

NAWIMBA

Your Tourism Guide

Discover our island

Portraits of our different operators

Calendar of events

Immerse yourself into the Vanuatu moments

Cruise ship calendar

What to do on Efate



#SAPOTEM
LOKOL
TURISIM

www.vanuatu.travel



JULY TO
OCTOBER
2022



#SAPOTEM
LOKOL
TURISIM



Editorial

Already the weather is drier and warmer and the end of the year is approaching. It is with immense happiness that the friends of Vanuatu from wherever they come return to the archipelago. The restaurants, resorts, guide guides and all tourism professionals roll up their sleeves to offer an unforgettable welcome that is both authentic and friendly. Nawimba magazine also returns to present a colorful program. To discover or rediscover the five provinces, we gathered the testimonies of those who speak the best about them. Proud of their islands and their culture, they reveal the most spectacular places and events not to miss. Guaranteed chill, be ready to take it in your eyes.

Welkam Back to Vanuatu!

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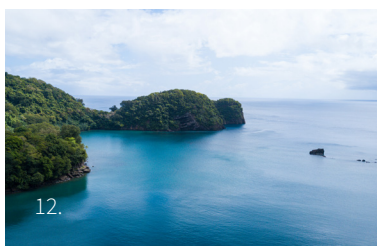
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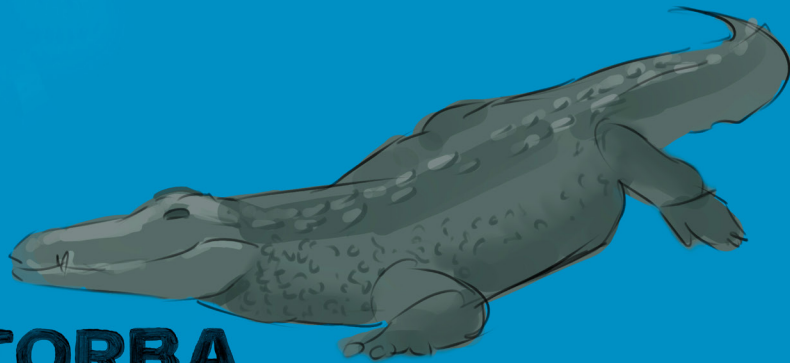


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TORBA

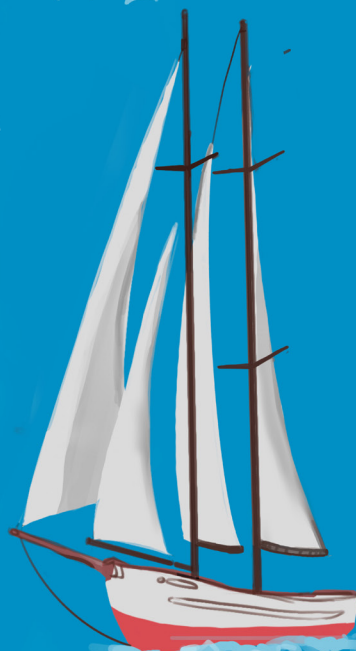
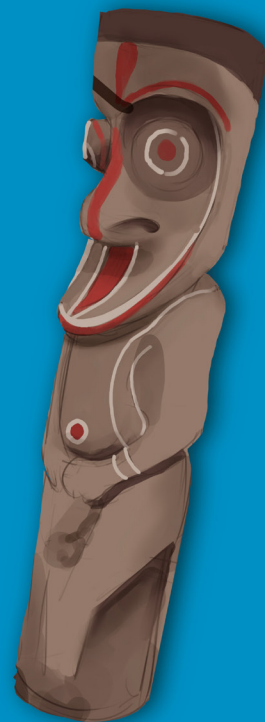


SANMA

PENAMA

MALAMPA

SHEFA



TAFEA





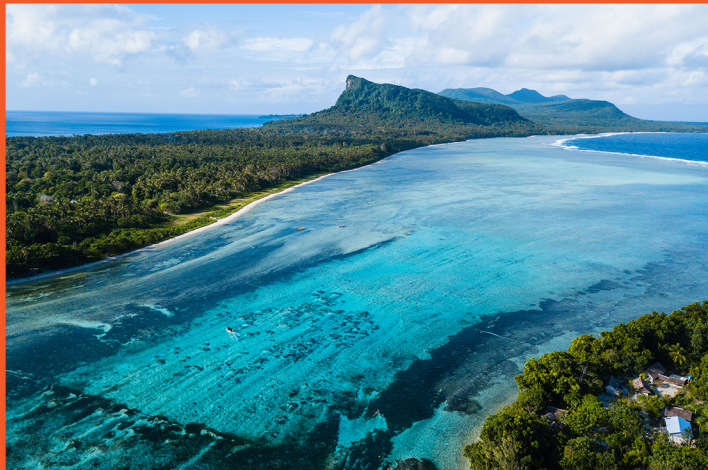
OCTOBER

2022

- 5th-8th - Fest Napuan (Efate Island)
- 14th-15th - Grand Manaro Trek (Ambae Island)
- 26th - SS President Coolidge Sinking 80th Anniversary (Santo Islands)

NOVEMBER

- 27th-30th - St Andrew Festival (Rah Island, Banks)



DECEMBER

- 9th-11th - Vanuatu Rally Championship (Devil's Point Stage, Efate Island)
- DTBC - Namatan Festival (Efate Island)

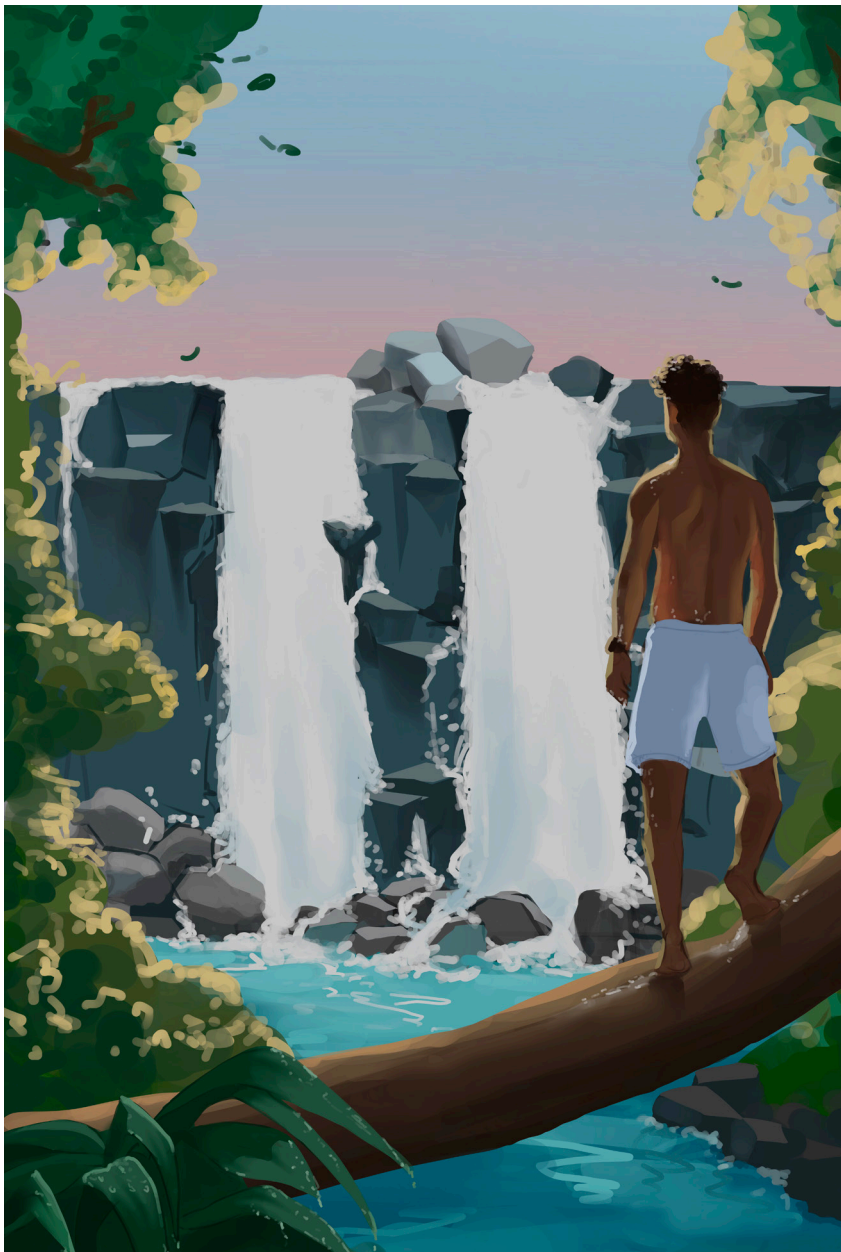
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PROUD TORBA

“Torba, communities embracing a simple and happy life.”

Delvin Joel



If you play or love to watch football games, you might have already met Delvin Joel. She is a well known female referee and she is passionate about her job. She started her carrier at a very young age. She already was a referee in Junior High School. She now participates in major tournament as the Overseas women's nation cup that took place in Fiji.

Her agenda is intense as she also studies at the USP to become a teacher.

Although Delvin lives and works in the capital, she is originally from TORBA Province. Her native island is on the very top of the map in Torres. She describes the place at "the" place to visit: the beautiful white sand beaches the waterfalls, the cascades, the pools and the numerous caves to explore. There is much to discover, both on the sea side and the land side.

The history is very rich and the communities are very proud of their traditions. The best is yet to hop from an island to another.



FAR FROM THE TUMULT OF THE WORLD, PRESERVING TRADITIONS IS A WAY OF LIFE

TORBA PROVINCE

She also recommends to explore the Banks. "Gaua is a jewel" she says. The customs in the islands are amazing: the water music of course, but also the Mota Lava custom dancing, inspired by the banded seas snake. The traditional attire, all in black and white is incredible.

On their journey to the North, foodies will not be disappointed: lobster and coconut crab are just the best! So fresh and tasty! A lot of the cooking is prepared in bamboo in a very traditional way. Simple but delicious. The Yams harvest in April is a great moment of celebration.

When you ask Delvin what make her proud of her province she does not hesitate a minute :
"The kindness of the people. God provides a lot of resources. Therefore, people in Torba are happy to live a simple life. They are not greedy for more. There are very few disputes as community cultivate kindness and respect."



PROUD SANMA

“ When the tourism industries teams up, everything becomes possible ! ”

Jerry Willy



The Philomen Lodge is a very well-known accommodation in Luganville. Locals and tourists love this place. It is nice and quiet with a great view on Aore Island.

Jerry is originally from Efate. From a very young age, he knew he wanted to work in tourism. He believes he has had the best training one can have. His two first experiences were at the Havanna Resort and then, on the private island of Ratua. He was eager to learn – he still is, and was lucky enough to spend time with great professionals willing to share their knowledge and experience.

After a few years, he decided it was time for him to create his own business. He moved to Santo, started a taxi business and quickly afterwards, he launched his own accommodation. Cyclone Harold and Covid did

not break him. He says he feels good and looks at the future in a positive way. He knows tourists are coming back and he can hardly wait to take them to Port Orly, to the white sand beaches, the blue holes, the Millenium cave, the waterfalls and the villages. He says what is great about Santo and the islands around is that there is so much to do. One week is hardly enough to get a sip of the full experience.

Jerry is open minded and loves to chat. “The people I meet bring the world to me. I love to discuss and to discover different cultures and ways of life. Talking to different people with different backgrounds make me grow”.



SANMA PROVINCE

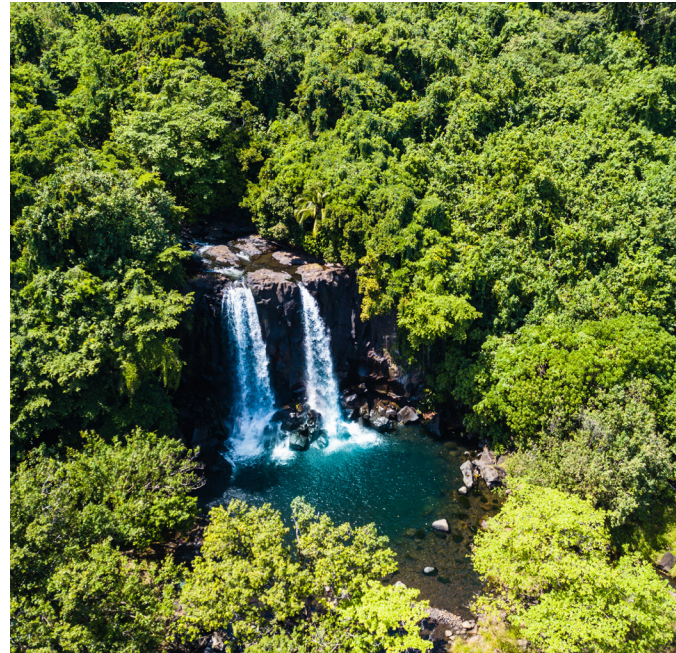


Jerry considers he is not an exception. This is the mind set of all tourism operators here. “We have this informal group that keeps growing every year. We know that SANMA is developing a lot. We share about our difficulties and more important about opportunities. We all want to scale up the tourism and we are all very proud to be able to rely on each other. This group is very important to me and to all members. We have this collective approach and I think it gives us a great leverage.”



GIVE YOUR INSTAGRAM A GLOW-UP

Instagram is the number one digital platform for sharing beautiful photos and reels of amazing destinations.



Vanuatu is definitely a great place to take breathtaking moments and share them with the world.

In this Nawimba edition, the Vanuatu tourism office wanted to share some the most “instagramable” locations. Some are very popular and easy to access, other will challenge your adventurous character as you will need to walk, climp or dive to get the perfect shot.

PROUD MALAMPA

“Passing on the wealth of traditions from generation to generation”

Robert Ravun

MALAMPA PROVINCE

A rich soil, fertile for endemic plants and rich culture.

Robert, has been a tour guide in Malekula for 17 years. His first job being a gardener, he is more than savvy when it comes to plants. This lover of the great outdoors shares his passion for his culture and for the wonderful landscapes of the islands of Vanuatu.

Malekula is the second largest island and is recognisable on the map by its dog shape. There are two major communities here, the Big Nambas and the Small Nambas. Robert created the Manbush trail, a unique and exciting circuit. Today's adventurers love following the traces of the past, discovering customs and legends, and learn about the flora, very often endemic. Tourists come from far away to live an thrilling experience.





Recently, he has accompanied Dutch and Hungarians who crossed the world for a shot of adrenaline and a taste of authenticity.

When you asked Robert what makes him so proud of his province, he answers without hesitation “our ability to preserve our culture and traditions”. Indeed, custom is very much alive and rituals and festivities are still held in the present.

Numerous events take place every year in Malekula and it is undoubtedly a destination to tick on your bucket list. If you are a French speaker, you can also spend hours chatting in the language of Molière.

By the way, if you want a good laugh with the locals, ask them about the origin of the name of Malekula.



“Living together
in the kindest way:
when respect is
much more than a
word.”

Thomas Wilbur



Thomas is one big smile especially when he talks about Ambae and his holiday there as a kid. Born on the island, he grew up and lives today in Port Vila. Addiction for sports runs in the family. His father is a very well known soccer referee. His siblings, just like him, love to play and stay fit. His playground is now the tennis club where he is, unsurprisingly: a fitness instructor. He did pretty well in weightlifting at the 2021 Mini Games in Saipan and now enjoys learning and sharing with advanced athletes and beginners.

Ambae is always close to his heart. He loves the the very silky and powderish black sand of the west coast, the fishing adventures with a simple hook tied to string hanging from the high rocks, picking up delicious shell fish and enjoying the super slowly cooked laplap.



YOU'RE NOT IN THE METAVERSE, YOU'RE IN THE MANARO VOLCANO

When you ask Thomas about the best places to take amazing photos, he immediately has two in mind. The magnificent and mystical volcano of Manaro still active today and the famous devil's rock that defies from its height the beaches of the opposite bank.

There are so many legends about this single rock. Is it a giant's grave ? Are his two petrified legs battling in the air, can we really see the bullet holes stigma of the World War II?

If you want to discover the island the best is yet to do it during the Grand Manaro in October. Be ready for a specular show !

Why is Thomas so proud of his Province ? Because "as my grand father used to say Respect is the most important value! In the past, to show respect to one another, people used to beat the bush as they crossed a friend or a relative. This gesture meaning: I do my best to clear the path for you. Yes, I am proud of my people being kind and caring."



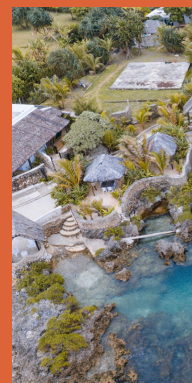
ANSWER.
THE CALL OF
Vanuatu

WELKAM BACK!

International Cruise Ships
Return to Vanuatu
from 9th November 2022

NOVEMBER CRUISE TRIAL SCHEDULE

Vessel	Date	Port
Pacific Encounter	09-Nov-22	Port Vila
Ovation OTS	12-Nov-22	Port Vila
Le soleal	15-Nov-22	Ureparapara
Le soleal	16-Nov-22	Espiritu Santo
Le soleal	17-Nov-22	Ambrym
Pacific Adventure	18-Nov-22	Mystery Island
Le soleal	18-Nov-22	Malekula
Pacific Adventure	19-Nov-22	Port Vila
Ovation OTS	19-Nov-22	Port Vila
Le soleal	19-Nov-22	Tanna
Ovation OTS	20-Nov-22	Port Vila
Pacific Adventure	20-Nov-22	Luganville



WHAT TO DO ON EFATE

To celebrate the return of the cruise ships we are including just a few of our must-see stops around Efate island that visitors to Vanuatu will absolutely enjoy. To check out our full list, head over to our website on vanuatu.travel.

1 Banana Bay Beach Club

Dreaming of a nearby island escape? Think lush green palm trees with a mix of Santorini vibes and authentic island thatched roofs and you get the Banana Bay Beach club. Run by a mother-daughter team, this charming spot is located along an island highway lined with plantations full of tall coconut trees within a 20 minutes reach from Port Vila. If you don't look to your side at the third yellow line along the Banana Bay you might miss it which is too bad. You'll find great swimming and snorkelling, gorgeous sunsets, BBQs, rustic beach huts and showers under the sky are guaranteed. Banana Bay Beach Club is open 7 days a week.

2 Hideaway Island

For a simple-no-hassle plan, a mini trip to hideaway island is highly recommended. Mail an underwater postcard, snorkel the day away or simply relax on the beach lounge area. The staff are excited to be open once again to day visitors and locals. For dive enthusiasts - Hideaway Island Resort also offers fully equipped PADI Dive tours. With 15 diving sites in total, you have everything you'll need to enjoy your dive experience whether you are new to diving or a seasoned veteran.

3 Club Hippique

Club Hippique Adventure Park is a place filled with love and care and a home for all. The Ranch is located at the stunning Etmat Bay with white sandy beaches surrounded by greenery which makes the short 15-minutes commute to the ranch well worth it. It's the people that make a place feel like home and for Club Hippique Adventure park, this couldn't be more true. From rain forests tours to sunset rides, allow the team to share their little piece of paradise with you.

4 Top Rock Lookout

Just before Emua wharf is the Top Rock Lookout. The establishment provides a unique spot for BBQ Lunch with a view across to North Efate's offshore islands and amazing snorkelling grounds. On arrival, guests can expect to learn about Vanuatu's fauna with self-guided tours onsite. Snorkelling gear is available for hire.



PROUD SHEFA

“Cultivating
togetherness,
making us stronger”

Lucy Kapp

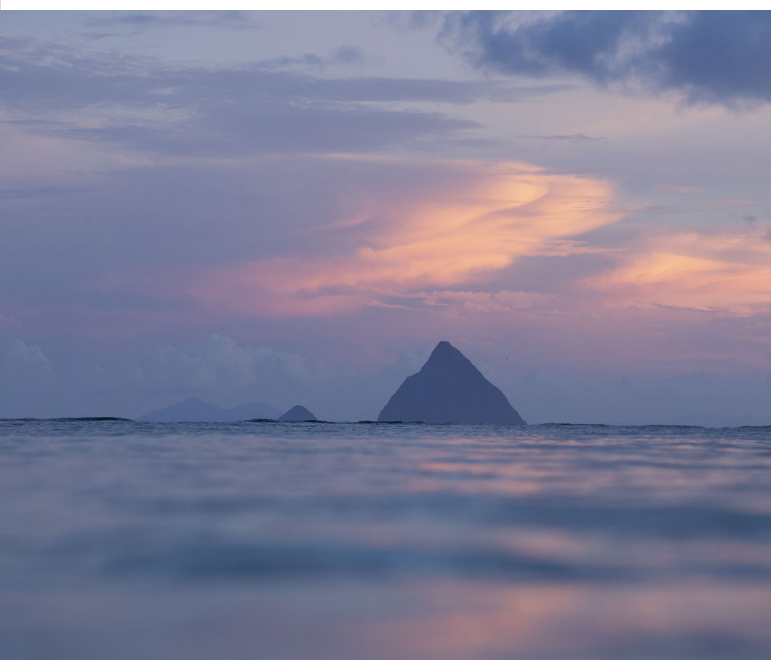


What better way
to discover the
Shepherd Islands
than to meet the
daughter of the
Chief of Itakoma.

This village, which is one of the 14 villages of Tongoa is a place full of mysteries where legends are passed down from generation to generation. No wonder Lucy is making a career at VTO as a media officer. She tells about her island and its traditions better than anyone.

Lucy was born and works in Port Vila but remains very attached to her origins. As soon as she can, she spends her holidays there. Her pleasure is to enjoy the company of her family and childhood friends. Gardening, swimming in the natural pools that have formed in the heart of ebony colored rocks.

When asked to talk about the small and big pleasures of the Shepards Islands, she proposes without hesitation the celebrations of the end of the year which are a great moment of sharing. She makes our mouths water when she talks about miraculous fishes and delicious shellfish that can be eaten raw or cooked with laplap.



SHEFA PROVINCE

She tells the unique feeling of sailing sea above the underwater volcano. "First of all, if you look at the surface, you will see bubbles. There are the sign of the fumaroles' activity. It is quite impressive to to imagine that you are floating over the great Kwai." Legend has it that a young man deeply hurt in his feeling for being cruelly mocked by the locals cast a spell on the entire population living on the flanks of the volcano. His anger and enchantments caused the volcano to erupt to the point of an explosion that separated the land into islands. This ancient legend is actually the fruit of a huge volcanic eruption that occurred in the 15th century.

When you ask Lucy what makes her proud of being from Shefa, she beams : "I love the way people are solidary and there for one another. Showing up to help and assist members of our community is not only a tradition, it has become part of our character!"

PROUD TAFEA

“Less is more.
We cherish
simplicity and
the present
moment”

Ronnie Naute

Ronnie has been in the tourism industry for many years. He discovered it was his vocation and he enjoys his work. He lives in Efate but is originally from Futuna (editor's note: not to be mistaken to the french island near Wallis). He speaks passionately about his island Futuna located in the province of Tafea. Because of its very southern location, the island is one of the least known or visited island. However, it is a well worth destination: huge black rocks and great cliffs plunged into the Pacific Ocean. Everywhere green gardens abund. According to the locals: everything that grows in Vanuatu also grows in Futuna! Be ready for the fruit of the loom ! There are juicy mandarins and a surprising





TAFEA PROVINCE



fruit similar to litchee. The Nandao has a particularly delicate flesh. Futuna has a simple way of life. Time seems to stand still. The wedding ceremonies are without doubt the most touching. With great simplicity, families and friends join together to celebrate the union of the lovers in a very pure tradition.

Ronnie is very proud of this culture which leaves room for simplicity. At a time when everything is accelerating, Futuna is still one of the rare places where the present moment is the most beautiful gift to share.

ARTIST'S CORNER



Sonya David is back in Vanuatu after many years in China and Nepal. She is a ni-Vanuatu professional photographer and designer ...and also an accomplished artist. She started drawing from a very young age. Her friends kept challenging her to the point she became prolific in drawing realistic animals and marvel heroes. Traveling a lot and discovering artists such as Christophe Y and Korean designers encouraged her to grow her passion and explore digital art. Her portraits of Melanesians and other communities of the Pacific have become a TikTok phenomenon. Sonya is proud to have participated in this Nawimba as she says "it had to get out of my comfort zone by drawing sceneries of Vanuatu". Her photographic eye and artistic touch brought color and poetry to this edition. Definitely, a local artist to follow...



<https://www.facebook.com/snyadavid>



https://www.instagram.com/nya_illustrations/

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TOURISM OFFICE
ANSWERING THE CALL



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— YOU'RE INVITED — TO VOYAGE WITH US AROUND THE ISLANDS AND LEGENDS OF VANUATU.

Vanuatu is open again for travellers from 1 July 2022 and we're ready to welkam you back to the warm embrace of the crystal ocean. From nearby islands to sheltered reefs, we'll cross the mesmerising waters of a timeless ocean in traditional canoes, guided by centuries of knowledge.

It's time to Answer the Call of Vanuatu.

WELKAM
BACK TO
Vanuatu!

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