Welcome to World Expeditions

Thank you for your interest in our Foundation & Friends Isle of Pines extension. At World Expeditions we are passionate about our off the beaten track experiences as they provide our travellers with the thrill of coming face to face with untouched cultures as well as wilderness regions of great natural beauty. We are committed to ensuring that our unique itineraries are well researched, affordable and tailored for the enjoyment of small groups or individuals - philosophies that have been at our core since 1975 when we began operating adventure holidays. Our itineraries will give you the very best travel experience, designed by people with incredible local knowledge who share our vision of authentic exchange and real exploration with a responsible tourism approach. Whether you like your adventures to include trekking, touring, cycling, mountaineering, kayaking or cruising World Expeditions can make it happen for you. We hope you will join us for a life changing experience!!

Why travel with World Expeditions?

When planning travel to a remote destination, many factors need to be considered. Our extra attention to detail and seamless operations on the ground ensure that you will have a memorable trip. We take every precaution to ensure smooth logistics. Our guides and vehicles are the best available and to ensure the smooth operation of all trips, our partners in New Caledonia continually work with us to improve our itineraries to ensure we are taking the ‘paths less travelled’. Our adventures have always sought to benefit the local peoples we interact with, safeguard the ecosystems we explore and contribute to the sustainability of travel in the regions we experience.

Trip Highlights

- Pirogue trip to the stunning Upi Bay
- Relaxing at the Kou Bugny Resort
- Rainforest walk to a natural swimming hole
- Enjoying some of the local freshly prepared dishes
- Trip escorted by Dr Peter Weston

Trip Duration: 4 days
Trip Code: FIS
Activities: Adventure Touring
Summary: 3 nights hotels

1 – © 2016 World Expeditions Travel Group - Kate Harper 11/10/2016 11:08:15 AM
**Isle of Pines Extension**

**The Trip**

Known as ‘the Jewel of the Pacific’, the Isle of Pines is one of the most spectacular islands in the Pacific. A 25 minute flight south east of Noumea, the Isle of Pines is surrounded by the New Caledonia Barrier Reef and is rich with animal life including unusual creatures such as the Crested Gecko, and the world’s largest gecko. The Isle of Pines is fringed with white sands, turquoise lagoons and its signature Araucaria soaring pine trees. It is an evocative and exotic landscape of ancient botany and raw beauty and on this exclusive extension you will have 4 days to savour this stunning tropical landscape. We hope you can join us.

**About your Leader**

Peter Weston

Your tour will be accompanied by Dr Peter Weston, formerly Senior Principal Research Scientist and now an Honorary Research Associate with the National Herbarium of NSW. Peter’s special interests are the families Proteaceae and Orchidaceae, both of which are diverse in New Caledonia, and the Amborellaceae, a family with only one species, an evolutionary celebrity, Amborella trichopoda. His botanical expertise and enthusiasm will only serve to enhance this unique adventure. This will be Peter’s fourth trip to New Caledonia but his first there with the Foundation & Friends.

**At a Glance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 1</th>
<th>THURSDAY 16 NOVEMBER - JOIN ISLE OF PINES EXTENSION. FLY TO ISLE OF PINES.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DAY 2</td>
<td>FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER - PIROGUE TRIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAY 3</td>
<td>SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER - ISLE OF PINES - AT LEISURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAY 4</td>
<td>SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER - TRIP CONCLUDES. ISLE OF PINES.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**What's Included**

- Return economy flights Noumea/Isle of Pines
- 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners
- 4 nights accommodation at Kou Bougny Resort (Tropical Room, twin share)
- Pirogue trip
- Group airport transfers
- Trip accompanied by Dr Peter Weston, Foundation & Friends

**What's not Included**

- Travel insurance (compulsory)
- Lunches
- Any optional tours, entrance fees, and permits during free time
- Drinks of any kind
- Expenditure of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, alcohol etc
- Tips and gratuities

Local cash payments are becoming increasingly popular with many operators in the adventure travel industry. The policy seems to benefit the tour operators, more than the local economies or travellers, as it avoids local taxes and transfers the cost and risk of cash handling to travellers. In accordance with our Responsible Travel practices we have chosen a policy not to ask for such payments.
Isle of Pines Extension

Detailed Itinerary

DAY 1  Thursday 16 November - Join Isle of Pines Extension. Fly to Isle of Pines.
You will be transferred to the airport for your flight to the Isle of Pines. On arrival you will be
transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure.
Dinner and overnight Kou Bugny Resort
Meals: B,D

DAY 2  Friday 17 November - Pirogue trip
Today we visit Upi Bay and enjoy a rainforest walk to a natural swimming pool to discover some
of the Isle of Pines on foot. Situated at the north of the little island of Kotomo, to the south-east of
the Isle of Pines, Upi Bay is a stunning and protected bay. It sees pirogue’s (outrigger canoes). As
you cross Upi Bay you will cruise past huge rocks which seem to be literally balancing on the water
like gigantic floating buoys. Lunch is not included however can be pre booked (please book on your
arrival to the Isle of Pines).
Dinner and overnight Kou Bugny Resort
Meals: B,D

DAY 3  Saturday 18 November - Isle of Pines - at leisure
Today is at leisure to relax at the resort or explore some more of the island.
Dinner and overnight Kou Bugny Resort
Meals: B,D

DAY 4  Sunday 19 November - Trip concludes. Isle of Pines.
Trip concludes. Fly to Noumea and connect with your onward flight to Australia.
Meals: B

This Itinerary Is Subject To Change With Any Change In Community Regulations As Well As Governmental Changes And Natural Circumstances Beyond Our
Control.

Country Information

New Caledonia is a French territory comprising dozens of islands in the South Pacific. The
capital, Nouméa, is on the largest island of the territory (Grand Terre) and is mountainous and
has a pleasant, maritime tropical climate. New Caledonia includes the Grand Terre as well as
the Loyalty Islands; the Bélep Islands; and the Île des Pins.

The Grande Terre is by far the largest of the group and contains about nine-tenths of the
population. It is surrounded by a coral reef that extends from Huon Island in the north to the
Île des Pins in the south. Except for the central part of the west coast, which is bordered only
by a fringing reef, it is a true barrier reef enclosing a large lagoon. New Caledonia’s lagoons,
with their diverse reefs and associated ecosystems, were designated a UNESCO World
Heritage site in 2008. Physical isolation, contrasting soils, and a wide range of elevations,
have produced a rich indigenous flora.

Except for several types of bat, which were present before the arrival of Europeans, mammals
are absent from the native fauna. There are no frogs and no venomous land reptiles, although
scorpions and centipedes can be found. The kagu, a flightless bird, is the most unusual of
some 100 endemic bird species and is now rare. There is a wide range of marine life present
in the lagoon.

New Caledonia has a population of around 265,000 and is made up of about 45% Melanesian
(Kanak) and 35% European (most of them French) with Polynesians in the outlying islands.
The European population is mainly found in New Caledonia. French is the official language
Isle of Pines Extension

Fast Facts

Countries Visited:
New Caledonia

Visas:
Please check visa requirements with your reservations consultant*

Vaccinations:
Please consult a travel vaccination specialist for up to date information

Singles:
Single travellers who are unable to be matched with another single traveller of the same gender, must pay a single supplement on this trip.

Brochure Reference:
Australia, New Zealand, Pacific

Responsible Travel

The environments we travel through are fragile. It is our responsibility as visitors to minimise the impact of our presence. World Expeditions were the proud recipients of the inaugural Australian National Travel Industry’s Environmental Achievement award for our Responsible Travel Guidebook. This detailed guide to responsible and sustainable travel is provided to all World Expeditions clients before they travel. Please ask your consultant if you have not received your copy of our award winning book. Alternatively, you may like to download a copy from our website www.worldexpeditions.com

dietary requirements

Provided we are advised in advance of your departure we are able to cater for vegetarian diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us well in advance (at least 1 month prior to your trip) to determine whether we can cater to such dietary requirements on your chosen adventure. Please note that options are likely to be limited in very remote locations or alternatives may be more expensive or unavailable. There may be times when those with special requirements may need to provide their own food. We are unable to guarantee a peanut‑free or allergen‑free trip, and therefore, we strongly encourage that travellers with life-threatening or severe allergies take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Passengers must travel with all necessary medications for food allergies and be capable of self-administering these medications.

Accommodation on the Trip

While on your (optional) extension to the Isle of Pines you will stay at the Kou Bugny Resort in a Tropical Room (twin share) - http://www.kou-bugny.com/. Kou Bugny Resort is a 3* star resort well located between 2 beautiful beaches. The resort is comfortable and clean with rooms located in shaded forest setting.

What you Carry

In your daypack you will need to carry a rainjacket, water bottle, camera gear, valuables and personal items such as sunscreen, lip-eze, etc.

Climate

The climate of New Caledonia is tropical with year-round precipitation. Rainstorms are especially common on the east coast, where at higher elevations more than 120 inches (3000 mm) of rain may fall annually. On the west coast the precipitation is regularly less than 40 inches (1000 mm). The driest months are September through November however rainfall can be experienced at any time of the year, so please be prepared with a lightweight wet weather jacket or poncho. Average monthly temperature throughout the year is around 24°C. The temperature hovers between 20-22°C during the cooler months (July/August) and 27-28°C during the hotter months (December/January/February). The temperatures in November sit somewhere in the middle. Due to New Caledonia’s geographical location in the southern hemisphere, the country enjoys constant cooling south-easterly and easterly breezes. These trade winds keep the climate in New Caledonia pleasantly balmy. Water temperatures are pleasant all year round, varying between 22 and 28.5°C.

However several Melanesian and Polynesian dialects are also spoken. Approximately 60% of the population is Roman Catholic and 30% is Protestant. Local agricultural products meet only part of New Caledonia's needs for meat, vegetables, and fruit although yams are a staple crop. Cattle raising is important to the economy. New Caledonia’s economy depends heavily on services, the mining of nickel, and subsidies from France.

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Adventure Travel

By its very nature adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected. In remote and developing countries do not expect standards you are used to at home. Remote areas are sometimes unpredictable and itineraries may be altered. To get the most out of your adventure it is important that you are flexible, positive and eager to take on all the challenges that arise. If you are uncertain about your suitability for this trip we recommend that you speak with your consultant or travel agent.

Important Note

These trip notes represent the most current information for this itinerary, and may supersede any information in the current brochure, including but not limited to the itinerary and price. The itinerary should be seen as a guide only. This itinerary may change at any time due to inclement weather, forces of nature and other circumstances beyond our control.

Equipment Required

A comprehensive gear list is provided in the pre-departure information supplied on booking.

Social Networking

Follow us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/WorldExpeditions

How to Book

Please fill out the booking form and return with a $500 deposit to Foundation & Friends of the Botanic Gardens to reserve your place on the tour. An additional $500 deposit will be required to reserve your place on Ils du Pines Extension. Please note that all reservations are subject to availability at the time of booking. The deposit is payable by cash, credit card or cheque (made payable to World Expeditions) and is non-refundable. Please direct your completed booking form and send to the following address:

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Mrs Macquaries Road
Sydney NSW 2000
Ph: 9231 8182
Fax: 9241 3064