



Country Profile: Solomon Islands

The Solomon Islands form an Archipelago in the southwest Pacific Ocean about 1,200 miles northeast of Australia. The capital, Honiara, is located on the Island of Guadalcanal. The Solomon Islands are a parliamentary democracy within the British Commonwealth. Tourism facilities are limited, particularly outside Honiara. Read the Department of State [Background notes on the Solomon Islands](#) for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Solomon Islands
Continent:	Oceania
Capital City:	Honiara
Boundary Countries:	
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	
Main Cities:	Honiara, Gizo, Aola
Country Size:	28,450 sq km
Population:	595,613

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Melanesian pidgin in much of the country is lingua franca; English (official but spoken by only 1%-2% of the population); 120 indigenous languages
Currency:	Solomon Island dollars (SBD)
Predominant Religions:	Church of Melanesia 32.8%, Roman Catholic 19%, South Seas Evangelical 17%, Seventh-Day Adventist 11.2%, United Church 10.3%, Christian Fellowship Church 2.4%, other Christian 4.4%, other 2.4%, unspecified 0.3%, none 0.2%
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 7 July (1978)
Economic Status:	The bulk of the population depends on agriculture, fishing, and forestry for at least part of its livelihood. Most manufactured goods and petroleum products must be imported. The islands are rich in undeveloped mineral resources such as lead, zinc, nickel, and gold. Prior to the arrival of RAMSI, severe ethnic violence, the closing of key businesses, and an empty government treasury culminated in economic collapse. RAMSI's efforts to restore law and order and economic stability have led to modest growth as the economy rebuilds.
Security:	no regular military forces; Solomon Islands Police Force
US Presence:	There is no U.S. Embassy in the Solomon Islands. However, there is a U.S. Consular Agent in Honiara. The Consular Agent has general information and forms, such as passport applications, and can be contacted at the United States Consular Agency, Commonwealth Avenue, Point Cruz, telephone number is (677) 23426 or (677) 98367, cell number is (677) 94731, home number is (677) 22539; fax (677) 27429; e-mail keithieusa@solomon.com.sb or us_consular@solomon.com.sb . The U.S. Embassy in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea provides primary assistance for U.S. citizens in the Solomon Islands. The Embassy is located on Douglas Street, adjacent to the Bank of Papua New Guinea, in Port Moresby. Use that address for courier service deliveries. The mailing address is PO Box 1492, Port Moresby, N.C.D. 121, Papua New Guinea; the telephone number is (675) 321-1455; after hours duty officer telephone number is (675) 683-7943; Fax (675) 321-1593. American citizens may submit consular inquiries via e-mail to ConsularPortMoresby@state.gov . Americans living or traveling in the Solomon Islands are encouraged to register with the U.S. Embassy in Port Moresby through the State Department's travel registration web site , and to visit the Consular Agency in Honiara to obtain updated information on travel and security within the Solomon Islands. Americans without

	Internet access may register directly with the Embassy or Consular Agency. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy to contact them in case of emergency.
Major Airports:	<p>Airports: 35, Airports w/paved runways: 2</p> <p>Honiara International Airport (HIR/AGGH)</p> <p>Honiara Airport, Solomon Islands, PO Box G8, Min of Transport, Works, Comm & Aviation, Honiara, SOLOMON ISLANDS</p> <p>Tel: +677 36720</p>

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