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March 21, 2023
Noumea, New Caledonia

Due to the severe damages caused by Hurricanes Judy and Kevin in Port Vila, the ship was compelled to update our itinerary: Originally scheduled to dock in Lifou, New Caledonia and now docked in Noumea, New Caledonia.

Find a synergy of cultures in the isles of New Caledonia. People of different nationalities reside in the islands, from native Melanesians and Europeans.

Migrants from neighboring Polynesian islands and parts of Asia, notably Vietnam and Indonesia, also find their home in this idyllic archipelago. There's no official language in the islands but French is the most widely-spoken language in the area. Aside from French, there are over 30 Melanesian dialects and languages spoken in the islands.

We docked in a container dock yard again and had shuttle buses that took us to the edge of town, this did not help much because almost everything was closed. Not sure why so many places were closed. Noumea is a pretty place if you are into water sports, scuba diving, snorkeling etc. but not much else to do.



Nouméa

Capital of New Caledonia

Nouméa is the capital of the South Pacific archipelago and overseas French territory New Caledonia.

Situated on the main island, Grand Terre, it's known for beaches and its blend of French and native Kanak influences. The Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Centre showcases Kanak heritage, and the Musée de Nouvelle-Calédonie has exhibits from across the Pacific region. The Aquarium des Lagons introduces local marine life. — Google



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Noumea is the capital and largest city of the French special collectivity of New Caledonia and is also the largest francophone city in Oceania. It is situated on a peninsula in the south of New Caledonia's main island, Grande Terre, and is home to the majority of the island's European, Polynesian (Waliisians, Futunians, Tahitians), Indonesian, and Vietnamese populations, as well as many Melanesians, Ni-Vanuatu and Kanaks who work in one of the South Pacific's most industrialized cities. The city lies on a protected deepwater harbour that serves as the chief port of New Caledonia.

We did have some rough seas before arriving, I even had big waves coming over my window.



Tonight's Theatre Show/Concert: Anna Hawkins Bold, Brave & Beautiful
Described by New Zealand's Musician magazine as "a voice that has the power to uplift" Anna Hawkins joins up for a colorful and daring night of songs.