainment.

Where to Stay:
Tamaroo Guesthouse
For info & booking, contact Clerk,
E: aroraeclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Thursdays via Tab-North
Flight time: 2hrs 45mins
R/Airfare: \$220



AIR KIRIBATI



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E: reservations@airkiribati.com.ki
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www.airkiribati.com.ki



OTHER ISLANDS

MAKIN ISLAND



Highlights: Sightseeing tour (Naaka Sites, Three Big Rocks - Tokia, Rebuva and Kamataaa, Breadfruit site) boat or canoe trip to Islets of Kiebu & Onne, Naaka Site, Cultural tour & entertainment, fishing, snorkeling, canoe sailing, swimming at the bridge

Where to Stay:

Eten Hideaway (KPC)

For info and booking, contact Clerk at Makin Council Office.

E: makinclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Tues (via Butaritari), and Fri & Sun. Flight time: 45 to 50 min. R/Airfare: \$103

KURIA ISLAND



Highlights: Sightseeing tour (Kantaa's site, the King's pond, George Mac Ghie Murdoch's site, old Copra Sheds & prison, Teaki's site, Nei Teaa site, etc) Beautiful Beach at Tanginimake, Snorkeling at Te Bikenikora, beautiful swimming at Itintoa Bridge

Where to Stay:

Kuria Island Council Guesthouse

For info and booking, contact Clerk,

E: kuriaclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Tues, Fri & Sun. Tues (via Aranuka), and Fri & Sun. Flight time: 30 minutes, R/Airfare: \$76

ARANUKA ISLAND



Highlights: Sightseeing tour (see the the tallest Mangroves in Kiribati, Riiki Site, day trip to Bikentekai Islet or Takeang and beautiful swimming and snorkeling.

Where to Stay:

Aranuka Council Guesthouse

For info & booking, contact Clerk, P: 40003

E: aranukaclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Tues (via Kuria), and Fri & Sun. Flight time: 35 min R/Airfare: \$80

NONOUTI ATOLL



Highlights: fly fishing, birdwatching at Noumatong islet, snorkeling, island tour (see places like the biggest traditional mwaneaba in Kiribati, Roman Catholic monument marking the first arrival of Catholicism in Kiribati, shrines etc.)

Where to Stay:

Nonouti Island Council Guesthouse

For info & booking, contact Clerk, E: nonouticlerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Mon & Thurs. Flight time: 1hr. R/Airfare: \$117

TAB NORTH (TABITEUEA)



Highlights: Sightseeing tour (Christian monuments, Kourabi Shrine, Auriaria Shrine, pure water well, Boat trip tour (see Nanbakana Rocks, Tenatorua islet, birdwatching at Auanene islet), sand worm hunting tour, fishing, etc

Where to Stay:

Island Council Guesthouse

For info & booking, contact P: 73064146 (Clerk) or 73020276 (Caretaker)

E: kerry.k.120@gmail.com
Takuku's (TTR)

For info & booking, contact Taarai Tabobo, P: 73079933

Flights on Air Kiribati: Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs & Sat. Flight time: 1hr. R/Airfare: \$140

TAB SOUTH (TABITEUEA)



Highlights: Island Tour (see and visit Kaumomokia shrine, etc) islet picnic trips, sand worm hunting tour, snorkeling, canoe sailing, fishing, beautiful beaches.

Where to Stay:

TabSouth Council Guesthouse

For info and booking, contact Clerk, P: through ATHKL 73015424

E: tabsouthclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Flights on Air Kiribati: Saturdays (via TabNorth) Flight time: 1hr 15minutes R/Airfare: \$150

TRADITIONAL SPORTS

Kiribati traditional sports are very unique in this world and have been played for many generations. They are exciting and intriguing to watch or even to participate in one. The following traditional sports are still popular today and are considered as national sports:

- **"Oreano:"** This is a traditional team sport and a national sport in Kiribati. A game of oreano is played between two teams using a heavy woven ball with an estimated weight of around 5 to 7kg. The sport is often considered as a competition of strength, power, skill and trash talk. During a game of oreano each opposing team must throw the heavy ball to an opposing team whom will have to try and catch the heavy speeding ball without dropping it or getting injured. In throwing the heavy ball a special technique is applied by rolling off the ball from your forearm with intensity. This sport is played during national sporting event "Te Runga" held every 2 years. It is one of exciting sporting events not to miss.
- **Wrestling "Te Bomwane:"** The traditional Kiribati wrestling is an ancient sport that offers some insight of Kiribati martial arts where wrestlers must possess skill, strength, flexibility, endurance and good mentality. In a wrestling match, wrestlers will try to score a win by trying to throw their opponent off their feet. If your opponent's hand, knee or body touches the ground that is considered a win. There are no weight categories and you would often see a David and Goliath match up. Punching, eye-gouging and kicking are prohibited during national wrestling tournaments.
- **Sailing Canoe Race "Te uwaia Waa:"** The Kiribati racing canoe is a wonderfully elegant piece of engineering, achieving a fine balance between wind, ropes and sail. Reputed to be the fastest and lightest canoe in the Pacific, and a testimony of the ingenuity of the people of these sparsely resourced atolls. It may be through the revival of racing as a national sport, that the future of the traditional canoe has been sustained. The national canoe racing event takes place every year during the National Day event (12 July) in the capital South Tarawa.
- **Water Kite Canoe Racing "Te uwaia Makei:"** Is considered the fastest toy canoe in the world and there is no other place in the world where you will see this sophisticated toy canoe in action except in Kiribati. This toy canoe is like a water kite that goes really swift in the water depending the wind and it is really interesting to watch it in action. Races often take place in South Tarawa at the causeway between Bairiki and Nanikaai during the National Day (12 July) event.

FEAST & TRADITIONAL FOOD & BEVERAGE

Feastings "Te Botaki:" Feasting plays a major role in the Kiribati lifestyle. Travelers to Kiribati often find themselves at a local feast where they will enjoy an array of dishes like a roast suckling pig, crayfish, fish, other seafood and many more. At feasts you will be astounded with so much food. The most symbolically valued food at local feasts is the roasted pig. Without the pig the feast is considered a small feast.

Local Food & Beverage: Seafood, pork, local chicken, and vital food crops such as coconut, swamp taro, breadfruit, pandanus, pumpkin, papaya and banana are the central diet in Kiribati. Imported foods, especially rice, flour, and sugar are also considered important today in the daily diet in Kiribati. The vitamin C rich toddy (sap) collected from the flower spathe of the coconut tree is valued for the sweet. Toddy is used as a drink mixed water and tea (tea-toddy "teikarewe") or boiled to form sweet syrup "kamaimai" as a drink or food mixture, and can be preserved for a long time. Fresh toddy can also be soured into vinegar "beneka" and fermented into an alcoholic drink "kaokioki or timbakatai."





GETTING HERE & TRAVEL INFORMATION

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

3 international airlines provide weekly air service to Tarawa: Fiji Airways, Nauru Airlines and Solomon Airlines.

- **Fiji Airways:** Tarawa Flights are Mondays & Thursdays out of Nadi, Fiji. W:www.fijiairways.com
- **Nauru Airlines:** Tarawa Flights are Fridays out of Brisbane via in Honiara, Solomon Is. and Sundays out of Pohnpei (FSM) via Majuro (Marshall Islands) and continues on via Nauru (transit) to Nadi and Brisbane via Honiara. W:www.nauruairlines.com.au
- **Solomon Airlines:** Tarawa Flights are Wednesdays out of Brisbane via Honiara, overnights and departs Tarawa the following Thursday. W: www.flysolomons.com



IMMIGRATION & VISA

Citizens of major countries such as USA, United Kingdom, EU countries, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, etc. do not need a VISA to travel to Kiribati. But if you do need a VISA you can always contact the Kiribati Immigration Division (Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Immigration) to assist you in your VISA need. For more information and VISA application, contact:

E: visaofficer@mfa.gov.ki P: (686) 75021342. Or visit: W: www.mfa.gov.ki/immigration/

Visa Applications:

- **VISA Fee:** Single Entry VISA is UD\$40pp visa and Multiple Entry VISA is AUD\$80pp.
- **Documents required:** Duly completed visa application form; Passport bio-data page showing validity of passport at least 6 months on entry date; Copy of ticket (e-ticket) or itinerary; Any other documents that may be required by a visa or consular officer assisting you; and Receipt or Evidence of Payment.

Work Permit & Fee: A work permit must be obtained prior visiting Kiribati. Fee is AUD\$150pp. Work Permit MUST be presented on arrival to the Immigration officials at the airport.

Extension of Stay: AUD\$60pp is applicable for extension of stay beyond 30 days (4 months validation).

Passport Validity: Ensure your passport is valid at least 6 months.

CUSTOMS & DUTY FREE

Your personal concession allows you to bring into Kiribati: 2.25 L of portable spirits, 4L of wine or beer, and 200 cigarettes or 250 grams of tobacco applicable to ages 21yrs+ only.

HEALTH REQUIREMENT

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations when travelling to Kiribati: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, yellow fever, rabies, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia and influenza. Shot lasts 2 years.

BIOSECURITY & QUARANTINE

Please declare upon arrival for inspection - all plants, fruits, vegetables, seeds, animal meats and poultry. A permit must be issued prior to the importation of live animals and meats / poultry with the Kiribati Agricultural Division. Departing visitors taking home handicrafts souvenirs are advised to acquire a Fumigation Documentation at the Quarantine Office at Bonriki Airport. For more information, Kiribati Biosecurity Services & Plant Health - P: (686) 75228108 or 75228109.

FISHERIES DIVISION (BONRIKI AIRPORT)

Departing visitors taking home frozen fish are advised to acquire a documentation at the Fisheries branch office at Bonriki Airport.

ABEMAMA ATOLL

The atoll of Abemama is one of the islands of the central Gilbert group with it's neighboring islands Kuria and Aranuka. The name Abemama means land of the bright moon. Abemama is rich in cultural history dating back to the times of the royal family. It was also once a home of the famous writer Robert Louis Stevenson who lived closely to King Binoka. Abemama has one main island and two islets, Abatiku (meaning land to stay) and Biike (meaning beach). During the times of King Binoka; he ruled all the three islands; Abemama, Kuria and Aranuka. While on the island it is important that you receive an oratory history of Abemama because this will help you understand the historical sites and traditional customs as you do a tour of the island. Biike Islet and Abatiku Island are a must visit, both stunningly beautiful islets with crystal white sandy beaches and crystal blue water.

Tour Attractions & Experiences

- **Oratory History of Abemama** of the Royal Family, King Binoka, and Tuangaona.
- **Abemama Island Tours:** See and visit interesting sites: the Royal Family Graveyard; King Binoka's sites, Robert Louis Stevenson place; Catholic church at Binonano built in 1905; Teaa's Well; Tuangaona shrine, WWII relics and more.
- **Biike Islet Day Trip:** Visit Kaobunang spirit shrine & well, see remains of lepers camp, swim in crystal clear water and sunbathe on sandy white beach, snorkeling, fishing, surfing, wander the island.
- **Abatiku Islet Day Trip:** Visit and spend a day with Abatiku Island community, do some clam or sand worm hunting, fishing, snorkeling and enjoy the local food.

Where to Stay

Abemama Green Eco Hotel: Environmentally friendly and situated at a beautiful location at Kariatebike. The hotel offers locally designed island bungalows with a beautiful view of the lagoon, sunset, beach and swimming right at your door step at Kariatebike causeway. Activities include: Island tour, custom boat trips, entertainment and transport rental can be arranged at the hotel to help you experience Abemama. Food is catered fresh seafood and cold beer & beverages are also offered. For info, contact: Manager, P: 75088668. Bookings can also be made through the George Hotel: P: 75088665 / 75126340, E: thegeorgehotelkiribati@gmail.com, Facebook: The George hotel Kiribati

Abemama Hotel (Island Council Guesthouse)

Is run and operated by the Island Council situated on the breezy ocean side of Kariatebike village. Accommodation is a guesthouse with rooms and local kiakias (thatched roof and raised floor). All rooms and kiakias have mattresses, beddings and mosquito netting. There are 2 bathrooms and toilets for guests to share. Transport and tour activities can also be arranged at the island council office. For booking, see Abemama Island Council contact details below.

Monivae Hotel is situated and run by Chevalier College, a Catholic secondary school on Abemama just 5 minutes drive from the Island Council Station at Kariatebike. Abemama and the hotel is a popular destination for Catholic school visits from Australia. Accommodation here is of traditional island style set on the ocean side which enjoys the natural cool ocean breeze. Island tour and entertainment can be arranged. For info and booking, contact: Principal via email: tzajong@gmail.com



GETTING TO ABEMAMA

Flights: Abemama scheduled flights on Air Kiribati: Tues, Fri & Sun.

Flight time: 30 to 35 minutes R/Airfare: \$73

Booking & Flight Info: Please call customer support: 1059 or 75021188

E: reservations@airkiribati.com.ki Facebook: Air Kiribati

For any official business on the island and Abemama Hotel (Island Council guest-house) booking, please contact:
ABEMAMA ISLAND COUNCIL
 Clerk, P: 73048790/73082727
 E: abemamaclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki



BUTARITARI ATOLL

Butaritari atoll aka Makin Atoll is located in the northern end of the Gilbert group south of Little Makin. According to history, Butaritari was discovered in 1606 by Spanish explorer, Pedro Fernández Quirós and was also the first trading capital in Kiribati and home to resident traders from 1800s to the early 1900s. The island was also a temporary home to Robert Louis Stevenson during the 19th century. According to folklore Butaritari was an underwater land that was fished out of the ocean by one of the Kiribati mythical gods and it was named 'Butaritari' meaning 'Scent of the sea.' During WWII, Butaritari was invaded and occupied by Japanese armed forces on 9th December 1941. In August of 1942, the Americans made a stealth attack, landing their marine raiders from submarines USS Nautilus II and USS Argonaut attacking the Japanese occupation force on the island. This raid was known as the 'Makin Raid' and was regarded in US military history as the first ever stealth mission to be carried out from a submarine. Later in 20 November 1943 the 'Battle of Makin' took event when the American marines again attacked and seized Butaritari from the Japanese. Butaritari is also referred as the Greenest Island in Gilbert Group due to its high rainfall pattern. This is reflected in its lush vegetation that has been a major feature of the island for so long and is also the only island in Kiribati that has 4 different species of mangrove growing at the dense mangrove forest near Ukiangang village.

Tour Attractions & Experiences

- **Island Tour Sightseeing on Truck or Motorbike:** Explore the King's Pond (te nei man) and other interesting cultural legend sites, see WWII relics & monuments, and get a sense of the island.
- **Day Trip to Islets of Kotabu, Tikurere and other islets.** Tour highlights include birdwatching at Kotabu Islet, snorkeling or fishing or at Tikurere Islet you can explore the Islet, swim and sunbathe on the white sandy beach.
- **Explore the Mangrove Forest at Ukiangang:** See and learn about the 4 species of mangroves on Butaritari.
- **Day Trip or Weekend on Bikati Island:** Cruise north across the lagoon to Bikati Island. On the way explore and learn about the Bikati Marine Protected Area. At Bikati you will stay with the local community where you can experience the local lifestyle and participate in community activities like fishing (te werewere oyster clam fishing, net fishing, spear fishing, sand worm fishing) and learn local skills.
- **Community Village Cultural Tour:** Explore and learn about the local way of life, observe learn about the mwaneaba, observe local skills and local resources.

Where to Stay & Holiday in Butaritari

There are three options for accommodation on Butaritari: the Island Council Guest-house, Te Vaticano Parish Guesthouse or at Kanoua's Place. A stay with a local community can also be organized. All three accommodations are close by to the airport and offer beautiful view of Butaritari lagoon. For holiday planning, bookings, travel, tour and accommodation arrangements for Butaritari you can always contact an inbound tour operator on page 15 or you can seek booking assistance from our Tourism Office (TAK, Email: info@kiribatitourism.gov.ki).

For any official business and assistance with accommodation reservation, transport hire and tours on the island, please contact:

BUTARITARI ISLAND COUNCIL

Operator or Clerk, P: 35002

E: butaritariclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki



GETTING TO BUTARITARI

Flights: Butaritari scheduled flights on Air Kiribati: Tues (via Makin), and Fri & Sun.
Flight time: 35 minutes on Dash8 and 45 minutes DH6
R/Airfare: \$94

Bookings & Flight Info: Please call customer support: 1059 or 75021188

E: reservations@airkiribati.com.ki
Facebook: Air Kiribati

YACHT SAILBOAT TRAVEL INFORMATION

PORT OF ENTRY & CLEARANCE FORMALITIES FOR THE GILBERT ISLANDS

- **Entry & Clearance Port:** Betio Port at Tarawa Atoll is the Entry Port of the Gilbert Islands. Upon arrival Call "Radio Tarawa" on Channel 16 to arrange Boarding Party for clearance formalities. Please prepare all necessary travel documentations (passports, crew and passenger list, manifests etc.) for the Boarding Party.
- **Sailing to the outer islands in the Gilbert Islands:** Yacht sailboats wanting to sail to the other outer islands in the Gilbert Group MUST first complete their initial clearance formalities upon arrival at Tarawa port BUT are required to return to Tarawa port for outward clearance formalities prior to sailing out of the country.

TARAWA CHANNEL & WAYPOINTS

By entering Tarawa channel please follow the fairway buoys. Please note that Kiribati uses IALA System A. You may also find useful information on waypoints for Tarawa and the outer islands on www.noonsite.com

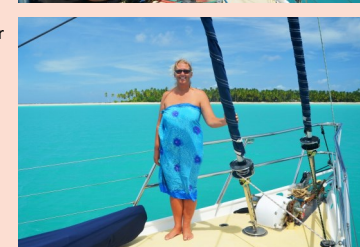
TARAWA ANCHORAGE

Betio's anchorage is west of the pier, amid anchored ships. It is in 15-25 ft of water with a sand bottom and good holding. The anchorage has the potential to be choppy. Do not get too close to the wrecks as the tide shallows quickly. You may also find more sheltered anchorage locations inside Tarawa lagoon preferably in the lagoon near Ambo (near the Parliament House), Bikenibeu or locations within the lagoon near northern side of the atoll.

PORT CHARGES

Payable to the Kiribati Ports of Authority office at Betio, Tarawa Port:

- **Calling Fee / Anchorage:** \$3.00 pm x per day / \$50 beyond 30 days
- **Long-side fee:** \$3.00 per meter / per day



ARE YOU CONDUCTING FILMING & RESEARCH DURING YOUR VISIT?

RESEARCH & FILMING PERMIT

Visitors travelling to Kiribati intending to conduct any filming and research activity for commercial / documentary purposes will be required to apply for a research & filming permit. A permit fee applies. For more information, contact: Office of the President, Communications & PR Officer Office for applications, E: tteabo@ob.gov.ki



USE OF DRONES

Visitors intending to use drones for their filming must seek advise and approval from the Kiribati Civil Aviation. For information, contact: Civil Aviation, P: (686) 74026003, E: calo1@mcttd.gov.ki or calo2@mcttd.gov.ki



AIRPORT TARAWA (INTERNATIONAL & DOMESTICS)

Bonriki International Airport on South Tarawa is the international and domestic airport hub in the Gilberts Islands Group of Kiribati.

BANK, CURRENCY & MONEY SERVICES

- **Currency & Foreign Exchange:** Kiribati uses the Australian dollars (AUD\$). Notes: \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100. Coins: 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, \$1, \$2. Major currencies can be exchanged at ANZ Bank and hotels.
- **Bank:** The ANZ Bank of the Australian & New Zealand banking group is the only commercial bank in Kiribati. The Bank is located in Bairiki at TK Plaza. Opening hours are from 9am to 3pm. P: (686) 75021095
- **Credit / Debit Cards:** VISA and Master Card can be used in the capital South Tarawa only where EFTPOS and ATM facilities are available. You will not be able to use credit cards on most outer islands. Online credit card payments from overseas is not available at this time.
- **ATMs:** ANZ BANK ATMs machines are only accessible in the capital South Tarawa. Please refer to map for locations. ATMs are not available in North Tarawa and the outer islands, hence it is encouraged you bring cash.
- **EFTPOS:** Is limited and is available at some of the hotels and major shops in South Tarawa.
- **Western Union Money Transfer:** WU outlet is situated inside the Coral Ace Supermarket at Bairiki Super Mall in Bairiki on South Tarawa.

BUSINESS HOURS

Business hours are generally Mon to Fri, 8 am to 4:15 pm. Government offices are closed on weekends and during national holidays. Shopping hours are generally Monday to Saturday 7am to 8pm/9pm. Half days or closed on Sundays.

CHURCH ENGLISH SERVICES

- **Roman Catholic** English service - 6am and 8am OLSH chapel or KPI Chapel, Teoraareke.
- **Protestant Church** English service - 9:30am at KPC Theological College, Tangintebu.
- **Mormon Church** English service - 8.00am and 12pm at Moroni Campus, Eita.
- **Seventh Day Adventist** English service - Sat, 9.00am at SDA church, Korobu.

COMMUNICATIONS & INTERNET

- **Country Code:** (686)
- **Internet:** Internet service is available across Tarawa. On the outer islands internet access is limited and may only be available from the Island Council offices.
- **Telecommunications:** 3G/4G network mobile phones work in Tarawa and on some outer islands. HF radio also still serves as the means of communications used on the outer islands. SIM cards cost around \$3 and are available from ATHKL and Ocean Link.

DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

- **Australia High Commission:** Bairiki, Tarawa, P: (686) 74021184. E: ahc.tarawa@dfat.gov.au
- **New Zealand High Commission:** Bairiki, Tarawa, P: (686) 75021903 / 74021400. E: nzhctarawa@mfat.govt.nz
- **ROC Taiwan Embassy:** Bairiki, Tarawa, P: (686) 75229354, E: kir@mofa.gov.tw

DRIVING, LICENCE & VEHICLE REGISTRATION

International driving licenses are recognized for at least two weeks. Persons driving should be at least 21 years old. Driving is on the left hand side of the road. Speed limits are 40 to 60 km per hr. Reckless driving, speeding and DUI will not be tolerated in Kiribati. It is advised to be very mindful and cautious of pedestrians when driving.

High Way Authority (Driving Licenses & Vehicle Registration): Applications and renewals of driving and vehicle registrations must be done with the Highway Authority at the Ministry of Information, Communications, Transport & Tourism Development at Betio in South Tarawa

ELECTRICITY

The electrical current in Kiribati is 240 volts, AC 50 Hz. Three pin power outlets are commonly used in Kiribati. Electricity supply and billing should be made to the Public Utilities Board (P.U.B) at offices in Betio, Bairiki & Bikenibeu.



MARAKEI ATOLL

Marakei is a ring shaped atoll and is one of the islands in the northern Gilbert group located north of Abaiang and south of Butaritari Atoll. According to history, the discovering of Marakei was argued between two historians Sharp and Maude. Thus Sharp argued that the island was first sighted by Captain Hernando de Grijalva (Spain) in 1537 while Maude argued that it was discovered by Captain Louis Duperry in 1824. Marakei is also known traditionally and culturally as an island where all its spiritual guardians are all goddesses. These goddesses are Nei Reei who protects the island in the west, Nei Rotebenua protector of the south side, Nei Tangangau protector of the east side, and Nei Naantekimam who protects the island in the north. In reference to these goddesses it is compulsory for all newcomers to Marakei to make an anticlockwise tour and to stop at the shrines of goddesses to offer tobacco as gifts. This Marakei traditional custom is known as "Te Katabwanin." Marakei is also known nationally for its delicious swamp taro 'babai.'

Tour Attractions & Experiences

- **Round trip tour & sightseeing of Marakei "Te Katabwanin:"** This tour is compulsory for all new comers to the island. The tour is an anticlockwise route of Marakei where visitors will be brought to visit the four shrines of the 4 spiritual goddesses of Marakei and also do a complete sightseeing tour of Marakei.
- **Snorkeling:** The best spot for snorkeling is the ocean side on the western side of the island extending from Marakei Island Council Guest at Rawannawi village in the north all the way down to Tekarakan village in the south on the west side. Here the drop off is close to shore and there is an abundance of fish and coral.
- **Surfing:** The best surfing spot is near the entrance passage at Rawannawi just offshore from the Island Council Guest house.
- **Canoe sailing:** The best spot is in the enclosed lagoon. The good thing about sailing in Marakei lagoon is that you wont get lost at sea because will always end up inside the atoll.
- **Local Fishing Experience:** Tuna fishing or flying fish fishing, octopus fishing and net fishing
- **The local food:** "babai" or swamp taro from Marakei is renowned in the country as being tastiest and delicious. Visitors should also try the local oyster "te rabino" which is a delicacy on the island.

Where to Stay & Holiday in Marakei

- **Marakei Island Council Guest House**

The guest house is situated on Rawannawi Village just walking distance from the airport. The guest house has a spectacular view of the ocean with snorkeling, fishing and surfing right at your door step. For holiday package in Marakei, contact:

Barere Services: Temakin, Betio, P: (686) 73076015, E: k.beretati@gmail.com



GETTING TO MARAKEI

Flights: Marakei Scheduled flights on Air Kiribati: Wed (via Abaiang), and Fri & Sun.

Flight time: 20 Min. R/Airfare: \$58

Bookings & Flight Info: Please call customer support: 1059 or 75021188

E: reservations@airkiribati.com.ki
Facebook: Air Kiribati

For any official business and assistance with accommodation & transport bookings on the island, please contact:

MARAKEI ISLAND COUNCIL

Operator, P: 73055234,

E: marakeiclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki



MAIANA ATOLL

Maiana is one of the islands in the Central Gilbert Islands situated 44 kilometres (27 mi) south of the capital island Tarawa. The atoll features a mediate size lagoon, with small coral islets at the north and south ends of the island. Maiana is rich in cultural history and legends where you will find most shrines of ancient god's idols which are preserved. Maiana is administered by an Island Council based at Tebangetua village. Maiana is also the home of the former His Excellency President Anote Tong.

Tour Attractions & Experiences

- Island tour & sightseeing: Visit shrines of the God of Thunder (Tabuariki), Nei Abinoa and more, and hear about the interesting oratory legend stories.
- Fishing (boat fishing, bonefishing, sand worm hunting)
- Cultural Tour and entertainment.
- Tebikerai Islet Community tour
- Snorkeling, swimming, canoe sailing

Where to Stay & Holiday in Maiana

- **Tatereka Island Bungalows:** Experience traditional Kiribati style accommodation at Tebangetua, Maiana in walking distance to the island council station. Activities include: cultural & island tour, kayaking, canoe sailing, sports fishing. For more info & bookings, contact, P: (686) 73002175 / 73093758, E: remtaty-ka@gmail.com
- **Maiana Council Guesthouse:** Experience local style accommodation at the heart of Tebangetua, Maiana. Activities: Island & Cultural tours, fishing, traditional canoe sailing. For more info, contact: P: (686) 73099250, E: maianaclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki



GETTING TO MAIANA

*Flights on Air Kiribati: Fri & Sun.
Flight time: 15 minutes , R/Airfare: \$49*

*Bookings & Flight Info: Please call customer support: 1059 or 75021188
E: reservations@airkiribati.com.ki
Facebook: Air Kiribati*

Ferries: Please refer to page 25 on Maiana Ferry information.

For any official business on the island, please contact:

MAIANA ISLAND COUNCIL

*Clerk, P: 73099250
E: maianaclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki*

EMERGENCY PHONE CONTACTS

Operator (Emergency)	100 / 199	Fire	193
Ambulance (hospital)	194 / 195	Police	192 / 188
Child & Domestic Violence	188		

FUEL & GAS

You can easily spot gas stations on South Tarawa and on the outer islands. Petroleum & Diesel fuel supplies can be purchased from the KOIL (Kiribati Oil Company) situated at the wharf area in Betio. On outer islands fuel supply are available from the KOIL agent branches situated nearby to the local Island Council stations.

HEALTH & MEDICAL SERVICES

Pharmaceuticals and medical supplies are limited in Kiribati hence it is advised that you bring your personal medication during your visit. The main Central Hospital is situated at Nawerewere and in Betio in the capital South Tarawa. The hospital also operates a 24hr ambulance service operates (DIAL: 194/195). Dental service is also available. On North Tarawa and the outer islands you will only find medical clinics attended by Medical Assistances (MA) and nurses. Once in the country please do not drink unboiled water. There is only one private pharmacy in Kiribati located in the capital, indicated below:

- **Aneieta Pharmacy & Medical Clinic:** Is the only private pharmacy in Kiribati. The pharmacy is situated at the Bairiki Super-Mall (ground floor), Bairiki, South Tarawa. Opens Mon to Sun, 10am-5pm. Doctor consultations on Wed & Sat, 10am - 5pm

INBOUND TOUR OPERATORS

- **Barere Services:** Temakin, Betio, P: (686) 73076015, E: k.beretati@gmail.com
- **Kiribati Holidays (Tobaraoi Travel):** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa. P: (686) 74028715, E: visiting@tobaraoi.com or info@kiribatiholidays.com, W: www.kiribatiholidays.com
- **Maneiko Kiribati Tours (Maneiko Travel):** located in Bairiki (in Supermall at Shop No.22. on 2nd floor), South Tarawa. P: (686) 75022154 or 75022154, E: denise@maneiko.com.ki or E: infomaneiko@gmail.com, W: www.maneikotravel.co.nz
- **Molly's Tours:** contact Molly Brown in Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 73001016 E: mollybrown413@gmail.com

POSTAL SERVICES & COURIER

- **Kiribati Postal Services:** Handles postal services and Express Mail Service (EMS). Head office in Bairiki. Opening hours are Mon to Fri from 8am to 4:15pm. Contact, P: (686) 75021047 or 75021048 (Bairiki)
- **DHL:** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, P: (686) 74028715. E: willie@tobaraoi.com

TIDE & WEATHER FORECAST INFORMATION

For tide and weather forecast information for Tarawa and Gilbert Islands group you can always acquire information from the Kiribati Meteorological Service office website: www.met.gov.ki

TRAVEL AGENCIES

- **Kiribati Travel Agency (Air Kiribati and Solomon Airlines):** Air Kiribati Reservations Office at KPF Building (ground floor, Bairiki) and Air Kiribati (Airport at Bonriki). For reservations, contact, P: (686) 75021188 / 75021189, E: info@airkiribati.com.ki W: www.airkiribati.com.ki
- **Maneiko Travel:** located in Bairiki (in Supermall at Shop No.22. on 2nd floor), South Tarawa. P: (686) 75022154 or 75022154, E: denise@maneiko.com.ki or E: infomaneiko@gmail.com, W: www.maneikotravel.co.nz
- **Pacific Travel:** located at TK Plaza (2nd floor), South Tarawa. P: (686) 75228834, W: www.pacifictravel.com.ki
- **Tobaraoi Travel:** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa. P: (686) 74028715, E: tarawa@tobaraoi.com, W: www.tobaraoi.com

WHAT TO PACK TO KIRIBATI

Light cotton clothing, polarized sun glasses, medication & first aid kit, sunscreen lotion, mosquito / insect repellent, hat, digital camera, reef sandals, snorkeling gear, flash light and book to read, a bottle or two of your favorite liquor or wine; and fishing gears if you intend to do some fishing.



Golden Rules for your stay in Kiribati

With your help we can make Kiribati a better place for everyone to enjoy. Hence, during your stay we ask that you respect our ways and be mindful of the following:

Manners, Behaviour & Social Norms

- Remember you are a guest – always behave respectfully
- Treat all people with respect and politeness
- Be aware of local religious and social customs
- Behave respectfully especially in villages, religious and cultural areas
- Learn key words in the Kiribati language. Using some local words is certainly appreciated by the locals, and will put you in good stead in making new friends.
- The locals love to have their pictures taken however we do ask that you respect the dignity and privacy of others and ask before taking photos.
- In all aspects of life, humility and humbleness are admired.
- Direct eye contact is uncommon, and it is inappropriate to look directly at one of higher status. Touching of heads is considered extremely intimate, and the top of the head is a taboo area. Similarly, do not raise your hands/arms above another person's head (for example by leaning on a mwaneaba roof).
- Don't walk across or cut between the gaze of talking individuals. Go around them or stoop or when you do, bend down below eye level and pass, and use the word "matauninga."
- Please be mindful not to speed alongside a mwaneaba or church where there is meeting gathering or church service in session. It is expected that you get off your motorcycle and push it or if you are in a car, drive slow until you have passed by the mwaneaba or the church. This is more applicable on the outer islands.

ABAIANG ATOLL

The Atoll of Abaiang is situated north of the capital island, Tarawa. The name Abaiang traditionally means "land in the North." In 1788 it was explored by Captain Thomas Gilbert. Abaiang is also known as the first island in Kiribati where Christianity was first introduced following the arrival of the first Protestant Missionaries, Dr. Rev. Hiram Bingham and his team who arrived and went ashore at Koinawa on 16 November 1857. Bingham is also praised for producing the Kiribati language literature. On the 10th of June 1892 Captain Davies of the "Royalist" arrived in Abaiang and hoisted the English flag. Christian Roman Catholic faith was also introduced to Abaiang and the missionaries completed the building of the imposing Church of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 1907, which is still stands today at Koinawa village. This work was done under the supervision of a priest from Belgium who was given the local name of Father Ioane and the village Borotiam was named after his home country Belgium, the Kiribati translation of Belgium. The Catholic school of St. Joseph's College in Tabwiroa is one of the oldest educational institutions in Kiribati founded in 1939. The school produced two former Presidents of Kiribati; His Excellency President Teburoro Tito and His Excellency President Anote Tong.

Tour Attractions & Experiences

- Abaiang's stunning beautiful lagoon and islets
- Cathedral church of Our Lady of Rosary (Tower Church) at Koinawa established 1907.
- St. Joseph College (Tabwiroa) one of the oldest educational institutions in Kiribati founded in 1939
- Day trip to Teirio Islet Beach Resort and other islets
- Hiram Bingham monument at Koinawa village marking the arrival of Protestant faith in Kiribati on 16 November 1857
- Visit Shrines - Nei Arauri, Naibunaki, King Kaiea's Shrine, Nei Tearintarawa, Nei Nikuao and Nauboiko.
- Cultural Village tour can be arranged with Terau Beach Bungalows (see contact below)
- Game fishing, snorkeling, canoe sailing, spear fishing, kayaking

Where to Stay

- **Ocean Breeze Bungalows:** Experience traditional Kiribati style accommodation at Tebero, Abaiang. Activities include: snorkeling, kayaking, canoe sailing, sports fishing and Island tour. For more information, contact: P: (686) 73062045 / 73064140, E: oceanbreezebungalows@gmail.com or neiuariera@gmail.com, W: www.oceanbreezebungalow.com
- **Terau Beach Bungalows:** Experience local style accommodation at the heart of tebero, Abaiang. Activities: Islet Day Trip (snorkeling, swimming, sunbathing, fishing, spear fishing and picnic lunch), Island tour on truck, Cultural tours, traditional canoe sailing. Holiday package is also available. For more info, contact: P: (686) 73005959, E: teraubeach@gmail.com, W: www.teraubeachbungalow.com, F: Terau Beach Bungalow



GETTING TO ABAIANG

Flights: Abaiang Scheduled flights on Air Kiribati: Wed, Fri & Sun (Trw/ Abaiang/Trw). Flight time: 10 Min. R/Airfare: \$50

BOOKINGS & FLIGHT TIMES: Please call customer support: 1059 or 75021188

E: reservations@airkiribati.com.ki
Facebook: Air Kiribati

Ferries: Please refer to page 25 on Abaiang Ferry information.

For any official business on the island, please contact:

ABAIANG ISLAND COUNCIL

Clerk, P: 73075742

E: abaiangclerk@internalaffairs.gov.ki

© Tarawa Photography

Outer Island Adventure

Which Island to Explore:

The Gilbert Islands has a number of islands that you can explore for your adventure, however we do recommend you travel to islands with frequent flight accessibility. These islands include: Abaiang, Marakei, Butaritari, Makin, Maiana, Abemama, Kuria, Aranuka, Nonouti and North Tabiteuea.

Facts - What you need to know about the Outer Islands

- **Accommodation:** Accommodation on the outer islands are rustic and basic in the form of a guesthouse or island bungalows (buias) equipped with mosquito nets and beddings. Accommodation rate ranges from \$30pp/pn. Electricity is usually supplied in the evening and maybe throughout the night by solar power or generator. Airport transfers must be arranged and is normally charged on the outer islands.
- **Golden Rules for your stay in Kiribati:** Please refer to page 16
- **\$ Money (Extra Cash):** There are no banks and ATMs on the outer islands hence cash is the only form of payment accepted on the outer islands. When travelling to an outer island please make sure you carry with you extra cash to meet your expenses.
- **Other Facilities & Services:** Communication services (telecommunication & internet) is limited on the outer islands however they are available at the Island Council station offices. Medical facilities and services are limited except for medical clinics located at villages so do ensure you bring with you any medications you may require during your trip.
- **Food & Beverage:** Food provided is what is available locally especially daily catch of fresh seafood and local grown vegetables/crops (screw pine, pumpkin, taro, coconut, cassava, papaya, bananas etc). Boiled drinking water and green coconuts are always made available for guests. It is also recommended that you bring some snacks with you. Alcohol drinks such as beer and liquors are limited on the outer islands therefore we recommend you bring along a bottle or two of wine or liquor of your choice.
- **Transport (Hire & Rentals):** Motorbikes, pushbikes and trucks with rear canopies are a popular means of getting around on the outer islands with hire arrangements can be made with the Island Council offices, hotels and private owners. Boat charter to explore islets and custom day trips can also be arranged.
- **Site Seeing & Tour Activities:** For site seeing & tour activities can be arranged Island Council offices, hotels and private owners. It is required that visitors are accompanied by a local tour guides. Site seeing and tour activities will also incur transportation and tour guide costs hence visitors are advised to bring enough cash for such expenses.
- **Airport Tax:** Outer islands normally charge \$20pp airport tax upon departure. This should be paid at Island Council office or at the airport prior to departure.

Outer Island organized Travel and Tour Assistance (Inbound Tour Operators):

Travelers requiring assistance with organizing travel plans, travel & tour itinerary and escort to the outer islands can contact the 'Inbound Tour Operators,' contact details are on page 15 or, you can always contact or visit our Tourism Office for assistance.



Support local Initiatives

- Support local communities by purchasing local products, arts and crafts
- If you want to gift money, support community projects rather than individuals

Dress Code

Loose cool clothing is encouraged to suit the hot climate, however it is important that you dress modestly in villages, religious and cultural areas. A sarong and local tailored blouse (Mauri wear) is the sort of wear popular among women in Kiribati. Women are advised not to wear skimpy clothing in public or in the village. Women may wear bikini on private or isolated beaches, but if you intend to go into the village please cover up by putting on a t-shirt and a lavalava (sarong). Nude and topless swimming / sun bathing is not acceptable throughout Kiribati. Wearing a sarong (lavalava) is required when attending functions in a mwaneaba (a meeting & social hall).

"Te Mweaka" Custom

"Te Mweaka" is a customary practice that applies to first time visitors when visiting a place or island for the first time. On most islands and places in Kiribati, a first time visitor will be required under the traditional initiation protocol of the island or place to be escorted to the shrine(s) of the paramount guardian spirit(s) of the island. This custom will require that the visitor must provide tobacco(s) offering to the shrine(s). The offering is traditionally called "Te mweaka" and nowadays tobacco (Irish cake tobacco aka "Te Boa") is often used as offering. The moral of this traditional custom is to introduce new visitor(s) to the ancestral spirit guardian; request safe-guarding; permission to conduct activities and to bestow luck to the visitor during his/her stay on the island.

Help Minimize Environmental impact

- Show the locals that you care about the environment by disposing of rubbish carefully, recycle where possible, reuse your drink bottles and shopping bags; Involve and educate the locals so they too can help make Kiribati a better place.
- Do not leave your rubbish take them with you
- Minimise water and energy use.

Think about your impact

- Practice safe and responsible sex
- Make your trip to Kiribati a positive experience for both you and the people.

"Te Mwaneaba" Customs

The "Mwaneaba" is a communal traditional meeting house or social hall which remains the most important institutional symbol and foundation of social and community life in Kiribati. It is important to consider the following customs when invited to a function in a mwaneaba:

- **Stooping:** In the mwaneaba it is considered respectful to stoop when walking through people sitting down. Use the word "matauninga" which is a polite word of saying "excuse me".
- **Sitting Manner:** As guests you will be allocated your place to sit where you will be facing the host or the elders sitting on the opposite side. To face away or to turn your back is considered rude. Sitting with your feet pointing towards a person can be interpreted as a rude and a challenge. In the mwaneaba it is customary to sit on the floor with your legs crossed or feet tucked in underneath the other, this is called "te kabari." It is likely that you will sit on the floor for a long time, which can get a bit uncomfortable. So try to bare until you will be told by the Master of Ceremony (Te Tia Babaire) that you can relax your legs, but if you do, please make sure your head is pointing towards the group, as it is considered rude to do otherwise.
- **Mwaneaba Dress Code:** Make sure you wear a shirt and sarong when attending a function in a mwaneaba.



Where to Stay



Choosing your Accommodation with...

MAURI MARK STANDARDS & GRADING SYSTEM

The Kiribati Tourism Mauri Mark standards program has been developed for accommodations in Kiribati. It represents the 'tick of approval for accommodation operators in being able to say they have obtained the minimum standards, and categorizes these accommodations based on the type and style that are currently available in Kiribati ranging from Hotel, Self-Contained Apartment, Guest House, Island Bungalow, and Homestay. The classification criteria as outlined below are only applied in Kiribati. They are based on some features of the following main areas. These include rooms, facilities, buildings, services, - in general cleanliness and general state of maintenance.



Kiribati Tourism Standards Program

Class A [Good Quality]

Class B [Medium Quality]

Class C [Acceptable Quality]

1. For Hotel, Serviced Apartments and Guesthouse Category

Class A: It refers to well maintained accommodations, fully furnished with good quality facilities and efficient service. A/C, Hot water, fully furnished, backup generator, Sky TV, internet connection. Reliable communication links (telephone, mobile, and email contacts for bookings and enquiries). Tea and coffee making facilities, mini-bar, toiletries, laundry and room service provided. Free airport transfers. Staff in uniform with named tags, well-groomed, and offers efficient customer service. Plus clean surroundings, attractive landscape, sufficient and clean water supply. Located close to natural attractions or main activity and shopping center

Class B: Good standard facilities and services available. These include WIFI limited wireless connection, telephones. and email contacts for bookings and enquiries. Tea and Coffee making facilities, Air-conditioned/Fan or natural cooling, Staff in uniform, well groomed, presentable, has good customer service. Plus clean surroundings, basic landscape, sufficient and clean water supply. Located close to natural attractions.

Class C: Basic standard facilities and services available. These include limited internet connection. Has telephone and email contacts for booking and enquiries. Free airport transfers laundry service and toiletries provided. Has air-conditioned rooms or ceiling/table fan or natural cooling. Staff not in uniform, but presentable. Clean surroundings, no landscape, sufficient and clean water supply. Limited natural attractions.

2. For Island Bungalows and Homestay Category

Class A: refers to local buildings (traditional Kiribati style housing) that are well-maintained. Equipped with solar powered lights/or electricity, 24hr internet connection, telephone, mobile and email contacts for bookings and enquiries. Has comfortable mattresses with clean sheets, pillow cases and mosquito nets. Provides toiletries and laundry service. Airport transfers. Has fans or natural cooling. Host presentable and offers good customer service, tours and entertainments. Clean surroundings, attractive landscape, sufficient healthy and clean water supply. Located close to natural attractions e.g. beach, sea and historical sites or main activity and shopping areas.

Class B: refers to local buildings (traditional Kiribati style housing), uses solar powered lights/or electricity with limited internet connections. Telephone and email contacts for booking and enquiries. Reasonably good mattresses with clean pillow cases and mosquito net provided. Toiletries, laundry, tours and airport transfers are available on request. Host presentable and offers good customer service. Clean surroundings, basic landscape, sufficient healthy and clean water supply. Located close to natural attractions.

Class C: refers to local buildings (traditional Kiribati style housing), uses solar lights with unreliable limited internet connection. Has telephone and email contacts for booking and enquiries. Very basic beddings with mattresses, mosquito nets and pillows available. Toiletries, laundry, tours and airport transfers are also available on request. Host presentable and offers basic customer service. Clean surroundings, no landscaping, sufficient and clean water supply.



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UNWINDING IN TARAWA

The following are recommended bars, nightclubs and places to unwind in Tarawa:

- **Amazing PUB:** Located downtown Betio next to MOEL shop, South Tarawa. [Nightclub & Dancing, DJ & Special Live Band Show Nights, Special Event nights, Pool, Sky TV]
- **Beer & Bullshit Bar (Betio Lodge II):** Located at Takoronga, Betio, South Tarawa. [Ice Chilled Beer, finger foods, Sports Bar, Noon time bee hangout, Wine & Dine, Coffee Cappuccino, Sky TV, Darts Fridays, Quiz Night Thursdays, Key of Fortune, Game fishing tournament weigh inn hosting, Special Event Hosting e.g. Melbourne Cup, Valentine].
- **DJ Marina Nightclub:** Located at Tatirerei (opposite the George Hotel), Betio, South Tarawa. [Nightclub, DJ Music, Special Live Band Shows, Ladies Night, Pool tables, Karaoke]
- **The George Hotel Bar:** Located at Tatirerei (George Hotel), Betio, South Tarawa. [Nightclub, noon time beer hangout, Sports Bar, Wine & Dine, BBQ nights, Pool table, Sky TV]
- **Fab-Ace:** Located at Bairiki at the Bairiki Supermall, South Tarawa. [Bar & Nightclub, Karaoke, Pool tables, darts]
- **Emperor Nightclub:** Located at Fair Price shop, Teoraereke, South Tarawa. [Bar & Nightclub, DJ Music, pool tables, large & spacious night club, lagoon view and built over the water].
- **Koakoa's Corner:** Located at Antebuka near Fema Lodge, South Tarawa. [Wine & Dine, Lagoon & beautiful sunset view]
- **Utirerei Hotel Bar & Restaurant:** Located Ambo, South Tarawa. [Wine & Dine, great atmosphere].
- **Ambo Lagoon Club:** Located Ambo on the lagoon side close to Utirerei Hotel and Dreamers Guesthouse on South Tarawa. [Public & Members Bar, Karaoke, Yoga & Badminton Tuesdays and Thursdays, Party function venue hire, beautiful lagoon view]
- **Tarawa Hotel Nightclub:** Located at Bikenibeu, South Tarawa. [Nightclub, DJ & Live Band Show Nights, Lagoon view, BBQ]
- **Eniita Restaurant & Bar:** Located Temwaiku behind Slim Price Shop, South Tarawa. [Wine & Dine, Hall]
- **Runways End Pub (aka Kaitibo's):** Located near end of the airport runway at Bonriki. [Ice Chilled Beer, wine & dine, Noon time beer hangout, handicraft & souvenirs].
- **Kelani Lodge Bar:** Located in Buota, North Tarawa. [Wine & Dine, Beautiful view & location, Sky TV]. P: (686) 73094277/ 73062644
- **Tabon Te Keekee Eco-Lodge:** Located in Abatao, North Tarawa. [Wine & Dine, Beautiful view & peaceful location].
- **Ocean View Motel:** Located in Aboakoro close to the Island Council Office. [Wine & Dine, Beautiful view & peaceful location, Beautiful breeze].



PLACES & SITES TO SEE ON NORTH TARAWA

The following are some places and sites on North Tarawa that you can get to see and learn about while visiting North Tarawa. Some of these sites are culturally sensitive and will require a local tour guide to take you to visit these sites. The following inbound tour operators can assist with organizing travel and tour on North Tarawa:

- **Kiribati Holidays:** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa.
P: (686) 74028715, E: info@kiribatiholidays.com or visiting@tobaraoi.com,
W: www.kiribatiholidays.com
- **Maneiko Kiribati Tours (Maneiko Travel):** located in Bairiki (in Supermall at Shop No.22. on 2nd floor), South Tarawa.
P: (686) 75022154 or 75022154,
E: denise@maneiko.com.ki or E: infomaneiko@gmail.com,
W: www.maneikotravel.co.nz
- **Mollys Tours:** Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 73001016
E: mollybrown413@gmail.com

Clam farm & Boat Building Facility at Abatao

Explore the amazing world of clams at Mike's place in Abatao on North Tarawa. See these amazing creatures in their variety of colours and sizes, and learn how they bred and exported overseas. While at Mike's place you can also get to tour his boat building facility. For a tour, please see Mike or Riteta.

Immaculate Heart College (IHC)

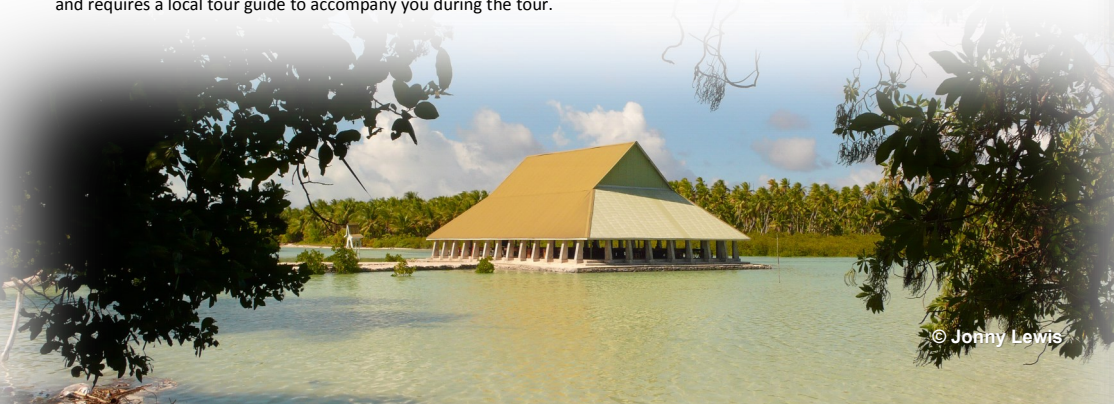
Immaculate Heart College (a Catholic high school) established 1955 at the village of Notoue in North Tarawa is one of the oldest schools in Kiribati. One of the unique features of the school is their mwaneaba built on the water. To take a tour of the school, please see one of the Nuns or the Principal of IHC.

Taratai

Taratai Village is a special village in North Tarawa and Kiribati because this was the first capital and colonial administrative centre of Kiribati later moving to Aboakoro in North Tarawa and then to Bairiki in South Tarawa. It was the first place in Kiribati where the British Union Jack was hoisted in June 1892 and Kiribati became a British colony. Taratai is known as the village of canoe builders. In the early 1970s, a traditional canoe named the "Taratai" was constructed at Taratai Village and sailed to Fiji using traditional navigation techniques, as part of the project by James Siers to demonstrate that Pacific Seafarers were capable of making deliberate voyages of exploration in ancient times. Some sites on Taratai are culturally sensitive and may require a local tour guide to accompany you during the tour.

Buariki to Naa Islet

Buariki village in North Tarawa is an important historical village where many of the Kiribati cultural legends are set. Here at Buariki to the Naa Islet you can see and learn about important cultural legends and historical sites. These includes sites like the sacred shrine of Beia-ma-Tekaai, King Kewe's shrine, Kimoauea (the rat queen), Japanese WWII memorial monument, abandoned lepers camp and more. Most of these sites are culturally sensitive and requires a local tour guide to accompany you during the tour.



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South Tarawa Accommodation

Betio Lodge I (Class A - Hotel and Serviced Apartment Category)

Location: Betio, Temakin (located between Sports Complex and Capitol Restaurant), South Tarawa

Room & Price: 30 standard, deluxe and double rooms; and 7 apartment units, Price range: AUD\$55 - \$150pp/pn \$20 for extra person (Inclusive: Free airport transfers, Cont. Breakfast, Wifi Internet and laundry)

Contact: P: (686) 75125073, E: reservations@betio-lodge.com

Website / SM: W: www.betio-lodge.com and Facebook: Betio Lodge



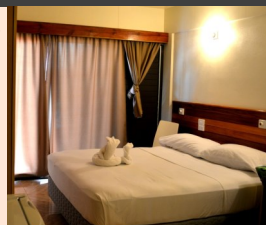
Betio Lodge II (Class A - Hotel and Serviced Apartment Category)

Location: Betio Lodge I and Betio Lodge - Takoronga (close to Coral Ace Supermarket), Betio, South Tarawa.

Room & Price: 13 standard and double rooms; and 3 apartment units, Price range: AUD\$99 to \$150pp/pn \$20 for extra person (Inclusive: Free Airport transfers, Cont. Breakfast, Wifi Internet and laundry) P: (686) 75125377, E: reservations@betio-lodge.com

Contact: P: (686) 75125377, E: reservations@betio-lodge.com

Website / SM: W: www.betio-lodge.com and Facebook: Betio Lodge



The George Hotel (Class A - Hotel Category)

Location: Tatirerei Rd (next to Protestant Church), Betio, South Tarawa.

Room & Price: 23 rooms. Price range from AUD\$88 to \$150pn (Inclusive Breakfast).

Contact: P: (686) 75088665 / 75126340, E: thegeorgehotelkiribati@gmail.com

Website / SM: Facebook: The George hotel Kiribati



The Mary's Motel (Class A - Hotel Category)

Location: Capital Bairiki, South Tarawa (close to the wharf).

Room & Price: 17 rooms. Price range from AUD\$75 to \$99pn.

Contact: P: (686) 75022227 / 75021362, E: reservations@marysmoteltarawa.com
Alternative Email: marysmotel@gmail.com

Website / SM: W: www.marysmoteltarawa.com and Facebook: Mary's Motel & Restaurant



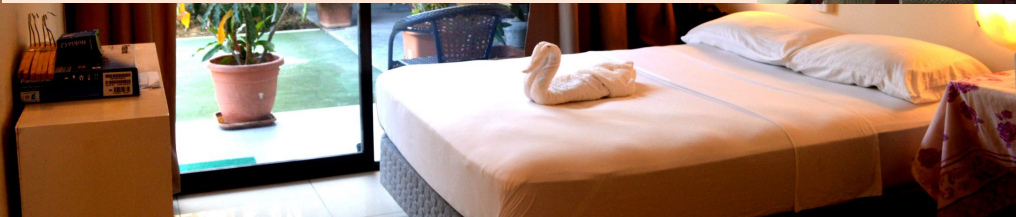
The George Bungalows (Class A - Serviced Apartment Category)

Location: Teaoaraereke (next to Taotin Trading shop), South Tarawa.

Room & Price: 8 self-contained overwater apartment bungalows. Price range: AUD\$150pn to \$1380 pm. Negotiable for long-term stays

Contact: P: (686) 72022147, E: thegeorgehotelkiribati@gmail.com

Website / SM: Facebook: The George Hotel Bungalow Kiribati



Fema Lodge (Class A - Hotel & Serviced Apartment Category)

Location: Antenon (close to LMATA), South Tarawa.

Room & Price: 12 rooms and 2 (self-contained). Price range from: AUD\$60 to \$110pp/pn

Contact: P: (686) 75021039 / 72021039, E: reservation@femalodge.com.ki

Website / SM: W: www.femalodge.com.ki



Utirerei Hotel (Class A - Hotel & Serviced Apartment Category)

Location: Ambo, South Tarawa.

Room & Price: 24 standard, deluxe & executive rooms. Price range from AUD\$80 to \$160pp/pn (VAT Inc). Inclusive: continental breakfast. AUD\$1450 to \$2300pm - two serviced apartments.

Contact: P: (686) 75022530 / 75021168 / 73049658, E: info@utirereimotel.com

Website / SM: W: www.utirereimotel.com



Dreamers Guesthouse (Class A - Guesthouse Category)

Location: Ambo, South Tarawa.

Room & Price: 3 self-contained rooms, Price range \$70per room per day, \$20 for extra person. Inclusive: Breakfast, free internet, Airport transfers.

Contact: P: (686) 73003453 or 73008598, E: dreamerskiribati@gmail.com

Website / SM: W: www.dreamerskiribati.com and Facebook: Dreamers Kiribati



Tobaraoi Apartments (Class A - Serviced Apartment Category)

Location: Tobaraoi Building, Lagoon Drive, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa.

Room & Price: 2 deluxe furnished serviced apartment units. Price range from \$175pn + VAT. (Negotiable rates for long-term)

Contact: P: (686) 74028715, E: visiting@tobaraoi.com

Website / SM: W: www.tobaraoi.com



Eniita Airport Lodge (Class A - Guesthouse Category)

Location: Temwaiku (Slim Price Shop), South Tarawa

Room & Price: 16 rooms. Price range from \$50 to \$80 (Inclusive: breakfast)

Contact: P: +686 72050131, Email: enitalodge2017@gmail.com

Website / SM: Facebook: Eniita Lodge



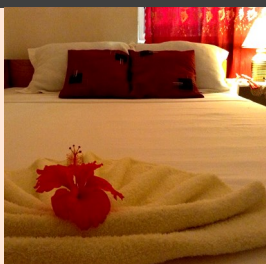
Tad's Guesthouse (Class A - Guesthouse Category)

Location: Temwaiku, South Tarawa.

Room & Price: 8 rooms, 2 self-contained units. Price range from AUD\$50 - \$70pn. 2 Rental houses, price range: AUD\$1000 to \$1500 pm.

Contact: P: (686) 73004600 / 73004601 / 73018446 / 73011500
E: tukabut@gmail.com or lucyannet@gmail.com

Website / SM: W: www.tadsguesthouse.com



PLACES & SITES TO SEE ON SOUTH TARAWA

The following are some places and sites on South Tarawa that you can get to see on your own personal tour, however we do recommend that you go on an organized sightseeing tour to allow you to see more and learn more about South Tarawa. The tour operators will normally make proper tour arrangements to places which are restricted and require proper arrangements for tour visits. (For organized tours please refer to the section on Day Tours & Trips on page 29)

Betio

Betio on South Tarawa is one of the most overcrowded places in the world and it is a great example of what urbanization and urban drift looks like. Here you can explore life in Betio where houses congested, land is scarce, rubbish disposal problems and where people are trying to cope with the impact of modern day living. Also get to see places like the red beach, the wharf, Marine Training Centre (MTC), Copra Mill, the wharf area, war relics etc. To explore Betio, you can either walk around the island or get on one of the Betio buses that take you around Betio.



WWII Relics on Betio

Betio on South Tarawa was the site of the bloody Battle of Tarawa during WWII between the Japanese and US armed forces. Today Betio is a living WWII museum where you can explore the remains of the battle: defense guns, bunkers, tanks, landing beaches and monuments in memory of the lost lives. To help you explore you can either arrange a local tour guide (see page 29) or pick up a free copy of the Battle of Tarawa guide booklet from the Tourism Authority of Kiribati to help your way explore.



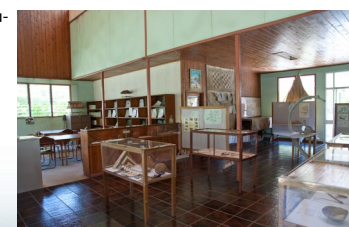
Bairiki the Capital City

The capital city of Bairiki on South Tarawa is one of the smallest capital cities in the world but it is also the one of the largest towns in South Tarawa. Here you can get a glimpse of the State House, Government offices and diplomatic missions. You can also explore the local Bairiki market, experience some local food, do some shopping, or you can head to National Library for some reading. While at the library you can always offer some reading lessons to the local kids.



Parliament Building "Mwaneaba Ni Maungatabu" at Ambo

The Kiribati parliament building is a land mark located at Ambo in South Tarawa and is one of the unique features in Kiribati to explore. This modern architecture was inaugurated in 2000 and mimics the style of a traditional meeting house the "mwaneaba" which is considered the heart of any Kiribati community, centre of village life and the basis of island and national governance.



Highest Point on South Tarawa at Eita

The highest elevated point in South Tarawa is located at the Eita village on South Tarawa. This highest point is merely 3 meters above sea-level. It is one of those places to take a photo.

Cultural Museum "Te Umwanibong" in Bikenibeu

The museum is located in Bikenibeu on South Tarawa and it is one of those places to visit if you want to learn more about Kiribati history and culture. There are also historical and cultural artifacts on display that you can observe. Opening days/hours are Mon to Fri from 8am to 4pm.



Tarabuka Hideaway Lodge

Tarabuka Hideaway Lodge is specially designed for groups and individuals who want to get away from the busy life of the urban areas. It is situated inland at Buariki in North Tarawa one hour by boat from the capital city of Tarawa. Here the mangroves welcome you on the lagoon side while the beaches and sounds of waves welcome you on the ocean side naturally offering relaxation and leisure. Electricity is run on solar energy. The lodges are locally built from Kiribati precious trees: coconut and pandanus whereby the Kiribati culture and way of life depends on. This natural setting provides you with the unforgettable experiences of being an I-Kiribati 100%, something to take away and something you would want to make a step back. Come FEEL, LIVE & EAT LOCAL. For interest, contact:

- **Tarabuka Hideaway Lodge:** Ms. Eretia Mwemwenikarawa, P: (686) 73059104 / 73083725, E: tarabukahideaway@gmail.com, www.tarabukahideaway.com, Facebook: Tarabuka Hideaway

Eutan Buariki Paradise

Eutan Buariki Paradise, also known as Buariki Eco Lodge is located in Buariki on North Tarawa. Buariki is an ideal location for those who want to getaway from South Tarawa and explore the Kiribati way of life. Buariki is also rich in cultural history with interesting sites to see. Apart from that, visitors can always relax, sail on canoe, tour the village, snorkel, swim, surf and participate in local fishing activities and more. For interest, contact:

- **Eutan Buariki Paradise Eco-Lodge,** Manager, P: (686) 73092989, Facebook: Eutan Buariki Paradise or Buariki Eco Lodge

Hiking Adventure to Broken Bridge

Hiking to Broken Bridge in North Tarawa is a great hiking adventure you can always try out with a couple of friends. The adventure will allow you to explore a totally different picture of Kiribati; fresh air and atmosphere, natural scenery, observe the rural life-style of the local communities as you walk /cycle through the villages and enjoy some good swimming at the channels between the islets or at broken bridge. You can start your hike from the bridge connecting South Tarawa and North Tarawa (Tanaea & Buota Bridge). Make sure you are fully recharged before hiking and bring some drinking water and snacks. If that is not enough you can always head to Tabon Te Keekee Ecolodge Restaurant in Abatao for some food and drinks or ask some locals if you can buy some green fresh coconut drinks. On Abatao Village you can also head to Mike's place for a tour of the clam farm and boat building facility.



North Tarawa Accommodation

Tabon Te Keekee Eco-Lodge (Class B - Island Bungalow Category)

Location: Abatao, North Tarawa

Room & Price: 5 traditional Kiribati bungalows (buias) (3 on land and 2 over water). Price range from \$99 to \$170 inclusive of Breakfast & Dinner.

Contacts: P: (686) 73037514 / 74028715 (book through Kiribati Holidays), E: visiting@tobaraoi.com or veronica@tobaraoi.com

Website / SM: W: www.tabontekeekee.com or www.kiribatiholidays.com



Santa Faustina Homestay (Class B - Homestay / Island Bungalow Category)

Location: Tabiteuea, North Tarawa.

Room & Price: 2 Traditional buia (one over water buia) - can accommodate up to 4 people. Price range from \$50 pp (children half price), all meal and laundry inclusive.

Contacts: Amon or Tekinati Timan, P: (686) 73014361 / 73021700 E: amon.timan@gmail.com

Website / SM: W: www.santafaustinahomestay.com



Tabuki Retreat (Class C - Island Bungalow Category)

Location: Tabuki Islet right next to Broken Bridge, North Tarawa

Room & Price: 2 self-contained cottages, 7 kiakias (2 over water buia). Price range: AUD\$150pp (Inclusive: Boat transfers, all meals and accommodation)

Contact: Mr. / Mrs. Mike Savins, P: (686) 73028107 / 73044546 / 73017613 E: michael savins@hotmail.com or atoll.beauties@gmail.com

Website / SM: W: www.tabukiretreat.com



Uaai Island Getaway (Class B - Island Bungalow Category)

Location: Uaai Island, North Tarawa.

Room & Price: Islands bungalows (buia) from \$20 for single buia, \$30 for family buia and \$150 for mwaneaba (meeting hall).

Contact: LMTA (Silver Cross) Office, next to Antebuka Store, Main Road, Antebuka, South Tarawa, P: (686) 75021135, E: uaaiislandgetaway@gmail.com

Website / SM: W: www.uaaiislandgetaway.com, Facebook: Ocean View Motel



Ocean View Motel (Class B - Hotel Category)

Location: Abaokoro, North Tarawa.

Room & Price: 13 rooms and 12 local bungalows. Price range from \$50 to \$60pp/pn for modern rooms and \$30 to \$40pp/pn for local bungalows. \$20pp boat transfer. Airport transfers.

Contact: Mr. & Mrs Karaeba, P: (686) 73005059 / 75067975 / 75019597 E: tooti95@gmail.com or karotuk@gmail.com

Website / SM: Facebook: Ocean View Motel



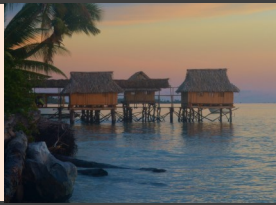
Moturerei Bungalows (Class B - Island Bungalow Category)

Location: Abaokoro (close to Ocean View Motel), North Tarawa.

Room & Price: Traditional overwater bungalows from \$10pp/pn

Contacts: Harry and Meaua, P: (686) 73001065,
E: etc.mayor@internalaffairs.gov.ki

Website / SM: Nil



Tarabuka Hideaway Lodge (Class B - Island Bungalow Category)

Location: Buariki, North Tarawa

Room & Price: 8 local bungalows. Price range from \$20 to \$50pp/pn. Holiday and Family package rates also available.

Contacts: Ms. Eretia Mwemwenikarawa, P: (686) 73059104 / 73083725
E: tarabukahideaway@gmail.com

Website / SM: www.tarabukahideaway.com and Facebook: Tarabuka Hideaway



Eutan Buariki Paradise (Buariki Eco Lodge) (Class C - Island Bungalow Category)

Location: Buariki, North Tarawa

Room & Price: 11 local bungalows. Price range from AUD\$30 pp/pn (all meals inclusive).

Contact: Manager, P: (686) 73092989

Website / SM: Facebook: Eutan Buariki Paradise or Buariki Eco Lodge



GETAWAYS & EXPERIENCES IN NORTH TARAWA

Family Homestay Cultural Experience

This is a great way to explore the Kiribati culture where you can actually experience and live with a Kiribati family home in the heart of a local village community in North Tarawa. Here you will learn about the local traditions and customs; learn local skills; participate in family and community activity; learn the Kiribati language; experience local food and sleep island style in a traditional house (buia or kiakia) and more. For interest, contact:

- **Santa Faustina Homestay & Tours:** Tabiteuea, North Tarawa. P: (686) 73014361 / 73021700 / 73010049, E: amon.timan@gmail.com. W: www.santafaustinahomestay.com



Getaway at Tabon Te Keekee Eco-Lodge in Abatao, North Tarawa

Tabon te Keekee offers traditional Kiribati accommodation in a I-Kiribati family environment on Abatao in North Tarawa away from the bustle of South Tarawa. It is ideal for those who want to experience and explore the local way of life, relax, swim and waking up to the colours of the sunrise. Guests get to stay on 'buias,' which are traditional raised houses. At Tabon Te Keekee you get to choose from the overwater buias or the land buias. It also one of those highly recommended places if you want to experience the local cuisine. For interest, contact:

- **Tabon Te Keekee Eco-Lodge:** Abatao, North Tarawa, P: (686) 73037514 or book with Kiribati Holidays: P: (686) 74028715. Email: veronica@tobaraoi.com or karea@tobaraoi.com, W: www.tabontekeekee.com



Getaway at Tabuki Retreat at Broken Bridge, North Tarawa

Tabuki Retreat is perfectly located near the Broken Bridge in North Tarawa ideal for friends, families or small groups who want to escape a day or a weekend in a peaceful and relaxing atmosphere where the water is marvelous crystal clear natural flowing water channel swimming spot right at your door step. Here guests sleep in island bungalows and can simply relax, swim, kayak, sunbathe and just enjoy the peace. You can bring your own food or you can always arrange meals upon booking. Game fishing can also be arranged on request. For more information, contact:

- Tabuki Retreat: Mr. / Mrs. Mike Savins, P: (686) 73028107 / 73044546 / 73017613
E: michaelssavins@hotmail.com or atoll.beauties@gmail.com W: www.tabukiretreat.com



Uaai Island Getaway, North Tarawa

Located in North Tarawa, Uaai Island Getaway is the perfect way to enjoy simple island life while staying close to the capital South Tarawa. Blue skies and sunny days all round, come and treat yourself to the best Kiribati has to offer; golden beaches, crystal clear water and possibly the most fresh and delicious seafood. For interest, contact:

- **Silver Cross / Uaai Island Getaway (LMTA Office):**
Located at LMTA (next to Antebuka Store), S. Tarawa. P: (686) 75021135 or 73028519(Roote), E: uaaaislandgetaway@gmail.com



Getaway at Ocean View Motel in Abaokoro, North Tarawa

Ocean View Motel is located in Abaokoro just in walking distance from the Island Council station and MV JR Obeta ferry port. The hotel offers beautiful accommodation with view of the ocean and Tarawa lagoon. Whilst here you can simply relax, enjoy the cool ocean breeze, try the local food, enjoy some beautiful swimming, kayaking, spearfishing, snorkeling and more. Apart from those you can always explore your way around to explore North Tarawa on bicycle, motorbike or by car that you can arrange with the hotel. The hotel also has its own bar and restaurant. For interest, contact:

- **Ocean View Motel:** Abaokoro, North Tarawa. P: (686) 75019597 / 75067975/ 73005059. E: tooti95@gmail.com or karotuk@gmail.com



Live like an I-Kiribati

EVENTS NOT TO MISS

Betio Game Fishing Club Competition

The Betio Game Fishing Club holds a monthly game fishing tournament with weigh ins hosted at the Betio Lodge II at Betio in South Tarawa. During the comp you can get to meet members and expats, enjoy some chatter and chilled beers. Membership fees applies for those who want to join in the competition; annual membership are \$30 single and \$50 family. For more information: contact, Karotu Tannang, P: (686) 73014712 (Fishing Competition dates may be subject to change depending on weather conditions. Any changes will be advised).

12th July Kiribati National Day Event

Combine your holiday with the most celebrated event in Kiribati; the "12th of July National Day," commemorating self-independence from British Colonial rule on the 12th July 1979, features almost a whole week of National holiday with interesting events happening: a colorful national parade on the 12th July, traditional dance competition, traditional Sailing canoe racing, Miss Kiribati pageant, ANZ Kiribati Idol, traditional wrestling, field & sporting events and more. If you're interested in visiting Tarawa for this event you can always plan and organize your trip with the following inbound tour operators:

- **Kiribati Holidays:** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa. P: (686) 74028715, E: info@kiribatiholidays.com or visiting@tobaraoi.com, W: www.kiribatiholidays.com
- **Maneiko Tours (Maneiko Kiribati Travel):** located in Bairiki (in Supermall at Shop No.22. on 2nd floor), South Tarawa. P: (686) 75022154 or 75022154, E: denise@maneiko.com.ki or E: infomaneiko@gmail.com, W: www.maneikotravel.co.nz
- **Mollys Tours:** Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 73001016 E: mollybrown413@gmail.com

WWII Battle of Tarawa & Battle of Makin Commemoration, 20th November

WWII's Battle of Tarawa and the Battle of Makin commemoration falls on every 20th Nov. The Battle of Tarawa commemoration annually takes place at Betio on South Tarawa while the Battle of Makin is also commemorated on Ukiangang Village on Butaritari island. Groups and individuals interested in visiting to attend this event can plan and organize their travel with the following:

- **Kiribati Holidays:** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa. P: (686) 74028715, E: info@kiribatiholidays.com or visiting@tobaraoi.com, W: www.kiribatiholidays.com
- **Maneiko Kiribati Tours (Maneiko Travel):** located in Bairiki (in Supermall at Shop No.22. on 2nd floor), South Tarawa. P: (686) 75022154 or 75022154, E: denise@maneiko.com.ki or E: infomaneiko@gmail.com, W: www.maneikotravel.co.nz
- **Mollys Tours:** Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 73001016 E: mollybrown413@gmail.com



Where to Eat



You will find most places to eat on Tarawa; at the hotels, restaurants, street food vendors, cafes and snack bars. On the outer islands food is provided mainly at the hotels and there can be times where you will also be invited to a community feast or a family home where you can try out the local food. Below is a list of suggested places to eat on Tarawa. Please refer to map for locations:

Restaurants on Tarawa	Location (Tarawa) / Contact	Specialties
Aboy's Kitchen	Betio close to One Stop shop	Chinese
Betio Lodge I	Betio (next to Capitol Restaurant), P: 75125073	Asian / Western
Betio Lodge II	Betio (near Coral Ace Supermarket), P: 75125377	Asian / Western
Capitol Restaurant	Betio (next to Betio Lodge 1)	Chinese
The George Hotel	Betio, Tatirerei Rd, (next to KPC church) P: 26340	Asian / Western
Mary's Motel & Restaurant	Bairiki (next to causeway), P: 75022227	Asian / Western /
The George Bungalows	Teaoraereke (next to Taotin Trading shop), P: 22147	Asian / Western
Koakoa's Corner	Antenon, Teaoraereke, close to Fema Lodge	Western / Local
Fema Lodge Restaurant	Antenon, Teaoraereke P: 75021039 / 72021039	Asian / Western
Chinese Pacific Restaurant	Banraeaba	Chinese / Asian
Utirerei Hotel	Ambo, P: 75022530 / 73049658	Western / Asian / Local
Eniita Restaurant & Bar	Eniita Airport Lodge, Slim Price Shop, Temwaiku	Western
Tabon Te Keekee Ecolodge Rest.	Abatao, North Tarawa.	Local / Western
Ocean View Motel	Abaokoro, North Tarawa	Local / Western

Cafes / Snack Bars	Location (Tarawa) / Contact	Menu's & Specialties
Betio Lodge I and II	Betio Lodge I at next to Sports Complex and Betio Lodge II, close to Coral Ace shop	Coffee (cappuccinos, lattes, ice mochas, espressos), smoothies, etc.
Colours Café	TK Plaza, Bairiki	Snacks, Pastries, coffee, ice cream, sundaes, etc.
Mary's Motel & Restaurant	Bairiki next causeway, P: 75022227	Burger & fries / Fish & Chips
Hot Food Express	Bairiki - Coral Ace Supermarket - Mall	Fast-food / Fries (fried chicken and chips/nuggets), meat pies.
Imart - Bikenibeu	Bikenibeu near police station.	Snacks, Pastries, milkshakes, smoothies, sundaes, ice cream.
Tobaraoi "Chatterbox"	Bikenibeu (Tobaraoi Travel Building), P: 74028715	Coffee, smoothies, snacks, sandwiches



Getting Around

BY AIR - FLYING DOMESTICS & CHARTERS

- **Air Kiribati (Domestic Flights):** Air Kiribati operate scheduled domestic air service from South Tarawa to the outer islands in the Gilbert Group. Advanced bookings and payment of airfares is encouraged to avoid disappointments. For bookings please visit Air Kiribati Reservations office at KPF Building ground floor, Bairiki, South Tarawa. P: (686) 75021188 E: reservations@airkiribati.com.ki, W: www.airkiribati.com.ki For flight schedules refer to https://airkiribati-schedules.blogspot.com
- **Coral Sun Aviation (Air Charters only):** JMR Group, Abarao, South Tarawa. P: (686) 75229517 / 75229518 or 73038556 E: ops.coralsun@gmail.com or jeffmjong@hotmail.com Website: www.coralsunaviation.net FB: Coralsunaviation

ISLAND & PUBLIC TRANSPORT

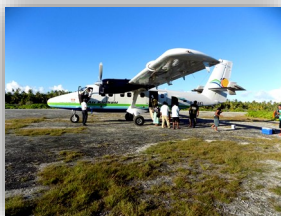
Bus Service: Buses operate an inexpensive mode of public transport only on South Tarawa. You can flag a bus at designated bus stops. To get off the bus just simply shout the word "I-kai" or "Taiaoka I-kai," meaning "stop here." If they sound their horn or flash their light it means they are full. On South Tarawa, buses travel from Betio as far as Tanea and Buota in North Tarawa. Bus fares on Tarawa range from 60 cents to \$2.00.

Rental Cars / Hire Trucks / Motorbikes / Bicycles: On capital South Tarawa rental cars can be arranged with the hotels prior to arrival or upon arrival. On the outer islands and North Tarawa motorbikes and trucks with rear canopies are a popular means of getting around. Hire arrangements can be made with Island Council offices, hotels and private owners.

BY SEA - FERRY & BOAT CHARTERS

Boat Charters: Get to North Tarawa or a nearby outer island or customize your own boat trip by chartering a speed boat with the following operators:

- **Kiribati Seas Boat Charters:** Contact: Kiribati Seas Co. Ltd, Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 75125641, Email: atekaata@gmail.com or kiriseaco@gmail.com
- **Nei Toitoi (Betio Lodge):** Contact Lilian at Betio Lodge, Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 75125377, Email: reservations@betio-lodge.com
- **Lady Mary (Mary's Motel):** Contact, Kenneth Inatio, Bairiki, South Tarawa, P: (686) 73019455 or 75022227. Email: Kenneth.inatio@gmail.com
- **Lily and Santa Maria (Lyke It Trading):** Contact, Lyke It Trading Office, opposite Japanese Command bunker and Mormon church in Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 75126357



DAY TOURS & TRIPS

Abatao, North Tarawa Cultural Tour

This is a perfect introduction to North Tarawa offering you an opportunity to observe and understand the local lifestyle and activities in the rural village of Abatao. During the tour will also get the chance to visit Mike's Clam Farm & Boat Building facility, visit the primary school and see other interesting cultural sites and activities on display. You will also visit Tabon Te Keekee Eco-Lodge restaurant for a beautiful lunch and some relax time and maybe finish off with some swimming. For more information, contact:

- **Kiribati Holidays:** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa. P: (686) 74028715, E: info@kiribatholidays.com or visiting@tobaraoi.com, W: www.kiribatholidays.com

Uaai Island Getaway, North Tarawa - Day Trip

Here's a great opportunity to spend a whole day in North Tarawa on Uaai Island Getaway where you can just simply relax, sunbathe, kayak, swim and enjoy a beautiful meal in paradise. The tour provides return transfers from your hotel, boat transfers to Uaai Island Getaway and lunch. For more information, contact:

- **Silver Cross / Uaai Island Getaway (LMTA Office):** Located at LMTA (next to Antebuka Store), S. Tarawa. P: (686) 75021135 or 73028519(Roote), E: uaiislandgetaway@gmail.com

Taratai & Buariki, North Tarawa Cultural Tour - Day Trip

This day tour trip allows you to travel further into North Tarawa to Taratai and Buariki on boat where you can spend the day exploring the culture and history of these two places: do some site seeing, experience the local food, explore the rural lifestyle in village communities, and do some swimming & snorkeling.

- **Maneiko Kiribati Tours (Maneiko Travel):** located in Bairiki (in Supermall at Shop No.22. on 2nd floor), South Tarawa. P: (686) 75022154 or 75022154, E: denise@maneiko.com.ki or E: infomaneiko@gmail.com, W: www.maneikotravel.co.nz

South Tarawa Site Seeing Tour

This is a perfect introduction to the capital, South Tarawa providing an excellent insight into the varied history and modern day life in the capital South Tarawa. This guided tour will take you around to see interesting places on South Tarawa: visit of the Capital City Bairiki; Climate change impacted sites; the highest point on Tarawa; Kiribati Parliament Building; Souvenirs shopping; Cultural Museum; and more. The Tour can be customized to your liking. For tour interests, contact:

- **Kiribati Holidays:** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa. P: (686) 74028715, E: info@kiribatholidays.com or visiting@tobaraoi.com, W: www.kiribatholidays.com
- **Maneiko Tours (Maneiko Kiribati Travel):** located in Bairiki (in Supermall at Shop No.22. on 2nd floor), South Tarawa. P: (686) 75022154 or 75022154, E: denise@maneiko.com.ki or E: infomaneiko@gmail.com, W: www.maneikotravel.co.nz
- **Mollys Tours:** Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 73001016 E: mollybrown413@gmail.com

WWII Battle of Tarawa Tour

This is a guided tour that will take around Betio to explore the bloody Battle of Tarawa. Highlights include site seeing of war relics, red beaches, visit memorials and more. For tour interests, contact:

- **Kiribati Holidays:** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa. P: (686) 74028715, E: info@kiribatholidays.com or visiting@tobaraoi.com, W: www.kiribatholidays.com
- **Mollys Tours:** Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 73001016 E: mollybrown413@gmail.com



Whats On Tarawa

Activities, Attractions & Experiences

ACTIVITIES IN THE WATER

Canoe Sailing

Experience sailing across Tarawa lagoon in a traditional Kiribati sailing canoe "te waa" and learn a lesson or two in sailing the Kiribati canoe reputed to be the fastest canoe in the Pacific. For interests contact:

- **Kiribati Holidays:** Tobaraoi Building, Bikenibeu, South Tarawa.
P: (686) 74028715, E: info@kiribatiholidays.com or visiting@tobaraoi.com,
W: www.kiribatiholidays.com
- **Santa Faustina Homestay & Tours:** Tabiteuea, North Tarawa.
P: (686) 73014361 / 73021700 / 73010049, E: amon.timan@gmail.com,
W: www.santafaustinahomestay.com

Game Fishing Charters & Custom Boat Charters

Game fishing and custom boat charters (for transfers to North Tarawa and nearby islands, diving & snorkeling trips, excursions or day trips). For information, contact:

- **Kiribati Seas Boat Charters:** Contact: Kiribati Seas Co. Ltd, Betio, South Tarawa,
P: (686) 75125641, Email: atekaata@gmail.com or kiriseaco@gmail.com
- **Lady Mary Fishing Tours & Boat Charters:** Contact, Kenneth Inatio, Bairiki, South Tarawa, P: (686) 73019455 or 75022227. Email: kenneth.inatio@gmail.com
- **Lily and Santa Maria (Lyke It Trading - Boat Charters):** Contact, Lyke It Trading Office, opposite Japanese Command bunker and LDS church in Betio, South Tarawa, P: (686) 75126357
- **Nei Toitoi (Betio Lodge):** Contact Lilian at Betio Lodge, Betio, South Tarawa,
P: (686) 75125377, Email: reservations@betio-lodge.com contact@khl.com

Scuba Diving

Explore the under water life and wrecks in Tarawa atoll and the Gilbert islands. For more information and interests, contact:

- **Mat Dive Centre:** contact, Michael Moote, Betio, South Tarawa.
P: (686) 73009649 / 73077570. E: matdive2017@gmail.com

Surfing

Surfing in the Gilbert Islands depends on the right timing and season. It is encouraged that you bring your own surf boards. For advise on surfing times & spots in the Gilbert Islands please contact:

- **KSA (Kiribati Surfing Association):** South Tarawa, E: kiribati.surfing@gmail.com or surfari101@gmail.com, W: www.surfkiribati.com



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Abaiang Island Ferry: The Abaiang speed ferries is one the best ways to get to Abaiang. Two ferry companies provide regular scheduled passenger service to Abaiang out of the Betio wharf:

- **MV Teraoi (Kiribati Seas Co. Ltd):** Tarawa/Abaiang/Tarawa schedule are Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays from the Betio Wharf at the old KPA Office opposite PVU, close to the roundabout intersection road. Departure times is around 10am but it is advised to call ahead to confirm departure times. The travel time approx. 2 to 3 hours depending on conditions. The Abaiang port is Tebero Village which is in convenient walking distance to Ocean Breeze Bungalows and Terau Beach Bungalows. Fare: \$20 Adults, \$15 (6-12yrs), \$10 (infants to 5yrs). Fares should be paid at the Kiribati Seas Office located next to the High Court office (please refer to Betio map for location). Hence, it is advised to pay your fare in advance to secure your seat.
For more information, contact: P: (686) 75125641, Email: kiriseaco@gmail.com
- **MV Santa Maria (Lyke It Trading):** Tarawa/Abaiang/Tarawa Schedule are Tuesdays (depart around 9am), Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays (depart around 12pm or 1pm) from the Betio Wharf (at wharf end, opposite Kiribati Fish Ltd). It is advised to call ahead to confirm departure times. The travel time is approximately 1hr. 30mins depending on conditions. The Abaiang port are Taniau Village and Koinawa Village. Fare: \$20 Adults and \$10 (U12yrs). Fares should be paid at Lyke It Trading office, located opposite the Japanese Command bunker and LDS church in Betio (please refer to Betio map for location). Hence, it is advised to pay your fare in advance to secure your seat.
For more information, contact: P: (686) 75126357

Maiana Island Ferry:

- **MV Santa Maria (SAOK):** Tarawa/Maiana/Tarawa Schedule are Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays from the Betio Wharf (at wharf end, opposite Kiribati Fish Ltd). It is advised to call ahead to confirm departure times. The travel time is approximately 2hrs depending on conditions. The Maiana port is Tebangetua Village (Island Council station). Fare: \$30 Adults and \$15 (U12yrs). Fares should be paid at the Shipping Agency of Kiribati (SAOK) office, located at Karaobwerena Rd in Betio (please refer to Betio map for location). Hence, it is advised to pay your fare in advance to secure your seat.
For more information, contact: SAOK Office, P: (686) 75126472 or 72026473

North Tarawa Ferry: Which Ferry to Catch to North Tarawa? Visitors are advised to catch the Abaokoro ferries marked 'MV JR OBETA 1' or 'MV JR OBETA 2'; these ferries go straight to Abaokoro and also provide land transport drop off service for passengers needing to go as far as Buariki. The Ferry schedule from Bairiki wharf to Abaokoro in North Tarawa are Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, departing around 12pm, hence it is advised to be at the wharf around 11pm. From Abaokoro back to Bairiki wharf, schedule are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; departing Abaokoro around 7 to 8am. The ferry fare is \$5 which should be paid to the Supercargo of MV JR OBETA ferry prior to departing. Abaokoro is also where the two hotels - Motureri Bungalows and Ocean View Motel, and also the Island Council office are situated in short walking distance from where the ferry passengers will come ashore. For information on Abaokoro (North Tarawa) MV JR OBETA Ferry services please contact, Mayor Harry, P: (686) 73001065.



Shopping

SHOPS & SUPERMARKETS: The capital South Tarawa is where you will find most shops and more variety but yet still limited. Shopping in North Tarawa and on rest of the outer islands is very limited to small convenient shops. Below is a list of the main shops on South Tarawa (Please refer to the South Tarawa maps for shop locations).

Shops & Supermarkets (A-Z)	ITEMS / PRODUCTS								
	Poultry & Meat	Fruits & Veg	Fish/ Seafood	Dairy	Grain (pasta, bread, cereals)	Alcohol (Liquor, Wines, Beers)	Beverage (water & soft drinks)	Canned & Processed Foods	Other items (Kitchenware, Homeware, Hardware, etc.)
Antebuka Store	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Coral Ace	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Fair Price	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓
Favorite	✓	✓		✓					
HOKISAN						✓	✓	✓	✓
I-MART	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kiribati Fish Ltd (KFL)			Tuna Fillets						
MOEL	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
New Island Traders						✓	✓	✓	✓
One Stop					✓	✓		✓	
PUNJAS	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Slim Price	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Taotin Trading	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Tebaiiku (Liqor Store)						✓	✓		



Souvenirs & Local Produce

Support our local communities and economy by purchasing our local products.

The "Mauri Wear" is a popular fashion among women in Kiribati. It is stylish, sassy and designed beautifully. It suits all occasions - casual, party, work, church. They are produced and tailored locally and can be customized to your own liking.

Departing Visitors travelling with handicrafts souvenirs or frozen fish are advised to observe the information on Quarantine & Biosecurity / Fisheries on page 12

- **CPPL:** [Fish & seafood]. Located Bairiki wharf, South Tarawa.
- **Kiribati Fish Limited (KFL):** [Frozen Prepacked Sashimi Export Grade Tuna Fillets - flight ready packaging]. Located at KFL at end of Betio Wharf, South Tarawa.
- **Kiribati Organic Producers (KOP):** [Supplier of 100% Pure Virgin Coconut Oil and Local Produce]. Contact Ms. Ahling Onorio, P: (686) 75229699 / 75229876, E: k-organic@mail.com
- **Kiribati Postal Services (Post Office):** [Local Stamps and Postcards]. P: (686) 75021047 or 75021048, E: kpb@mcttd.gov.ki
- **Local Markets and Roadside vendors:** [Handicrafts, local food, fresh fish, organic vegetables & fruits, green coconuts and other local produce]. Local Markets are located at Betio (next Red Cross); at Bairiki (behind the KPF Building and Bairiki Supermall) and in Bikenibeu (in front of KGV & EBS School). You can also spot vendors along the road in South Tarawa.
- **Mauri Creation:** [Mauri Wear]. Located Nanoiaki, Teaoaraereke, South Tarawa. P: 73069340, E: ttekee03@gmail.com. Facebook: Mauri Creation.
- **Nei Rereiti Garment:** [Custom tailoring shirts, mauri wear etc; Kiribati printed t-shirts and sarongs]. Located at the local Market (Te Mwakete) in Betio, South Tarawa.
- **Kaitibo's:** [Handicrafts & Souvenirs]. Located at Runaways Ends Pub, Bonriki, South Tarawa
- **Silver Cross / Uaai Island Getaway (LMTA):** [Handicrafts, souvenirs, Mauri Wear etc] Located at Antebuka opposite LMATA (next to Antebuka Store), S. Tarawa. P: (686) 75021135, E: uaaiislandgetaway@gmail.com
- **Taotin Trading:** [Kiribati flags]. Shop located in Teaoaraereke (close to the George Bungalows), South Tarawa.
- **Tatereka Garment:** [Custom tailoring - shirts, mauri wear etc.] Located at inside Tatereka Shop opposite Kiribati Copra Mill near round about junctions in Betio, South Tarawa.
- **Te Itoiningaina Womens Centre:** [Handicrafts, Weaving & Sewing lessons, Mauri Wear]. Located in Teaoaraereke (next to St. Louis High School close to RC Cathedral Church), South Tarawa.
- **Temaeiti Garment:** [Custom tailoring - shirts, mauri wear etc.] Located at Temakin near Sports Complex, Betio, South Tarawa.
- **Tobaraoi Building:** [Handicrafts, Kiribati wear, publications, posters, postcards, etc.] Located in Bikenibeu, close to Tarawa Hotel, South Tarawa P: (686) 74028715, E: visiting@tobaraoi.com, W: www.tobaraoi.com
- **Triple Tee Enterprises:** [Supplier of 100% Pure Virgin Coconut Oil]. Located at Triple Tee Building, Tatirerei Rd, Betio, South Tarawa. P: (686) 73045230, E: tekeeuauatarati@gmail.com

