

# Hawaiki

Hawaiki, the origins of our people. The distant memory carried through the ages by the stories that are told to this day. There are many ideas of where Hawaiki is including Egypt, Java, Marquesas, Madagascar, Asia, the Americas and the Pacific to name a handful. There is research that validates each idea.

We may never agree on where that origin is but we can all agree on Hawaiki as a name that encapsulates our ancestral roots. Hawaiki, the place of origin.



As our ancestors traversed the Pacific, they would name each whenua after the motherland as a means of preserving our origins.

There are many ideas about our origins of Hawaiki. Below are a few such ideas.

Hawaiki Tahutahu, this extends out to Hawai'i and Rapanui.

It is said that our ancestors were overcome by the many active volcanoes, hot pools and boiling springs. Tahu means to set on fire or alight, burn, and ignite.

Hawaiki Nui is a collective name for all islands of the Pacific.

Hawaiki Roa extends out of the Pacific Triangle to the lands such as the Americas and Asia.

Hawaiki Pamamao extends to the middle east, and back to the origin of man.

It is also important to note that each island had its own individual name and mana. It was only when the likes of Captain Cook travelled through the Pacific that clusters of islands were referred to by a collective name such as 'The Cook Islands'. Whereas for Māori they are 15 individual islands. Tangata whenua of those islands refer to themselves in this way also, holding on to the traditions of our shared ancestors.

While many of these lands are not referred to by their ancient names today, we can still find them in the kōrero and waiata passed down through the generations.

Hawaiki Nui: Hawai'i

Also the ancient name of an island found in the Tuamotu Island groupings of French Polynesia.

Hawaiki is also the old name of Ra'iatea

Hawaiki Tawhiti-areare: Tahiti

Hawaiki Taputapu-ātea: Rarotonga

Hawaiki Pamamao: Island of Java

Hawaiki Manahea: Papua New Guinea

Hawaiki-Te-Tawhiti: Fiji

Hawaiki Tuahuru: Marquesas

Hawaiki Tautau-o-te-Rangi: New Zealand