

Port Vila, Efate, Vanuatu

The vibrant capital of Vanuatu blends Melanesian culture with tropical beaches, electric-blue lagoons, and a walkable waterfront market — all within easy reach of the main wharf.

-  Docked (commercial wharf)
-  Typical call: 7-9 hrs
-  Vanuatu Vatu (VUV) / AUD widely accepted
-  Bislama, English, French

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Main Wharf on Wharf Rd; ~3 km southwest of town center. Occasional tender for largest ships.

Best For: Blue Lagoon swims, cultural villages, waterfall hikes, duty-free shopping

Walk to center: 30–40 min on foot; taxis, shuttle vans, and water taxis available

Don't Miss: Blue Lagoon, Mele Cascades, Ekasup Cultural Village, Port Vila Market

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  2,500–4,000 VUV (~\$21–33 USD) ·  **Rideshare**  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Blue Lagoon & Eden on the River** — Vanuatu's star attraction: a vivid turquoise swimming hole where fresh and salt water meet.
- **Mele Cascades Waterfall** — Tiered freshwater pools and a 35-metre waterfall set in lush tropical jungle.
- **Ekasup Cultural Village** — Step into traditional Melanesian life at this authentic cultural village.
- **Hideaway Island Snorkel & Underwater Post Office** — A short boat ride to a marine reserve with calm, shallow snorkeling.
- **Lelepa Island Day Trip** — Boat to Lelepa Island for a bush-trail walk through native flora, snorkeling over giant clams, kayaking, and a BBQ lunch on the beach.

BEST WALKS

- **Wharf to Port Vila Market & Waterfront** 2.5 km · 30 min · Easy — Follow Wharf Road northeast along the bay, past the Independence Park, into the heart of downtown.
- **Waterfront Promenade & Duty-Free Strip** 1 km · 15 min · Flat — Stroll the palm-lined waterfront promenade past duty-free stores, café terraces, and the colourful fishing boats in the inner harbour.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 5:56AM–5:37PM · Jun 6:15AM–5:19PM · Aug 6:06AM–5:36PM · Sep 5:42AM–5:41PM · Oct 5:18AM–5:46PM	
Apr	82°	76°	19d		
Jun	78°	73°	10d		
Aug	77°	71°	11d		
Sep	78°	72°	11d		
Oct	79°	73°	16d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Carry AUD or VUV. Australian dollars are accepted almost everywhere; Vanuatu Vatu is useful for markets and minivans. ATMs in town dispense VUV.
- Start early. Mele Cascades and the Blue Lagoon get crowded when multiple ships are in port. Head there first thing for smaller crowds.
- Negotiate taxi fares upfront. Taxis are unmetered — agree on a price before you get in. Shared minivans are much cheaper for short town hops.
- Hideaway Island's underwater postbox is real. Bring cash (roughly 1,000–1,500 VUV) and a waterproof postcard to mail from below the surface.
- Pack a light rain layer. Port Vila is tropical and can receive brief heavy showers year-round. Mornings are generally clearer.
- Kava etiquette: Clap once before drinking and once after — it's customary. Kava is mildly sedating; skip it if you have afternoon excursions requiring coordination.

Port Vila, Efate, Vanuatu — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1 Iririki Island** Small island in Port Vila Harbour, former residence of the British High Commissioner, reachable by a short ferry ride.
- 3 Erakor Lagoon** Clear, shallow lagoon a few kilometers south of town, popular for kayaking and spotting starfish.

- 2 Mele Cascades** Series of aquamarine limestone waterfalls and natural pools climbing to a 35-meter main falls, northwest of town.
- P Cruise port / terminal**