

COOK ISLANDS QUALITY ASSURED STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

LAND TOURS SECTOR



SUB-SECTOR | FOOD ONSITE

GOVERNANCE, COMPLIANCE AND REGULATION		
All Licences, Registrations and Certificates required by law are available on request	Yes	No
Your business complies with current account standards, is up to date with tax filing and record keeping	Yes	No
Sewerage system is compliant with the building code and all relevant legislation	Yes	No
Building constructed is compliant with the building code and all relevant legislation	Yes	No
Establishment promotes the smoke free regulations	Yes	No
Food handlers and preparers must have a Public Health Certificate	Yes	No
Food preparation areas must be certified by Public Health	Yes	No
Non smoking / designated smoking areas		
Your business has a current Public Liability Insurance policy	Yes	No

CULTURE AND HERITAGE		
Management and staff understand the Kia Orana Values and guiding principles to foster authentic Cook Islands experiences	Yes	No
Encourage visitors and guests to purchase locally made products in the Cook Islands	Guideli	ine
Showcase and promote Cook Islands culture and traditions by using one or more of the key components in your product or structures; artefacts, images, videos and visual art	Guideli	ine
Management and staff use of 'Reo Maori' words to create awareness on the importance of the Cook Islands Maori language on the visitor experience	Guideli	ine
Implement a cultural or community initiative that engage local partners to be a part of your business	Guideli	ine
Promote the 'Pa Enua' experience and its distinctive features in upholding Cook Islands culture and heritage	Guideli	ine
Promote local gastronomy and culinary experiences	Guideli	ine
Promote historical and cultural events for guests and customers to appreciate Cook Islands social practices, rituals, traditions, music, dance and performing arts	Guideli	ine
Ensure cultural information provided to guests are well researched, appropriate and accurate	Guideli	ine
Emulate Cook Islands culture through attire or presentation where applicable e.g. Kia Orana wear	Guideli	ine

HUMAN RESOURCES		
All human resource matters must comply with all related labour, gender, human rights and tax laws	Yes	No
Recruitment of new staff must have an employment agreement and position description	Yes	No
Staff engagement and satisfaction should be measured as part of the performance management system	Guideline	
Prioritise on the job training and development of staff to ensure the workforce is competently skilled	Guideline	
A performance management framework or an appraisal system is available for staff to identify areas of strength and areas for development	Guideline	

ENVIRONMENT			
Energy conservation programme is in place and communicated to staff/guests as required	Yes	No	
Water conservation programme is in place and communicated to staff/guests as required	Yes	No	
Water quality communicated to staff/guests as required	Yes	No	
All tours must operate in a manner that protects the natural environment	Yes	No	
All rubbish is collected, separated and correctly recycled	Yes	No	
All organic waste is composted (not burned)	Guidel	Guideline	
Visitors are encouraged to bring reusable drink bottles Vs. single use plastic bottles	Guidel	Guideline	
Visitors are informed of environmental best practices (e.g. not to stand on corals, not to feed fish bread etc)	Guidel	Guideline	
Visitors are informed of environmental points of interest (e.g. Kakerori bird at Takitumu Conservation Area etc)	Guidel	Guideline	

MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS		
All marketing material is a true representation of the establishment and facilities offered	Yes	No
Establish a marketing plan or strategy to ensure products and services are communicated through various channels to your business partners and consumers	Guide	line
Foster business-to-business partnerships to build a strong supply chain	Guide	line
Develop business-to-consumer platforms such as website and social media to reach to your consumers effectively	Guide	line
Leverage media partners to create greater awareness for your business and should extend to non-traditional partners e.g. social influencers, bloggers, etc	Guide	line
Promotions should incorporate elements of Cook Islands culture and heritage	Guide	line

HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY		
- GENERAL		
High standards of safety, cleanliness and hygiene is observed in all areas	Yes	No
Toilet available and in a clean and tidy state (if applicable)	Yes	No
- FIRE SAFETY PROCEDURES		
Employees have knowledge of fire equipment use	Yes	No
Current fire extinguisher and/or a fire blanket is in place and within easy access	Yes	No
- EMERGENCY PROCEDURES		
First Aid Kit available	Yes	No
There is always an employee on each tour who holds a First Aid Certificate	Yes	No
Emergency response/standard operating procedures in place and available	Yes	No
Employees are able to communicate emergency response/standard operating procedures and evacuation procedures to customers	Yes	No
- KITCHEN AREA		
Food Preparation Staff - hair covered	Yes	No



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Food Storage - designated facilities for raw product / cooked product	Yes	No
Hot water available in kitchen area or self heating dishwasher (for all dishes)	Yes	No
Non porous bench tops and chopping boards	Yes	No
General Cleanliness of preparation area, fridges, cooking facilities, wiping cloths	Yes	No
Non smoking	Yes	No
General cleanliness of bar area and floor area	Yes	No
Staff are clean and tidy in appearance	Yes	No
Glassware wash facilities in place	Yes	No
Food chiller available for storage of pre-prepared food product for sale	Yes	No
- DINING AREA		
Floor of restaurant is clean and free of rubbish	Yes	No
Guest toilets are clean and tidy	Yes	No

CUSTOMER SERVICE		
Staff in all areas are clean and tidy in appearance	Yes	No
High standards of service to customers, fulfilling contracts, agreements and expectations	Yes	No
Prompt responses to genuine complaints, making every effort to resolve disputes	Yes	No
Approach business dealings, marketplace transactions and commitments with integrity	Yes	No
Enquiries, sales and bookings are responded to in a timely and professional manner	Yes	No
Ensure there is a platform that allows customers to provide feedback and reviews in order to continuously improve products and services	Yes	No
Ensure the information provided to customers is factual, accurate and informative	Yes	No
Access to an owner, manager or simillar during operating hours	Yes	No
If you have a cancellation policy in place, this is detailed on any marketing material in writing	Yes	No
Understand privacy and using all information collected as it was intended	Yes	No
Ensure all staff complete the Kia Orana Customer Service course	Guidel	ine

LEGEND:

Standard refers to the Yes | No questions - These are compulsory standards and must be met to suffice accreditation.

Guideline - These are a guideline for best practices only (you do not need to meet these but we would love for you to indicate whether you do or not)

DISCLAIMER:

These Standards and Guidelines are effective from 01 January 2023. This document was updated on May 2023. For any updates or changes, please contact Cook Islands Tourism Corporation.