



MOANA'S DEMI GOD IS SAMOAN

Hollywood A-lister Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson has a Samoan mother and Canadian father and his latest project sees him drawing on his Samoan heritage and lends his voice to demi god Maui, in Disney's Moana.

Originally described as a "mythic adventure set around 2000 years ago and across a series of islands in the South Pacific", the film follows the journey of a spirited teenager named Moana as she embarks on a quest across the Pacific Ocean to save her people.

Samoa is close to Dwayne's heart and on a visit to Samoa in 2004 he was bestowed a High Chieftain title by the late Head of State, His Highness MALIETOA TANUMAFILI II. The world's highest paid actor is a major benefactor to Samoan causes, donating thousands of his own earnings to various charities for Samoa and is understood to have visited Samoa in the aftermath of the 2009 tsunami to help local communities.

The islands of Samoa - The Treasured Islands of the South Pacific - are the true heart of Polynesia. Ten islands of stunning wild beauty, Samoa - or Independent Samoa, is paradise waiting to be explored. From powder soft beaches, to warm tropical seas, colourful coral reefs alive with marine life. The rugged, lush interiors reveal endless wildlife, waterfalls, adventuresome activities and hiking trails.

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Notes to editors:

Images available upon request.