

## Hideaway Island Resort - Port Vila, Vanuatu



**Port Vila** is only a 2.5 hour flight northeast of Brisbane and a 3.5 hour flight from Sydney. Located on a picturesque harbour on the largest island of Efate in Vanuatu, Port Vila is the republic's capital and the main commercial centre hosting an array of businesses, banks, money changers, duty free shops, cafes, restaurants and bars, and an international airport. If you like to shop, you will find a blend of international clothing prints and designs, art work, jewellery, bags and shoes. Visit the local Mama's market and you will see local ladies sewing hand painted dresses and sarongs. The Ni-Vanuatu people are genuinely friendly, happy and satisfied with life even though village life is simple, basic and down to earth with little or no running water or electricity.



**Things to do :** Dine out on a variety of cuisines including French, Chinese, Thai, Japanese, American, Italian and local fare such as lap lap, coconut crab, seafood and tropical fruit. Visit the local markets and a local village. Scuba dive and snorkel in the tropical waters. Game fishing is a big attraction. Golf, horse riding, sailing, kayaking, kite surfing, waterfall visits and hiking are just some of the activities awaiting you.

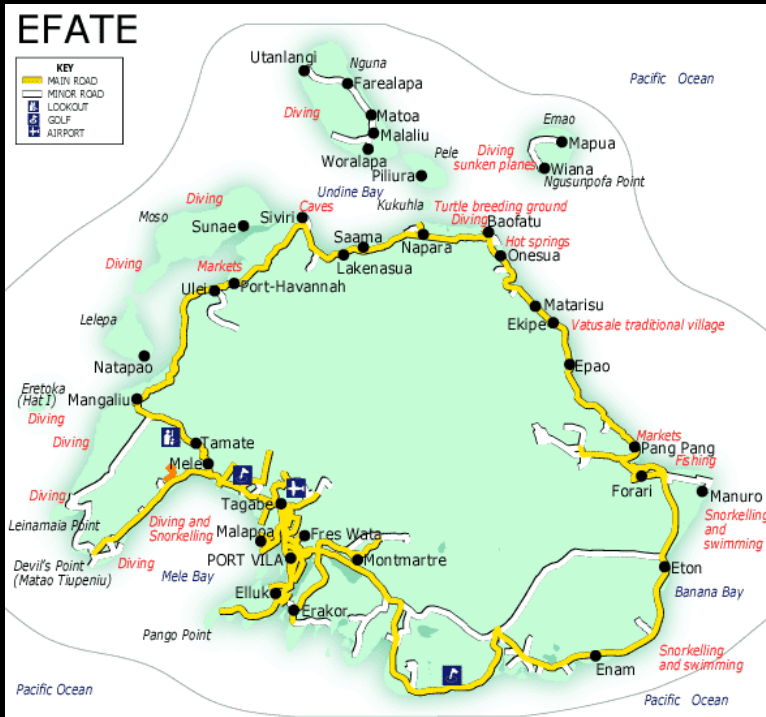
**Hideaway Island Resort :** is a casual resort suitable for all ages, located on a small coral atoll in beautiful Mele Bay. Power is generated around the clock on the island, water is fed from the top of the Cascade waterfalls and outside of the office, there are no phones or faxes. Surrounded by clear, turquoise water, coral reefs and tropical fish, the resort is the custodian of one of Vanuatu's only marine sanctuaries. It is a 15 minute drive from Port Vila and a 5 minute boat ride from Mele Beach to the island.

**Room types available:** 6 Quad Share Dorm rooms with a common lounge, TV & games room, separate male / female bathroom facilities. 6 Twin Share Rooms on the beach, fan cooled with bar fridge and shared facilities. 2 Semi-detached One Bedroom Standard Bungalows and 11 One Bedroom Oceanside Bungalows located on the low bank waterfront, spacious and featuring a covered porch, hammock, spectacular water views, bar fridge and coffee / tea making facilities. 1 elegant Two Bedroom Oceanside Villa with laundry room, high speed internet, air conditioning, satellite TV, DVD and CD player, outdoor speakers, patio with swimming pool, separate deck area with outdoor furniture offering a dramatic outlook.

**Hotel Facilities:** Beach Bar & Restaurant, swimming pool, high speed internet access, cultural walk & Kava tasting in Mele village, glass bottom boat rides, snorkel safaris, kayaks & sailboats, beach volleyball and Dive Shop offering courses, daily dives and Nitrox.



# Diving Hideaway Island - Port Vila, Vanuatu



## Port Vila Diving...

Port Vila offers a variety of dive sites from easy protected waters with no current to shallow reefs and deeper drop offs with running currents bringing in the pelagic species. The landscape beneath the water mirrors that found above: mountainous terrain with plunging cliffs, grottoes and overhangs, huge caves with intricate interconnecting underwater tunnels and chasms formed by frozen lava with an abundance of wildlife.

Hideaway Island caters for novice divers to the most experienced divers. You can dive straight off the beach as the waters around Hideaway have been declared a marine sanctuary. The extensive protected reefs are full of colourful sponges, hard corals, sea anemones, gorgonian fans and an amazing number of tropical fish. Consistently clear waters and prolific marine life make this one of the great dive areas.

Depth: 6 - 40+ metres      Visibility: +/- 30 metres  
 Water temp: 23 - 28° C      No. of dive sites: ~20  
 Currents: usually mild but can be strong  
 Best time of year : diving is possible year round.

**Underwater Post Office:** Situated within the Hideaway Island Marine Sanctuary is the world's only Underwater Post Office. The Post Office is staffed by Post Office personnel who completed their Open Water dive training at Hideaway Island. As the bottom of the post office sits in around three metres of water both divers and snorkelers are able to post special "waterproof postcards". All postcards are guaranteed to receive the special stamp from this unique underwater paradise before being delivered both locally and internationally.



## Some popular dive sites

**Bonzer / Clown Colony:** a small abandoned tug boat was sunk at Hideaway Island in 2001 near Clown colony, aptly named for it's large bommie covered in anemones and their resident clown fish. Bonzer sits upright and features easy swim-throughs for both the experienced and novice wreck diver. Depth: 24 metres.

**Gotham City:** Named for the resident batfish that accompany you through the whole dive. This colourful reef has soft coral growth, many feather stars and some enormous plate corals. It's not uncommon to see reef sharks, barracuda and dog tooth tuna schooling around the area with the occasional turtle and manta ray. Depth: 6 - 25 metres.

**Emperor's Garden:** A very colourful coral slope like a well cultivated garden fit for royalty. Plate, table, staghorn and lace corals cascade along the side of this reef. A great photography dive. A hot spring bubbling up from the ocean floor provides something different. Depth: 20 metres.

**M.V. Aloara:** A retired island trader lying on her starboard side near the popular snorkeling / dive site, "Coral Gardens". Sunk in 2001, she is now excellent penetration dive for experienced divers. Depth: 26m.



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**YOUR DIVING HOLIDAY SPECIALIST**

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