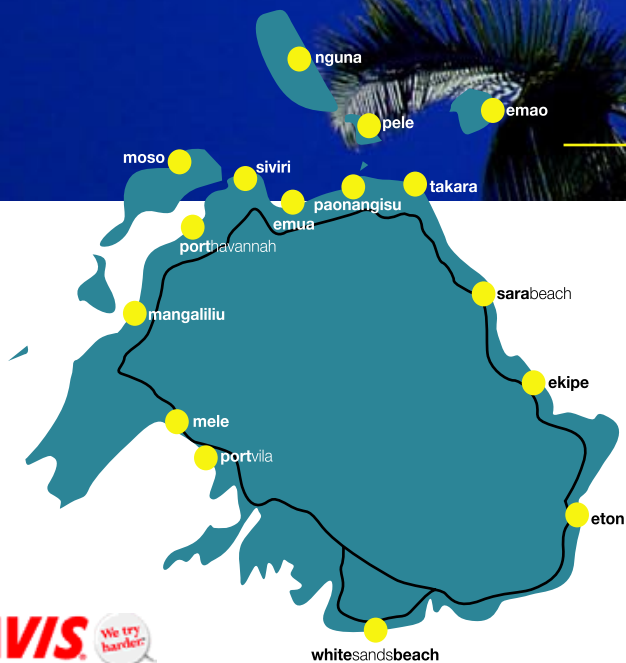


Touring Efate Island



Away from the bustling capital of Port Vila, a trip around Efate will reward visitors with **unspoiled scenery, magnificent marine environments, lush tropical forests, hot mineral springs, sparkling lagoons, waterfalls, and sandy beaches**. The island can be toured in a leisurely one day drive, or visitors can stay overnight at one of several accommodation options. Many of Efate's attractions can also be visited in a half day trip from Port Vila.

Snorkel over World War II relics, **swim** at a magnificent blue hole or your own deserted beach, stop for a **picnic lunch** on Northern Efate's glorious coastline, and witness the **cultural life** of rural Vanuatu: venturing out of Port Vila is a must do for all visitors.

The ring road of Efate Island is an easily navigated 2.5 hour drive (without stops) yet we'd recommend you put aside a leisurely 6 hours in order to include several stops at some of Vanuatu's most beautiful attractions. **So why not jump in a car and experience the real Vanuatu?**

Any prices listed in this E Brochure are only provided as a guide. Guests should enquire at time of travel for up to date pricing directly from the tour operators.

This guide should be used in conjunction with the HEMA or JASON maps, both which are available from hotels and tour operators in Port Vila.

Main photo: Crystal Blue Lagoon
Inset Top: Blue Water Resort Aquarium
Inset Bottom: Swimming at Blue Water Resort



South Efate



Heading out of Port Vila past the University of the South Pacific and Korman Stadium (ask your hire car company for directions) will put you directly on the Efate Island Ring Road.

Just past the Teouma River Bridge, a right hand turn off from the main road will take you down to the coastal road. Here you'll find **Tamanu on the Beach**, a boutique resort that is renowned for its luxurious bungalows and fine dining restaurant.

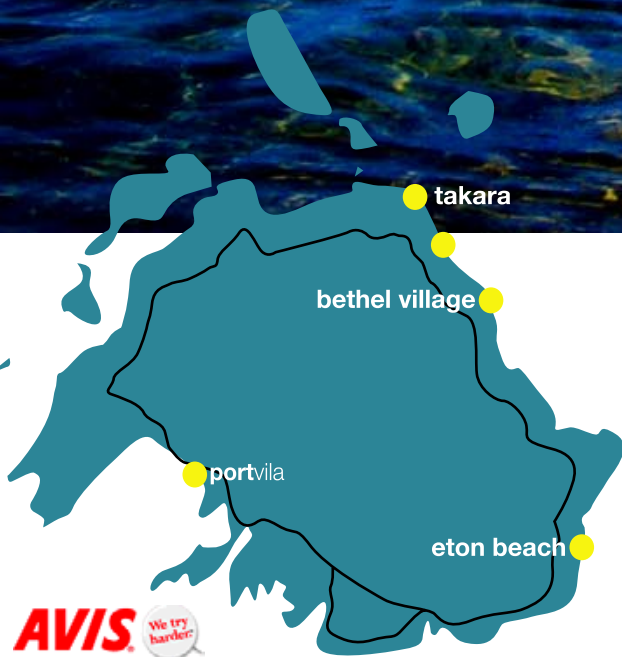
Further down the off-road from Tamanu you come to **Crystal Blue Lagoon**, a delightful swimming and snorkeling spot with a turtle breeding program, and a great place to picnic or eat lunch in the restaurant. Entry to the beach is 300vt pp (100vt for under 12s) which includes use of the BBQ facilities. The lagoon also has a beach volleyball court, a massage centre, and good toilet and changing facilities. Well priced lunch and drinks are available in the cute beachside restaurant.

Blue Water Resort, a little further on, has a magnificent setting, with a lagoon, river, and the sea on its perimeters. A great place for a swim, ask at reception to enter the aquarium where visitors can get up close with turtles, reef sharks and tropical fish. (1000vt pp, 2000vt including fish feeding, turn right at driveway with Aquarium sign "Don't fall in".)

Main photo: Beachcombers Resort Beach, Takara
Inset top: Crystal Blue Lagoon Rope Swing
Inset bottom: Eton Beach



West Efate



From Blue Water Resort, the road loops back onto the main road where you can then follow the coast through stunning coconut plantations. After 15 minutes you'll reach the stunning **Blue Lagoon** on your right (look for the sign "have a good swimming") - an incredible bright blue swimming hole with space to picnic.

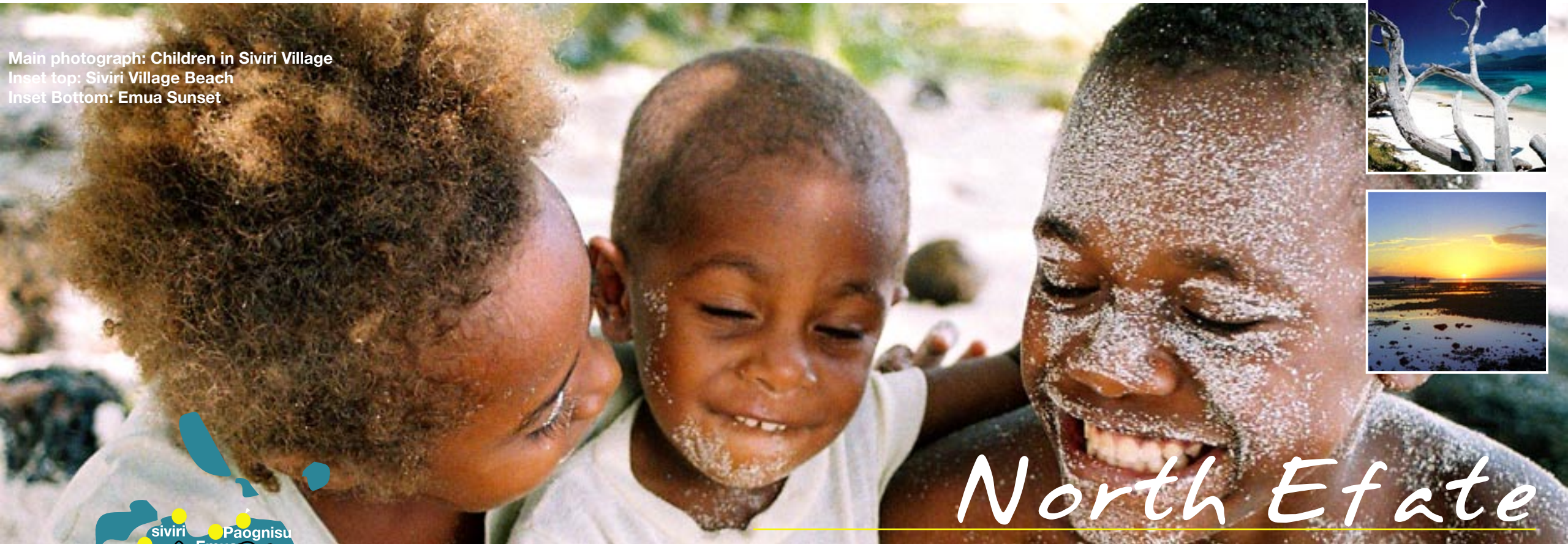
Eton Beach is a little further on - there is a barbecue hut and good toilet and changing facilities. The beach is small and sheltered, with a freshwater spring running onto the

ocean, and you can snorkel, swim, or fish off the breakwater. Entry is 300vt pp, which goes to the people of Eton Village to help maintain the beach. It is also possible to camp at Eton Beach for a small fee. Further up the road you will pass through the soon to be reopened Forari mine and soon after Bethel Village.

For those wishing to take their time, **Bethel Village** is a great option for accommodation. Bethel features seven well appointed cabins in landscaped gardens, with kitchen and

laundry facilities, and it is only a short walk to the ocean. **Sara beach** is a little further on, with two small cafes and offering unique rocky outcrops and several swimming areas with picturesque views across to Emao and the Shepherd islands. Takara is next and is home to the **Beachcomber resort** - a relaxed place to enjoy a drink or make use of the thermal springs that are situated just on the beach front (500vt).





North Efate

Main photograph: Children in Siviri Village
 Inset top: Siviri Village Beach
 Inset Bottom: Emua Sunset



From Takara, continue past the old WW2 airport (note the enormous 'U.S.A' letters on your right, grass mounds. A small **WW2 museum** is just before Paognisu village – here you can also snorkel over a couple of planes that didn't quite make the landing strip. Nearby Nagar resort is soon to reopen with refurbished accommodation and dining facilities. Emua' wharf is soon on your right – the departure point to offshore islands - Nguna, Pele and the soon to open 'Kakula island resort.'

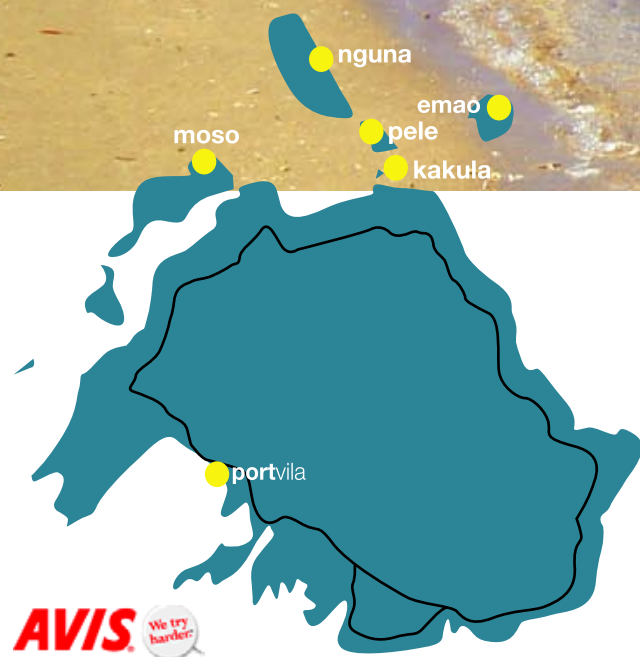
Just after Emua village is a **viewing platform** built on the side of the mountain. Offering some of the greatest views in Vanuatu, this is a 'must stop' location for all visitors. On your right is a newly opened bungalow with a unique entrance and swimming spot. Passing through a large coconut plantation you will reach Siviri Village – home to the famous **Siviri caves**. Paddle a canoe to catch a glimpse of the bat colony or visit the enormous caves at the other end of the village. If you

have the time, enquire in Siviri village about an overnight hike to the nearby cascades. A further 10km down the road you will come across **Port Havannah**, home to the WW2 stalls selling an assortment of old coke bottles and relics. The quirky road side stalls of Havannah Harbour are worth a browse or just wander and meet the friendly locals. Within the village itself, is also a brilliant **cultural tour** offering an insight into the traditional ways of the people of Vanuatu.

Main photograph: Nguna Beach
Inset top: Boat trip to Pele
Inset bottom: Clown fish, Moso



Offshore Islands



1. Moso Island – Dive resort, site of ‘french survivor’ and ‘celebrity survivor’

Tranquility Island Resort
Phone 25020
Bungalows 7500VT per person
Boat departs Moso landing – organise through Tranquility Resort

2. Nguna Island – Beach bungalows, tree house, traditional Nakamal, hiking

Vat-Vaka Bungalows
Phone 23120
Bungalows 3000VT per person (inclusive all meals)
Boat departs from Emua wharf – 2500VT for whole boat or 400VT per person

3. Pele Island – Beach bungalows, white sand beaches

Bungalows 2500VT per person (inclusive all meals)
Boat departs from Emua wharf – 2000VT for whole boat or 350VT per person

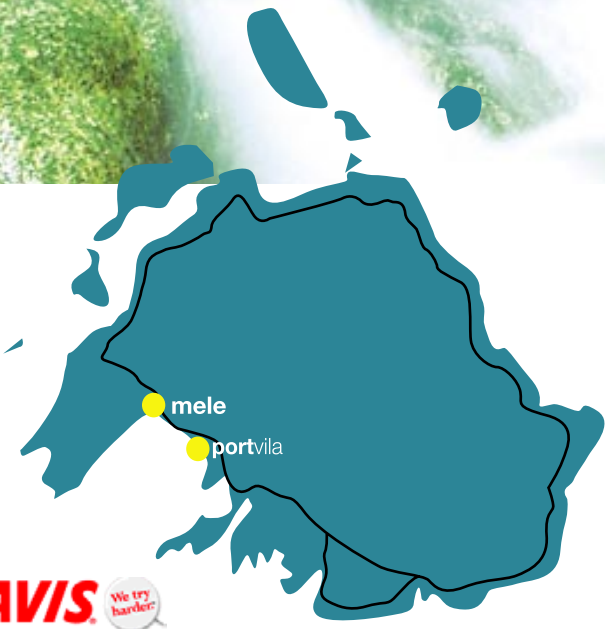
4. Kakula Island – World Class resort to open soon (guests only)



Main photograph: Mele Cascades
 Inset top: Sand drawing at Mele Secret Gardens
 Inset bottom: Hideaway Island



East Efate



Heading back toward Vila, take in the view from Klem's Hill before the steep descent down to Mele village. At the bottom of the hill is the entrance to **Mele Cascades**, one of Efate's 'must-do' attractions. About 15 minutes out of Port Vila, the climb to the waterfall is not a difficult one and, once there, it's a rewarding experience. It's not just one to witness from afar - you can hop into the pool at the base and swim under the cascade itself. It's the outpouring of an underground spring so the water is cool, clear and refreshing. If you take the track up and back it's a one-hour to ninety minutes experience. The

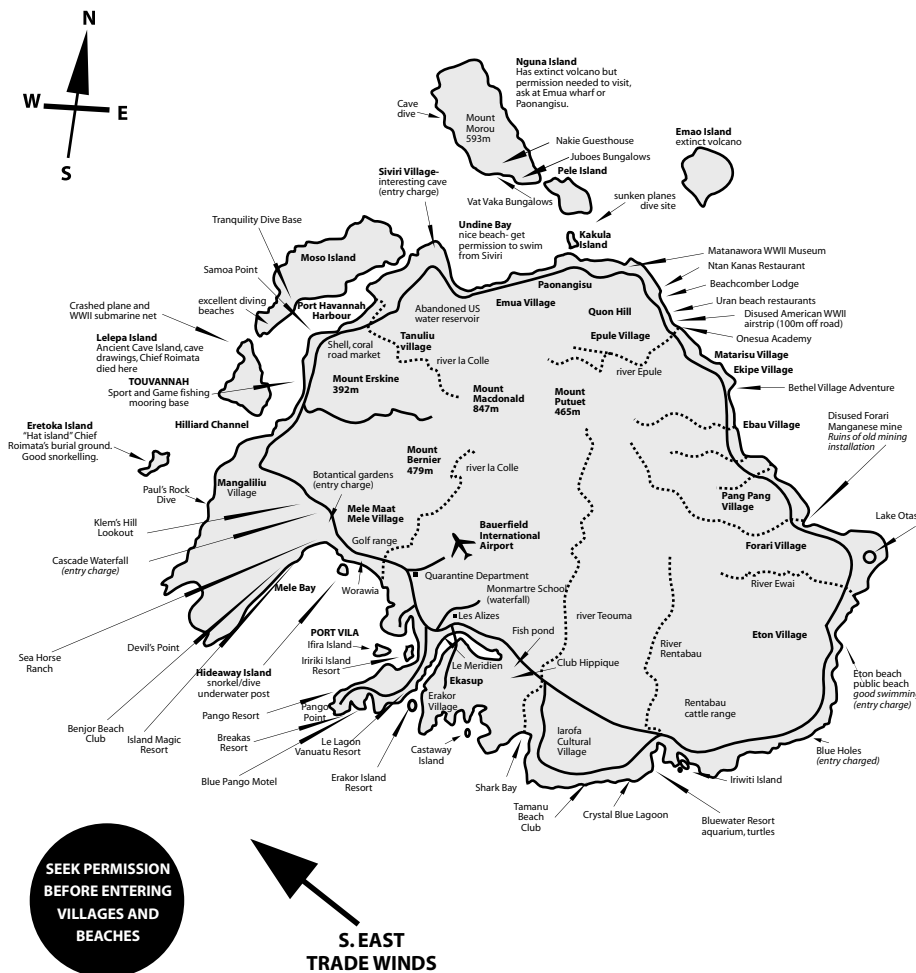
actual cost for entry is VT1000 for adults and 250 vatu for children. The money collected goes to the local Mele village people who maintain the facilities - clean toilets, barbecue hut etc. Passing through Mele Village you will pass the turn off to Devil's Point Rd - a unique attraction due to the black volcanic sand beaches that border the side of the road. Further along the main road you will see the sign to **Hideaway Island**. With first rate snorkeling, restaurant and dive school as well as the world's only underwater post office; a day trip is on most visitors' list of things to do. The ferry is free but

there is an entry fee of 1000VT for the marine park. A little further on is the **Port Vila Country Club** - a challenging 18 hole golf course that is well maintained. This is where most competition golf is played and it has a clubhouse that welcomes visitors. Just after the golf course is the **Saloon Bar**, an establishment straight out of Texas, complete with restaurant and its own micro brewery. Passing the Port Vila Country Club, continue along the main road for another five kilometers to Port Vila.



Efate Island Tour

PRINT THIS PAGE



Total km

138km round trip. (Owing to several steep sections of road it is recommended to travel in an anti clockwise direction around the island.

Average time taken

6-8 hours, including time for several stops, lunch, swimming etc. 2 hours without stops.

Road conditions

Drive on the right hand side of the road. A foreign driving license is valid for three months. Beware of roaming stock, loose gravel and pot holes, particularly after heavy rain- take your time. There are no fuel stops outside of Port Vila, so ensure tank is full prior to departure.

What to bring

Sunscreen, water, picnic lunch.

Car Rental

AVIS ph 22570 fax 24968

email: avis@vanuatu.com.vu

Budget: ph 23170 fax 24693

email: budget@vanuatu.com.vu

Discount Car Rental: ph 24475

email: discount.rentals@vanuatu.com.vu

Hertz: ph 25700 fax 25511

World Motors: Ph 45656

Prefer an organised tour?

Enquire with one of the many tour agents/ bus drivers in Port Vila or ask at the Tourism Office.

Good swimming locations

Crytal Blue Lagoon, Eton Beach, Blue Lagoon, Undine Bay

Places for eating/ refreshments

Tamanu Resort, Crystal Blue Lagoon, Beachcombers Resort, small store in Emua Village for cold drinks and small snacks.

Cultural Tours

Ekasup Cultural Village, Tanoliliu Cultural Village, Mele Secret Garden.

Other places of interest

WW2 museum/markets (Port Havannah), Siviri Caves, Sky Deck (Emua Village.)

Nearby Offshore Islands

Eratoka, Lelepa, Moso, Nguna, Pele, Kakula, Emao.

Transport to Offshore Islands

Boats leave frequently from Emua Jetty to Nguna, Pele and the Shephard Islands.

Any other questions?

Feel free to contact the Vanuatu Tourism Office (ph. 22813.)

fact sheet