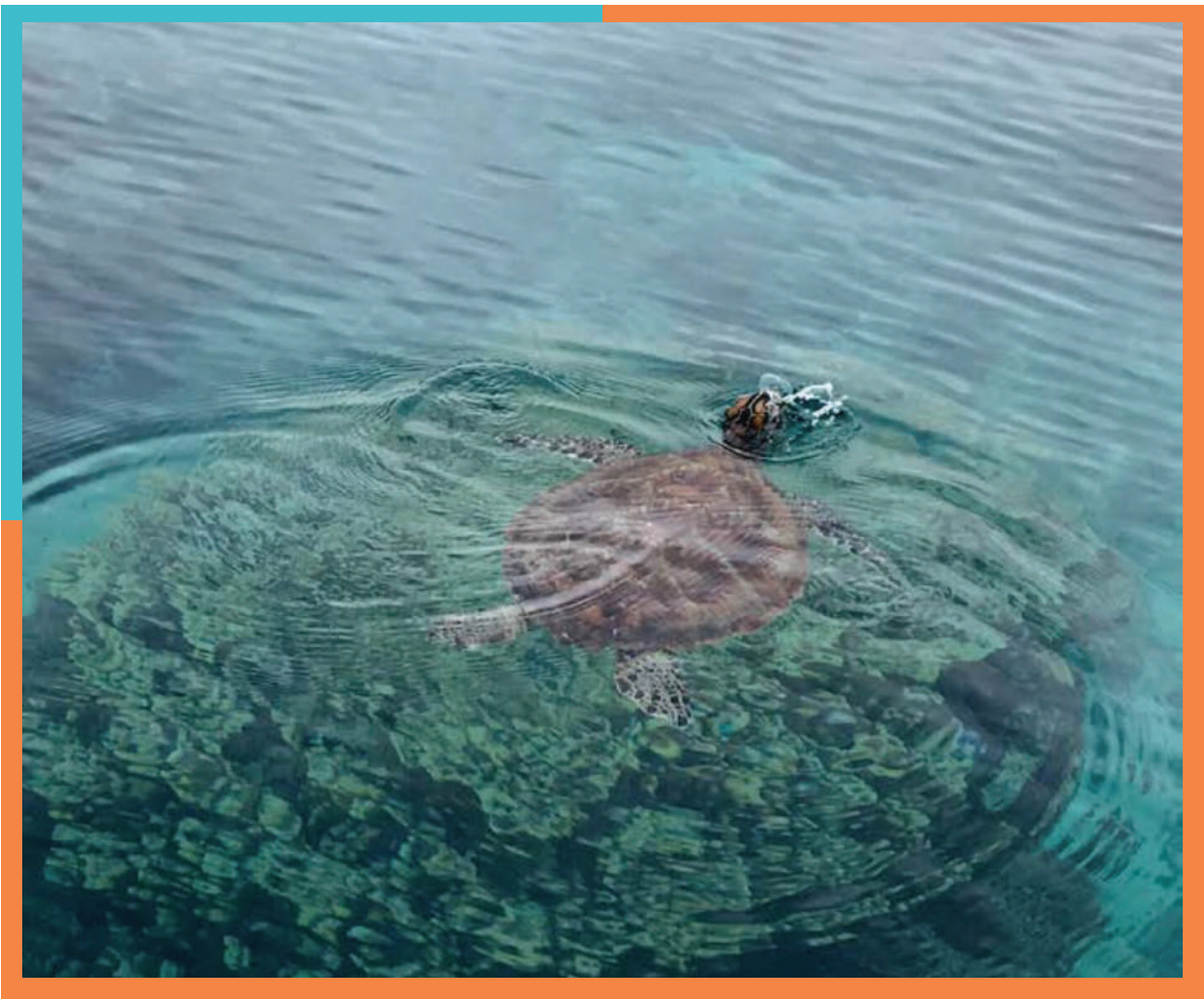


Country Guide

New Caledonia



Overview

New Caledonia is a French territory located in the South Pacific nestled between Australia and New Zealand. The Caledonian Island has a special legal status with its own local government and congress who establish the national laws. Only the sovereign powers are ruled by the French state. New Caledonia is comprised of 3 provinces South, North, and the Loyalty Islands. It has a population of 280 000.

The capital city and economic centre Nouméa lies in the heart of the South. Mining activities are the primary source of economic development. Owing 10% of the world's nickel reserves, mining creates about 25% of private sector jobs. The three major mining giants include: SLN Eramet, Prony Ressources, and Koniambo Nickel SAS. In the North, the capital Koné has undergone major development since the arrival of the local mining site. Water sports are especially popular including fishing, sailing and scuba diving, windsurfing, and kitesurfing.

Area:
18,576 sq. km

Currency:
Pacific Francs (xpf)

Language(s):
French

Capital City:
Nouméa

Government:
French overseas territory with special status – Parliamentary democracy

Population:
282, 200





Banking

The local currency is pacific francs (xpf). When you're working in New Caledonia, you might need a local bank account. There are five local banks: BNC (Bank of New Caledonia), BCI, BNP, Société Générale, and OPT (financial services).

Climate

The climate is tropical tempered by oceanic influence. It's periodically influenced by El Niño and La Niña with prevailing winds from the east and southeast (the trade winds). New Caledonia has two distinct seasons: a hot and humid summer (T= 28-32°C) from October to April and a mild and temperate winter (T°= 17-24°C) from May to September. The cyclone period runs from January to April.

Time

GMT + 11:00



Public holidays

- New Year's Day: 1st January
- Easter Monday: April
- Labor Day: 1st May
- Armistice World War II: 8th May
- Ascension: May
- Pentecost Monday: May
- 14 July: Bastille Day
- The assumption: 15th August
- Caledonian holiday: 24th September
- All saint: 1st November
- Armistice World War I: 11th November
- Christmas: 25th December

Companies treat holidays differently, so be sure to observe the list of celebrated holidays at your company.

Social networks + groups for expats

www.destinationprovincesud.nc

www.province-nord.nc

www.noumea.nc

www.leguide.nc

www.blogExpatriation.com

Expatriation forum on www.routard.com

www.expat.com

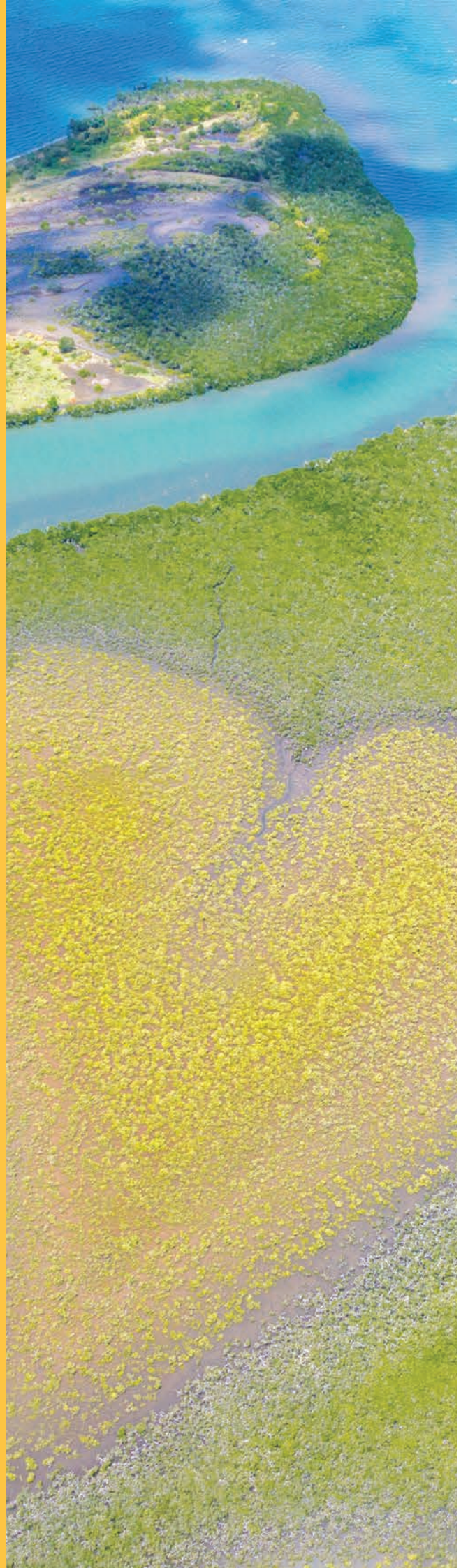
www.nouvellecaledonie.travel

Several Facebook groups :

«Nouméa expat»

«Expatriation NC»

«Nouvelle Calédonie conseil Bons Plans »





Culture + lifestyle

The traditional Kanak (Melanesian) culture is very present across the island, even if the main cities like Nouméa and Koné embrace a western lifestyle. The Kanak people have a tribal, clan culture where the group supercedes the importance of the individual. There are still 300 tribes where people live according to the rhythm of nature, agriculture, and ancestral customs. A total of 23 Kanak languages are spoken today. Nouméa hosts a variety of major cultural events (concerts, music festivals, and art exhibitions). The monthly brochure SORTIR features the upcoming activities on the island and is available from retail stores. The natural environment aligns well with many outdoor activities such as fishing, sea activities, water sports, mountain walking, trail running, mountain biking, and horse riding.

Health

New Caledonia is prone to certain arboviruses (dengue, chikungunya and zika) transmitted by mosquitoes. The Health and Social Affairs Department (DASS) has several programmes to reduce the risk of mosquito-born diseases. A series of small gestures and good habits can drastically reduce certain risks - eliminate stagnant water, use repellents, mosquito nets, etc.

For more information:

<https://dass.gouv.nc/your-health-screening-and-vaccination/lavaccination#>



Health coverage in New Caledonia:

Easy Skill is under contract with an internationally renowned insurance company that offers full social security cover to our expatriate consultants:

- Health cover from the 1st € (medicine, surgery, hospitalization, optical, dental)
- Civil liability
- Provident insurance
- Repatriation + Assistance

Recommended vaccinations:

- Tetanus
- Diphtheria
- Polio
- Pertussis
- Typhoid
- Hepatitis A

Work permit / Visa requirements

Only French nationals with a valid French passport can work here without a visa or work permit. All other nationalities – including European Union member states – require a work visa. All visa and work permit applications are coordinated by Easy Skill and/or our client. The related costs will be reimbursed by Easy Skill upon validation from your manager. You should always keep a copy of your visa with you.



At the airport

La Tontouta International Airport is a 40-minute drive from Nouméa. In addition to connecting to the mainland, it serves numerous destinations in the Pacific zone (Japan, Vanuatu, Tahiti, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Wallis). For any information concerning customs rules, phytosanitary requirements, or baggage, consult the airport website: www.aeroports.cci.nc/fr/tontouta/guide-du-voyageur.

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teams.
Deliver
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projects.
Shape
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future.**

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