

# flysolomons

SOLOMON AIRLINES COMPLIMENTARY IN-FLIGHT MAGAZINE

ISSUE 88

FLYSOLOMONS.COM



THE VERY  
BEST OF  
**Munda**  
A NEW ERA

Tetepare: the story of  
one of the world's last  
'true' wild islands

The jungle life  
beckons on  
San Cristobal Island

Why red feathers  
are hot currency on  
Nendo Island



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## SOLOMON ISLANDS **PREMIUM** LAGER BEER



Drink Responsibly





As always, we take great pride in all aspects of our business but particularly the onboard service offered by our exceptional crew. In a very important year, our frontline ambassadors took care of thousands of international visitors to Solomon Islands from 24 countries, ensuring their comfort and safety and delivering inflight care with genuine Solomons warmth and consideration.

Already in 2024, we are off to an exciting start, recommencing flights from Brisbane direct to the new Munda International Airport opening a second international gateway to Solomon Islands.

Non-stop flights to Munda are an important step for us and for tourism. Visitors from international markets including Europe, USA and Asia can now fly via Brisbane directly to enter Solomon Islands at Munda, clearing customs at this gateway to popular tourism destinations.

In January, we also shared our finalised 2024–2028 Strategic Plan with key stakeholders including the Solomon Islands Government, business partners and local decision makers.

Titled *Navigating Excellence*, it outlines our vision, goals and priorities for the next four years and how Solomon Airlines plans to advance, connecting Solomon Islands with the Pacific and the world.

As well, as supporting local and international tourism efforts, we will continue to connect communities across Solomon Islands, and we will play a broader role in regional aviation development.

With our Pacific partner Air Vanuatu, we will look for further opportunities to connect Pacific destinations and work with other nations to bring us all closer together.

***As always, we take great pride in all aspects of our business but particularly the onboard service offered by our exceptional crew.***

Our Vision, to be the Pacific's best emerging airline, is one we take very seriously, and which lies at the heart of our strategy and efforts moving forward.

Our Strategic Plan sets out our vision, mission and roadmap, underpinned by the following seven long-term strategic goals.

A full copy of *Navigating Excellence: Solomon Airlines' Strategic Plan*, is also available on our website [www.flysolomons.com](http://www.flysolomons.com) in the 'About Us' section.

# Welkam Oloketa Fren (Welcome Friends)

As we embrace the start of 2024, we wish our passengers and readers a very Hapi Niu Yia (Happy New Year) and extend our best wishes for a productive and fruitful year for all.

Solomon Airlines has commenced 2024 with optimism and a clear direction under our 2024–2028 Strategic Plan.

Despite the challenges of recent years, we are proud to have achieved significant progress in 2023 and are poised to accelerate the transformation of Solomon Airlines as the Pacific's best emerging airline.

In the past year, our National Carrier took delivery of a second Airbus A320 aircraft, maximised opportunities associated with the 17th South Pacific Games, and via our partnership with Air Vanuatu, we effectively re-engaged Solomon Airlines re-entry to New Zealand.

We transferred into the newly opened Honiara International Airport Terminal, opened our new Belama Lounge and relaunched our Belama Club Loyalty program. Solomon Airlines flight attendant uniforms were also elevated with smart new components.

## Solomon Airlines' Seven Long-Term Goals



**GOAL 1**  
Enhance operational safety and security

Our commitment to maintain and enhance operational safety standards while fortifying security measures, safeguarding our passengers, and operations at all times.



**GOAL 2**  
Cultivate talent excellence, nurture employee engagement

We aim to nurture an inclusive and supportive workplace that promotes the growth, well-being, and professional development of our employees.



**GOAL 3**  
Enhance operational efficiency and cost management

Our focus is on improving on-time performance, optimising fleet utilisation, and streamlining operational processes to ensure efficiency and cost reduction.



**GOAL 4**  
Modernise fleet composition, enable sustainable growth, and promote environmental responsibility

We are dedicated to revitalising our aircraft fleet, focusing on safety, efficiency, and passenger comfort, while aligning fleet composition with market demand and prioritising sustainability.



**GOAL 5**  
Elevate customer experience, drive digital transformation

We commit to delivering exceptional service and crafting memorable journeys for passengers through digital transformation and innovation.



**GOAL 6**  
Drive financial performance and optimise revenue generation

Our aim is to maximise revenue through innovative strategies and effective cost management, securing Solomon Airlines' financial resilience and sustainability.



**GOAL 7**  
Achieve sustainable growth and market expansion

Our aspiration is to expand our market presence by identifying new opportunities, crafting comprehensive marketing and branding strategies, and fostering strategic partnerships.



Looking forward, we have charted a clear course for our future success and we have already begun assessing new business opportunities together with a fleet renewal plan. Solomon Airlines remains unwavering in our commitment to providing our passengers with a travel experience that exceeds safety, security, and overall satisfaction expectations.

We are very encouraged by recent research showing improvements in passenger satisfaction levels, however we also acknowledge that further enhancements are possible.

In closing, on behalf of Solomon Airlines team I wish to say tagio tumas (thank you) for choosing to fly with us. We look forward to continuing to serve you in 2024 and beyond, and we wish you good health, blessings and progress throughout the coming year.

Kind regards,

**Frank Wickham**  
Chairman of Solomon Airlines



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Out and About

## PACIFIC GAMES A SPORTING AND CULTURAL SUCCESS

After years of planning, the 2023 Pacific Games concluded in colourful style in Honiara in December with Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan proclaiming the event a “resounding triumph”.

Mr Lakhan said Honiara had, “Delivered a Games of which every Solomon Islander should be proud.”

Athletes from across Oceania descended on the Solomon Islands for the “Olympics of the South Pacific”, in a showcase of the region’s athletic prowess, culture and unity.

Premier of Guadalcanal Province, Francis Sade, along with representatives of the Guadalcanal people, led a heart-warming welcome event at the beginning of the games as the host province. The traditional and symbolically important displays of Chupu and taro were highlights of the ceremony.

The Lumi Wan Festival was a fantastic complement to the games. The festival provided games visitors and participants with a cultural showcase of local music and cultural performances featuring artists from Papua New Guinea,

Vanuatu and Fiji, as well as the Solomon Islands.

The new National Stadium lived up to its hype as arguably the best sporting venue in the Pacific as it hosted the colourful opening and closing ceremonies, where athletes marched and danced their way into and out of the Games.

Veteran weightlifter Jenly Wini was the flagbearer for the Solomons, leading the team into the stadium before promptly earning three gold medals for her country.

The football-mad weren’t disappointed either; Lawson Tama Stadium heaved as a record 15,000 supporters packed in to see the Solomon Islands men’s team defeat Fiji 2-0 in the semi-final. The final was a thriller, with New Caledonia eventually taking the spoils in a penalty shoot-out after extra-time ended with the scores at 2-2.

New Caledonia were triumphant when it came to the medal tally, finishing atop with 82 gold medals, six more than when they topped the table at the 2019 Games in Apia. For their part, the home nation performed strongly, finishing with 12 gold medals (and 78 overall) to come in seventh place.

The closing ceremony was both a joyous celebration and poignant farewell as the baton was passed to Tahiti, which will host the next games in French Polynesia in 2027. ▴

Above: Both the opening and closing ceremonies were sold out.



## 2023 Pacific Games Medals – Top 10

RANK	NATION	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
1	New Caledonia	82	57	58	197
2	Tahiti	57	53	50	160
3	Australia	50	24	10	84
4	Samoa	34	21	21	76
5	Papua New Guinea	29	37	39	105
6	Fiji	21	30	40	91
7	Solomon Islands	12	36	30	78
8	New Zealand	10	13	12	35
9	Nauru	10	12	6	28
10	Guam	7	4	6	17

## PROTECTING A GREEN PARADISE

The Solomon Islands Government is taking a significant step towards protecting the island nation’s sandy beaches and crystal clear waters, with a ban on the import, manufacture, distribution, and sale of single-use plastic products due to come into effect in March.

The Solomon’s Minister for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology signed off on the ban in September 2023, amid growing concerns about the impact of plastic pollution on the region’s oceans and marine life.

“The Government believes that it is prudent to start making changes and shift to sustainable alternatives and to ensure that our environment is protected from plastic pollution,” a government release stated.

The ban includes plastic shopping bags, straws, cups, plates and cutlery, polystyrene takeaway containers, plates and cups, and Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) water bottles that are smaller than 1.5 litres.

*“The Government believes that it is prudent to start making changes and shift to sustainable alternatives and to ensure that our environment is protected from plastic pollution.”*

Businesses and consumers are being encouraged to view the plastic ban not only as a challenge but also as an opportunity to embrace more sustainable practices.



Travellers can help reduce plastic pollution during their Solomon Island adventures by packing eco-friendly reusables, such as metal water bottles, bamboo cutlery, and cloth tote bags to use when exploring local markets or beach hopping across the islands.

The Solomon Islands move aligns it with other Pacific nation countries who have taken a stand to reduce the impact of plastics, including microplastics, on their communities.

Surrounded by some of the most biodiverse marine ecosystems on the planet, with coral reefs that teem with life and provide sustenance and income to countless communities, the Solomons’ population of around 700,000 is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of plastic pollution, including consuming marine animals that have ingested microplastics. ▴

Above: The Solomon Islands are moving with other Pacific Nations, leading the rest of the world in embracing a plastic-free future.



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If you are still unsure then compare the note with one that you know is genuine. These are the main features on the note. For more information, please contact:  
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# A Quick Guide to Honiara

Conveniently positioned centrally within the South Pacific and embedded deeply in World War Two history and Melanesian culture, Honiara is not only the capital of the Solomon Islands, but a great base for travellers visiting the South Pacific.

As well as this, there are a number of excellent food and drink options throughout the city, and modern facilities available for every kind of traveller.



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Adventure

Adventure

*This is the proper 'Sollies' bush, the Aussie nickname for Solomon Islands*

We bolt through a dense jungle on a small paved road that quickly turns into dirt with dogs, pigs and chickens peppering it. Passing a giant canopy shaded gurgling stream, in Kirakira's downtown, locals are congregating around a football pitch and shouting their champions onwards to glory.

At the bright yellow painted Sea View Rest House, I secure a private room for US\$40. It has a basic shower with metal underfoot, humble twin beds and can of bug spray. This is the proper 'Sollies' bush, the Aussie nickname for Solomon Islands. I adore the balcony lobby view of a black sand beach famous for turtles laying eggs and its proximity to big leaf and bird bush treks.

# Welcome to the jungle

WORDS & IMAGES BY CHRISTOPHER COTTRELL

**D**ense jungle bush is barely a stone's throw from the white coral airport runway of Kirakira, the capital of Makira, nestled deep in the southern Solomons. Any further southeast and you'll find yourself in Vanuatu.

Officially Makira, Spanish colonialism meant the island was referred to as San Cristobal for several centuries, and occasionally today. It reveals its verdant canopies and cobalt waters as the twin-engine plane lands and white powder from the bleached coral runway dusts up over the black rubber wheels. There are bamboo thatch huts amidst the shadows of coconut trees that line the long airfield. From these dwellings, children pour out and race to the end of the airfield to greet passengers.

The arrival and departure terminal consists of two open-air concrete shelters. Next to them at the end of the

runway, farmers scoop up green pumpkins by slashing their vines with machete blades glinting in the sun. Opposite the terminal are thatch trinket stands where locals ply sales of dried mango, coconut and artisanal assortments of shells and banana leaf weavings.

I have not booked a hotel ahead, as I could find nothing online on this whimsical two-day trip out of Honiara, the nation's capital, to fly some 80 minutes away by small plane. But a waiting taxi driver chewing betel nut and smoking next to the craft and snacks hawkers, says, "I will take you to a hotel."



**Clockwise from opposite:** A wide variety of unique plants and animals have evolved on Makira; the island is a fisherman's paradise; Solomon Airlines offers flights into Kirakira from Honiara.





The next morning, I hire a car for US\$20 to drive me through the jungles for good vistas of the northeastern looking shore. Going deeper into the interior requires a longer commitment of hiking and walkie-talkie connectivity with a bush guide, which travellers can ask for at the landing terminal or at the small house nearby that serves as the Solomon Airlines' office.

We find a gap on the black sand beach where I can put my feet up momentarily, then wade through the surf for a quick swim before penetrating even further into the deep, shadowy, cathedral-like canopies of the forest. I could spend two weeks or months exploring here genuflecting in awe to the floral allure, and only realize this after two days on island. It is nowhere near enough time.

***“I could spend two weeks or months exploring here genuflecting in awe to the floral allure”***

At one point, we pass a vista where children, some of whom have the iconic genetics of blond hair, are playing football by a large wooden cross. I get out my camera and they naturally pose, with one splaying his arms out like Jesus in the crucifixion. It may as have well been for Saint Christopher, or San Cristobal, the Patron Saint of Travellers. ▴



The only other guests, three Chinese and their local guide, are here to trek and talk about nickel mining potential. I speak Chinese, but leave them to it whilst chatting with hotel staff “Baby”, as she asks if I want a whole fresh fish, steamed on rice for dinner. I do, and pay her US\$10 for the honour.

“What about my cooking fee?” she asks. Apparently, the hotel and restaurant payments are not totally aligned, but I am happy to oblige Baby with a US\$5 fee. Later, I hear the Chinese incensed that she has raised their cooking fee to US\$5 based off my new price.

It is totally worth it because she sourced a delectable, flesh falling off the bone mackerel with a proper bed of rice, complete with a few SolBrew beers on ice.



**Clockwise from top left:** The island was once known as San Cristobal, Spanish for Saint Christopher; the island has unique black sand beaches; friendly locals love to pose for photographs; fresh tropical fruits are abundant.

NEED TO KNOW

- Before booking a flight, contact Solomon Airlines for the latest updates and contact phone numbers on the two or three small accommodations downtown as most do not have websites or update social media
- Pack a small first aid kit as medical services on the island are limited
- If going on a short trip, consider bringing a picnic lunch and your own food if you don't want to eat fish, rice and noodles as staples
- Bring binoculars for bird-watching excursions
- Be prepared for itinerant weather to impact return flights as you might get stuck for an extra night—thankfully Solomon Airlines can assist with an overnight stay, as happened to this author





# THE COLOUR OF MONEY

Why one bird's red feathers are hot currency on the island of Nendo

WORDS AND IMAGES RODERICK EIME

IMAGES ©S. BRADLEY, F. WARDLE, HERITAGE EXPEDITIONS



Main Image: Tevau is still used ceremonially at weddings, funerals, disputes and more.  
Inset: The Scarlet Honeyeater is responsible for producing the red feathers.





**I**f you struggled to get your head around Bitcoin, you might be intrigued by 'tevau', a centuries-old form of money used in the Solomon Islands that involves weaving together red bird feathers to create long strips that can then be rolled up into coils and used as currency.

Whilst the Solomon Islands' legal tender is the Solomons Island Dollar, tevau continues to hold its place for a variety of ceremonial uses, from funerals and tribal disputes to weddings, where it symbolises wealth, status, honour, and power within the community.

It's the red feathers of the local Scarlet Honeyeater, cardinal myzomela, that are used to create tevau, with tens of thousands of the honeyeater's minute feathers required to create a single flat coil, which can be valued at more than SB\$100,000. Luckily, the small bird is still plentiful in the wild despite the unpleasant, but non-lethal plucking process.

As part of Heritage Expeditions' annual 'Secrets of Melanesia' expedition, I've travelled to the little village of Noipe on the island of Nendo, in the easternmost Temotu province of the Solomon Islands. Our 184-passenger vessel, the *Heritage Adventurer*, is anchored off the little port village and we have headed inland by tipper truck to take witness a celebration where tevau, also known as Red Feather money, still stars.

There is traditional dancing and rituals, young kids chase each other around the green while elders sit and chew betel nuts under a shady tree and they survey the festivities. We have time to examine the exquisite handicrafts laid out for us in a tent as well as sample popcorn, fresh green coconuts, and traditional sago pudding with dried fish as the raucous celebration begins. Men and women in costume chant and stomp rhythmically in a circle. Dried nut shells tied in bunches to their feet add a musical percussion to the performance. The men are a striking vision with their mother of pearl decorations called 'nelo' through their noses and feather adornments.

*It's the red feathers of the local Scarlet Honeyeater, cardinal myzomela, that are used to create tevau.*

**Pictured:** Men adorned in feathers and the 'nelo' through their nose, getting ready to perform.







**Pictured:** In sunshine or rain, it's an impressively colourful affair in Noipe. A red feather headdress can be worth as much as SB\$100,000 (around US\$12,000). **Opposite:** Only a skilled few are trusted to craft the coils and headdresses. **Opposite below:** A couple of young lads watch, and learn.



*Red feather money rolls must be one of the rarest and most unusual forms of money in the world.*

But it is a new bride who takes centre stage. She looks stunning, decked out in a vivid, oversized headdress, made of Red Feather money.

Only a small and exclusive group of hereditary craftsmen, who are believed to be spiritually inspired, have the unique expertise required to create tevau. The British Museum has recognised the skill and, cultural and artistic significance of tevau, purchasing examples of it from Noipe in 1976 for its collection.



Our expedition leader, Suzanne Noakes explains, "Red feather money rolls must be one of the rarest and most unusual forms of money in the world. It is valued because of the limited supply of red feathers.

"Generally, 10-12 metres long, the tevau is used as currency for important payments in life, like bride price, purchasing pigs or very large canoes."

So, if you're asked to show the colour of your money in the Solomon Islands during a significant cultural event, keep in mind, it may need to be red. ▽



**Getting there**

The village of Noipe is located on Nendo Island, the largest of the Santa Cruz Islands.

Heritage Expeditions' annual 'Secrets of Melanesia' 17-day cruise departs 30th Oct 2024.

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# Into the *Wild*

Discover Tetepare,  
the Solomon Islands'  
great green hope.

WORDS AND IMAGES LUKE WRIGHT

**I** wake early on Munda to the sounds of women with palm-frond brooms sweeping the earth. I walk in the morning warmth and discover the countryside, collecting sights like they're knick-knacks in a souvenir store.

At night I cool off with a few cold SolBrew beers and lie beneath a fan to read about Tetepare, where I am headed next.

The largest uninhabited island in the South Pacific, Tetepare is 27 kilometres long and seven wide. It's a rugged, wild place; steep and unforgiving. The local story goes that about 150 years ago this diverse island was invaded by a nasty spiritual force, driving the population to death or to flee for other islands. Historians argue that it wasn't the devil but disease that did the harm.

Either way, Tetepare was left untouched, sparing it from development and from the vicious teeth of the loggers' saws.

Tetepare's old growth forests, some of the last in the Solomons and the wider Pacific Ocean region, eventually became the target of logging consortiums.

Opposite: There's wild, and then there's Tetepare.





A campaign ensued, with the 4,000 or so descendants of Tetepare banding together to agree that their ancestors' island was worth more intact and upright than in a foreign sawmill. The process of getting consensus on this, in a country where familial land rights are impossibly complex and where conservation for many is merely a concept, was a giant achievement.

Ultimately, in what is a rarity anywhere in the world, long-term benefits were chosen over immediate gain. Tetepare was saved — by the people, for the people.

But the win came with conditions. The Tetepare Descendants' Association was obliged to put in place a program and prove that their win would bring greater benefits to their people than logging.

Tourism was central to this plan.

After a few days in Munda, I'm ready to take the boat to Tetepare. At the jetty I meet Allen, a Kiwi volunteering at Tetepare, who has come across to Munda for few days of R&R.

"You're going to love it, mate," he tells me. "This place is second only to the Galápagos Islands. Without the boats and tourists, of course."

## *The boat rounds a corner and I sight Tetepare lurking in the lagoon like a lazy crocodile.*

**Opposite:** Emphasizing the aphorism 'basic is best', the Eco Lodge's sleeping quarters have everything you need. **Above:** Tetepare is 27 kilometres long and seven wide.

The very act of going to visit this island is key to its survival.

After an hour or so, the boat rounds a corner and I sight Tetepare lurking in the lagoon like a lazy crocodile.

It's a magnificent looking spot. As I arrive, other guests who've been here for a few days greet me at the jetty. Island veterans, they tell tales of the things they've seen and what I should do with my time here.

"Hey, Dad! Shark!" yells a young kid snorkelling just off where the boat is tied.

"Good one, mate," his dad replies, as casual as can be.

I am taken up to my thatched hut accommodation and given the rundown on the rules.

"This is a wild island, yeah," my guide explains. "we have some dangers." Tina then lists all the hurty

and bitey things I might encounter during my stay. At the top of the list is the crocodile. I'm told that one in particular (of the 14-foot-long variety) resides in the lagoon.



"Swimming is always OK," says Tina, "but not after 5pm."

"Does this crocodile operate on Solomons time?" I ask.

Before coming to the Solomon Islands, I was told to take care factoring Solomons time into any plans I was making. I rarely pay heed to this type of clichéd counsel, but I was warned on many occasions that people in the Solomons take non-punctuality to world-beating heights. They can be early, late or never. One can never quite know.

If humans here are prone to such loose interpretations of time, I feel certain that hostile reptiles will have even less regard for the clock.

Each day on Tetepare is equal parts laziness and adventure. Between hammock time and sharing meals with guests at a long table, there's hiking, snorkelling, fishing and boating to be done. The local guides, or 'rangers', are on call all day long to accompany visitors on any activity they choose. The whole operation feels very ad hoc, as if anything goes.

"Do you love snakes?" asks Nelson, one of the young guides on a hike into the forest. "Sometimes they will be in your room," he informs me, matter of factly.

The first night's plan is to sleep on the beach along with a leatherback turtle monitoring team. The leatherbacks, once a delicacy for the locals, are now fully protected.



***“This is a truly wild place. Rampant jungle and colourful reef become my very own playground.”***

We arrive at Turtle Beach by boat, the waves crashing heavily onshore. Several of the guides dive in and swim for land. It appears they're going to 'catch' our boat when it comes in.

There are no seatbelts here. The driver waits just beyond the suck of the surf for a break in the sets then guns it for the sand. In spectacular fashion we plunge onto the beach and scramble onto the sand before the next wave. We make it out alive.

Unfortunately, we don't see the critically endangered giant leatherback that night, but it's a lovely time under the stars.

Over the next days on Tetepare I settle into island life. This is a truly wild place. Rampant jungle and colourful reef become my very own playground. It's back-to-basics and informal as it's ever going to get. It's ecotourism as it should be.

Each day I swim with sharks and reef fish and turtles. Before breakfast, I snorkel alongside a pair of dugongs munching happily on a seagrass meadow. I hike through the jungle, primordial and crowded, and learn a little about bush medicine and survival. On an around-the-island boat trip, I see the whole forest for what it is – an immense swathe of green matter draped over the land, right down to the aqua edge of the lagoon. Thankfully, I don't encounter a crocodile.



At night, Roy, one of the rangers, takes me to find some endangered giant coconut crabs in the bush. He manages to grab one that's the size of a basketball. I ask him if he likes to eat them.

“No, not any more,” he says. “I actually don't eat the turtle or the crab or anything like this. We're trying to be conservationists here. Before, nobody knows what is conservation, but slowly, slowly they know. And they want to make conservation for the future.”

In a spiel that comes from the heart, not the company memo, Roy tells me that in some villages in the Solomons there are kids who have never seen a once-prolific leatherback turtle. He hopes his work will change that.

“I am happy that the visitors come here,” he says, while measuring and recording the size of the crab. “I think the tourist people can help.”

**Clockwise from opposite:** The island is filled with pristine lowland rainforest, and a rich inshore marine area; days on Tetepare are filled circumnavigating the island by canoe, lapping up the untouched shoreline and max-chilling at home base.



**Getting there**

Tetepare Island Ecodge organises a pick-up boat from Agnes Gateway Hotel in Munda out to the island.

**Staying there**

An all-inclusive daily package includes basic accommodation, three meals and a guide for any activities that don't require boat fuel.

**Need to know**

All guests must pay a one-off conservation fee.

[www.tetepare.org](http://www.tetepare.org)





# Magical Munda

WORDS & IMAGES BY KATE WEBSTER

Surrounded by small islands with picturesque white sand beaches lined with palm trees and crystal-clear emerald-green waters

**F**lying into Munda, I felt like I was on a Robinson Crusoe-esque escape. Surrounded by small islands with picturesque white sand beaches lined with palm trees and crystal-clear emerald-green waters, Munda's sense of remoteness was emphasised by the surprising lack of tourists.

Munda is the largest community on the island of New Georgia, in the Western Province of the Solomon Islands. Comprised of several villages, its main town at Munda Point overlooks Roviana Lagoon at the island's southwestern tip.

Munda was only accessible by a two-hour boat ride or 15-minute flight from Gizo, or a one-hour flight from the capital of Honiara, until Munda International Airport opened in 2023. Now there are direct flights from Brisbane every Saturday, with the return trip via Honiara. The history behind the airport is a story in itself. Built by Japanese forces in 1942, at the height of World War II, it was seized by American troops in 1943, and is now the second largest airstrip in the Solomon Islands.

**Pictured clockwise:** Divers will be thrilled to discover the crystal clear waters surrounding Munda; Munda Markets are a hive of social activity and fresh produce; Peter Joseph Memorial Museum is named after a US soldier, whose dog tags were found on the island in 2002; Munda now has its own international airport.



## MUNDA TOWN AND MARKETS

The town of Munda is only about two square blocks, enough to offer a BSP bank and ATM, a handful of general shops, and a bakery. The wharf is a buzz of activity, with boats coming and going throughout the day, connecting nearby islands.

The Munda Markets are held every Friday and are a must-visit. More than a vital hub for locals to catch up, the markets offer a great range of delicious and fresh produce at low prices. But, what surprised and delighted me most was the absence of plastic bags. Instead, I was handed a green palm frond woven basket to carry my purchases.



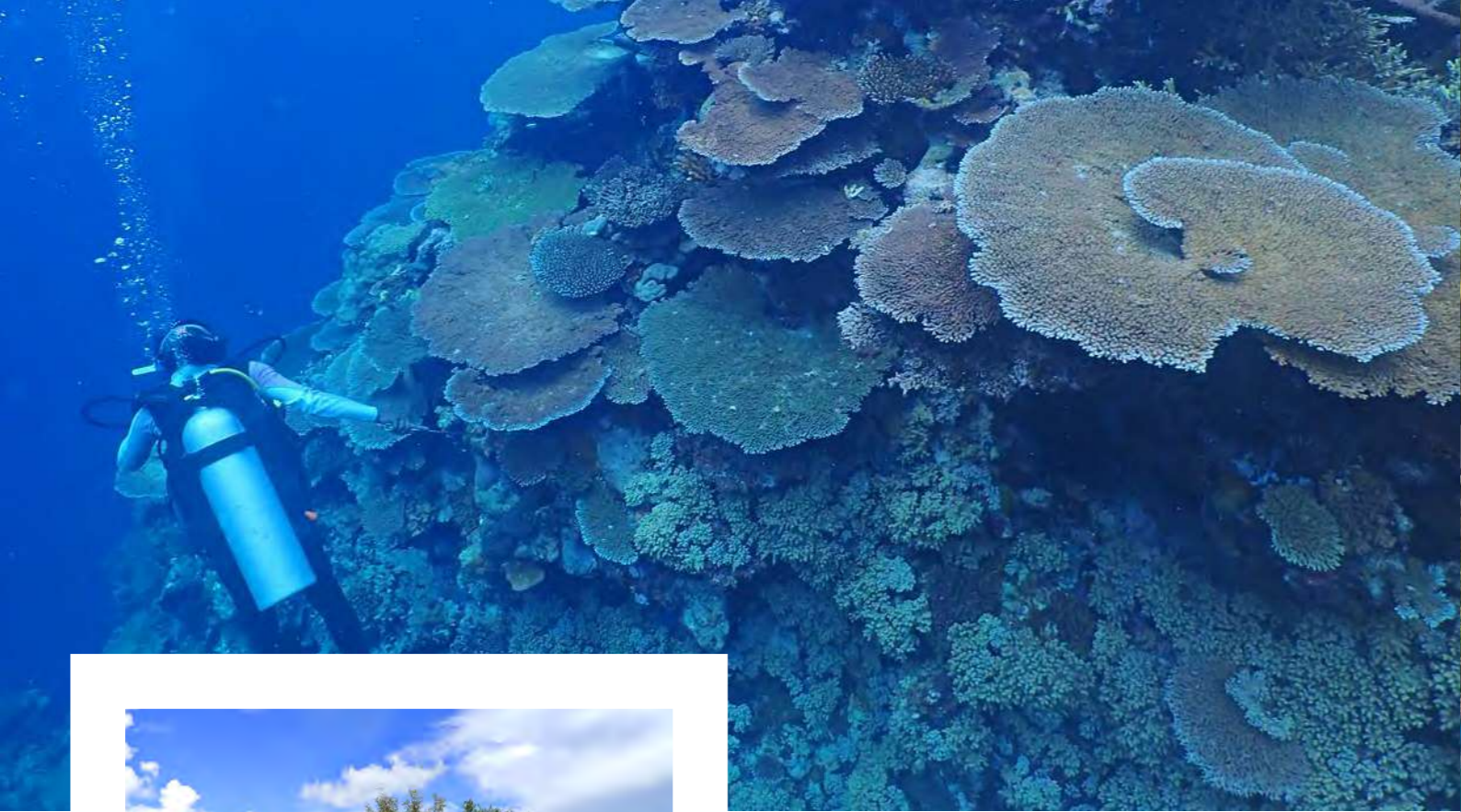
## PETER JOSEPH MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Remnants of WWII can be found scattered throughout the Solomon Islands and a visit to the Peter Joseph Memorial Museum at Munda is a great way to get up close and personal with some genuine artifacts.

Owner and curator Barney Paulsenk has ensured the collection is authentic and raw. In addition to weapons and ammunition, it has a focus on soldiers' personal items, including dice and marbles used for games and social activities during their downtime.

The museum is very hands-on, with Barney encouraging visitors to enjoy the unique experience of holding a piece of history in their hands. As Barney recounts the tales behind the items, the soldier's stories and memories live on.





island, where former US president John F Kennedy was posted during World War II.

### STAY LIKE A CASTAWAY

Ever wanted to feel like a castaway on a private island? Castaway Lagoon Resort offers that very experience.

Getting to this unique hideaway involved a two minute boat trip from Munda jetty to the island. Waiting there for me was a comfortable bungalow, basic in design but with all I needed in a bed, air conditioning with a fan, and private bathroom. There was no need for shoes here, so I walked barefoot to the beach bar where I could wriggle my toes in the sand while having a cold SolBrew and watching the sunset.

Dinner was also a casual affair — a feast of local produce, including freshly caught fish, served in the wood-floored restaurant.

Exploiting the island life, I took a refreshing dip in the ocean before climbing into bed for a restful night's sleep against the peaceful soundtrack of lapping waves. ▴

**Above:** A downed warplane, coral reefs and shark dives are just some of the diving adventures on offer.  
**Left:** Bask in the solitude and beauty of the aptly-named Castaway Resort.

### DIVING AND SNORKELLING

Munda's magic is both above and below the waterline. An undiscovered gem of the diving world, it is close to the tranquil lagoons of Roviana and Vonavona, where I was spoilt for choice of dive sites. There are wall dives, wreck dives (including a downed Douglas SBD Dauntless dive bomber), shallow coral garden dives, shark dives, cave dives, and more. I had never seen such large, coloured fan corals before, and revelled in the clarity of the water.

All dives are from a boat and, if you can't get enough, there are liveaboard dive options. Best of all, during breaks between dives, you can have an entire beach to yourself. I took my lunch break at Lubarua

*“Munda's magic is both above and below the waterline. An undiscovered gem of the diving world.”*



Fly to Munda with Solomon Airlines  
[www.flysolomons.com](http://www.flysolomons.com)

Visit [www.flysolomons.com/iमितुगेदा](http://www.flysolomons.com/iमितुगेदा) for holiday stay options.

Visit Peter Joseph Memorial Museum.  
Entry fee is SB\$50 per person.

[www.facebook.com/peterjosephww2museum/](http://www.facebook.com/peterjosephww2museum/)

Visit [www.visitsolomons.com.sb](http://www.visitsolomons.com.sb) for other accommodation and activity options.



# The pride of Honiara



Centrally located with 100 fully air-conditioned rooms, four executive suites and 14 executive rooms, all boasting splendid sea views, quality facilities and contemporary furnishings.

Our conference centre accommodates 20 – 150 people and is equipped with a modern communications system.

The Capitana Restaurant offers delicious international cuisine. Panoramic views of the historic Iron Bottom Sound Lagoon can be enjoyed over drinks and snacks on the Raratana Terrace.

Traditional, imported Japanese furnishings complete an authentic dining experience at the ever-popular Hakuabi Japanese restaurant.



## Solomon Kitano Mendana Hotel

P.O. Box 384, Honiara, Solomon Islands  
Tel: (677) 20071 / e-mail: [reserv@mendana.com.sb](mailto:reserv@mendana.com.sb)  
[www.kitanomendana.com](http://www.kitanomendana.com) / [www.facebook.com/kitanomendana](http://www.facebook.com/kitanomendana)



# Invest in Solomons

There's never been a better time to invest in Solomon Islands

Opportunities exist in the following major sectors:

**Tourism / Agriculture / Fisheries /  
Mining / Infrastructure & Other Services**

## Register Online

[www.solomonbusinessregistry.gov.sb](http://www.solomonbusinessregistry.gov.sb)

✓ Foreign Investment    ✓ Company    ✓ Business Name



**InvestSolomons**  
Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour & Immigration  
P.O.Box G26, Honiara  
Solomon Islands



Phone: (677) 20521

Website: [www.solomonbusinessregistry.gov.sb](http://www.solomonbusinessregistry.gov.sb)

Email: [investsolomons@commerce.gov.sb](mailto:investsolomons@commerce.gov.sb)



## BAORO & ASSOCIATES

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### How well do your finances & financial reporting stack up?

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- Taxation
- Payroll Services
- MYOB installation and management support
- Accounting staff billeting
- Project Management
- Financing Proposals
- Foreign Investment Application and Advice
- Work and Residency Permit Applications
- All other Business Advisory Services and support.

**CONTACT US TODAY**  
PO Box 939, Honiara. Ph: 25822 M: 7495224 or 7477561 Email: [baoro@baoroassociates.com.sb](mailto:baoro@baoroassociates.com.sb) or [deborah@baoroassociates.com.sb](mailto:deborah@baoroassociates.com.sb)  
For Tarawa services, send us an email. Visit our office located next to the old Lime Lounge in Pt. Cruz, Honiara. [www.baoroandassociates.com.sb](http://www.baoroandassociates.com.sb)



Your logistics solutions provider in Solomon Islands



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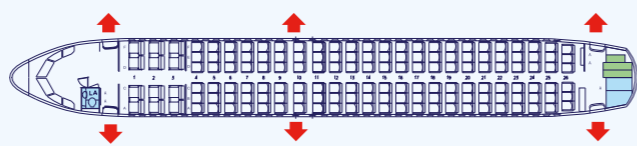
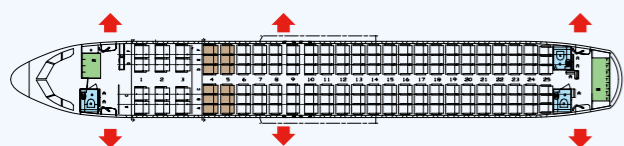
# Solomon Airlines Fleet



## A320

Registration **H4-SIB**  
 Length **37.57 m**  
 Wing Span **34.10 m**  
 Range **3,000 nm**  
 Cruising Speed **830 km/h**  
 Seating capacity **144**  
 Configuration: **Business: 12, Economy: 132**  
 Current Routes: **Brisbane, Nadi, Port Vila**

Registration **H4-SAL**  
 Length **37.57 m**  
 Wing Span **35.80 m**  
 Range **3,350 nm with sharklets**  
 Cruising Speed **830 km/h**  
 Seating capacity **150**  
 Configuration: **Business: 12, Economy: 138**  
 Current Routes: **Brisbane, Nadi, Port Vila**



▲ Emergency Exits    ▲ Toilets    ▲ Galleys    ▲ Belama Club

# Inflight Info

## Business Class

Enjoy the comfort of our friendly skies onboard our A320-200 aircraft, with a full meal service and range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages available, personalised service and extra seat comfort, including 42-inch seat pitch and 27" of seat width, offering 30% more space than economy.

### Business class passenger benefits include:

- 40 kg checked baggage allowance
- 10 kg cabin baggage allowance
- 7 kg sports equipment allowance
- Priority check-in and boarding
- Access to partner lounges including Fiji Airways Tabua Lounge and the Qantas Club Lounge in Brisbane

## Economy Class

Our cabins are specifically configured for both space and comfort. Our inflight service offers a meal with a range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages included complimentary for international sectors, and on domestic sectors a snack and water is provided.

### Economy Class passenger benefits include:

- 30 kg checked baggage and 7 kg cabin baggage allowance on international services
- 7 kg sports equipment allowance
- 16 kg checked baggage and 5kgs cabin baggage allowance on domestic services

## Solomon Airlines Contact Information

### Head Office

Henderson Airport  
 P. O. Box 23, Honiara,  
 Solomon Islands  
 Ph: (677) 20031

### Travel Center

Solomon Airlines Building,  
 Mendana Avenue, Point Cruz,  
 Honiara, Solomon Islands  
 Ph: (677) 44999  
 Email: sales@flysolomons.com.sb

### Australia

Ph: 1300 894 311 or (61) 7 3860 5883  
 Email: reservations@flysolomons.com

### Fiji

Nadi Airport, Office 27, First Floor  
 Ph: (679) 6722831  
 Fax: (679) 6722140  
 Email: solomon@connect.com.fj



## Dash 8-102

Length **22.25 m**  
 Wing Span **25.91 m**  
 Range **2040 km**  
 Cruising Speed **490 km/h**  
 Seating capacity **36**  
 Crew **3 crew including 1 cabin crew**  
 Aircraft in Fleet **1**  
 Current Routes: **Honiara, Munda, Gizo; Kirakira, Santa Cruz**



## Twin Otter

Length **15.77 m**  
 Wing Span **19.81 m**  
 Range **1350 km**  
 Cruising Speed **338 km/h**  
 Seating capacity **16**  
 Crew **2**  
 Aircraft in Fleet **4**  
 Current Routes: **All airports in the Solomon Islands**



## Twin Otter H4-S1C

Length **15.8 m**  
 Wing Span **19.8 m**  
 Range **1540 km**  
 Cruising Speed **296 km/h**  
 Seating capacity **19**  
 Crew **2**  
 Aircraft in Fleet **1**  
 Current Routes: **All airports in the Solomon Islands**





# International Connections

- Solomon Airlines Routes ———●
- Codeshare Routes - - - - -●
- Interline Partners ———●



## General Sales Agents

**AUSTRALIA**  
Ph: 1300 072 087  
Email: [flysolomons@airlinemarketing.com.au](mailto:flysolomons@airlinemarketing.com.au)  
Address: Airline Marketing Australia, Level 17, Australia Square, 264 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia

**CANADA**  
Ph: (1) 800 985 4997  
Email: [canada@apg-ga.com](mailto:canada@apg-ga.com)  
Address: 1100-1200 West 73rd Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6P 6G5, Canada

**FIJI**  
Ph: (679) 6722767  
Email: [solomonairlines@airlinerepservices.com](mailto:solomonairlines@airlinerepservices.com)  
Address: 27 Queens Road, Martintar, Nadi, Fiji Islands

**FRANCE**  
Ph: (33) 1 53 77 13 27  
Email: [solomonairlines.fr@apg-ga.com](mailto:solomonairlines.fr@apg-ga.com)  
Address: 66 Champs-Élysées, 75008 Paris, France

**GERMANY**  
Ph: (49) 6031 737 630  
Email: [germany@apg-ga.com](mailto:germany@apg-ga.com)  
Address: Leonhardstrasse 22, 61169 Friedberg, Germany

**HONG KONG**  
Ph: (852) 2826 9228  
Email: [hongkong@apg-ga.com](mailto:hongkong@apg-ga.com)  
Address: APG 10/F Tung Ming Building, 40 Des Voeux Road, Central Hong Kong

**JAPAN**  
Ph: (81) 50 33882939  
Email: [japan@apg-ga.com](mailto:japan@apg-ga.com)  
Address: 8F ATT New Tower, 2-11-7, Akasaka, Minato-ku, 107-0052, Tokyo, Japan

**MALAYSIA**  
Ph: (603) 2141 2701  
Email: [malaysia@apg-ga.com](mailto:malaysia@apg-ga.com)  
Address: Suite 1001, Level 10, Wisma Lim Foo Yong, 86, Jalan Raja Chulan, 50200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**NEW ZEALAND**  
Ph: (64) 9 969 7602  
Email: [flysolomons@airlinemarketing.co.nz](mailto:flysolomons@airlinemarketing.co.nz)  
Address: Airline Marketing NZ, Level 10 BDO Tower, 120 Albert Street, Auckland 1141, New Zealand

**PHILIPPINES**  
Ph: (632) 8896 90 75  
Email: [philippines@apg-ga.com](mailto:philippines@apg-ga.com)  
Address: 2nd Floor, Lydia Building, 39 Polaris Street, Bel Air, 1209 Makati City, Philippines

**SINGAPORE**  
Ph: (65) 6339 5500  
Email: [singapore@apg-ga.com](mailto:singapore@apg-ga.com)  
Address: APG Singapore Pte Ltd, 114 Middle Road #05-01, Singapore 188971

**TAIWAN, CHINA**  
Ph: (886) 2 2368 7828  
Email: [taiwan@apg-ga.com](mailto:taiwan@apg-ga.com)  
Address: 11F, No.111, Sec 2 Nanjing E. Road, Taipei, Taiwan 104

**VANUATU**  
Ph: (678) 23838  
Email: [vanuatu@flysolomons.com](mailto:vanuatu@flysolomons.com)  
Address: Air Vanuatu House, Ground Floor, Rue de Paris, Port Vila, Vanuatu

**UNITED KINGDOM**  
Ph: (44) 0844 482 1670  
Email: [uk@apg-ga.com](mailto:uk@apg-ga.com)  
Address: 3 World Business Centre, Newall Road, London Heathrow Airport, Hounslow, TW6 2TA, United Kingdom

**USA**  
Ph: (1) 888 468 5736  
Email: [solomonairlines@airlinepros.com](mailto:solomonairlines@airlinepros.com)  
Address: AirlinePros, Suite 358-360, 420 Lexington Ave, New York, NY 10170, USA

# Domestic Connections

- Solomon Airlines Routes ———●



## Contacts

### Solomon Islands Office

Head office: (677) 20031  
Reservations: (177) local or (677) 23506

### Outer Ports:

**Santa Cruz:** Sales & Reservations  
Ph: (677) 53159

**Gizo:** Sales & Reservations  
Ph: (677) 60173

**Munda:** Sales & Reservations  
Ph: (677) 62152

**Kirakira:** Sales & Reservations  
Ph: (677) 50070

## International Offices

### AUSTRALIA — Reservations

Ph: 1300 894 311 or (61) 7 3860 5883  
Email: [reservations@flysolomons.com](mailto:reservations@flysolomons.com)

### AUSTRALIA — Operations

Address: Level 1, International Terminal, Brisbane Airport, QLD 4008, Australia

### FIJI — Nadi

Ph: (679) 6722831  
Address: P.O. Box 10229, Nadi International Airport, Fiji

## Cargo

### AUSTRALIA

Ph: (61) 7 3119 2571  
Email: [bneexports@airway.com.au](mailto:bneexports@airway.com.au)  
Address: Airway, 8 Hibiscus Street, Brisbane Airport, QLD 4008, Australia

### NEW ZEALAND

Ph: (64) 9 275 8767 or (61) 7 3860 5883  
Email: [sales@gsacargo.co.nz](mailto:sales@gsacargo.co.nz)  
Address: GSA Cargo Services NZ Ltd Level 1 AFCAB offices, George Bolt Memorial Drive Auckland Airport 2154, New Zealand

### SOLOMON ISLANDS

Ph: (677) 36592  
Email: [cargo@flysolomons.com.sb](mailto:cargo@flysolomons.com.sb)  
Address: Henderson International Airport, Honiara, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands




 Destination Guide

# Things to remember before your trip to the Solomons

## Climate

Tropically warm and humid with coastal day temperatures averaging 28C (82.4F). April to November tends to be drier and November to April wetter.

## What to wear

Light and casual... take it easy!

## Health

Malaria can be a problem. Take anti-malarial medication a week before arrival, once a week during your stay, and for four weeks after departure. Consult your chemist or doctor about an appropriate brand of tablet. Maloprin is usually recommended.

## Immigration

Commonwealth, United States and most European visitors do not need holiday visas but need return or onward tickets. People intending to work must have work permit.

## Honiara

Our capital is eight kilometres (4.97 miles) from Honiara International Airport.

## Airport Tax

SB\$305 payable by passengers 12 years and over) boarding international flights, and these are generally added onto the cost of your air tickets.

## Currency

The Solomon Islands dollar (SB). \$100, \$50, \$20, \$10, \$5 and \$2 Solomon Islands notes, while coins are \$1, 50c, 20c, 10c and 5c.

## Business Hours

Government and business general hours are Monday to Friday, 8am to 4:30pm, with a one-hour lunch break normally beginning at noon.

Shops and some offices open Saturday 8am to 12 noon.

## Electricity

220-240 volts in Honiara and some outer island centres.

## Banks

ANZ Banking Group open Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm. Pan Oceanic Bank Limited opens 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday, and the Hyundai Mall main branch opens 10am to 1pm on Saturday. Bred Bank opens 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday. Bank of South Pacific opens 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday.

## Transport

Taxis and buses are readily available in Honiara. Rental cars are available from Economy car rental and Elite Vehicle Rental Ltd.

Honiara Airport Taxi Association (HATA) also provides airport transfers, tours, car hire and general transport service in Honiara.

## Telecommunications

Local, international calls and internet services are available through Solomon Telekom Company Limited (Our Telekom) and Bmobile networks. 4G network is available in Honiara, Auki, Munda, Noro and Gizo whilst all other provincial hubs are equipped with their 3G networks. SATSOL is also another internet service provider (ISP) in Honiara, other regional and provincial areas in Solomon Islands.

## International Air

Solomon Airlines operate out of Honiara and Munda International Airports, while other carriers include Fiji Airways and Air Niugini.

## Domestic Air

Solomon Airlines operate services throughout the country.

## News Media

The country has a vibrant media landscape, offering choices in both English and Pidgin. Radio services are offered by state radio, Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation, private operators and religious bodies.

Our Telekom relays BBC and other satellite TV networks while Island Sun and Solomon Star are the two daily news papers.

## Tippling

Not expected and not encouraged.





Airline Nius

ANNOUNCEMENT

# SOLOMON AIRLINES RESUMES DIRECT BRISBANE-MUNDA FLIGHTS

Solomon Airlines flights from Brisbane direct to the new Munda International Airport begin on January 6th, reopening a direct air route from Australia to Solomon Islands' Western Province gateway.

The flights kicked off again after an initial first flight in October 2023. The upgrade is a boon for Munda and for tourism in the Solomon Islands in general, not to mention international tourists who now have a direct route into the Western Province's beautiful beaches, stunning underwater diving, World War II history, fishing, surfing and culture.

The upgrade of the Munda International Airport Runway and airport buildings is a component of a two-phase SB\$1.1 billion SIRAP and Second Solomon Islands Roads and Aviation Project (SIRAP2) implemented by the Ministry of Communication and Aviation (MCA) and financed by the World Bank.

Welcoming the development, Tourism Solomons Acting CEO, Dagnal Dereveke, said the commencement of the new direct service represents a huge opportunity for the Solomon Islands tourism industry and particularly the Western Province.

"Munda serves as a vital gateway to several key tourism hotspots in the

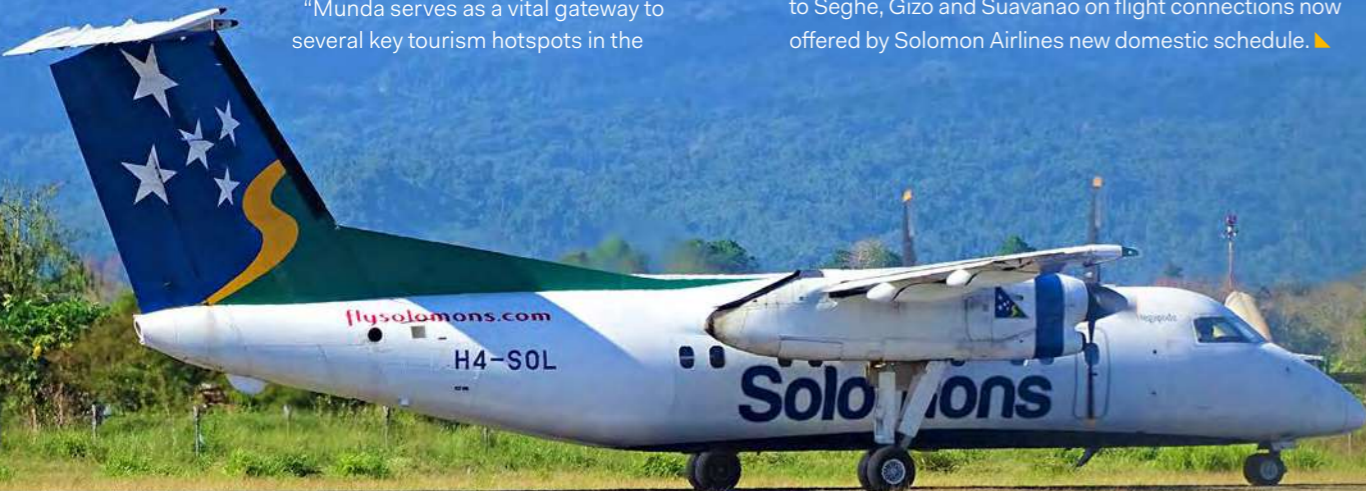
Solomon Islands' western region, including the picturesque Marovo Lagoon and Gizo, both 'destinations within the destination' and both renowned for their natural beauty and rich 'living' cultural heritage," Mr Dereveke said.

"The Western Province offers world-class activities above and below the waterline, from diving and surfing to sports fishing and bird watching, and with a rich WWII history has long proven a magnet for international tourists.

"Our biggest challenge now is to build an accommodation infrastructure in the region capable of managing what we are confident will be increased demand from travellers wishing to explore the west as a result of this extremely progressive step by our national carrier."

Passengers on the Solomon Airlines flight received commemorative certificates and giveaways to mark the occasion. All Munda-bound passengers cleared immigration and customs in Munda, with the Airbus A320 aircraft then continuing with international passengers to Honiara.

Passengers on board included those flying from Brisbane direct to Munda and those transiting in Munda to Seghe, Gizo and Suavanao on flight connections now offered by Solomon Airlines new domestic schedule. ▶



ANNOUNCEMENT

## JOIN THE CLUB

Solomon Airlines has revamped its Belama Club Membership Program, and priority check-in and express clearance at Brisbane are just some of the benefits it offers travellers.

Club members can access the airline's exclusive Belama Lounge, which only opened at Honiara International Airport in November, 2023. Located in the new departure terminal, next to the international departure gates, the air-conditioned business lounge gives guests a breathtaking view over the tarmac to the mountains beyond.

With seating for 40 guests, the lounge's modern décor is complemented by traditional artworks from the Solomon Islands. Guests can enjoy complimentary food and beverages, free wireless internet, television and flight information screens and private restrooms with up to two children (aged under 11) able to accompany a club member.

The airline's Belama Club Membership program offers two tiers of membership – Belama Club, priced at SB\$3,995, and Belama Plus, which is SB\$7,995. A one-off joining fee of SB\$300 applies.

The Plus membership opens up additional privileges, such as extra baggage allowance, Belama Lounge access for an adult accompanying a Plus member, and other premium services designed to provide an exclusive travel experience. The membership benefits only apply to Solomon Airlines marketed and operated services.

Membership application forms are available at [www.flysolomons.com/belama-club](http://www.flysolomons.com/belama-club). Completed forms are to be emailed to [belama@flysolomons.com](mailto:belama@flysolomons.com) ▶



### BELAMA CLUB MEMBERSHIP

SB\$3995 PER YEAR

- ✔ Priority check-in
- ✔ Complimentary Standard seat selection
- ✔ Express Clearance in Brisbane
- ✔ Belama Club Lounge access in Honiara
- ✔ Benefits apply for up to 2 children (2–11 years) accompanying member

### BELAMA PLUS MEMBERSHIP

SB\$7995 PER YEAR

- ✔ Priority check-in
- ✔ Complimentary Standard seat selection
- ✔ Express Clearance in Brisbane
- ✔ Belama Club Lounge access in Honiara
- ✔ Benefits apply for one adult and up to 2 children (2–11 years) accompanying member
- ✔ Additional 10kgs total international checked baggage (in addition to standard allowance)





ANNOUNCEMENT

# SOLOMON AIRLINES PARTNERSHIP TO BOOST CANADIAN LABOUR MOBILITY

National carrier Solomon Airlines has entered into an agreement with the Canadian International Training & Education Corp (CITREC) as part of its efforts to support Solomon Islands' bid to increase Education, Training and Labour mobility partnership in Canada.

This new arrangement between the national airline and CITREC will see increased air traffic between Solomon Airlines and its interline partners connecting Solomon Islands nationals to their travels to Canada.

At a historic event in Honiara, Solomon Islands national carrier and CITREC signed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a joint partnership that will make air travel easier for Solomon Islands nationals selected for seasonal employment, and those selected under the Canadian permanent residency program between Solomon Islands and supported by Canadian employers and the Canadian Government.

Under this arrangement, Solomon Airlines will facilitate special airfares for Canadian employers under its labour mobility and Permanent Residency program arrangement.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the airline and CITREC also extends to offering special fares for group travel in partnership with Air Vanuatu and Air New Zealand on Solomon Airlines Honiara-Port Vila-Auckland route.

"This is a significant arrangement which will help us all, and we are pleased to be partners," said Napoleon Padabela, Acting CEO of Solomon Airlines.

"It will benefit our airline, it will benefit more Solomon Islanders who are job ready under the CITREC program and seeking opportunities with Canadian employers and it will make things easier for Canadian businesses looking to employ workers from the Solomon Islands under the Canadian labour mobility program," he said.

"Under the Canadian labour mobility program, we are anticipating the number of passengers flying with us to increase during the years ahead and we at Solomon Airlines

are committed to providing the support to Canadian employers to help increase and support labour mobility partnership with Solomon Islands," he added.

Mr Ashwant Dwivedi, Chairman & President of the Canadian International Training & Education Corp said that the air fares arrangement with the national carrier is a significant boost for those Canadian employers who have been seeking job ready CITREC Solomon nationals as part of its work force, but had placed a temporary hold on plans due to the high cost of airline fares from Solomon Islands.

Mr Dwivedi said that the Solomon Airlines partnership opens new opportunities for Canadian employers.

"Since the inception of the Canadian Labour Mobility program, one of the major challenges has been accommodating the cost of international airfares," Mr Dwivedi said.

"We were looking at options in trying to reduce cost, especially after COVID. Today we have bridged that gap through our partnership with Solomon Airlines," he said.

"This is an opportunity that will help boost the presence of Solomon islands nationals in Canada's employment sector, working closely with Canadian employers," he added.

CITREC is presently offering its education and training program in the Solomon Islands which has seen its graduates being job ready and employed across many sectors in Canada.

The Canadian labour mobility programme has also provided unmatched opportunities under the Permanent Resident nomination program. This has seen Solomon nationals receiving their Canadian permanent residency status in Canada while employed under various seasonal employment programs.

"Canadian employers are looking at significantly increasing its labour mobility numbers from the Solomon Islands and now with Solomon Airlines support, Solomon Islands will have a greater opportunity to promote itself among Canadian employers," Mr Dwivedi added.

"In the past one year alone, 14 persons from Solomon Islands have received Canadian Permanent Residence status. ▴



## The Purest Tuna You'll Ever Taste



Caught and processed in the Solomon Islands





# Honiara's Entertainment Hub



## Welkam to Pacific Crown Hotel

Pacific Crown Hotel offers a convenient location just 5km from the International Airport & 3km to Point Cruise (Honiara's CBD).

Our suites include private balconies, lounge areas, mini-bar, WiFi, satellite television and air-conditioning.

Sip on cocktails and dine in our famous Garden Bar & Restaurant of Malaysian Chinese cuisine!

Let us show you the warmth of Solomon Island hospitality!

Support our talented local live bands from Wednesday to Saturday at canoe bar. Happy hour 4-8pm daily.

Try our motu (Solomon dish) on our cultural nights every Thursday and watch our beautiful tamure dancers share a mix of local and international dance stories.



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