



# SCHOOLIES IN SAMOA

## INFORMATION BOOKLET

**AN EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER. CELEBRATE THE END OF SECONDARY SCHOOLING OR EQUIVALENT BY DIVING INTO A FUN AND ENGAGING CROSS-CULTURAL ENCOUNTER IN SAMOA.**

SCHOOLIES IN SAMOA IS A SCHOOLIES ALTERNATIVE CAMP (SAC'S)  
AN INITIATIVE OF LIFE CAMPS AUSTRALIA



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## WHAT'S SCHOOLIES IN SAMOA?

- Be involved in an alternative to the schoolies options already in place
- Participate in a program with a mission/service focus
- Be involved in service to another culture, supporting the Victim Support Group and visiting children in hospital
- Enjoy the sights and tourist opportunities in Samoa, like snorkelling!
- Experience another culture by being involved in the Samoan way of life
- Experience Christian worship in another culture
- Experiment with new foods and cooking styles
- Give back to another culture by sharing and offering friendship
- Be involved with schooling in another culture
- Launch into overseas travel within a supported environment

## WHAT'S THE PLAN?

- Leave a day or two after the last exams/school commitments – late November to early December.
- Travel to Melbourne and fly to Apia (Samoa) via Sydney or New Zealand depending on cheapest flights.
- Visit the main tourist attractions of Samoa - markets, beaches and snorkelling, cave pool, sliding rocks
- Enjoy the comfort of a Samoan style Hotel
- Traditional Fale accommodation on a beach
- Experience the YWAM base and spend a night sleeping in traditional accommodation





## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The current trip cost is between \$2600-\$3200, depending on when we are able to purchase flights. This will cover all airfares, main meals, transport and accommodation. Extra money would be needed for passport, personal travel insurance, spending money, drinks, snacks. Payment plans can be worked out on a private basis. A \$1000 deposit will be asked for upon registration.

## WHY GO?

Just ask someone who's been! We think Joey, one of our past Schoolies, sums it up pretty nicely:

*"Schoolies In Samoa was a wonderful experience that not only allowed for an amazing cultural immersion, but an opportunity to grow your faith deeper, surrounded by the passionate environments of the Samoan locals. The long lasting friendships formed are something special, whilst the phenomenal natural sights are merely breathtaking and can't be done justice through photos! I can't emphasise enough how truly spectacular this trip is! Life Camps have created this rad trip into one that allows you to experience the raw and genuine Samoan culture, in addition to the many new experiences. It is an adventure and celebration that is not only worthwhile, but more importantly, something memorable!"*

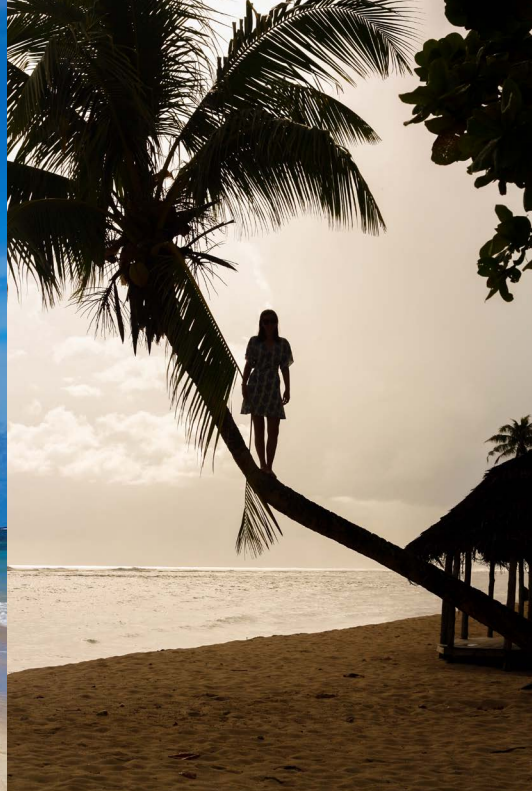
## I'M IN! WHAT'S NEXT?

Register your interest today by emailing us at [info@lifecamps.org.au](mailto:info@lifecamps.org.au)

We'll send you any further information we have and meanwhile, you can make your first deposit of \$1000 in order to secure your place. Bank details can be found on the last page. Don't forget your **Passport!**

Read on for more information that will help you get organised for your trip!





# PACKING LIST

## GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

For Samoa, November – March is the wet season. This means that it usually rains for a short time each day. It is also quite hot and very humid, so appropriate loose-fitting cotton clothing is most desirable. The traditional Samoan dress is very conservative, so when visiting the schools and attending church, sleeveless tops and short skirts/shorts/dresses are culturally taboo.

## CLOTHING

- Shorts (modest)
- Dressy pants/skirt/dress
- Shirts, t shirts (cool but not strappy)
- Hat
- Sleep wear
- Socks and underwear
- Shoes, thongs or sandals – thongs are the national dress
- Compact umbrella - optional
- Swim wear (modest - with a t-shirt and possibly shorts over)
- Reef shoes (must bring)

## TOILETRIES

- Soap, Shampoo and Conditioner
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Sunscreen

- Personal hygiene
- Basic first aid – Stingoes, band aids, Betadine (or any antiseptic cream), Panadol
- Shaver/hairdryer
- (Most of these items are available to buy but are costly we will also have a first aid kit available)

## PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

- Personal medical requirements (as per medical consent form)
- Goggles, snorkel and flippers
- Camera and charger (under water application would be useful)
- Beach Towel
- Sunglasses
- Insect repellent
- All bedding and linen supplied



## IMPORTANT NOTES

Spending money - \$1.00 Aussie dollar equals approx. \$1.70 - \$1.80 Samoan tala. Things generally are cheap and a great option for Christmas shopping. This will allow for approx. \$100 - \$200 Aussie dollars spending money on gifts, snacks and drinks.

All personal items and baggage should be clearly marked with the owner's name. PLEASE limit the amount of luggage you take as the climate lends itself to the minimum of clothing. We would also like to have room for gifts to take to the schools we visit. You may also want to have space available to buy items whilst in Samoa. Luggage allowance is 23kg and 7kg of hand luggage.

Portable music players are acceptable, as are mobile phones and cameras. It should be noted however, that no responsibility will be taken for any loss or damage. Use of your mobile phone without a local SIM card can mean exorbitant phone bills when you return. Don't forget chargers for these items.

Customs is very strict upon returning to Australia. Any arts, crafts and handmade items will need to be declared. Don't bring back any food items or weapons. You run the risk of losing items at customs so don't spend large amounts on items that you will risk losing.

No vaccinations are required for entry into Samoa. This includes Covid-19 vaccinations. Most of you will have your general immunisations up to date. Doctors may suggest that booster shots are necessary and may also recommend Hep A, Hep B and Typhoid. Check your doctor to be sure.

No visa is required for entry into Samoa.





## IMPORTANT NOTES Continued

Electricity connection is the same as in Australia. Be aware that you may not have electricity available in the case of a village stay. i.e. hair dryers, shavers, chargers, etc.

If you want the use of a mobile phone while in Samoa so as you can contact home, or home can contact you, the best way is to get your phone unlocked by your telephone company. This is not always easy but can be done! A prepaid SIM card is then purchased in Samoa. International roaming is not reliable in Samoa and can be very expensive.

If you already have a passport please make sure there is 6 months validity left from when you leave. If you don't have a passport, please apply for one ASAP. Gathering all your identity documents for the passport application and then waiting for your passport to arrive can take some time!

Travel insurance is essential, please make sure this covers day of leaving and return dates. For certainty, please get in touch to confirm travel dates before finalising your travel insurance.





Once we have a deposit from all travellers, we'll be able to send you more information like a potential itinerary, pre-trip meetings and locations, flight numbers and specific dates of arrival and departure.

If you have an important date at the end your exam period, please let us know as we endeavour to book flights around these. However, please note this may not always be possible.

## **BANK DETAILS**

**Bank Account:** Bendigo Bank

**Account Name:** Life Camps Australia

**BSB:** 633 000

**Acc No:** 179 773 239

Please reference your name, SAC's and deposit number

*i.e. JSmith SACs 1*

**We think SCHOOLIES IN SAMOA is one of a kind.  
Find out for yourself.**

# SACs

SCHOOLIES IN SAMOA



## PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Thank you for showing interest in the Schoolies Alternative Camp (SACs) to Samoa. In order for us to book flights and accommodation we require a deposit by June 30. We have planned a payment schedule for the whole trip cost.

Current trip cost is between \$2600-\$3200, depending on cost of flights when they are booked, number of attendees and accommodation. Once we have established commitment, we will be able to provide you with a clear indication of cost. The full payment can be made at any time.

Please remember that there will be extra monetary commitments such as Passport, travel insurance, and spending money that you will need to take into account when preparing for your trip.

### Below is our planned payment schedule –

- End June** – Email confirmation of your interest in SACs and deposit \$1000 to secure your place
- End July** - Second instalment of \$600 is due
- End August** – Third instalment of \$600 is due
- End September** – Final payment of \$400-\$1000 is due

Please reference your **name**, **SACs** and **instalment number** (1-4) when making your direct deposit into the bank account below. We are able to set up alternative payment plans, so please contact us.

i.e. *JSmith SACs 1*

### DIRECT DEPOSIT DETAILS:

**Payment Bendigo Bank**  
Life Camps Australia  
**BSB:** 633 000  
**ACC NO:** 179 773 239

Please contact us if you have any queries at [info@lifecamps.org.au](mailto:info@lifecamps.org.au)

**Please note:** Travel insurance is vital, as we are unable to refund the cost of your trip in the event that you are unable to attend after making payments.