



Country Profile: New Caledonia

New Caledonia is a French overseas territory located in the Southwest Pacific near Australia. It consists of the large island of New Caledonia, the Loyalty Islands, the Isle of Pines, and several smaller island groups. The capital is Noumea. New Caledonia's moderately developed economy is based on mining and, to a lesser degree, tourism. Tourist facilities can be found throughout New Caledonia, the Loyalty Islands, and the Isle of Pines. The French Government Tourism Office, which has a wide range of information available to travelers, can be contacted by telephone at (212) 838-7800.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	New Caledonia
Continent:	Oceania
Capital City:	Noumea
Boundary Countries:	
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Col de la Pirogue: Centre Hospitalier Territorial Gaston Bourret: Centre Hospitalier Territorial Magenta: Centre Hospitalier Territorial Noumea: Clinique Magnin Raoul Follereau: Centre Hospitalier Territorial
Main Cities:	Noumea, Mueo, Thio, Poindimie, We
Country Size:	19,060 sq km
Population:	221,943

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	French (official), 33 Melanesian-Polynesian dialects
Currency:	Comptoirs Francais du Pacifique Franc (XPF)
Predominant Religions:	Roman Catholic 60%, Protestant 30%, other 10%
National Holidays:	Bastille Day, 14 July (1789)
Economic Status:	In addition to nickel, substantial financial support from France - equal to more than 15% of GDP - and tourism are keys to the health of the economy. Substantial new investment in the nickel industry, combined with the recovery of global nickel prices, brightens the economic outlook for the next several years.
Security:	No regular military forces; French Armed Forces (includes Army, Navy, Air Force, Gendarmerie); Police Force

US Presence:	<p>There is no US Embassy or Consulate in New Caledonia (overseas territory of France). The US Embassy in Fiji provides assistance for US citizens in New Caledonia.</p> <p>The US Embassy is located at 31 Loftus Street in Suva, tel (679) 331-4466; fax (679) 330-2267. Information may also be obtained by visiting the Embassy's home page at http://www.amembassy-fiji.gov/.</p>
Major Airports:	<p>Airports: 25, Airports w/paved runways: 11Nouméa – La Tontouta International Airport (NOU/NWWW)New Caledonia Airport, New Caledonia, BP 2, Tontouta, 98840, NEW CALEDONIA Tel: +687 (0)352500 Fax: +687 (0)352535 Website: www.cci-nc.com/tontouta Customs, hours: 07:30-11:30 & 13:30-16:00 Tel: +687 (0)351172 Fax: +687 (0)351955</p>

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