

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Nature since ancient times - come and find your own treasures

The Solomon Islands comprise approximately 1000 islands and are the second-largest Pacific Islands after Papua New Guinea. With more than 80 unique languages besides the official languages of Pidgin and English, island hopping can quickly introduce people to new and fascinating cultures.

The main attractions of the Solomon Islands are rich culture and biodiversity. You can experience traditional culture, climb mountains with the sound of birdsongs, interact with dolphins and sea turtles in the sea, be attracted by the sweet fragrances of orchids and other flowers, and enjoy culture and nature directly.

The name 'Solomon' comes from a legend that an explorer who found gold in the sands of Guadalcanal- he thought that he found the island of King Solomon, who flourished in ancient times. The sumptuous treasures of King Solomon may not be found in the Solomon Islands today. However, the cultural and natural richness of the Solomon Islands built over time is even greater treasure.



Example of flight routes

Narita → Brisbane (Australia) → Honiara (Solomon Islands)

Beginners' course

Tour to find the treasures close at hand in Honiara

1st day

PM ● Arrive in Honiara the following afternoon after enjoying Brisbane, Australia. There is a Japanese-run hotel in the centre of Honiara, which is safe and secure for first-time visitors to the Solomon Islands. After dropping off your suitcase, prepare for the treasure hunt in Honiara. Walk down Mendana Avenue, the main street, to experience the Solomon Islands atmosphere. Enjoy seafood. Abundant seafood is one of the treasures. Enjoy lobster, which has a fascinating ruby red colour.



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2nd day

AM ● Explore the traditional culture of the Solomon Islands at the National Museum and Art Gallery. The handicrafts sold by local women are unique. Shop at Honiara Central Market. The market is a jewel box of colourful vegetables, fruits and fish from the tropical islands. Nuznuz, a unique traditional Solomon Islands craft, is on sale in the art gallery and central market. Find your own Nuznuz, and it will be an unforgettable treasure.



© Yoshiki Narita

PM ● Lunch at a local restaurant along Mendana Avenue. With so much choice, don't hesitate to eat your first choice. Visit the Vilu War Museum. See the wreckage of guns and fighter planes left in the jungle. Enjoy a meal with amber-coloured local beer at a restaurant overlooking the sea and watch the sun set.

3rd day

AM ● Have a breakfast a little early, and check-out your hotel. Leave your suitcase at the hotel and walk down Mendana Avenue again to feel Honiara atmosphere. The scenery, which looks different from the first day, is one of treasures. An early lunch before heading to the airport. How about a second choice, which you had hesitated about on the second day, but didn't choose?

PM ● Go to the airport and look back to your unique treasure found in the Solomon Islands. Depart for Brisbane.

Deluxe plan

Advanced course

Find the Solomon's treasure around countryside

1st day

PM ● Check into your hotel via Brisbane. Prepare water, food at supermarkets for the next day's treasure hunt in the rural areas. It's exciting just to get the things you need to visit the countryside. Early to bed to recover energy, thinking about the countryside tour that starts tomorrow.

2nd day

AM ● Tour of battle sites on Guadalcanal Island. You will ponder the historical legacy.
PM ● Visit battle sites such as Red Beach, Alligator Creek, and Bonegi Beach. Feel what was happening there and the peace -treasure being here in the Solomon Islands.

3rd day

AM/PM ● Head to New Georgia Island (Munda). First, explore the town of Munda and check into your resort hotel. Then, visit Munda's famous Skull Island. On Skull Island, you can see a variety of skulls and touch the unique customs and culture there. Traditional customs are preserved there. For the people living there, the custom of protecting skull is one of their treasures.



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4th day

Noon ● Return from New Georgia Island to Honiara and continue to Tulagi by boat.
PM ● Visit the Tokyo Bay, where the remains of the Japanese 'Kikugetsu' can be seen. Afterwards, you will spend the rest of the day in Tulagi, where time passes slowly and you will lose yourself in the pleasant flow of time, collecting roadside orchids and other familiar treasures that suddenly catch our attention. Return to Honiara by the end of the day and reflect on the treasures collected on this trip.

5th day

AM ● Take a leisurely morning and enjoy your last stay in the Solomon Islands at a leisurely pace. How about the 'shell money' for your souvenir?
PM ● Go to the airport and map your own treasures found in the Solomon Islands. The map is also a treasure. Depart for Brisbane with your treasures.



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Flower

More than 200 species of 'flowers'

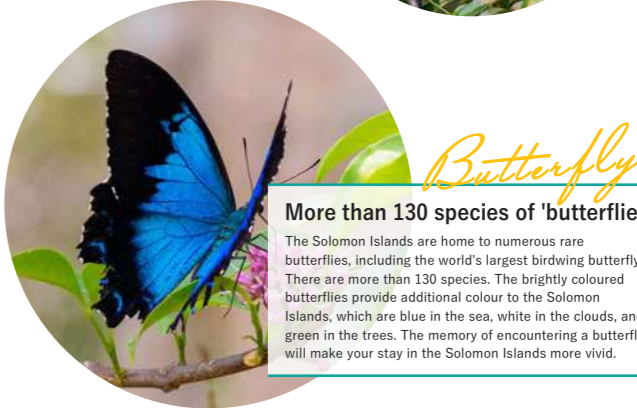
The flowers of the Solomon Islands are the queen of orchid flowers. More than 200 endemic orchid species have been identified. The flower language of the orchids varies according to the colour of the petals. Why would you not take home a photograph of an orchid in the colour of your favourite language of flowers as one of your treasures?



Bird

More than 170 species of 'birds'

The colourful parrots and cockatoos as well as the Japanese bush warblers and owls were familiar to visitors to the islands. The Solomon Islands are home to over 170 bird species. Do not miss the mound builders which use geothermal heat from volcanoes to build their nests, and the endemic Solomon's sea eagle. Each encounter with these birds is a treasure.



Butterfly

More than 130 species of 'butterflies'

The Solomon Islands are home to numerous rare butterflies, including the world's largest birdwing butterfly. There are more than 130 species. The brightly coloured butterflies provide additional colour to the Solomon Islands, which are blue in the sea, white in the clouds, and green in the trees. The memory of encountering a butterfly will make your stay in the Solomon Islands more vivid.

Q The Solomon Islands include Santa Cruz Islands, which are likely to occur in December. Which country has the island pronounced as Christmas Island in Japanese?

The answer is on **p.20!**

Column 1 Islands stories

The Solomon Islands comprise approximately 1000 islands. Some islands exhibit unique stories to tell. For example, Kennedy Island is where the late former US President Kennedy swam during the war. The remote island of Malau on the eastern tip of the Guadalcanal was visited by British Prince William and his wife in 2012. Each island has its own story, and your stay can be the story of that island.

Column 2 Traditional water cottages!

On northern Malaita Island in Lau, people live on islands built by hand with stones in the lagoon. These islands are still built manually, and traditional techniques have been passed down from generation to generation. There is accommodation at the Langa Langa Lagoon where you can watch island building demonstrations. Living on the water on a 'stone island' is certainly a rare experience that you won't get from staying in a water cottage elsewhere in the country.

More than 100 species to be found in the Solomon Islands