

June 2024

# VANUATU

## 2024 Calendar of Events & Festivals

DISCOVER VANUATU'S  
**EVENTS**

6 PROVINCES  
50+ EVENTS

- Culture & Tradition
- Sports Events
- Music & Entertainment
- National Public Holiday

Explore at [www.vanuatu.travel](http://www.vanuatu.travel)

ANSWER  
THE CALL OF  
*Vanuatu*

#SAPOTEM  
LOKOL  
TURISIM



# 2024 Calendar of Events & Festivals

Legends:

 Culture & Tradition


 Music & Entertainment

 National Public Holiday

 Sports


 Trade

## February

**15**  
Thursday

**John Frum**  
Lamakara, Tanna

John Frum Day, on the remote island of Tanna in the South Pacific nation of Vanuatu. On this holiest of days, devotees have descended on the village of Lamakara from all over the island to honor a ghostly American messiah, John Frum.



**21**  
Wednesday

**Lini Day**  
Vanuatu

Lini Day celebrates Vanuatu's first Prime Minister of the newly independent country.




## March


**05**  
Tuesday

**Chief's Day**  
Vanuatu

This day celebrates and preserves traditional tribal customs observed on many islands and recognises the commitment and leadership of the chiefs.





## April

**Ratap Village**  
Mondays & Friday  
**Londot Village**  
(2 Sites)  
Thursdays & Saturdays  
**Lonwaren Community**  
Saturdays

**Naghol/ Land Diving**  
Pentecost


A ritual performed by the men of the southern part of Pentecost Island. The ritual sees local men and boys as young as seven jumps off wooden towers around 20 to 30 meters (66 to 98 ft) high, with only two tree vines wrapped around the ankles.




**27-28**  
Saturday - Sunday

**Santo Fishing Competition**  
Espiritu Santo

A gamefishing event which competitors do fishing and win prizes.




## May

**Ratap Village**  
Mondays & Friday  
**Londot Village**  
(2 Sites)  
Thursdays & Saturdays  
**Lonwaren Community**  
Saturdays

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Pentecost

A ritual performed by the men of the southern part of Pentecost Island. The ritual sees local men and boys as young as seven jumps off wooden towers around 20 to 30 meters (66 to 98 ft) high, with only two tree vines wrapped around the ankles.




**09-11**  
Thursday - Saturday

**Vanuatu Senior Masters**  
Mele, Efate

A golf tournament for golfers pover 50 years of age.

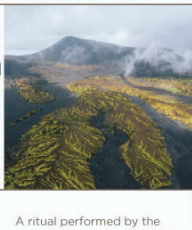


## June

**15 - 17**  
Wednesday - Friday

**Tumturin Yam Festival**  
Fonteng, North Ambym

A three day festival celebrating traditional yam harvest, display of traditional artifacts and traditional kastom dances.



**Ratap Village**  
Mondays & Friday  
**Londot Village**  
(2 Sites)  
Thursdays & Saturdays  
**Lonwaren Community**  
Saturdays

**Naghol/ Land Diving**  
Pentecost

A ritual performed by the men of the southern part of Pentecost Island. The ritual sees local men and boys as young as seven jumps off wooden towers around 20 to 30 meters (66 to 98 ft) high, with only two tree vines wrapped around the ankles.




**10**  
Monday

**Regenarative Agritourism Food Tourism Experience Event**  
Maewo


A festival of traditional food preparation and tasting including enjoyment of a variety of cultural dances and storytelling showcasing other natural tourist attractions such as moon cave and massive waterfall of the island.



**13-14**  
Thursday - Friday

**Global Regenerative Agritourism Symposium**  
Mangaliliu, Efate

Open event to the general public, for the Kava, Culture and Trade Festival which will seek to build branding of regenerative farming and trade.



**18**  
Tuesday

**Shefa Day Celebration**  
Korman Stadium, Efate

The people of SHEFA Province celebrating their provincial day. 2024 marks 30 years since the establishment of SHEFA Province. The celebration in Port Vila will commence with a parade from Market House to Korman Stadium.



**18**  
Tuesday

**Ocean Logistic Shefa Development 7s**  
Kawenu Field, Efate

Ocean Logistic Shefa Development 7's. The tournament will be held at Kawenu Field. Foods will be on sale and entertainments from various local string bands




**21**  
Friday

**La Fete de la Musique**  
Port Vila, Efate


A music festival taking place on June 21 every year. It is a day on which the world celebrates the magical gift of music. Its purpose is to promote music in two ways: Amateur and professional musicians are encouraged to perform in the streets.



**29 - 30**  
Saturday - Sunday

**Rom Dance Festival**  
Emoutugon, Ambrym

West Ambrym Rom Dance Festival: A cultural event which incorporates sand drawing and magic. A variation of west Ambrym traditional dances compared to North Ambrym.




**27-28**  
Thursday - Friday

**Sand Drawing Festival**  
Olal, Ambrym

It celebrates unique and complex tradition of sand drawing. The multifunctional "writing" is more than an indigenous artistic expression and it occurs a wide range of ritual, contemplative and commuative contexts.




## July

**Ratap Village**  
Mondays & Friday

**Naghol/ Land Diving**  
Pentecost

A ritual performed by the men of the southern part of Pentecost Island. The ritual sees local men and boys as young as seven jumps off wooden towers around 20 to 30 meters (66 to 98 ft) high, with only two tree vines wrapped around the ankles.





# 2024 Calendar of Events & Festivals

## Legends:



Culture & Tradition



Music & Entertainment



National Public Holiday



Sports



Trade

**08**  
Monday

**Fanla Slow Food Festival**  
Fanla, Ambrym




This one-day event is a special one to celebrate local dishes. It involves women and young girls in food preparation and demonstration. After food tasting, men will be telling stories and doing sketches of when the first navigators discovered Ambrym Island.

**13**  
Thursday


**Galaxy FC 10th Anniversary**  
Korman Stadium, Efate




Galaxy Football Club celebrates its 10th years anniversary

**18**  
Thursday


**Ancestors Life Heritage**  
Lonwolwol, Ambrym



The villagers of West Ambrym celebrates on this day their ancestor's ways of living. There will be traditional dishes prepared by women, traditional dances and activities and kava tasting.

**20**  
Saturday

**Havannah Trail Le Pacific**  
Havannah, Efate




Havannah Trail Le Pacific is an Epic Adventure Across Efate Island!

**22-24**  
Monday - Wednesday


**Maskelyne Canoe Rance**  
Maskelyne, Malekula




A festival rich in culture and showcasing old ways of transportation throughout Vanuatu waters. It includes feast of kastom dances, canoe-making, kava tasting, sharing of local meals and of course the famous outrigger canoe race, with ending of the Island Night celebration.

**27 - 28**  
Saturday - Sunday


**Santo Rodeo**  
Luganville, Espiritu Santo



A 2-days event to experience bull riding, horse agility and horseback races in the beautiful island of Espiritu Santo

**27**  
Saturday

**Wilco Efate Relay**  
Efate



It is a 10 leg relay race around the island of Efate for 10 runners. There are several categories to enter from the serious to the social runners who are there to be part of a special event. There are a range of distances from the legs at the beginning which are shorter but contain hills to the longer flatter sections at the finish. When you're not running you travel close to your team on a bus to support them along the way.

**30**  
Tuesday

**44th Independence Day**  
Vanuatu



Vanuatu is celebrating its 44th independence anniversary. This holiday commemorates Vanuatu's independence from the joint rule of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and France, which occurred on July 30, 1980.


## August

**02-03**  
Friday & Saturday


**Lamap Cultural Festival**  
Lamap, Malekula



Lamap community celebrate during this day their culture, traditions and unique way of life.

**08**  
Thursday

**Dip Point Volcano Eruption Exhibition**  
Lonwolwol, Ambrym




This is unique opportunity to showcase the historical significance of Lonwolwol, where the first mission hospital in Ambrym was once located. An educational activity which explains the difference between the church and the local custom, leading on december 06th where the volcano eruption destroyed the hospital. A day full of activities, stories and exchange of meals.

**15-16**  
Thursday & Friday


**Back to My Roots Festival**  
Olal, Ambrym



The 2-day festival is a highlight of any cultural experience in Vanuatu, it is an authentic and 'real' experience and not just an artificial show made up for tourists, where guests can witness chiefs passing their ranks and the ceremonies are part of the community's life!

**10**  
Wednesday

**Lylywy Cultural Festival**  
Sisivi, Ambrym



A special event in the western part of Ambrym Island showcasing unique Rom dance. The men dancers dressed in a mix of dry leaves, represent warriors, singing and dancing.

**20-21**  
Tuesday - Wednesday


**Nalawan Festival**  
Southwest Bay, Malekula



A day celebrating some of Malekula Island's most terrific cultural shows. This cultural festival is celebrated every year.

Unique activities are performed such as spectacular custom dances and authentic grade-taking ceremonies.


## September

**4 - 8**  
Wednesday - Sunday

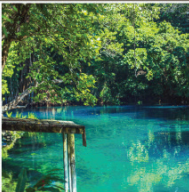
**Vanuatu Golf Open**  
Mele, Efate




The Vanuatu Golf Open is played annually at The Port Vila Golf and Country Club, Vanuatu's only 18-hole Championship Course. The event attracts professionals and amateurs from many South Pacific Countries including New Zealand, Australia, Fiji, New Caledonia and the Solomon Islands.

**07**  
Wednesday


**Sanma Trail Pacific Energy**  
Espiritu Santo



Explore the untamed beauty of Espiritu Santo with the Run Pacific Energy Series!

**11 - 12**  
Thursday - Friday

**Fanla Cultural Festival**  
Fanla, Ambrym



One of the most authentic, energetic and well-costumed kastom tradition in Vanuatu. This festival is centered around ancestral dance grounds, black magic performances and sand drawing.

**25-28**  
Wednesday - Saturday

**Fest'Napuan**  
Port Vila, Efate



West Ambrym Rom Dance Festival: A cultural event which incorporates sand drawing and magic. A variation of west Ambrym traditional dances compared to North Ambrym.


**25 - 27**  
Wednesday - Friday

**Vanuatu Made Show & Exhibition**  
Efate




Showcase and sell Vanuatu Made products, and also local producers to meet each other and share or discuss business ideas, which will contribute to the success of their businesses.

## October

**07**  
Monday

**Port Vila Rodeo**  
Bellevue, Efate



Games, Stockmans race, Bronc Ride and Bull ride all on throughout the day



# 2024 Calendar of Events & Festivals

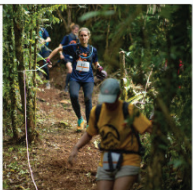
## Legends:

-  Culture & Tradition
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### Talefa Run Nguna

An elite and social epic run across Nguna Island. This race not only allows you to test your determination – it also gives you the opportunity to experience the stunning scenery of this part of Nguna Island



### Yasur Run Tanna



Yasur Volcano Run edition an elite and social epic run on Tanna, starting at the sea and finishing on the spectacular summit of Mt Yasur volcano.



### Charles Godden Slow Food Festival Ambae

Display of local food, amazing dances and local handicrafts from Ambae Island.



## November



### Kava Festival Espiritu Santo

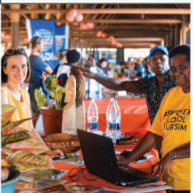


A celebration of Kava tasting as a taste of Vanuatu, showcasing a variety of kava from around Vanuatu and Vanuatu ready kava export commodities.



### Mi Tumoro Vanuatu (MTV) Travel Expo Port Vila

A travel show not only for the domestic traveler to take advantage of holiday deals, but also learn about the amazing offers across all 6 Provinces. Whether you're flying solo, a couple, or a family, there will be something for everyone!



### St. Andrew's Cultural Fishing Festival Olal, Ambrym

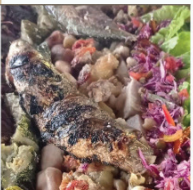


The event commemorates Saint Andrews before becoming an Apostle for Jesus Christ when he was a fisher man. The programs involves the preparation of local fishing nets, participation in fishing, preparation of local food and assist in a church service. Activities such as dances and traditional performances are to conclude this event.



### Paama Island Slow Food Festival Paama

This festival will showcase different food varieties on the island and their local recipes.



For more information, contact:



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