

Vanuatu

Continent: Australia

Languages Spoken: Bislama, English, French

Population: 307,000

Currency: Vanuatu vatu (VUV)

Area: 12,189

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Mount Yasur', 'writeup': 'An active volcano on Tanna Island, known for its frequent eruptions and accessible lava lake.'}
- {'name': 'Mele Cascades', 'writeup': 'A series of beautiful waterfalls near Port Vila, popular for swimming and hiking.'}
- {'name': "Chief Roi Mata's Domain", 'writeup': 'A UNESCO World Heritage site encompassing archaeological sites related to a powerful 16th-century chief.'}

Head of State / Government:

President Nikenike Vurobaravu

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Naghол (Land Diving)', 'writeup': 'A traditional ritual on Pentecost Island where men jump from tall wooden towers with vines tied to their ankles.'}
- {'name': "Fest'Napuan", 'writeup': "An annual music and cultural festival in Port Vila celebrating Vanuatu's diverse cultures and arts."}

Food & Cuisine:

Vanuatu cuisine features root crops like taro and yam, fresh seafood, tropical fruits, and traditional dishes such as lap lap, a baked pudding made from grated root vegetables.

Brief History:

Vanuatu was first settled by Melanesian people around 3,000 years ago. It was colonized by both Britain and France in the 19th century, becoming the New Hebrides Condominium. Vanuatu gained independence in 1980.

Important People:

- Walter Lini - First Prime Minister and independence leader
- Nikenike Vurobaravu - Current President
- Maxime Carlot Korman - Former Prime Minister

Current Conflicts:

Vanuatu is generally peaceful with no significant internal or external conflicts at present.

Youtube Links:

- Discover Vanuatu: A Pacific Island Paradise

- Mount Yasur Volcano Eruption - Vanuatu
- Vanuatu Cultural Festival - Naghol Land Diving
- Travel Guide to Vanuatu - What to See and Do
- Vanuatu History and Culture Explained