

About the Tuia 250 Voyage

In October to December 2019, thousands of people around the country cast their gaze to Te Moananui a Kiwa – the mighty Pacific Ocean – from the shores of Aotearoa New Zealand, and were treated to the sight of the *Tuia 250 Voyage* – a journey of national significance.

Crews on two waka hourua from Aotearoa, three tall ships including the *Endeavour* replica from Australia, and the va'a tipaerua *Fa'afaite* from Tahiti sailed to and engaged with 14 communities.

The *Tuia 250 Voyage* flotilla landed at sites of historic and cultural significance giving a platform to communities, iwi and hapū to share their stories of arrival and their encounters with Tupaia, James Cook and the *Endeavour* crew.

And in an experience of a lifetime, hundreds of New Zealanders from all over the country were accepted as *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainees* to learn new skills voyaging on board a *Tuia 250* flotilla vessel.

On land, vessel crews and communities shared stories and taught the public about Pacific, Māori and European sailing and navigation.

The family-friendly events in many regions included a pop-up stardome, the Tuia Mātauranga Roadshow and a chance to get onboard the vessels.

Meet the vessels

There were six vessels in the Tuia 250 Voyage flotilla, showcasing the Pacific, Māori and European voyaging traditions that brought us together. There are three waka and three tall ships:

- a Pacific va'a tipaerua: the *Fa'afaite* from Tahiti
- two Māori waka hourua: the *Haunui* and *Ngahiraka Mai Tawhiti* from Aotearoa New Zealand
- three European tall ships: the *HMB Endeavour* replica from Australia, and the *R. Tucker Thompson* and *Spirit of New Zealand*.

Va'a Tipaerua

Fa'afaite, a double-hulled voyaging canoe from Tahiti representing the origin of our Pacific people, as well as representing Tupaia as an important communicator and mediator between Māori and Cook.

This vessel is the main asset of Fa'afaite-Tahiti Voyaging Society, a non-profit organization created in 2009. Its goal: to help the renewal of ancestral navigation, without instrument. Fa'afaite means reconciliation, which reflects our desire to reconcile man with nature, his culture and his ancestral roots.

