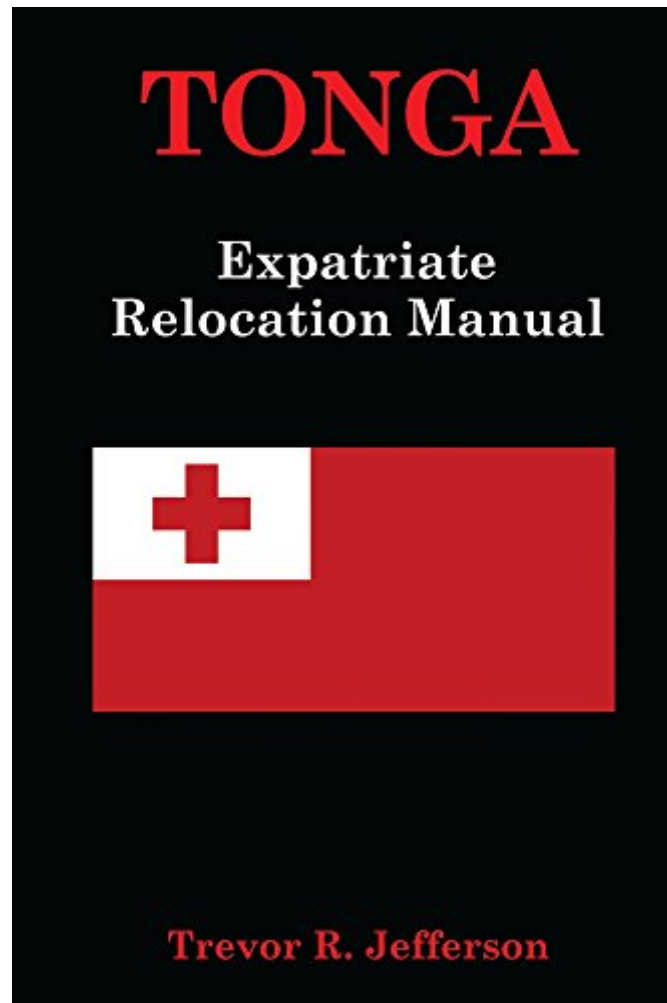




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TONGA: Expatriate Relocation Guide



Synopsis

WHO wouldn't want to live in a safe and pristine island paradise? WHAT would you give to be able to leave the rat race and retire in a country where you can live like a royal on a pittance? WHEN else but now is the right time to get out of your cubicle and into an oceanfront cabin with palm trees in your back yard and whales over the reef in your front yard? WHERE else could you acquire a beachfront lot for under \$10,000 or a full-scale resort for under \$500,000 that also happens to have a neither seen nor heard government and no real red tape? WHY would you even consider living out your golden years in a Western country when you can have a far greater quality of life in Tonga? HOW can you make your dreams come true, retire to island paradise, live like a King on a pauper's income, marry an island beauty, start a lifestyle business in a flash and enjoy life to the fullest? Read this book, that's how!

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Customer Reviews

I don't regret buying it; really I don't. But what a strange little book. I actually enjoyed reading parts of it, but more for its quirkiness than for its informational value. The book is a fascinating mishmash

of genres: religious narrative, post-colonial imperialism, travel guide, history, autobiography, and mansplaining. The author definitely can "talk story," but it is also clear that he never did realize how much he must have tested the hospitality and good manners of those among whom he lived. It sounds as if they were more than generous and patient with his trying ways. The descriptions of specific places were sometimes lovely and might be useful for a visitor. And it was fun for me to see the relative cost-of-living break downs, though that information is likely in flux all the time. The author's characterizations of Tongans as peculiar, simple, ignorant, silly, and goofy - all words he uses - are more than a bit off putting. He dismisses anyone who does not agree with his business practices as stupid. The book is replete with typos, changes in font sizes, proofreading fossils, and varying layout. The Tonga Royal Land Commission Report he refers to is easy to read online in English or Tongan: <https://www.facebook.com/paclii/posts/589267734453429> While not by any stretch literature, this book is an odd cultural artifact and might interest those widely read in Pacific literature, in part as a demonstration of the white traveler obviously imposing his privilege on Tonga - and outraged when he is not allowed that imposition.

Very good, to-the-point and easy read about moving to the South Pacific's Kingdom of Tonga. I like the author's clear and concise organization of the material. Information presented seems to be current and very much in line with other sources, but with the added zest of the author's own experiences living in Tonga from 2005 to 2010. This latter benefit is worth the cost of the book many times over. I fault the book for multiple grammatical and typographical errors that should have been corrected during editing. Tonga's Constitution is appropriately quoted throughout the book. In all but a handful of places, though, the date of the constitution is given as 1975, not the correct year of 1875. Simple mistakes such as this often make me wonder what else may be incorrect. In another minor error, King George Topou II is noted as having been the grandson of King George Topou I, while later the correct relationship is given as great-grandson. I do hope that these and other mistakes (including some incorrect use of compound direct-object pronouns, such as "to her and I" when "to her and me" should have been used) will be corrected and uploaded soon. The author is also too strident in grinding his axe against allegations of wrongdoing by real estate agents, former business partners and governmental officials during his more than five years in Tonga. While I appreciate his honesty and warnings, the allegations and naming-of-names takes something away from the narrative and should be softened considerably. Due to the typos and axe-grinding, I am tempted to rate it just three stars. But, if you overlook these faults (which may be corrected in a later edition), Tonga: Expatriate Relocation Guide rates a solid four-star review. I recommend it for

anyone who has Tonga on his or her radar for resettlement.

***** 5 STARS *****I picked this book up as a free Kindle read and it was great! It's like a mix between a Lonely Planet Guidebook, a How-to-Relocate Manual and a funny personal memoir!The same author also co-wrote another similar book about the country of Grenada and I read that one too ... it was also good but not as interesting, funny or personal as this one was.If you dream of escaping the rat race, retiring to an interesting country and want to know how to do so, as well as what sort of crazy experiences might await you ... I would highly recommend reading this book!*****

5 STARS *****

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