



Update from Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa 26 February 2010

Kia Orana from Aitutaki –

We would like to share a great big MEITAKI ATUPAKA ('thank you' in Aitutakian!) to all of our friends around the world who have expressed their concern and sent their best wishes following Cyclone Pat's unfortunate visit to Aitutaki. You will all be very glad to know that everyone is safe and well, and that things have returned to normal at Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa.

It has now been two weeks since Cyclone Pat rudely invited herself to our idyllic island. Clean-up work around the island continues, and we are doing all we can to help our friends, families, and neighbors rebuild their homes and businesses. Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa did suffer some damage from the cyclone, but thanks in no small part to the very hard work of our staff (many of whom flew up from Rarotonga), we were open and operational within three days. For those of you who have seen photos of the damage on Aitutaki, please note that some of it looks worse than it actually is due to so much downed foliage. We have cleaned-up around the Resort on Motu Akitua (Akitua Island), and the local Aitutakians are hard at work cleaning up the main island. While it will take some time for the landscape of Aitutaki to return to its full glory, the beauty of living in the tropics is how amazingly quickly trees and flowers grow and flourish in our warm, balmy climate. Meanwhile the seascape – the stunning lagoon itself and the surrounding white sandy beaches – remain as beautiful as ever.

All of the bungalows at Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa are open (and full of happy guests!), as is our SpaPolynesia, freshwater swimming pool and Bounty Restaurant. The Flying Boat Beach Bar & Grill – which enjoys Aitutaki's prime lagoonfront spot - suffered some roof damage, but the kitchen and bar were unaffected, and are currently open and servicing guests, both in-house and visiting. Guests are enjoying dining al fresco on the sand as we have tables and umbrellas set-up on the beach, right at the edge of Aitutaki Lagoon – a unique dining experience with some of the best views on Earth.

We have had a number of comments from people who visited Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa immediately following the wrath of Cyclone Pat and who have since visited us again in the past few days, who have told us they cannot believe the transformation and how quickly our hard-working team have been able to clear away the debris and have everything back up and running again. The comfort, convenience and enjoyment of our guests comes first, and you can rest assured we have been pulling out all stops to return the resort to its normal beautiful self.

If we can leave you with one thought, it is this: Aitutaki and its people depend on tourism. If you are considering a visit to Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa, you will see for yourself the natural beauty of our island, the tremendous service and hospitality of our Resort, and the warm, giving nature of our people. We look forward to extending a special Aitutaki welcome to you.

Once again, meitaki atupaka and Kia Manuia! - The team at Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa

IMAGES OF AITUTAKI LAGOON RESORT & SPA taken during this past week



From Australia's Gold Coast, Ross Ranger and his bride Jane Watling Dean tied the knot at Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa, Friday 19 February 2010



View of Kuriri Point at Motu Akitua - a favourite wedding spot



Overwater Bungalows with unsurpassed views of Aitutaki Lagoon



The view is all yours from your Overwater Bungalow



The beach along the front of the Beachfront Bungalows



Lagoon views from a Beachfront Bungalow



View of Sunset Beach + Aitutaki Lagoon from a Deluxe Beachfront Bungalow