

THE MOMENT YOU FIND TRUE ADVENTURE

— ESCAPE TO —
ESPIRITU SANTO

If losing yourself amid untouched nature, crystal clear waters and spectacular scenery is your idea of the perfect holiday, Espiritu Santo has to be at the top of your 'must get to' destinations list. Espiritu Santo, or simply Santo to the locals, is blessed with some truly unforgettable adventures, including one of the best wreck dives in the world - the SS President Coolidge. What are you waiting for, dive in and discover Santo today.

ANSWER.
THE CALL OF
Vanuatu

1.35pm Port Olry, Espiritu Santo



1

Day 1: Road trip to Port Orly | What better way to start your adventure than with a visit to one of the best beaches in the world? Port Orly is a comfortable 50 minute drive from Luganville, the main town on Santo, and the scenic route takes in coconut plantations, rainforest, creeks, bridges and local villages along the way.

Don't forget to enjoy lunch on the beach beneath the thatched roof of a timber hut as the turquoise blue waves roll gently in - we recommend the local poulet fish, freshly caught lobster and our famously succulent Santo beef.

Once Port Orly works its magic on you, you'll want to stay longer. Luckily, you can overnight beachside in one of the island bungalows and wake to spectacular sunrises, feeling relaxed, invigorated and totally off grid and free.

2

Day 2: Blue holes and kayaking | Espiritu Santo is home to a series of blue holes, inland lakes connected by streams weaving their way through the tropical rainforest. The water is translucent and as you leap in it's as if all your worries just melt away.

With four blue holes to explore - Nanda Blue Hole, Matevulu Blue Hole, Thar Blue Hole and Riri Blue Hole and River - you'll have a full day of wonders to look forward to. There are small fees at each blue hole and the kayaking tours come at an extra charge. Kayaking the connecting river systems in local canoes can also be arranged and is the ideal way to immerse yourself in the serenity and wildlife of our unique waterways.



5

Day 5: Experience Kastom and Culture | No visit to Santo is complete without experiencing the history, folklore and traditional way of life that we call Kastom. Every day you're here, you'll be invited to share the island way of life and experience incredible, heartfelt and touching insights into the Vanuatu story. Just a few of the many highlights include:

- The Leweton Kastom and Cultural Village
- Pui Cultural Village
- Serah's Botanical Garden
- Loru Conservation Sites
- Aore Coffee Tours
- Behove Secret Garden Tour
- Many of the tours and locations are locally owned in Santo and it is great way to share with the community.

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Day 6: Champagne Beach | Imagine white, powdery sand at the edge of a lagoon filled with effervescent water that resembles champagne at low tide. There is nowhere else on the planet quite like Champagne Beach, with its coastline shaped like an old-fashioned champagne flute, cupping the shallow, warm waters of the Pacific Ocean. Just 45 minutes from Luganville up the East Coast of Santo, it's the perfect setting for a romantic getaway.



3

Day 3: The horses | Feel like the lead in your very own romance movie as you ride along the beaches and blue waterways of Santo on horseback. You and your four-legged friend will encounter local villages and awe-inspiring vistas as you pass through some of the most beautiful locations on Santo. If you've never tried it before, this is the perfect place to fall in love with horse riding.

4

Day 4: World War II History Tour | The Espiritu Santo you visit today exists largely because of the role it played in WWII. Following the 20 day construction of an airfield in Turtle Bay in July 1942, the base eventually grew to become the largest in the Pacific after Pearl Harbor. Immortalised in James Michener's prize-winning novel 'Tales of the South Pacific' and later in the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, 'South Pacific', Santo is home to many historic sites and tours are available to many of them. Plans are also afoot to build a WWII Museum in Santo and you can visit the development office for more information.



7

Day 7: Island hopping & snorkelling spots | Just off the coast of Espiritu Santo are a number of smaller islands that are all just a short boat trip away. Dany Island is one of the best snorkelling spots and you can surf there too. Aese Island also has incredible reef experiences that can be booked through Best Snorkelling Tours. Malo and Aore are nearby too. Tours are available to these spectacular locations to experience the serenity of their blue holes, swimming spots, fishing spots and more snorkelling. Malo Blue Hole and Lapita Beach Bar are particularly popular with visitors.

8

Day 8: Millennium Cave | If you enjoy a challenge, the Millennium Cave tour is an action-packed, memory-filled experience. This full day tour leads along narrow jungle paths, past bubbling creeks and tumbling waterfalls, until you arrive at Vanuatu's largest cave and begin to explore its depths. And the thrills aren't over yet - now, the river calls you. The boulders are huge, you climb under and clamber over them, testing your fitness and sense of adventure. On the river swim you'll soak up the breath-taking scenery with its cascading falls and towering rock faces, take time to cool off under a waterfall and plunge into the river from surrounding rocks.

ESPIRITU SANTO



Day 8: Mount Hope Waterfall Tour | When you think of venturing deep into the rainforest, you normally picture hacking through undergrowth and wiping sweat from your brow. But here, all it takes is a single step off the riverbank. Once you're in, simply lean back and let your life jacket and the currents do the work. All you have to do is watch the spectacular scenery drift by until you reach the falls and are plucked safely from the rapids by the steady hand of your tour guide. As you climb the waterfall to make your way back, it's like the most refreshing shower you've ever had. Who says adventure has to be hard work?



DIVING, TRANSPORT & ACCOMMODATION ON SANTO.

Diving

Santo is famed for its diving and snorkelling. There are beautiful corals and forests of sea fans to explore at Aore Island, Fan Garden and Tutuba Point.

S.S. President Coolidge

The main draw card in Espiritu Santo is the behemoth that is the S.S. President Coolidge. It's worth spending at least two days exploring this enormous wreck.

At just over 200 metres long, this luxury liner turned troopship is one of the largest wrecks in the world. Start with an orientation dive before working your way down to the engine room and the stern, the wreck's deepest point at 70 metres.

Million Dollar Point

Definitely not something you see every day, millions of dollars' worth of military equipment abandoned beneath the waters of Segond Canal. Today this area is referred to as Million Dollar Point and is a popular diving and snorkelling spot.

How to get here

Air Vanuatu flies to Espiritu Santo, via Port Vila. The 45 minute flight is available with international connections. Charter services are also available from Port Vila.

Getting around

Taxis, local buses, hire cars and tour companies are all on hand to help you reach your destination in Espiritu Santo. Your accommodation will be able to advise you on the best way to get to wherever you are going.

If you're travelling up the East Coast of Santo to Port Orly or Champagne Beach you can either hire a car or arrange a local transfer, this is best done through your accommodation as public transport does not travel this far.

There are many tour companies available in Santo that can take you to secret spots and locally-owned locations including Santo Heritage Tours, Paradise Tours and Transfers or Santo Discovery Tours.

Accommodation

Espiritu Santo has all types of accommodation from boutique beachfront resorts to island bungalows, dive lodges and hotel/motel accommodation.

Island Bungalows are available at some of the most beautiful locations on Santo such as Port Orly, Champagne Beach, and Lonnoc Beach.

Resort style accommodation is scattered throughout the main island of Espiritu Santo and its neighbouring islets.



For more information on Espiritu Santo, go to
vanuatu.travel or visit airvanuatu.com