

WHAT IS THE MOST REMOTE ISLAND IN THE WORLD?

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BY THE CRITERION OF DISTANCE FROM THE NEAREST CONTINENTAL LAND :

Per the chart I showed in my lecture, Tahiti wins:

<u>DISTANCE TO NEAREST CONTINENTAL LAND:</u>	
Tahiti to Australia	3652 mi / 5877 km
Fakarava to Baja Mexico	3530 mi / 5681 km
Pitcairn to Chile	3380 mi / 5440 km
Kiritimati to California	3280 mi / 5280 km
Nuku Hiva to Mexico	2960 mi / 4764 km
Hawaii to California	2285 mi / 3677 km
Kwajalein Atoll to Australia	2250 mi / 3620 km
Easter Island to Chile	2187 mi / 3520 km
Tristan da Cunha to Cape Town	1731 mi / 2786 km

Per ChatGPT, Grok, and other AI bots, and by good old-style 'freehand' research:

TAHITI wins by the criterion of REMOTENESS FROM CONTINENTAL LAND

- **Nearest continent:** Australia
- **Distance:** ~3,650 miles (~5,875 km)

The closest competitors — and why they fall short:

Pitcairn Island

- Nearest continent: South America
- Distance: ~3,400 miles
- ✗ Very remote, but still **short of Tahiti**

Hawaiian Islands

- Nearest continent: North America
- Distance: ~2,300 miles
- ✗ Not as far as Tahiti

Easter Island (Rapa Nui)

- Nearest continent: South America (Chile)
- Distance: ~2,180 miles
- ✗ **Much closer than Tahiti**

New Zealand outlier islands (e.g., Chatham Islands)

- Nearest continent: Australia
- Distance: ~2,000 miles
- ✗ Not as far as Tahiti

Tristan da Cunha

- Nearest continent: Africa
- Distance: ~1,730 miles
- ✗ Often called “most remote” by distance from other humans - but **not by continental distance**

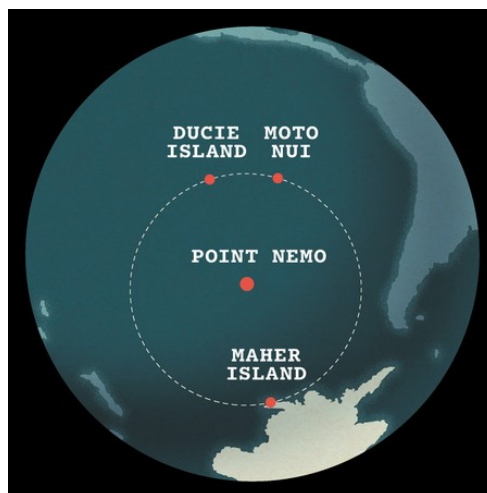
Southern Ocean islands (Kerguelen, Crozet, Bouvet, Heard)

- Nearest continent: Antarctica
- Distance ~1000-1500 miles
- ✗ Not as far as Tahiti, and uninhabited

Final Verdict:

- **No known inhabited island is farther from continental land than Tahiti**
- Even the most famously remote islands (e.g., Tristan da Cunha, Bouvet Island, Pitcairn, Easter Island) are *closer to continental land* than Tahiti. Tristan da Cunha, followed by Pitcairn, are the most *isolated from other inhabited places*, but not from continental land.

Note: **Point Nemo**, the **Oceanic Point of Inaccessibility**, is the most remote LOCATION in the world's oceans—the point farthest from ANY land. It lies in the deep South Pacific Ocean at approximately 48°52.6'S 123°23.6'W, roughly 1,670 miles/2688 km equidistant from the nearest land (all islands): Ducie Island (in the Pitcairn Islands) to the north, Motu Nui (just off Easter Island) to the northeast, and Maher Island (off Antarctica) to the south. The name "Nemo" comes from Latin for "no man," referencing Captain Nemo from Jules Verne's Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea. At times the closest humans to someone at Point Nemo are astronauts aboard the International Space Station. The area is biologically sparse, located in the South Pacific Gyre where ocean currents limit nutrient flow, resulting in low marine life. Its remoteness makes it ideal as a "spacecraft cemetery"—space agencies like NASA, Roscosmos, and ESA direct decommissioned satellites, space stations, and other space debris there on controlled re-entries in order to minimize risks to populated areas. A notable example is the Russian Mir station which was de-orbited and directed there in 2001. The International Space Station is planned to be de-orbited there in 2031.



Point Nemo: The Most Remote Place on Earth

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2024/11/point-nemo-most-remote-place/679947/>