



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL PARK OF AMERICAN SAMOA

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Homestay Program

Dear Interested Visitor:

Talofa (Hello) and welcome to the National Park of American Samoa. We hope this letter will provide you with initial information about the Homestay Program. It was developed to provide you with the opportunity for a first-hand experience in the 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 appreciate comments and suggestions on how to make the experience better.

You should arrange your stay directly with the Homestay hosts. 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 Pago Pago, 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 hope you have an enjoyable and memorable visit to American Samoa. Manuia le Malaga (Have a safe journey).

Sincerely,

Superintendent