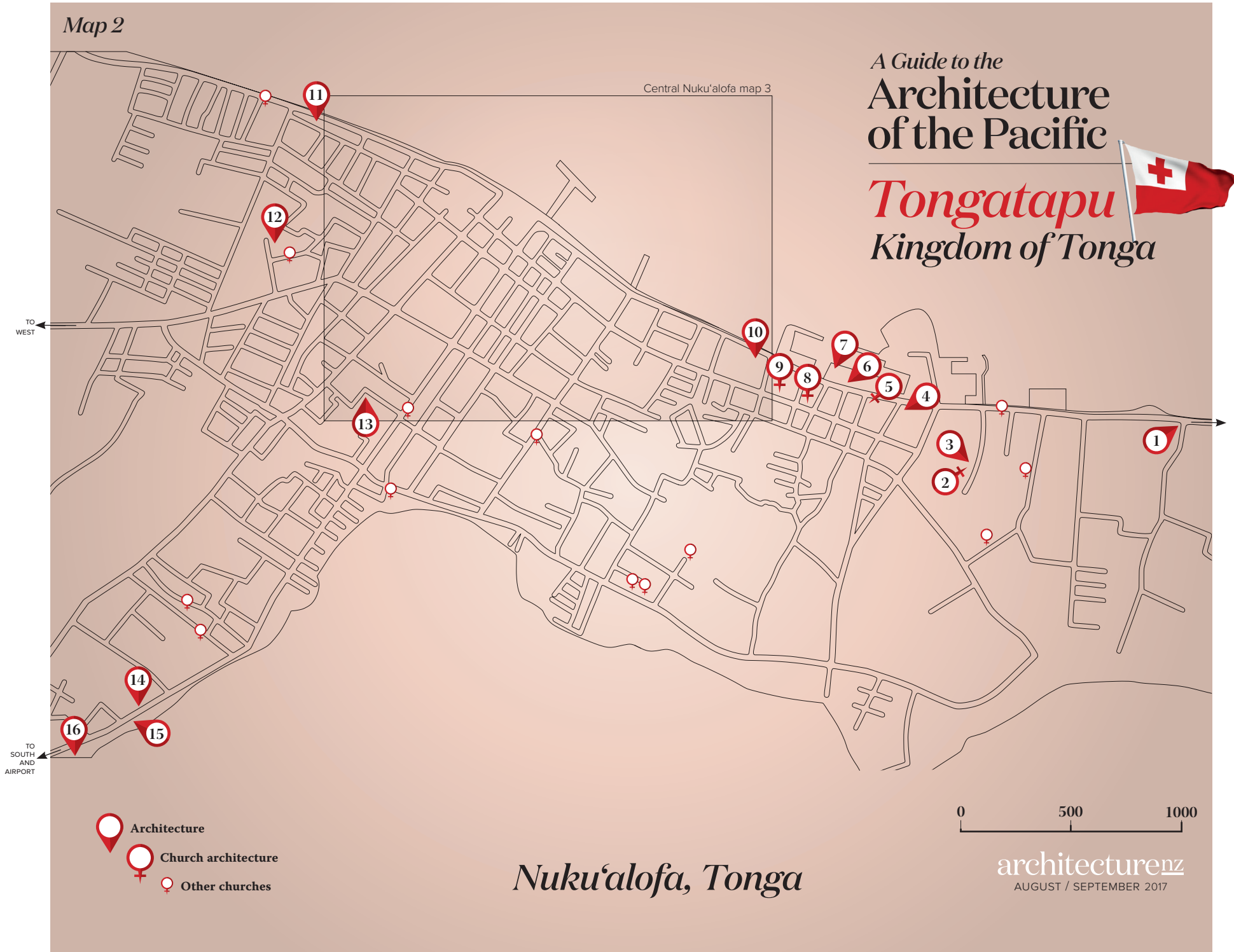


Map 2

Central Nuku'alofa map 3

A Guide to the  
Architecture  
of the Pacific

*Tongatapu*  
Kingdom of Tonga



Nuku'alofa, Tonga

architecturenz  
AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2017



2

**Stone Chapel.** One of the few stone structures to survive both the 1977 and 2006 earthquakes.



5

**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception of Mary (Catholic).** Jaimi Associates' 1992 cathedral is one of the most prominent examples of a fale-form church in the Pacific. **A MUST-SEE**



5

**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception of Mary (Catholic).** The interior is one of the largest in the region. **A MUST-SEE**



8

**Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, Ma'ufanga.** This three-spired church is a local landmark on Salote Road, a busy shopping street.



9

This unidentified church is a recent addition to Salote Road and demonstrates the continuing popularity of the fale form combined with bell towers.



10

**Australian High Commissioner's Residence.** Designed by Australian architects Philip Cox and Partners and completed in 1982.



11

**Little Italy.** This 2008 seafront homage to the arch is worth a second look and is not a bad place to stay.



12

**Original building, 'Atenisi Institute.** The first structure built in 1978, at the tertiary institution founded by Tongan intellectual Futa Helu (1934-2010), is now a school. **A MUST-SEE**



12

**Lolo Masi, 'Atenisi Institute.** Used as a lecture hall and offices. Be sure to see Paul Janman's 2012 documentary *Tongan Ark*. **A MUST-SEE**



12

**Library and Music School, 'Atenisi Institute.** The Music School is a rare example of post-modernism in the Pacific, designed by New Zealand architect Pip Cheshire in 1987. **A MUST-SEE**



12

**'The Rock House', 'Atenisi Institute.** A fabulous flat-roofed modernist building by German architect Gottfried Seule, 2006. **A MUST-SEE**



12

**Café, 'Atenisi Institute.** This pond and landscaping exploited the campus' low-lying topography that is often referred to as a 'swampus'. **A MUST-SEE**



15

**Tonga National Museum and Cultural Centre.** Designed and built in 1998 by the Japanese Government, the buildings of this complex take the shape of fales.



15

**Tonga National Museum and Cultural Centre.** Unfortunately the complex is currently closed and empty – but ask anyone there and you might gain access.



16

**Lavengamalie Administration Building and College.** Originating in 1976, Lavengamalie is another off-shoot of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

**Also worth a visit:**

1. New Zealand High Commissioner's Residence. 3. Bishop Patelisio Finau and Knight Sofele Kakala Memorial Hall. 4. Billfish Bar and Restaurant. 6. Fish Market/Saturday Morning Market. 7. Ferries. 13. Teufaiva Sports Stadium. 14. Ministry of Health (2004, James Cubitt Architects) and Vaiola Public Hospital.