

The New Caledonia Weekly

NOUMÉA IN A DAY!

Cultural tours, activities on land and water, shops, bars and restaurants, currency exchange, post offices, maps... go to pages 6, 7 & 8 and get all the latest gen. Hurry!

Welcome to



enjoy learning french!
 French language school for foreigners in downtown Nouméa
 Institut Voltaire
 www.institutvoltaire.ile.nc Tel. 86 29 88

WEST COAST FESTIVITIES!

4 CANDLES ON THE CAKE!

Dear Readers, the New Caledonia Weekly team is celebrating 4 years of dedication to making your stay here as enjoyable and unforgettable as possible. Top tips for places to shop, great deals and bargains, outings, events... our reporters are always on the spot to bring you the latest info and suggestions highlighting the charms of our country, from north to south and on the islands. Thank you for your support and loyalty! We could not ask for a better reward than our circulation of 18,000 copies and 8,000 email subscribers. Long live New Caledonia, long live our Readers and long live the New Caledonia Weekly!

CELEBRATING NATURE

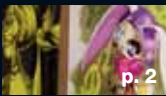
The beautiful countryside around La Foa, just one hour's drive from Nouméa, is a real ecotourism hotspot. And May is Festival of Nature month in New Caledonia! Stunning Parc des Grandes Fougères nature reserve boasts 4,500 hectares of unspoilt tropical rainforest extending over the districts of Moindou, Farino and Sarraméa. From 18 to 20 May a host of activities are scheduled: an 8 hour nature trail to one of the Katricoin Tribes, trails through the Parc, trails on horseback and tree climbing!

Parc des Grandes Fougères Tel 46 99 50

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May is definitely festival month on the West Coast. With two great events lined up, one at Boulouparis and one at La Foa, this is your opportunity to soak up the authentic bush lifestyle!

Charming little West Coast town Boulouparis, around an hour's drive from Nouméa, is gearing up for its annual Fair: the Fête du Cerf, de la Crevette et du Poussin (Venison, Prawn and Poultry Fair) on 12 & 13 May.

Two fun days are in store for visitors eager to discover local specialities and meet local people.

There will be unusual competitions to try your hand at fastest sausage eater, best deer braying imitator, prawn shelling, cast net throwing...

And enjoy a lively funfair atmosphere with contemporary and traditional dance, music (Duo Teone from Wallis and Futuna and Wifi Konnexion...), a variety of games organised for the kids with prizes for winners (chicks, hens and rabbits) and a whole host of other surprises!

Everything you could possibly need for a really wonderful, action-packed day. Meanwhile, La Foa is celebrating its 2012 Fête de

l'Eau (Water Fair) in honour of all things aquatic.

La Foa takes to the water!

Water is a key factor in so many New Caledonian activities that it's only natural we should occasionally give it the recognition it deserves! The program includes all the usual attractions and events: exhibitions, workshops, sailing, kayaking, a conference and discussions, screenings, a fishing contest, a bumper market, dances, live music... Get a "Water Fair Pass" and just go for it! With the Pass, you'll get hot discount rates for 3 water-related activities.

You can take a boat trip exploring La Foa's river and its outstanding mangroves, go kayaking on the La Foa or La Fonwhary rivers and hop on a taxi-boat to lovely Kondoya islet to spend as long as you like sunbathing, swimming and picnicking. Looks like May is going to be a fun month!

•Venison, Prawn and Poultry Fair, Boulouparis, Sat. 12 May from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sun. 13 May from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tel 35 17 06
 •Water Fair, La Foa, Fri. 11 and Sat. 12 May Tel 41 69 11



WELCOME TO NOUMÉA

Map showing locations: BAIE DES CITRONS, QUAI FERRY, NOUVILLE, BAIE DE LA NOUVELLE, CRUISE SHIP DOCKING AERA, L'IMPALA, O'PÊCHEUR, ANSE VATA, SOUTH NOUMÉA, NOUMÉA CITY, NOUMÉA DOWN TOWN.

SPECIAL DEALS FOR CRUISE VISITORS

TURN TO PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS

SHOW THIS COUPON TO CLAIM YOUR SPECIAL DEAL!



WINING & DINING

TREAT YOUR TASTEBUDS AT LE CREEK!

Le Creek restaurant, which opened last December at Pouembout in the heart of New Caledonia's bush country, has proved a great success.

Enjoying a weekend break in the North? Don't miss out on a meal at Le Creek. You'll love the peaceful setting and delicious specialities... Le Creek offers guests traditional cuisine featuring favourites such as mouth-watering burgers, andouillette in mustard sauce, chicken fillet with chorizo, duck breast with honey and thyme spice-bread and, of course, the indulgent pan fried fillet of beef with foie gras and "marchand de vin"

sauce! The fish dishes are also delicious: try the mahi mahi in pepper and basil sauce, the pastis flambéed prawns or the scrumptious homemade Fish & Chips. And the menu also features a daily chef's speciality! Le Creek uses only ultra fresh local produce to ensure superb quality right through to the desserts, which include lemon meringue tart, cheesecake and panacotta... A Happy Hour with tapas is a regular Thursday evening feature!

"Le Creek" restaurant, open Monday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday open from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. lecreek.nord.nc@gmail.com Tel 42 52 10

WHERE TO STAY

NEXT STOP PARADISE!

Mosasa Gîte, located at Poindimié on the East Coast of the Main Island, is the perfect place for a getaway break. Francis is waiting to welcome you to his little corner of paradise!



It would be difficult to imagine a more idyllic spot: soft white sand, corals, exotic fish and lush tropical greenery with fairytale Tibarama islet just across the water... The campsite offers camping spaces for 20 tents. Facilities include a barbecue area

and a spacious toilet & shower block. You can also rent a bungalow and even enjoy a delicious breakfast at the gîte!

Home cooking and fresh air

The pretty wooden terrace built on stilts offers a



delightful setting for a relaxing meal and Francis, a native of Poindimié, is an accomplished home chef: leg of lamb with honey, choko gratin, fresh local squash... Don't miss the opportunity to rent a kayak by the day or half day and set off to explore magnificent Tibarama islet with its glorious beaches and underwater scenery!

When you return to the campsite, Francis will be waiting for you on the terrace with a mouth-watering treat of fish freshly caught just for you! Cost per tent: F1,000 + F100/person. Dish of the day: F2,850

Ina Tribe, Poindimié, www.mo-sa-sa.com Tel 42 48 66

OUT & ABOUT

AN AFTERNOON OF FUN AND CULTURE!

For 3 years now, the superb grounds of the Tjibaou Cultural Centre have been the venue for the K'fe Concert events.

How about joining in? The K'fe Concert Oazik's are held one Saturday afternoon every month, each time with a different theme. The event includes Kultur'Box, a sort of "bring and buy" with stalls where you can exchange, buy or sell cultural artefacts, books and collections. So while you enjoy the live music, you can also browse souvenirs and books. It's a concept which has proved very popular. On Saturday 12 May, in the magnificent setting of the Tjibaou Cultural Centre gardens, Oazik's, in partnership with music café Le Mouv', will be presenting a line-up featuring Frog, Gayulaz and Talahaulogo, three rising young New Caledonian bands, and giving MétisSlam association carte blanche to perform their latest



slam poetry creations. Top new local talent for a vibrant and exciting afternoon concert! What better way to spend the afternoon than doing a bit of "cultural shopping" as you listen to great live music? And it's an ideal opportunity to explore the Tjibaou Centre, one of Nouméa's most exciting cultural hotspots.

Sat. 12 May from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. F500, Tjibaou Cultural Centre, Rue des Accords de Matignon, Tina, Nouméa. Tel 41 45 45



SPECTACULAR HIENGHÈNE!

Hienghène is one of New Caledonia's loveliest and most emblematic regions and the birthplace of Jean-Marie Tjibaou.

The glories of the region include Mount Panié, the country's highest mountain, dramatic waterfalls tumbling from dizzy heights, luxuriant vegetation and superb lagoon vistas, utterly

unspoilt by man. Heavenly! This friendly region is the perfect place to soak up Kanak traditions and lifestyle and explore the natural world in which they are rooted: virgin forests, underwater caves, lush mountain slopes... beauty incarnate!

Local wonders include the Hienghène "Hen" rock outcrop, Tao waterfall, the road of caves...

Our tip for a stay: Koulnoué Village

Koulnoué Village offers guests 50 comfortable bungalows with bedroom, bathroom and private terrace overlooking the lagoon and also 5 spacious Melanesian-style "huts" sleeping up to 8 people. The hotel complex, ideally located 10 km from Hienghène, near the

Koulnoué and Tiendanité Tribes, is set in a superb coconut palm grove fronting the beach. Facilities include a buffet-style restaurant, bar, lounge and shop with a private pool, tennis court, golf practice and table tennis for hotel guests.

Hienghène Point i Tourist Information Tel 42 43 57 Koulnoué Village Tel 42 81 66

SHOPPING



ANGEL WINGS: WEAR WHAT YOU ARE!

Angel Wings is a delightful little designer store in the heart of Nouméa where you will be warmly welcomed by François and Romain.

Angel Wings is first and foremost a fashion brand inspired by the Japanese Kawaii "cuteness" concept. When you walk into the store, you walk into a world created by François. He grew up living and breathing

Japanese and Asian culture and is passionate about fashion and design. Everything you see was designed and created by François: cell phone cases, shoes, earrings, the decor of the store and, of course, all the fashion wear on sale. François launched his Angel Wings brand in 2009 and, a little later, settled in Nouméa. Young at heart? Angel Wings cute fashion designs are definitely for you! François is an artist and his clothes are all one-off designs or strictly limited editions.

Angel Wings is not just about cool clothing!

It's a place where you can relax and chill. Angel Wings designer and salesperson Romain will also be delighted to work his magic on your hair! Take the time to enjoy a coffee or a refreshing syrup drink and taste the luscious homemade cheesecake on offer!

Angel Wings, open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. 3 rue de Tourville, Quartier Latin, Nouméa. www.angelwings.nc Tel 25 44 45

Nouméa

ADDRESS BOOK

Aquarium

61 promenade Roger Laroque, Anse Vata. Tues. to Sun. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Last admission at 4 p.m. Tel 26 27 31

Art Café

30 rue Paul Duquesnes, Quartier Latin. Tel 27 80 03

Art Centre

6 boulevard extérieur, Downtown. Tel 25 06 50

Bernheim Library

41 avenue du Maréchal Foch, Downtown. Tues. Thurs. & Fri. 1 to 5.30 p.m. Weds. 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. & Sat. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tel 24 20 90

Best Western**La Promenade******

109 promenade Roger Laroque, Anse Vata. Tel 24 46 00

Botanical and Wildlife Park

Route T. de Laubarède, Portes de Fer. Tues. to Sun. 10.15 a.m. to 5.45 p.m. Tel 27 89 51

Galerie Lec Lec Tic

La Promenade Complex, Anse Vata. Tel 82 56 01

Galerie Onze & Demi

11 ter rue du Général Mangin Downtown. Tel 28 91 15

Korean Cultural Centre

4 rue du Dr Lescour Quartier Latin. Tel 28 40 03

Le Méridien Nouméa****

Pointe Magnin. Tel 26 50 00

Le Surf***

55 promenade Roger Laroque, Anse Vata. Tel 28 66 88

Maison Célières

& Maison du Livre
21 route du Port-Despointes, Faubourg-Blanchot. Tues. to Sat. 11 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Tel 28 65 10

Museum of New Caledonia

45 avenue Foch, Quartier Latin, 9 to 11.30 a.m. & 12.15 to 4.30 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. www.museenouvellecaledonie.nc Tel 27 23 42 or 27 06 47

Nouvata Park Complex****

123 promenade Roger Laroque, Anse Vata. Tel 26 22 00

Nouméa City Museum

Place des Cocotiers, corner of avenue Foch and rue Jean Jaurès. Mon. to Sat. 9 a.m. to midday & 1 to 5 p.m. Tel 27 60 62

Royal Tera***

140 promenade Roger Laroque, Anse Vata. Tel 29 64 00

Tjibaou Cultural Centre

Rue des Accords de Matignon, Tina. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Mondays. Tel 41 45 45

Exhibition

Ko Névâ - Culture in harmony with nature. Collective exhibition of works by New Caledonian artists, in collaboration with the North, South and Loyalty Islands Provinces. This multi-disciplinary exhibition aims to provide a platform where members of the public and people involved in the cultural scene can meet and exchange views and ideas on and around a common theme. Tjibaou Cultural Centre* (Till 10 June)

Exhibition

Ma maison est un jardin! (My house is a garden) Magnificent exhibition exploring the mysterious ties between man and nature as evoked by gardens, mangroves, the sea and the urban environment. Fascinating! Tjibaou Cultural Centre* (Till 31 March 2013)

Exhibition

The 2012 season opens with a double collective exhibition of works submitted in response to a call for proposals. The show includes 12 works inspired by the theme: "Art, being freedom, is thus also subversion. Artists are anathema to State authority unless they say what the State wants to hear. Which would be a negation of art". Art Centre* and Maison du Livre* (Till 24 June)

Exhibition

Take a journey back to bygone days in Nouméa's Faubourg-Blanchot district, brought to life by fascinating archive documents and photographs! Literary Centre* (Till 31 December)

Exhibition

Le Méridien Nouméa presents "Racines", an exhibition of sculptures by Francis Lôter. The artist develops his conviction that "The shape of our origins is stamped into our imagination" through the thirty totems on display. Admission free. Le Lobby Bar, Le Méridien Nouméa* (Till 10 June)

FRI. 11 TO SAT. 27 MAY**Exhibition**

Knk M'n Vôtre. Show of works by artist in residence Stéphanie Wamytan. Exploring the theme of our quest for our own identity, the artist affirms her strongly held conviction that "Your skin doesn't need to be black for you to feel truly Kanak". Tjibaou Cultural Centre*

FRI. 11 MAY**Exhibition**

Painter Alain Augias takes over Arte Bello gallery with an exhibition of work inspired by the sea. The paintings on show are the fruit of two years intensive work by the artist. 36 canvases of varying sizes are included in the exhibition. Galerie Arte Bello, 30 rue Auguste Brun, Tel 25 31 00 (Till 12 May)

Concert

Cinq de Cœur, Chasseurs de sons. Brilliant choral ensemble comprising three women and two men, all from top classical choirs, in a breathtaking "a cappella" performance of arias and songs from every musical genre. Witty, vibrant and edgy. Conservatory of Music Tel 24 63 15

FRI 11 & SAT 12 MAY**Live Music**

An evening of vintage 80s sounds at Le Méridien! Get in the groove with two fab deejays! F3,500, from 9 p.m. Le Méridien Nouméa*

Move It

Set off from Nouméa for two days exploring the splendours of the South Lagoon! Day trips are also available. From F8,000/pers. Dalocean Tel 79 30 77

SAT. 12 MAY**Live Music**

Two voices and a guitar... Simply sensational duo Élodie & David perform live. Enjoy an evening of songs (rock, Latin and French and international pop). Le Lobby Bar, Le Méridien Nouméa*

SAT. 12, SUN. 13, SAT. 19, SUN. 20, SAT. 26 & SUN. 27 MAY**Theme Dinner**

Gourmet Japan. If you're mad about Japanese cuisine, don't miss these special "eat-your-fill" sushi weekends! Lunchtime and evenings. Nouvata Park Hotel*

SAT. 12 TO SAT. 26 MAY**Exhibition**

Rencontre des mondes (where worlds meet): Mathieu Venon presents a show of canvases and sculptures at DZ Gallery. The artist works with natural materials: wood, stones, bamboo, corded plant fibres, coconuts... Galerie DZ, 18 rue de l'Espérance, Océano, Nouméa. Tel 84 29 69

SUN. 13 MAY**Exhibition**

1st Research Fair at Nouméa's Lagoon Aquarium. A chance to meet scientists, treasure hunts for the kids and various attractions designed to showcase and get people interested in the aquarium's research programs and activities. Aquarium des Lagons*

MON. 14 TO SAT. 19 MAY**Exhibition**

Messages or Mirages: an unusual and stimulating



exhibition focussing on eerie and inexplicable phenomena found throughout the world, such as crop circles and the strange Maitreya star sign. Galerie Arte Bello*

MON. 14, 21, 28 & TUES. 15, 22 & 29 MAY**Theme Dinner**

Eat-your-fill oysters evening at Le Bilboquet Village! From 6.30 p.m. 35 avenue Foch, Downtown. Tel 28 43 30

THURS. 17, THURS. 24 & THURS. 31 MAY**Theme Buffet**

Sumptuous seafood buffet from F6,700/pers. From 8 p.m. Le Sextant restaurant, Le Méridien Nouméa*

SAT. 19 MAY**Live Music**

An evening of songs with singer/guitarist Ardy Panatte. From 8 p.m. Le Sextant restaurant, Le Méridien Nouméa*

SAT. 19 & FRI. 25 MAY**Live Music**

From Saint Germain des Prés to Nouméa... via every other country in the world! Join Vanuella Watt for a captivating and elegantly intimate performance of songs from her "Sirène des Iles" (Island mermaid) repertoire. Le Lobby Bar, Sat. 19 from 7 p.m. & Art Café, Fri. 25 from 7 p.m. Le Lobby Bar, Le Méridien Nouméa*, Art Café*

TUES. 22 TO THURS. 31 MAY**Exhibition**

Johannes Wahono presents "Lumières de la brousse", a show of forty canvases evoking his vision of the bush country. The exhibition includes works in various formats: light-filled bush scenes, scrubland, horses, New Caledonian homes, seascapes... The artist's mastery of different techniques: oils, acrylics, watercolours, sepia... will delight visitors. Galerie Arte Bello* (Till 2 June)

FRI. 25 MAY**Live Music**

Knock-out duo featuring talented guitarists Stéphane Fernandez and Michel Trabelski. From 7 p.m. Le Lobby Bar, Le Méridien Nouméa*

SAT. 26 & SUN. 27 MAY**Event**

Culinary Arts Day at the Tjibaou Cultural Centre. Sat. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun. from midday (Advance booking required). Tjibaou Cultural Centre*

SAT. 26, SUN. 27 & MON. 28 MAY**Regatta**

The Great Lagoon Regatta has earned a key place in the local nautical events calendar. The race will follow the same route as last year: Nouméa - Ouen Island - Kuaré - Nouméa, with festive stop-offs at various islets. If you'd like to compete, you can either charter a boat and skipper or bring your own crew, or join an existing crew by renting a cabin. Advanced booking required. CNC Nouméa Tel 26 21 61

South Province



ADDRESS BOOK

Aventure Pulsion

Outdoor sports, adventure & leisure activities. Advance booking required. Tel 26 27 48

Auberge Historique de Moindou

Village de Moindou. Tel 35 43 28

Bourail Tourist Office

Rue Simone Dremon, opposite Bourail Townhall. Tel 46 46 12

Destination Grand Sud

Shopping centre, La Coullée Mont-Dore. Tel 46 06 25

Kanua Tera Ecologie****

Port-Boisé Bay, route Kaa nua, Yaté. Tel 46 90 00

Madeleine Waterfall

Netcha camping and leisure area. Open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tel 46 98 00

La Foa Tourisme

La Foa Townhall. www.lafoatourisme.assoc.nc Tel 41 69 11

Le Méridien IDP****

Baie d'Oro, Isle of Pines. Tel 26 50 00

Mont-Dore Cultural Centre

Tel 41 01 73

Bourail Museum

Rue Simone Dremon. Open Mon. to Sat. 9 a.m. to midday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tel 46 69 12

Ouvé Tera****

Baie de Kanuméra, Isle of Pines. Tel 43 77 15

Parc de la Rivière Bleue nature reserve

Open Tues. to Sun. 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tel 43 61 24

Terraventure

Outdoor sports, adventure & leisure activities. Advance booking required. Tel 77 88 19 terraventure@mls.nc

Vertikalédonie

Outdoor sports, adventure & leisure activities. Advance booking required. Tel 47 14 85

ALL YEAR ROUND

Guided Tours

Guided tours of the Tjibaou Cultural Centre with English commentary.

Tuesday to Sunday 9.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. English audio guides also available for hire. Tjibaou Cultural Centre*

Walkabout Show

Explore the myth of human creation, accompanied by the drums and songs of the We Ce Ca dance company, in the unique plant world of the Kanak Path. Tjibaou Cultural Centre*, Tues. & Thurs. 2.30 to 4 p.m. Advance booking required.

Exhibition

"Nos milieux naturels" (Our natural environments). Explore New Caledonia's dry forest, mangrove and mining scrubland ecosystems. Botanical and Wildlife Park*

Heritage

Guided tours of historic penitentiary buildings at Nouville. Weds. & Sat. at 2 p.m. Tel 26 48 13

Books & Papers in English

The Bernheim library* offers visitors a selection of English-language papers, reviews and works of literature.

Exhibition

Permanent exhibition of works by all the gallery's featured artists: Caroline Degroiselle, Michel Moulimois, Jean Pierre Lalubin, Julien Berger, Johannes Wahono, Jean Michel Duffau, André Gable, René Vermande, Francis Lôter, Jean Michon, Franck Fay, Crocq and many more... Open Monday to Friday 8.30 a.m. to midday & 1.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Galerie Arte Bello, 30 rue Auguste Brun, Quartier Latin. Tel 25 31 00

FRI. 11 TO THURS. 31 MAY**Exhibition**

Pacific Arts Festival. Exhibition of photographs in the Tjibaou Cultural Centre central walkway space. An evocation of Oceania's rich cultural diversity through photos recalling past arts festivals held in the Pacific Region. Tjibaou Cultural Centre* (Till 24 June)

ART & CULTURE

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM!

This year, New Caledonia's "Museums at Night" program begins on 11 May and many august institutions will be inviting you in to share a very special experience.

To mark the "Museums at Night" event, museums in Nouméa, Voh and Bourail, the Tjibaou Cultural Centre and the Botanical and Wildlife Park will be throwing their doors open at night and organising special nocturnal attractions. On 11 May, at Maison Célières, visitors can take a journey back to bygone days in Nouméa's Faubourg-Blanchot district. The Nouméa City Museum invites you to its home on Place des Cocotiers

for a bewitching night of fables and folk tales. The Museum of New Caledonia is offering visitors a special guided tour in the company of a tribal elder with an inexhaustible store of stories at his fingertips! The Voh Coffee Ecomuseum is presenting an exhibition exploring the intricacies of local family trees and, starting at 6 p.m. on 18 and 19 May, the Tjibaou Cultural Centre will be conjuring with lights... the details are secret! Plus a treasure hunt at the Botanical and Wildlife Park on 19 May. Don't miss this chance to sample the secret nocturnal life of our museums!



- Maison Célières: Tel 77 83 73
- Maison du Livre: Tel 28 65 10
- Nouméa City Museum: Tel 26 28 05
- Museum of New Caledonia: Tel 27 06 47
- Voh Coffee Ecomuseum: Tel 47 37 36
- Bourail Museum: Tel 46 46 12,
- Tjibaou Cultural Centre: Tel 41 45 58
- Botanical and Wildlife Park: Tel 27 89 51

HISTORY

6TH MATA PILA TEGNÉ FESTIVAL AT TOUHO

The North Province Mata Pila Tegné Festival offers a rich panorama of traditional forms of music and dance transporting visitors to the heart of a fascinating cultural heritage.

Over 300 dancers and musicians from all over New Caledonia and from Vanuatu and Reunion Island, including Olobatch, Naïmoon, Thai neen and Pila-I, will be performing at the 6th Mata Pila Tegné Festival, to be held at the Vieux-Touho Tribe in Touho from 16 to 19 May. The festival will begin with a show of



songs and pilou by singers and dancers from the Paici Camuki customary area. The pilou is an ancient Kanak dance telling of births, weddings, cyclones and other key events, performed to traditional music.

4 days of festivities

The program for the 2nd and 3rd days of the festival will include various attractions: workshops, folk tales and lullabies, arts & crafts and refreshment stalls... and

the festival will end in style on the 4th day with a grand farewell meal and a host of exciting activities: songs, music, sculptures, photos: a real plunge into Pacific heritage and history. A shuttle service is provided to take festival-goers to the site.

Mata Pila Tegné Festival, from Wednesday 16 to Saturday 19 May. Further information: Touho Community Events - Tel 42 70 26

FEEL GOOD



NATURAL BEAUTY FROM THE PACIFIC

Pacifico Nature, established in New Caledonia since 1989, offers an exclusive Pacific plant-based range of cosmetics and health products. Uniquely beneficial!

Pacifico Nature is dedicated to concentrating the active ingredients of plants to enhance your beauty and

well-being. Precious extracts of aloe vera, niaouli, tamanu, hibiscus, frangipani and coconut... only the very best is good enough for Pacifico Nature! Over a hundred health and beauty products are marketed as part of the "Pacifico Nature" range. Balms, creams, gels, beauty care for skin and body, massage oils, hair

lotions and after-sun care, health drinks... The local products used by Pacifico Nature are the best friends your skin could possibly have! Exuding the warmth of the sun and the fragrance of Pacific flowers, Pacifico Nature's extensive skin care and repair range is utterly irresistible... Pamper your skin with some Pacific magic!

Pacifico Nature, open Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to midday & 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to midday, 4 rue du Docteur Lescour, Quartier Latin, Nouméa. www.cosmecal.nc www.pacifico-nature.com Tel 24 12 54



MOVE IT



THE MIGHTY DIAHOT!

The picturesque village of Ouégoa lies between the East and West Coasts on the banks of the Diahot, New Caledonia's only major river. Every year, Ouégoa holds a grand Fair in honour of the river!

The program for this year's fair includes a wealth of events and attractions to celebrate the Diahot in style... live music, fun organised games, a prize draw and a variety

of competitions (sack races, archery, coconut shelling, cast net throwing, woodcutting, clay pigeon shooting) plus nature trails on foot.

Altogether, a fun-filled weekend schedule. Riding and equestrian sports are high on New Caledonia's list of popular pastimes so one of the Fair's main attractions will be horse races to delight adults and kids alike!

Don't miss out on this great weekend of fun and excitement...

The big event will be held from Friday 19 May at 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and we can promise you a great atmosphere. The Fair will open with the traditional welcome speeches by the Mayor and the Ouégoa Fair Committee President and the festivities will close with a flourish with the result of the prize draw and the crowning of Miss Diahot Fair. Get into the Diahot spirit with the people of Ouégoa!

Further information: Tourisme Province Nord Tel 27 78 05

THE NATURE SPOT



BEWARE OF SPINY STARFISH!

For some time, there has been an increase in numbers of Acanthaster planci, commonly known as crown-of-thorns starfish, a major natural threat to coral reefs. New Caledonia has a duty to take action!

These large starfish with their poisonous thorn-like spines pose a threat not

just to humans but also to Pacific Region coral systems. Over the last few months, members of the public and scientists have reported the presence of unusually high concentrations of Acanthaster planci in the lagoon.

Although the reason for these invasions has not yet been determined, any rapid and continued

encroachment will certainly spell disaster for the coral reef systems.

Starfish watch!

The Institute for Research and Development (IRD) and the Observatory for the Environment in New Caledonia (OEIL) are piloting a study on the proliferation of these starfish in the lagoon. Maritime professionals,

divers and naturalists have been asked to take part in the study to help researchers establish the reasons for this sudden increase and take appropriate action.

Observatoire de l'Environnement en Nouvelle-Calédonie, contact@oeil.nc www.oeil.nc

**ALL YEAR ROUND
Museum**

Explore the fascinating history of the Bourail region: the life and traditions of the Keku and the Orowé tribes, the establishment of the convict prison farm, the development of Bourail village and how people lived at the time, the New Zealand military base during WW2. Bourail Museum*

Sculpture

Abraham Gorodite, who works from Bourail, has forged a enduring reputation as a highly talented sculptor. He sculpts all kinds of wood, soapstone... and creates works of every size. You are welcome to visit his fascinating workshop after 4 p.m. Tel 97 69 05 or 46 25 75

Craft Workshop

Every Tuesday morning, Bourail Museum holds a workshop on the basic techniques of traditional Kanak pandanus weaving. Come and join Atelier Patchate run by Rose Moiteu. From 9 a.m. to midday, Bourail Museum*

**FRI. 11 TO WEDS.
30 MAY****Exhibition**

Bourail. Caledoun exhibition focussing on 19th century deportations of Algerian and Maghrebi citizens to New Caledonia. Further information Bourail Tourism Office*

**SAT. 12 MAY****Event**

Canala. Flower Fair and car boot sale at Canala! The venue is Waké chaa. Tel 42 60 62

Move It

Tontouta. 3 hour guided foot trail through magnificent scenery. F2,500/pers. Terraventure*

SUN. 13 MAY**Move It**

Tontouta. 2 hour kayaking trail down La Tontouta river including river bathing. F3,000/pers. Terraventure*

**THURS. 17 TO SUN.
20 MAY & SAT. 26 TO
TUES. 29 MAY****Move It**

Thio. Kayak adventure trail exploring the remote, uninhabited Forgotten Coast. A unique opportunity to set off into the unknown and spend 4 exciting and challenging days in a world where untamed nature reigns supreme. Aventure Pulsion*

THURS. 18 MAY**Fair**

Thio. Yam and Environment Fair in Thio, organised by the DUS (Dynamik Unitaire Sud). Loads of information about sustainable development and the history and cultivation of yams. Dynamik Unitaire Sud Tel 25 96 11

SAT. 19 MAY**Discovery Day**

Thio. Guide tour of Thio mine. The program includes breakfast at the museum, transport by bus to the mine plateau, tour of the museum and lunch with a local tribe. Child-minding service and kids' workshops at Thio Point i tourist info centre. Thio Tourisme Tel 44 80 33

**SAT. 19, SUN. 20, SAT.
26 & SUN. 27 MAY****Move It**

Mont Humboldt. Foot trail along the track up Mont Humboldt, New Caledonia's second highest mountain. Return transport support, minimum group 4 people. Great exercise and great views! F2,500/pers. Terraventure*

SUN. 27 MAY**Move It**

Canala. Adventure weekend at Canala: kayaking trail and canyoning at Kwéwa falls. Accommodation on the spot. Terraventure*

**North
Province****ADDRESS BOOK****Hienghène Cultural
Centre**

Tel 42 80 74

Koné Cultural Centre

Tel 47 72 16

Le Koniambo***

Route provinciale 1, Koné. Tel 47 39 40

La Néa***

RT1, Lot 218, Koné. Tel 47 30 40

Malabou Beach**

Néhoué Bay, Pouv. Tel 47 60 60

Tiéti Tera***

16 voie urbaine n°1, Poindimié. Tel 42 64 00

**ALL YEAR ROUND
Culture**

Guided tour of old Tiébaghi village near Koumac. Tues. Thurs. & Sat. from 8 a.m. Tel 42 78 42

**FRI. 11 TO TUES.
15 MAY****Exhibition**

Pouembout. Exhibition and sale of sculptures, woven and stitched items by various North Province artists with the theme "Ma Terre, Ma Culture" (my land, my culture). Château Grimigni, Pouembout. Tel 47 70 00

**SAT. 12, SAT. 19
& SAT. 26 MAY****Theme Buffet**

Koné. Enjoy a Mediterranean buffet and a great evening out! Sumptuous seafood buffet. From 8 p.m. Le Koniambo Hotel*

**TUES. 15, THURS. 17,
TUES. 22, THURS. 25
& TUES. 29 MAY****Theme Buffet**

Koné. Tahitian dance lessons from 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Koniambo Hotel Fare*

**THURS. 17, FRI. 18
& SAT. 19 MAY****Live Music**

Poindimié. Brilliant guitarist Glen Hodges is on tour in New Caledonia! Glen is our Acting Head of Contemporary Music at the University of Tasmania, Hobart. This is his first New



Caledonian

tour and he will be performing with Shem on vocals, Johan Cazalas on drums and Michel Bénébig on Hammond organ. From 7 p.m. Thursday at La Néa, Friday at Le Koniambo & Saturday at Tiéti Tera.

FRI. 18 MAY**Live Music**

Poindimié. Join Anthony Tutugoro aka Inotux for a vibrant evening of Raga Dance-hall sounds drawn from his album "Éveil de conscience". This talented and committed young singer creates music that delivers a real message. Don't miss this great concert! Tiéti Tera*

**MON. 21 TO THURS.
31 MAY**

Koné. Travelling exhibition of paintings and spray paintings: Jeema Gro Napon with Fabrice Ballay and Illie Poindipenda. Pomémie Provincial Cultural Centre Tel 47 11 06

FRI. 25 MAY

Koné. Sultry Latin atmosphere for an evening beginning with an introduction to salsa dance steps. Guests can order tapas and drinks (and their choice of dishes from the La Néa menu). Appropriate/correct dress required. From 7 p.m. La Néa*

**Loyalty
Islands****ADDRESS BOOK****LIFOU****Tourist Information
Office**

"Ne Drehu" Municipal Events and Information Centre two offices at your service. Next to Lifou Townhall and at Wanaham aerodrome. Tel 45 00 32 or 45 02 80

MARÉ**Nengone Tourist
Information Office**

Located in Maré Townhall faré at Tadine. Tel 45 03 49

OUVÉA**Laai Tourist Information
Office**

Located at Fayoué. Tel 45 10 84 or 94 97 14

LIFOU**Arts & Crafts**

Exhibition and sale of hand-crafted items at the Women's Space, Wé townhall courtyard Mon. to Thurs. 7.30 to 11.30 a.m. & 1 to 3.30 p.m. Tel 45 00 32

MARÉ**Arts & Crafts**

Workshops and sale of hand-crafted items Maré Women's Space, Yeiwéné Yeiwéné Cultural Centre, La Roche. Mon. to Fri. 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tel 45 44 79

OUVÉA**Ouvéa Soap Factory**

Free tours of the Ouvéa coconut-based soap factory Wadrilla Tribe. Tues. & Thurs. 8 to 11.30 a.m. Advance booking required. Tel 45 10 60

COUNTRY/FARMERS MARKETS

*The editor clearly cannot accept any responsibility for any subsequent changes of program



All market stallholders are local producers and fishermen/women selling their own produce. Items on offer include fruit, vegetables, plants, flower arrangements, home-cooked dishes and handmade jewellery. Early birds get the best choice of items on display, so aim to get there before 9.30 a.m.

Nouméa**EVERY DAY**

Papaya, soursop, passion fruit, green coconuts, vegetables, fish, flowers, clothing. Baie de la Moselle, Downtown, from 5 a.m. Closed 3rd Monday in the month.

EVERY SAT.

Fresh meat, fruit & vegetables. Ducos indoor market, Saturday, from 6 a.m.

EVERY SAT.

Scents and savours market: 25 stallholders and tempting displays of freshwater prawns, vanilla beans, venison charcuterie, cheeses, Melanesian coffees, Vietnamese teas and spices, flowers and Moroccan specialities. La Maison Ballande, from 7.30 a.m.

**South
Province****BOURAIL****EVERY FRI. & SAT.**

Twenty or so stalls selling seasonal fruit and vegetables, honey, syrups,

jams, cakes, cooked dishes, cut flowers & plants. Main square, from 7.30 a.m. Tel 44 13 36

YATÉ**EVERY WEDS. & SAT.**

Sale of regional produce every Wednesday and Saturday in New Caledonia's Deep South. From 7 a.m.

LA FOA**EVERY SAT.**

Twenty or so stalls selling plants, fresh fruit and vegetables, fish and shellfish. Place Georges Guermet, from 7.30 a.m. Tel 44 31 13 or 41 69 11

MONT-DORE**EVERY SAT.**

Twenty or so stalls selling home-grown produce, fruit and vegetables, jams, arts and crafts... La Coulée Shopping Centre, from 7 a.m. Tel 46 06 25

SAINT-LOUIS, MONT-DORE**EVERY SAT. & SUN.**

La Réserve women's market. Market days on public holidays. From 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

EVERY SUN.

Flea market with fifty or so stalls. Pont des Français Market, Drive-In carpark, from 6 a.m. Tel 46 06 25

MONT-MOU, PAÏTA**SUN. 13 MAY**

Païta market, held every 2nd Sunday of the month. From 7.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**North
Province****CANALA****EVERY FRI.**

Around fifteen stalls selling fresh fruit and vegetables, fish and flowers. Town Centre, from 7 a.m. Tel 42 31 09 or 42 60 61

PONÉRIHOUEN**EVERY FRI.**

Water and dry land taros, yams, cassava, water melons, local lettuces, tomatoes, pumpkin flesh, pineapples, lychees, mangoes and papayas. From 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

HIENGHÈNE**TUES. & FRI.**

Twenty or so stallholders from

neighbouring tribes offering shoppers home-grown fruit and vegetables and fresh meat and fish. Town centre, from 6.30 a.m. Tel 42 43 57

KOUAOUA**TUES. & SAT.**

Traditional North Province market, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tel 42 64 64

KONÉ**EVERY SAT.**

15 stalls selling seasonal fruit and vegetables, plants, flowers, fish and cakes. Town centre, from 7 a.m. Tel 47 30 86

KOUMAC**EVERY SAT.**

15 stalls selling seasonal fruit and vegetables, flowers, crabs, local pickles, jams and arts and crafts items. Beside the townhall (North entrance), from 7 a.m. Tel 42 78 42

POINDIMIÉ**EVERY SAT.**

Town centre (except 2nd Sunday of each month: held at La Tchamba), from 7 a.m. Tel 47 89 00 or 42 60 10

POUEMBOU**EVERY SAT.**

Pouembout market is held every Saturday morning in a charming setting. Plenty of choice for shoppers: fresh local fruit, vegetables, plants... From 7 a.m.

VOH**SAT. 19 MAY**

Second VKP market (Voh-Koné-Pouembout). From 7 a.m.

**Loyalty
Islands****LIFOU****FRI. & WEDS.**

Cut flower bouquets, fresh vegetables and tropical fruit. In Wé, from 6 a.m. Tel 45 50 00

MARÉ**FRI. & TUES.**

In Tadine, opposite the Town Hall Shelter, from 7 a.m. Tel 45 49 08

OUVÉA**EVERY WEDS.**

Hnyimèhè market by the sea (between Banout and Wadrilla), from 7 a.m. Tel 45 71 11

A COUPLE OF HOURS IN NOUMÉA

TOURISM ROUTE

MUSEUM OF NEW CALEDONIA*

Exploring Melanesian culture
Open every day except Tuesdays and public holidays
9 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. & 12.15 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Admission: Adults F200 - Children under 12 free.
Tel 27 23 42
● 5 minutes' walk from Place des Cocotiers

NOUMÉA CITY MUSEUM*

A fascinating insight into various periods of New Caledonian history
Open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Sundays and public holidays - Admission: Adults F200 - Children under 12 free. 39 rue Jean Jaurès, Downtown. Tel 26 28 05
● Two blocks up from the Tourist Office, on the left

MUNICIPAL MARKET

Vast choice of souvenirs, fresh fruit & vegetables
Open every day 6 a.m. to midday Closed 3rd Monday of the month. Port Moselle
● 10 minutes' walk from the Maritime Terminal

LAGOON AQUARIUM*

A magical window onto New Caledonia's lagoon
Open Tuesday to Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Last admission at 4 p.m.
Admission: Adults F1,000 Children under 12 F500
61 promenade Roger Laroque, Anse Vata. Tel 26 27 31
● No. 1 bus from Place des Cocotiers, get off at Le Surf hotel stop

TJIBAOU CULTURAL CENTRE

An inspired blend of contemporary and traditional Kanak architecture showcasing the enduring creative power of Oceanian cultural traditions
Open Tuesday to Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Mondays
Admission: Adults F500 - Under 18s free. Rue des Accords de Matignon, Tina
● Blue line No. 2 bus (bus stop between cinema and fire station)

BOTANICAL PARK & WILDLIFE PARK*

Magnificent botanical gardens and wildlife park
Open Tuesday to Sunday from 10.15 a.m. to 5.45 p.m. (from 1st September to 30 April) and from 10.15 a.m. to 5 p.m. (from 1st May to 31 August). Closed Mondays
Admission: Adults

F400 - Children aged 12-17 F200
Children under 12 free
Route Teyssandier de Laubarède, Montravel. Tel 27 82 51 ● Take a taxi or the Nouméa Explorer

SAINT JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL*

Open every day. Admission free.
Visitors must be suitably attired
Rue Frédéric Surleau, Downtown
Closed to visitors on Sundays but you are welcome to attend Mass: 6 a.m., 9 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.

OUEEN TORO VIEWPOINT*

The trail to the panoramic viewpoint is 1 km long but the reward is well worth the effort - a breathtaking vista over the city and residential districts, the bays and southern lagoon... and a fascinating reminder of WW2 in the Pacific (canons). Anse Vata
● Take green line No. 1 bus from Place des Cocotiers

LAGOON OUTINGS AND ACTIVITIES

MD PLAISIRS
Rental of windsurf boards, stand up paddle boards, towable ski tubes, wakeboards.
Open every day 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. (in winter) & 6 p.m. (in summer)
Anse Vata Fare. Tel 76 59 09
● Green line bus (No. 1) from Place des Cocotiers, get off next to taxi boat office on Anse Vata

PLAGE LOISIRS

Taxi boats to Ile aux Canards and l'lot Maître. Departures every 15 minutes, open every day (except in bad weather) Rates: adults from F1,200 - Children under 12 F600 (Ile aux Canards)/adults from F2,500 - Children under 12 half price - Anse Vata Fare. Tel 26 90 00
● Green line bus (No. 1) from Place des Cocotiers, get off at "Plage Anse Vata" stop

ILE AUX CANARDS UNDERWATER TRAIL

Underwater discovery trail signposted by buoys. All you need is standard snorkelling gear. Snorkelling equipment hire

on the spot. Ile aux Canards
● Green line bus (No. 1) from Place des Cocotiers, get off at "Plage Anse Vata" stop

OUTINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE CITY

TINA GOLF COURSE
World-class 18 hole golf course, open every day
Admission: Green Fees: F4,400 for 9 holes weekdays - F5,500 weekends & F6,300 for 18 holes weekdays - F7,300 weekends
Tina Peninsula. Tel 43 82 83
● Blue line bus heading for the Cultural Centre, get off one stop before the Centre

LEISURE AND RELAXATION

ROYAL SPA
Experience the Royal Tera Hotel's "aquatic" water circuit or relax in the luxurious Spa.
Open every day from Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. & Sunday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission: F3,000 (secure locker, hair cap and towel provided, access to hammam and sauna)
Royal Tera Hotel, Anse Vata. Tel 29 64 64 ● Green line No. 1 bus from the Maritime Terminal, get off at "Château Royal" stop

HARNN, PORT PLAISANCE

All the grace and skill of Asian beauty care at Port Plaisance. Relax and enjoy an authentic Thai massage...
10 rue Jules Garnier, Baie des Citrons. Monday to Saturday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Closed Sundays

ENTERTAINMENT

LE FLEX CLUB
Special welcome for cruise liner passengers. Rue Jean Jaurès near Place des Cocotiers, Downtown
● Next to the City Museum, two blocks up from the Tourist Office

NOUMÉA'S CASINOS

Le Grand Casino is located at the entrance to Le Méridien Hotel on Pointe Magnin, Anse Vata. Casino Royal is located at the Surf Hotel, Anse Vata. Open from Sunday to Thursday 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., Friday & Saturday 11 a.m. to 3 a.m.

MV LOUNGE

Delightful beachfront bar perfect for a refreshing cocktail at sunset
22 rue Jules Garnier, Baie des Citrons. From 7 p.m.

SHOPPING

PALM BEACH SHOPPING MALL
Range of stores selling souvenirs & gifts, fabrics, table linen, gadgets & gizmos, cigarettes & newspapers and jewellery, restaurants, and a tourist agency. Open every day including Sundays. Anse Vata
● Green line No. 1 bus from the city centre

LA PROMENADE COMPLEX

Shops, restaurants (Vietnamese, Thai, French, Italian), bakery and pastry shop, bars, fresh fruit juice bar. Open every day and Sunday afternoons, Anse Vata.
● Orange line No. 7 bus from Place des Cocotiers

PORT PLAISANCE SHOPPING MALL

Shopping centre: stores, restaurant, optician, hairdresser, supermarket...
Open from Monday to Saturday Closed Sunday. Port Plaisance
● Green line No. 1 bus from Place des Cocotiers

MIRAGE PLAZA/BAIE DES CITRONS COMPLEX

Restaurants (mixed grill, Italian, Vietnamese, International cuisine, Crêpes, Coffee Club, Pizza),

souvenir shops. Open every day. Baie des Citrons ● Green line No. 1 bus from Place des Cocotiers

MARLÈNE

Duty free store: designer fashion, accessories, cosmetics, perfumery, tobacco, alcohol...
Passports must be shown
Corner of rue Alma and rue Foch, Downtown. Open from Monday to Friday 8.45 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday 8.45 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. & 2.30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Le Méridien Hotel, Anse Vata - Pointe Magnin. Open 7/7 from 8.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. & 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Reminder: no duty free purchases on Sundays)
● 5 blocks up on your left from the Maritime Terminal

ROZANNE PASSION BEAUTÉ

Duty free store: perfumery and cosmetics
Passports must be shown.
Open from Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. 21 rue de l'Alma, Downtown ● 3 blocks up on your left from the Maritime Terminal

OZONE

Surf wear store. Open Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. & Saturday 8.30 a.m. to midday/2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. 1 rue Anatole France, Downtown ● 2 blocks up on your right in front of the Townhall

L'OCCITANE

Superb range of natural beauty care products and perfumes from Provence (France). Open Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., Saturday 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. 32 rue de l'Alma, Downtown
● 4 blocks up on your left from the Maritime Terminal

LE FOURNIL GOURMAND

French bakery and pastries
Open Monday to Saturday 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. 16 rue Gallieni, Downtown

● 1 block up on your left from the Maritime Terminal, in rue Gallieni

YVES ROCHER

100% natural cosmetics made in France. 50 rue Anatole France, Downtown. Open Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. & 2 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. & 1.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. Closed Mondays

SODIVAL

A selection of some of the world's finest wines. Well worth a visit! 27 promenade Roger Laroque, Baie des Citrons. Open 7/7 Monday to Sunday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

CHOCOLAT MORAND

Superb chocolates created by a master chocolate maker
13 rue Eugène Porcheron, Quartier Latin. Open Monday to Saturday. Monday 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. Tuesday to Friday 7.30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday 7.30 a.m. - midday & 3.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

TONTON JULES

A wide range of top quality chocolates to delight kids and adults alike, 7 bis rue du Gal Mangin, Downtown. Open Monday to Saturday Monday to Friday 8.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. Saturday 8.30 a.m. - midday & 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. 27 promenade Roger Laroque, Baie des Citrons. Tel 24 83 48 Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday 12.30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

AMORINO GELATO ITALIANO

Treat yourself to the best ices in Nouméa... superb, delicious, homemade and quite unforgettable, 27 promenade Roger Laroque, Baie des Citrons
Open every day: Monday to Thursday & Sunday: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Friday 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.

MARITIME TERMINAL MARKET



A colourful arts and crafts market is held right on the spot inside the Maritime Terminal every time a cruise ship docks. Wander round the stalls spread out on both levels of the building and choose your own special souvenirs of New Caledonia. Postcards, sarongs, local costumes, T-shirts, fashion

jewellery, traditional sculptures... Your only problem will be making up your mind! So set off on a tour of the displays and meet the friendly stallholders who are all delighted to show off their wares and chat to visitors. Just so you know: all items sold at the Maritime Terminal have been approved by the Plant Health Authorities for import into Australia. Open to all whenever a cruise ship is in port!

LITTLE LEXICON



Hello. Bonjour.
Goodbye. Au revoir.
Thank you. Merci.
Please. S'il vous plaît.
Yes. Oui.
No. Non.
What's your name? Comment vous appelez-vous ?
I would like a drink. Je voudrais boire.
I would like to eat. Je voudrais manger.
Where is...? Où est... ?
Where can I take a taxi? Où est ce que je peux prendre un taxi ?

Where can I take a bus? Où est ce que je peux prendre un bus ?
I would like to go to... Je voudrais aller à...
Could you show me the way to downtown? Pourriez-vous me montrer le chemin du centre ville ?
What is it? Qu'est-ce que c'est ?
How much does this cost? Combien ça coûte ?
I would like to buy a... Je voudrais acheter...

I don't feel well. Je ne me sens pas bien.
I need a doctor. J'ai besoin d'un docteur.
Please help me! Aidez-moi s'il vous plaît !
I don't understand. Je ne comprends pas.
Please take me to this address. S'il vous plaît emmenez-moi à cette adresse.
Sorry to bother you. Désolé de vous déranger.
Are there rooms available? Avez-vous des chambres disponibles ?
I'd like to make a

reservation. Je voudrais faire une réservation.
Where is the bathroom? Où sont les toilettes ?
Do you accept credit cards? Acceptez-vous les cartes de crédit ?
Please bring the bill. L'addition, s'il vous plaît.
What time is it? Quelle heure est-il ?
Left. À gauche.
Right. À droite.
Straight on. Tout droit.
Today. Aujourd'hui.
Tomorrow. Demain.
Yesterday. Hier.



CULTURAL PASSPORT

MELANESIAN HUTS... HOME, SOCIAL CENTRE...

The architectural simplicity of style and charm of traditional Melanesian huts have ensured their survival over the centuries.

Melanesian huts ("cases") were originally round huts constructed using vegetable matter, wood, straw and occasionally, as in Ouvéa, coconut palm leaves. A hearth was built inside so that fires could be lit for warmth during the cool season. One of the distinctive design features of these huts is the low door lintel which ensures that anyone entering must bow down, thus adopting

the proper attitude of respect due to the owners and inhabitants. The design of a traditional hut is a visual symbol and reminder of the bonds uniting the social group, with the central upright beam representing the clan chief. Sculptured wooden posts placed on each side of the doorway evoke the presence of the ancestral spirits. In every tribe, a "great hut" dominates all others, serving as the most powerful symbol of the chiefdom. The "great hut" is the place where tribal elders meet to discuss and take collective decisions. No-one may enter the great hut unless invited to do so.



FRESH AIR

JUMP ABOARD THE LITTLE TRAIN!

Nouméa's Little Tourist Train is one of the very best ways of seeing the city sights. The leisurely ride gives you plenty of opportunities to take souvenir snaps of all the tourist attractions!

Every time a cruise ship docks, the Little Train is ready and waiting to go... The tour takes 1 1/2 hours and your guide speaks perfect English. The train makes two stops en route: at the FOL building and at the top of Ouen Toro hill to see the historic WW2 canons, before returning to the Maritime Terminal. The views of the city and the lagoon

from high up on the hill are breathtaking and our company Lyvai ensures your tour is packed with local colour. Adults and kids alike are guaranteed a really fun trip on the Little Train! The ticket office is located inside the Maritime Terminal. Standard departure times are 8.45 a.m., 10.45 a.m. and 1 p.m. for cruise ships docking in the morning and 3.45 p.m., 5.45 p.m. and 7.45 p.m. for afternoon/evening arrivals. Booking required

Adults: 30 USD (2,700 XPF), children: 15 USD (1,350 XPF)
Lyvai Transports, Nouméa. www.lyvai.nc Tel 77 21 76



CALEDONIAN TASTE

JUST BANANAS!

Bananas grow in abundance all over Polynesia and New Caledonia and traditional Tahitian banana poé dessert is a great way to enjoy them. It's easy to make and delicious and everyone will want a second helping! Preparation: 40 mins. Cooking time: 30 mins.

Ingredients (to serve 6):

1.3 kg of ripe bananas, 1.5 litres water, 1/2 vanilla pod, 150 g of tapioca flour, 1 knob of butter, 100 g sugar, 20 cl canned coconut milk

Preparation:

Place peeled bananas and vanilla pod in simmering water and cook for 15 mins. Strain, leave to cool and mash in blender to obtain a smooth paste. Stir tapioca flour into pureed bananas. Pour into a pre-buttered 3-4 cm high dish. Bake in oven for 30 mins at thermostat 6 (180°). Cut poé into squares, sprinkle with sugar and dowse in coconut milk. Leave to cool or chill in fridge and serve.



USEFUL TIPS

SHOPS & STORES: OPENING HOURS

Shops are generally open from 9.30 a.m. to midday and 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Only food stores stay open non-stop from 7.30 a.m. to around 7 p.m.

GETTING AROUND

TAKE A BUS

Karua buses (red buses): the Blue Line goes to the Tjibabou Cultural Centre from the Place des Cocotiers in the centre of town. The Green Line follows the beach roads. Fares: adults, F210 one way. Tel 26 54 54 or www.gietcn.nc

TAKE A TAXI

Taxis, Central rank Place des Cocotiers, fare from city centre to beaches, F1,200. Tel 28 35 12

TAXI BOATS (LEAVING FROM ANSE VATA)

Every day 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ile aux Canards return fare F1,200, îlot Maître return fare F2,800. Last departure 4 p.m. Tel 26 90 00

MONEY



Very few of Nouméa's shops stores and tourism leisure activities accept foreign currency. Automatic teller machines (ATMs) are available throughout the territory. Have your pin code handy. Banks are generally open 8 a.m. to 3.30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Change

(exchange rates on 11 May 2012)

1 USD = 91,57 XPF
 1 AUD = 93,15 XPF
 1 NZD = 72,59 XPF

Some banks provide ATMs: BNP, 111 promenade Roger Laroque, Anse Vata, Nouméa. BCI, 55 promenade Roger Laroque, Baie des Citrons and 20 rue Anatole France, Downtown.



COST OF LIVING

French baguette	F80
Carton of takeaway food	F800
A beer in a bar	F500
1.5l bottle of fizzy drink	F200
Coffee	F300
Cyber café	F700/hour
1.5l bottle of mineral water	F100
Hamburger & fries	F1,000
Newspaper	F150
Fried mini spring roll	F120
Pack of chewing gum	F100
Road toll	F150
Ham sandwich	F300
Cinema ticket	F1,150
Bus ticket	F210
Stamp for overseas mail	F150

PHONE CALLS



COUNTRY CODE

Australia	+61
Canada	+001
France	+33
French Polynesia	+689
Germany	+49
Italy	+39
Japan	+81
Korea	+82
New Zealand	+64
Spain	+34
United Kingdom	+44
United States	+1
Vanuatu	+678
New Caledonia	+687

Cool calling!

The IZI card makes phoning quick and easy and can be used to make local and international calls from a public call box, a landline or a mobile. It's a non-rechargeable prepaid phone card with a pin code. Two face values are available: F1,000 and F3,000. On sale at various designated sales points and all OPT telecom branches.

Use the cost!

You can call abroad for less by dialling 19 instead of the usual international 00 code!

USEFUL NUMBERS

NC country code: +687

NC TOURIST OFFICE: 05 75 80 (toll-free phone) 28 75 80	AIR NEW ZEALAND: 28 66 77
AUSTRALIAN CONSULATE - GENERAL: 27 24 14	POLICE: 17
NEW ZEALAND CONSULATE - GENERAL: 27 25 43	FIRE BRIGADE: 18
AGENCE KENUA: P&O representatives: 28 45 45/26 00 55	EMERGENCIES/SOS MEDICAL SERVICE: 15
AIR CALEDONIE: (domestic flights) 25 21 77	DIRECTORY ENQUIRIES: 1012
AIRCALIN: 26 55 00	SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY: 26 20 00
QANTAS: 28 65 46	NEW CALEDONIA OLYMPIC & SPORTS COMMITTEE: 28 10 57

HOSPITALS

Nouméa: Gaston Bourret/Magenta	25 66 66
La Foa Dispensary	44 32 14
Koné Dispensary	47 22 04
Koumac: Paula Thavoavianon	42 65 00
Poindimié: Raymond Doui Nebayes	42 71 44
Lifou Dispensary	45 12 12

DUTY/ON CALL MEDICAL SERVICES - NOUMÉA

Pharmacies
Saturday 12 & Sunday 13: Pharmacie Val Plaisance, 28 rue Gabriel Laroque, Val Plaisance, Tel 26 16 91
Thursday 17: Pharmacie du Lagon, 10 route Port Despointes, Faubourg-Blanchot, Tel 27 44 26
Saturday 19 & Sunday 20: Pharmacie de la Baie, 5 rue Jules Garnier, Baie des Citrons, Tel 26 16 05
Saturday 26 & Sunday 27: Pharmacie Rivière Salée, Centre commercial, 4 rue des Arts & Métiers, Tel 43 67 57
Monday 28: Pharmacie de l'Anse Vata, 91 route de l'Anse Vata, Motor Pool, Tel 26 10 66
Doctors
Saturday 12 & Sunday 13: Dr Hugues Bourgeois, 42 rue Gabriel Laroque, Val Plaisance, Tel 26 10 16
Thursday 17: Dr A. Marie Darjana, 25 rue Kervistin, Tel 26 38 40
Saturday 19 & Sunday 20: Dr Yves Daynes, 10 rue Jules Garnier, Port Plaisance, Tel 26 45 75
Saturday 26 & Sunday 27: Dr Paul Bejan, 53 avenue Bonaparte, Rivière Salée, Tel 44 38 83
Monday 28: Dr Patrick Chêne, 10 rue Paul Kervistin, Immeuble El Dorado, Tel 26 26 21

POINTS TOURISM INFO

Bourail	46 46 12	Mont-Dore	46 06 25
Canala	42 60 61	Nouméa	05 75 80 - 28 75 80
GIE Tourisme Province Nord	27 78 05	Ouvéa	47 64 05
Hienghène	42 43 57	Ouvéa	45 71 11
Ile des Pins	46 14 00	Thio	44 80 33
Koné	47 22 06	Tontouta	35 24 95
Koumac	42 78 42	Touho	42 88 07
La Foa	41 69 11	Voh	47 27 68
Lifou	45 00 32	Yaté	46 20 65
Maré	45 41 07		

NOUMÉA WEATHER

FRIDAY 11 Partly Cloudy 24°	TUESDAY 15 Partly Rainy 24°
SATURDAY 12 Partly Sunny 26°	WEDNESDAY 16 Partly Cloudy 24°
SUNDAY 13 Partly Rainy 25°	THURSDAY 17 Partly Sunny 26°
MONDAY 14 Partly Cloudy 26°	TENDENCIES 18 TO 31 MAY Partly Sunny 27°

EDITOR: Agence On en Parle • Tel (687) 23 23 80 - weekly@onenparle.nc
 EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: Tourism office. PHOTOS: La Foa Tourisme. On en parle, Office de Tourisme, Syndicat mixte des Grandes Fougères, G.H.C., ADJOK photographie, Mossa gite, Le Creek restaurant, Musée de la Ville, Pacifico Nature, Point information Touho, GIE Tourisme Province Nord, Observatoire de l'environnement, Lyvai transport, Eric D'El Erba, Yann VDB Officiel, Resto.nc, NCTPS, Province Sud, Denis Meunier, Terraventure, D.L., Nicolas Vignoles



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 - Duty Free
 - Automatic currency exchange machine
 - ATM Machine
 - Shopping Mall
 - Bus Line



NOUMÉA CITY MUSEUM
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 - Hôtel Le Lagon**
 - Hôtel Best Western Premier La Promenade****
 - Nouvata Parc Complex***
 - Ramada Plaza Nouméa****
 - Motel Anse Vata
 - Royal Tera***
 - Le Méridien Nouméa****
 - Motel Le Bambou
 - Hôtel Le Stanley**
 - Palm Beach Shopping Mall