

# Information Sheet

## Vanuatu



Vanuatu is a chain of 83 islands only 2500km northeast of Sydney. Lying on the southern end of the Melanesian Archipelago, Vanuatu's islands were formed millions of years ago through a massive volcanic reaction under the sea which pushed up huge plates of rock.

The islands range from towering volcanic cones to others covered in dense rainforest, breathtaking jungle waterfalls and hot springs, to yet others which are raised coral islands with wide beaches and deep natural harbours. So you have magnificent coral reefs and crystal clear waters teeming with exotic colourful tropical marine life.

The choices of fishing here include quality game, sports and reef fishing. This place tailors for any kind of angler!

**BANKS:** Trading banks are ANZ, Bank of Hawaii, Westpac and the National Bank of Vanuatu.

**CLIMATE:** Summer is from November to March, average temperature is 28 degrees.  
Winter is from April to October, average temperature is 23 degrees

**CURRENCY:** The Vatu (Vt) is the official currency but Australian dollars are generally accepted. There is a bank at the airport on your arrival and departure. Most credit cards are accepted.  
Currency can be exchanged 7 days at most hotels, resorts and money exchange outlets.

**DRESS:** Light and casual, but not too brief in public places please.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** All major hotels have regular entertainment. In the evening men drink kava at local kava bars or Nakamals, regular Melanesian cultural shows are available.

**ELECTRICITY:** 220-280 volts 50 Hz, AC, mainly three point plugs in hotels.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:** For stays not exceeding 30 days, visitors who are nationals of the following countries are not required to have a visa: citizens of Commonwealth countries, EU countries, Fiji, Japan, Norway, Philippines, South Korea, Switzerland and USA.

A valid passport with minimum 4 month validity from entry date is required for all other visitors.

**FOOD:** Dining is a highlight of Vanuatu. Fresh local fish, beef, fruit and vegetables are in plentiful supply. Top class restaurants offer Melanesian, French, Polynesian, Indian, Chinese, Thai-Vietnamese, English and Japanese specialties.

**LANGUAGE:** Bislama (Pidgin English) is the national language of Vanuatu, English and French are also widely spoken. Some other 115 “Mother Tongues” are in common use in the outer islands.

**MEDICAL SERVICES:** Hospital facilities exist in Port Vila and Luganville, Espiritu Santo. There are no dangerous animals or insects. No vaccinations are required but anti-malarial medication is recommended, especially for visits to outer islands.

**SPORT & RECREATION:** A Great variety of watersports are available. Excellent reef and wreck diving is available in Efate, Santo and Hideaway Marine Sanctuary. There are four excellent golf courses in Port Vila; tennis courts, fitness centres, jazzercise classes and squash facilities exist. Other activities include excellent big gamefishing, Has House harrier, horse riding, cycling, regular amateur theatrical society productions and an annual triathlon.

**WATER:** The urban water supplied is safe to drink