



United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL PARK OF AMERICAN SAMOA
Pago Pago, AS 96799
Telephone: (684) 633-7082
Fax: (684) 699-3986



Dear Interested Visitor,

Talofa! Welcome to the National Park of American Samoa. We hope this letter will provide you with initial information about the **Homestay program**. It was created so visitors may get a first-hand experience of Samoan culture while appreciating the beauty and excitement of the rainforest and coral reef ecosystems. As a short-term immersion in Samoan culture, we hope that staying with a host family will enhance your appreciation for the people and culture of Polynesia.

The Homestay Program has several families currently registered as host families. The host families live in the villages of Fagasa and Vatia on the Island of Tutuila; the village of Fitiuta on the Manu'a Islands. You will not find any restaurants or hotels outside of Tutuila or the Ofu island airstrip. In Fagasa and Vatia on the main island of Tutuila, you are a half-hour to one-hour bus ride away from Pago Pago.

There are several important features of the Homestay Program that we would like to draw to your attention. Please understand that these are not businesses and as the guest you need to be clear with the host family what you expect from your visit. The National Park of American Samoa only acts as a facilitator and is not responsible for the Homestay families or the guest experience. We greatly appreciate comments and suggestions on how to make the experience better.

We prefer that you arrange your stay directly with the Homestay hosts, for which we can help you contact. This allows you to work directly with them on meals, transportation and rates. We are able to help provide you with general and contact information via email (NPSA_INFO@nps.gov) or you can stop by the National Park of American Samoa Visitor Center in Ottoville, leaf through the homestay notebook, and select a host family based on the family description of their environment, location, near-by activities, photographs and basic rate per person.

We are excited about the Homestay Program and will do everything possible to make your visit to American Samoa an enjoyable and memorable experience. Manuia le Malaga. (Have a safe journey.)

Sincerely,

Superintendent