

Map 3



A Guide to the  
**Architecture of the Pacific**

**Tongatapu**  
Kingdom of Tonga



- Architecture
- Church architecture
- Other churches

*Central Nuku'alofa, Tonga*

architecturenz  
AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2017



**3** **Royal Palace.** Prefabricated in New Zealand and assembled here in 1865, it was extended in 1867 and last renovated in 2008.  
*A MUST-SEE*



**4** **Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga Centennial Church.** Designed by Australian architect WC Brown and completed in 1952.



**5** **Dr Moulton Centre, Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga Administration Buildings.** Completed in 2000 by Jaimi Associates, a good example of contemporary tropical architecture when viewed from the courtyard.



**6** **Centennial Church of the Free Church of Tonga.** This huge coral and stone church by Keio Thompson was completed in 1985.  
*A MUST-SEE*



**10** **Queen Salote Memorial Hall.** Yet another building by the prolific Jaimi Associates, two of the three barrel vaults here intersect to create a vast public space.



**11** **Basilica of St Anthony of Padua (Catholic).** The architect is named as Basilino Hafoka but Father George Callet was deeply involved in this 1980 church and its resulting spectacular interior. *A MUST-SEE*



**13** **New Zealand High Commission.** New Zealand architects Craig Craig Moller's 1978 building responds to the climate with verandahs, trelliswork and a central courtyard.



**15** **Old Prime Minister's Office.** On the main street of the city, this 1900 building has a 1986 extension at the rear by Lloyd Evans (South Pacific Architecture Network).



**16** **St George Palace, New Prime Minister's Office and Government Building.** This 2017 design and build was a gift by China, which is currently expanding its embassy and related premises.



**17** **Treasury Building.** The 1928 classical Treasury Building originally housed Customs and the Central Post Office.



**19** **Ministry of Lands, Survey and Natural Resources.** Designed in 1977 by the Ministry of Works' Government Architect, this is a good example of multi-storey tropical modernism with external circulation.



**20** **Old Parliament.** A small 1894 timber building prefabricated in New Zealand.



**23** **Tonga Development Bank.** Built in two stages, 1983 and 1992, by Rounds Lee & Partners and the firm that evolved from them, Jaimi Associates.



**25** **Tourist Bureau/Visitor Information Centre.** Built by Saia Katoa in customary fale style, at the King's direction after the 1977 earthquake.



**29** **Former International Dateline Hotel, now Tanoa Dateline.** The first proper hotel in town, by Derik Dignan & Associates in 1966 (with additions in 2003 and 2016), it is another seafront example of tropical modernism.

**Also worth a visit:**

1. Fai'akoka (1880s). 2. Motekiai Halo Halo's house/former British High Commission, now Polata'ane (1880). 7. Mala'ekula Royal Tombs. 8. Queen Salote College (from 1923). 9. Tonga High School. 12. Tungi Colonnade. 14. Kelepi Tupou (1900s). 18. Vuna Wharf (1906). 21. Talamahu Market (1995). 22. St Paul's Anglican Church (1930). 24. Former Fatai Royal Residence (1996). 26. Fa'onelua Convention Centre. 27. Australian High Commission. 28. Reserve Bank of Tonga (1994), Jaimi Associates. 30. Embassy of the People's Republic of China (1998), Swan Railley Clapham; concept Leveni 'Aho. 31. Australian High Commissioner's Residence (1982), Philip Cox and Partners.