



## ANALYSIS

	Title		
1.	Short Title	4.	Island Gospel Days
2.	Interpretation	5.	Savings
3.	Days to be observed as public holidays throughout the Cook Islands	6.	Repeal Schedules

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 1999, No. 17

An Act to establish certain days as public holidays in the Cook Islands.

(17 December 1999)

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Parliament of the Cook Islands in Session assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. Short Title – This Act may be cited as the Public Holidays Act 1999.
2. Interpretation – In this Act –
  - “Anzac Day” shall mean the 25<sup>th</sup> day of April in each year;
  - “Constitution Day” shall mean the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August in each year;
  - “Cook Islands Gospel Day” shall mean the 26<sup>th</sup> day of October in each year;
  - “The Sovereign’s Birthday” shall be the same date as the reigning Sovereign’s birthday is observed in New Zealand;
  - “Christmas Day” shall mean the 25<sup>th</sup> day of December in each year;
  - “Boxing Day” shall mean the 26<sup>th</sup> day of December in each year;
  - “New Year’s day” shall mean the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January in each year;

“The Day Following New Year’s day” shall mean the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January in each year;

“Good Friday” shall be the same date in each year as Good Friday is observed in New Zealand;

“Easter Monday” shall be the same date in each year as Easter Monday is observed in New Zealand.

3. Days to be observed as public holidays throughout the Cook Islands –

(1) The days set out in the First Schedule to this Act shall be observed as public holidays throughout the Cook Islands.

(2) Where a public holiday (other than a Sunday and ANZAC Day) falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, the holiday shall be observed on the following Monday. If both Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year’s day and the Day Following New Years Day fall on a Saturday and a Sunday, then those public holidays shall be observed respectively on the next Monday and Tuesday.

4. Island Gospel Days – (1) There shall be observed in each island of the Cook Islands a public holiday to be known as Island Gospel Day to commemorate the arrival of the Christian Gospel on each of those islands.

(2) The Island Gospel Day for each island shall be declared by the Queen’s Representative by Order in Executive Council and different days may be so declared in respect of different islands.

(3) In determining the day to be declared as Island Gospel Day for each island, regard shall be had for the wishes of the Religious Advisory Council and the Island Council of the island affected.

(4) If an Island Gospel day falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, Island Gospel day on that island shall be observed on the following Monday.

(5) Island Gospel Day shall be known on each island as “..... Gospel Day”, (those words being preceded by the name of that island).

5. Savings – The Orders in Executive Council set out in the Second Schedule to this Act shall, notwithstanding the repeal by this Act of the Public Holidays Ordinance 1949, continue to have effect as if they were promulgated under this Act.

6. Repeal – The Public Holidays Ordinance 1949 is repealed.

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This Act is administered by the Office of the Prime Minister

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

Every Sunday  
Good Friday  
Easter Monday  
Anzac Day  
The Sovereign's Birthday  
Constitution Day  
Cook Islands Gospel Day  
Christmas Day  
Boxing Day  
New Year's day  
The day following New Year's Day

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**SECOND SCHEDULE**

Public Holidays (Aitutaki Gospel Day) Order 1989  
Public Holidays (Penrhyn Gospel Day) Order 1989  
Public Holidays (Pukapuka Gospel Day) Order 1992  
Public Holidays (Rakahanga Gospel Day) Order 1992  
Public Holidays (Rarotonga Gospel Day) Order 1991

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