

About Vanuatu

Vanuatu, officially the Republic of Vanuatu, is a South Pacific island nation made from an archipelago of 83 islands with rich history and culture.

Vanuatu is located in the South Pacific Ocean east of Australia, north-east of New Caledonia and west of Fiji.

HISTORY

Formerly the jointly administered Anglo-French condominium of the New Hebrides, Vanuatu achieved independence in 1980. The name Vanuatu means "Our Land Forever". The capital, largest city and commercial centre is Port-Vila, on Éfaté.

Population: 273,000 (2018 est)

Language: Official languages include English, French and Bislama.

ECONOMY

Kava, beef, copra, timber, and cocoa are the most important exports; Australia, New Caledonia, Japan, and New Zealand are the main export destinations. Imports—mainly of machinery and transport equipment, food and live animals, and mineral fuels—come principally from Australia, Singapore, New Zealand, and Fiji. Since Independence, Vanuatu's tourism and offshore financial services have emerged as important earners of foreign income.

CURRENCY

Vanuatu currency is the vatu (VUV) which is pegged to the USD and provides stability. USD and AUD are commonly used throughout Vanuatu.



Rich history and culture

BANKING

The major banks of Australia, New Zealand, and France, such as Bank South Pacific (Vanuatu) Limited, ANZ Bank (Vanuatu) Ltd. and BRED (Vanuatu) Limited, set up their branches in Vanuatu. Transferring money from Hong Kong to Vanuatu takes 2 days. Online banking is available.

TRAVEL

There are regular flights to Vanuatu with travellers arriving via Bauerfield International Airport in Port Vila from Australia, New Zealand, Noumea, Honiara and Fiji. New direct flights from China are coming soon.