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Auckland's Pasifika Festival Celebrates 24 Years

February 18, 2016 -

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New Zealand's annual Pasifika Festival is the world's biggest celebration of Pacific Island culture and Heritage.

This free, family-friendly event will return to Auckland's Western Springs Park for its 24th edition Saturday, March 12, 2016 from 10:00am to 5:00pm and Sunday, March 13, 2016 from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Visitors to Pasifika 2016 will enjoy:

- Festival grounds consisting of villages, each representing a different Pacific Island nation including the Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Aotearoa, Hawaii, Kiribati, Samoa, Tahiti, Tuvalu, Tonga and Tokelau;
- Traditional and contemporary performances, market stalls offering delicious food and hand-made crafts available for purchase and activities for kids and grown-ups alike at each village;
- For the first time this year, Auckland's Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT), will host the Pan-Pacific village with authentic Pacific Island products that are not defined to any one specific village.

According to Mayor Len Brown, Auckland is renowned for its Pacific influences, because of its large Polynesian and Pacific Island population. "New Zealand is a Pacific nation, and nowhere in New Zealand is that more strongly expressed than in Auckland. Pacific Island Aucklanders are an important and well-established part of our diverse population, which is reflected in Pasifika being one of our longest-standing and most loved annual festivals, giving all Aucklanders and visitors to the region the opportunity to share this celebration."

Getting to New Zealand is easier than ever before with direct flights available to Auckland from Honolulu, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Houston on a number of international airlines.

For more information about Pasifika Festival 2016, go to: www.aucklandnz.com/pasifika

Additional information about what to do, see and eat while in Auckland, please visit:
<http://www.newzealand.com/us/auckland/>