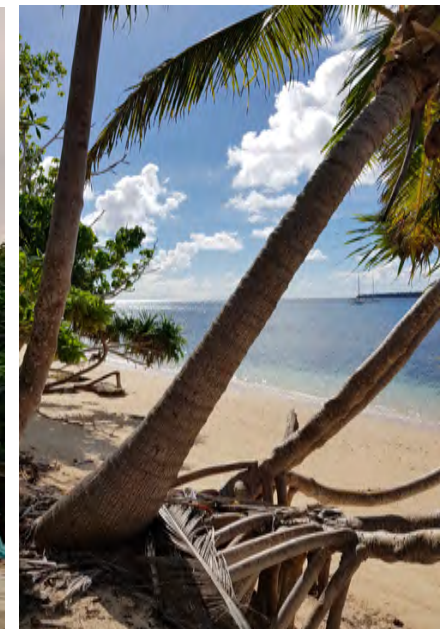




ISLAND CRUISING NZ 2019 PACIFIC CIRCUIT RALLY



"Off to Live the Dream"





ISLAND CRUISING NZ

2019 PACIFIC CIRCUIT RALLY



MID MAY TO LATE OCTOBER

INTRODUCTION



Are you ready for the event of a lifetime?

Five Countries, Six months. Hundreds of tropical anchorages, dozens of spectacular sunsets and countless new friends. It's all part of the fabric that is the Pacific Circuit Rally. This is no ordinary rally. We will take you places many cruisers don't get to go to and clear into places only Rallies have access to, particularly places like Vanua Balavu in Fiji's Stunning Lau Group and Lifou in the French Loyalties, New Caledonia. Assistance is given with documentation, clearances, advance notices, cruising permits, Customs, Immigration, Health and Quarantine as part of the rally and we fly officials in where required. Clearing into remote places has many advantages, not least of which is immediate immersion into some of the most stunning tropical paradises on earth. At each of these there are festival events planned to give you a taste of the local culture, places and people.



***Who can join?** Essentially everyone, as long as you meet the safety protocols noted in the "Terms and Conditions". All participating vessels must have AIS Class B transponder (receives and transmits) as a minimum and offshore email capability, for example Iridium Go satellite communications, SSB modem, not just a text facility please. Yachts, launches, monohulls and multihulls; the only restrictions are you must have an overall length of greater than 10m and less than 25m.*



During the months leading up to the start of the Pacific Circuit Rally we will provide you with a wide range of information regarding the preparation of your vessel, crew, and arrangements for your forthcoming blue water voyage to the Islands. These info packs are full of information necessary for the smooth running of the event as well as info that some of the more experienced skippers have already seen but many of the first timer's may not have. As you will most likely already know some of our South Pacific neighbours have intense regimes of documentation and cruising requirements for cruising yachts wishing to visit, the good news is that we will assist you and help take the stress and hassle out of the process. To set you up before we go from country to country there are briefings and chartmarking sessions to give you a heads up on what to expect. From a safety aspect there are regular radio schedules on both VHF and SSB and a Rally tracking page so that friends and family can follow your progress.



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND YACHT SQUADRON

Regards,
Nigel & Amanda Richards
ISLAND CRUISING NZ

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BOAT: "VAREKAI"



Tonga

The cruise through Tonga begins after the festivities at Pangiamotu Island and the official welcome.

Join us in sailing to Nomuka Iki for a few nights before exploring some more of the Ha'apai chain. There is plenty of opportunity to find a quiet spot if you want to relax by yourself for a spell. This area provides fantastic opportunities for whale watching, diving and snorkeling as they migrate through the area during June and July. An experience not to be missed!

Enjoy the Northern Ha'apai before jumping off to Tonga's Northern group, Vava'u, where there are picture perfect anchorages every few miles. Vava'u is a compact area to cruise but there is lots to see and do. Neiafu is the main town in Vava'u and their centre for tourism. There are plenty of bars and restaurants, a great market, good shopping and laundry facilities and duty free fuel before the Rally departs for Fiji.



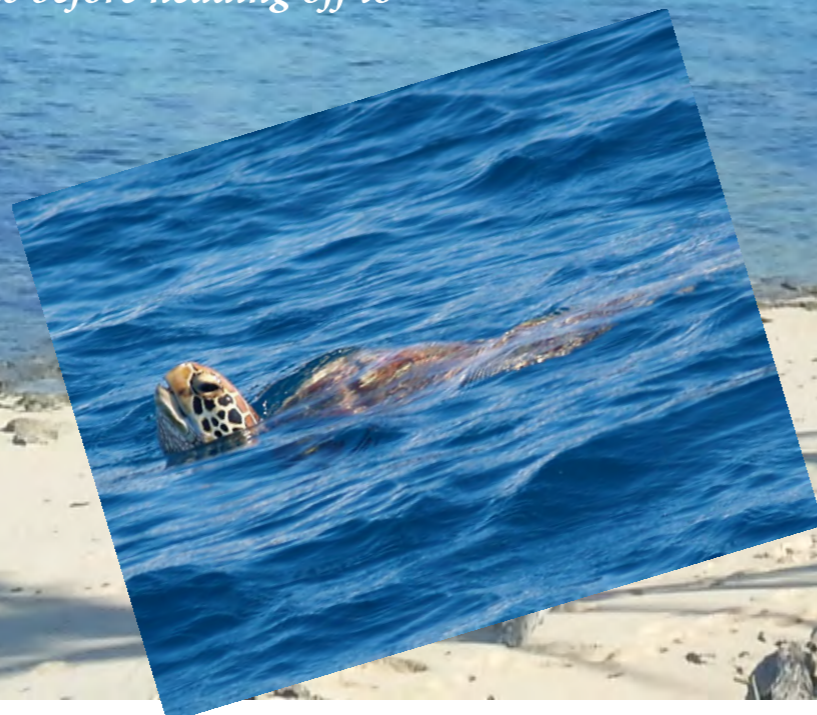
Fiji

Fiji is a vast Cruising Ground; you could quite literally lose yourself here for years. After clearing into Vanua Balavu it is around the corner to the world renowned "Bay of Islands". The locals can show you some of the sights including swim through caves, floating islands, secluded lakes and much more.

From Vanua Balavu you can either head south, depending on weather to the magical islands of the Southern Lau or head west to explore the areas of Tavanui & the eastern waters of Vanua Levu. Those that head south can visit Falanga before turning west again to visit Totoya, Matuku and onto the Astro-labe and Kadavu before heading up the Coral Coast of Fiji.

A trip up the Coral coast wouldn't be complete without a stop at Likuri Island the Home of Robinson Crusoe Island resort and their fabulous Pacific Show.

The fleet will then have time to explore some of Western Fiji and visit the famous Musket Cove for some fun & games before heading off to Vanuatu.



Vanuatu

Vanuatu, land of mystery and black magic, volcanos and over 160 separate languages. Five main islands and over 100 smaller ones.

Vila on Efate is the capital and Luganville on "Santo" is the only other main town. The population is still mainly village based.

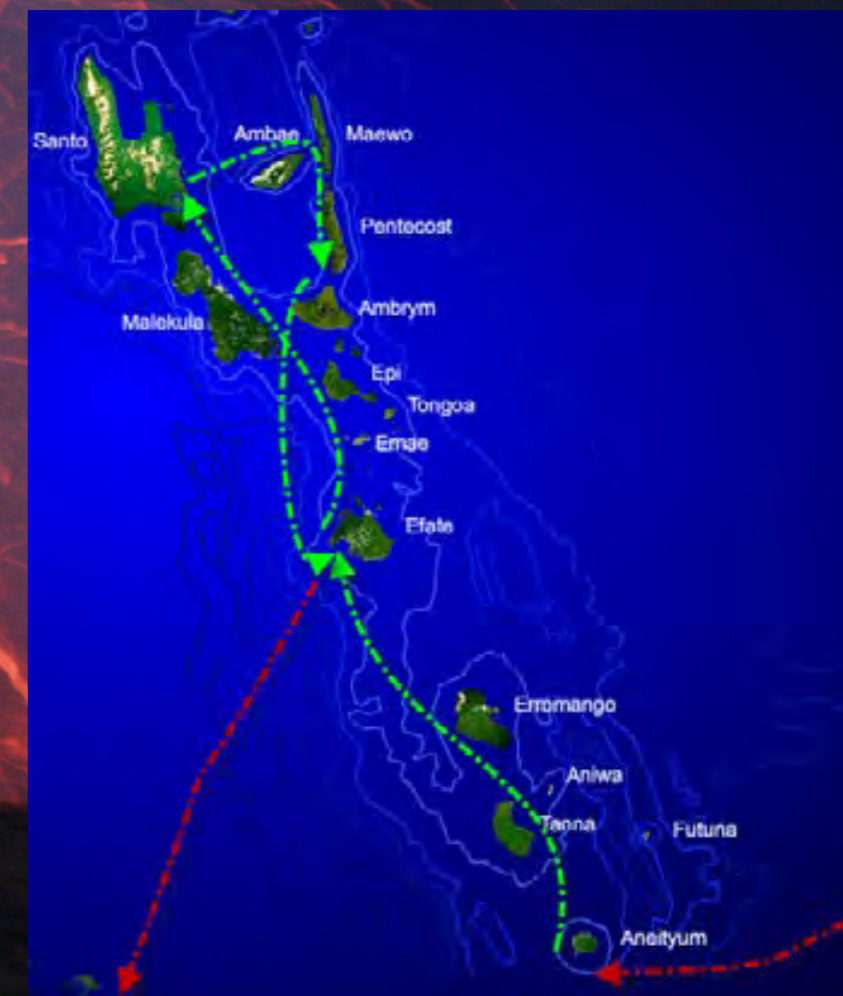
Vanuatu while known as the New Hebrides was run as a condominium by the French and English and their influence is everywhere still. Native relations were not always cordial and many a missionary was treated to an evening meal.

Vanuatu was also subjected to "Black Birding", they called it Indentured labour but it was effectively slavery for labour in the plantations of Northern Queensland and the sugar fields of Fiji.

Less than 20% of those taken ever returned to Vanuatu. Vanuatu is a lush, green and vibrant landscape with rugged steep faced islands and volcanic cones. It's natives are Melanesian and are a friendly, cheeky and savvy hard working people who will welcome you into their lives, villages and hearts. Brought from tree and bush dwellers to where they are today in only a couple of generations the Nivan people are a fascinating race.

Beware of the Kava here. It's potent and a couple of "shells" is usually more than enough. Alcohol and Kava shouldn't be mixed as one turbo charges the other.

Your impression of Vanuatu will be quite different from other South Pacific countries and may surprise you.



New Caledonia

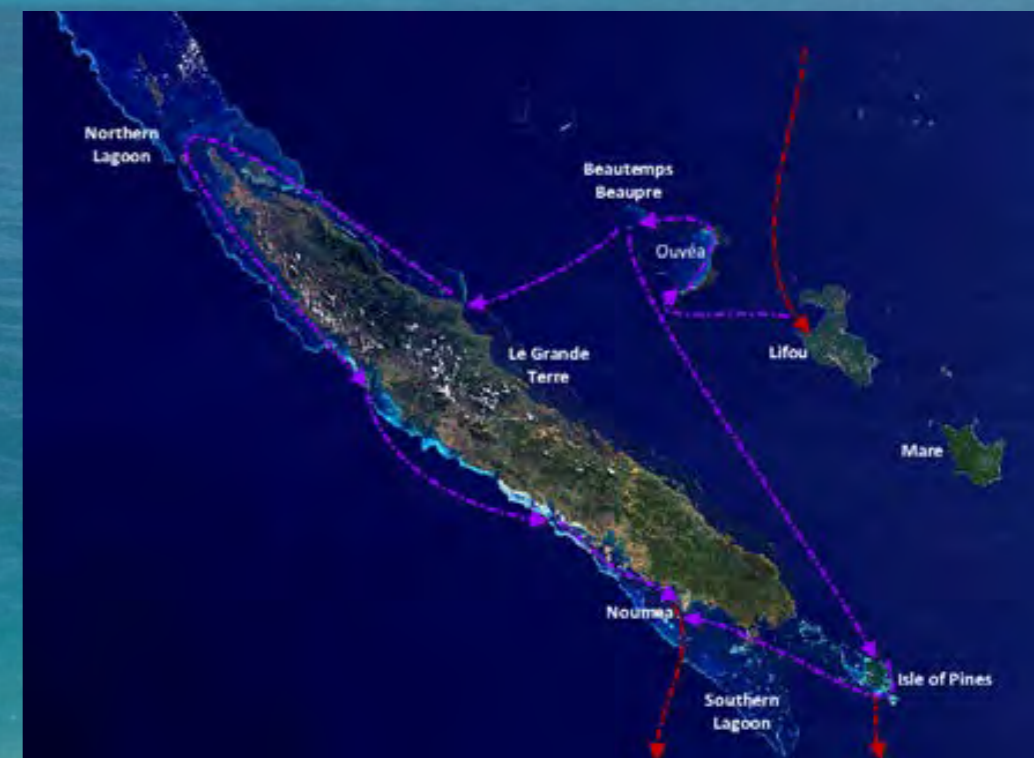
New Caledonia is one of the least cruised countries in the SW Pacific yet it's natural beauty is second to none, mostly. New Cal is a country of huge contrast. With the Loyalty Islands and the Isle of Pines and their outstanding natural beauty. Unfortunately parts of Le Grande Terre have been reshaped by Nickel mining but the colour of the soil provides a different kind of beauty. The French are very much in charge here and relations with the local Kanak population is often strained. However making an effort to say hello will often make them smile and if you're lucky they'll take over and talk to you in English.

The Loyalty Islands are our entry point for New Caledonia and are between Vanuatu and Le Grand Terre, the main Island. The Loyalties are "uplift" islands, the result of a "bubble" in the Indo-Australian Plate where it butts the Pacific Plate. There are three main islands in the Loyalties, Mare in the south, Lifou and Ouvéa in the north and they are mainly flat islands with beautiful white sand beaches and azure blue lagoons.

The main Island of Le Grand Terre is a long thin mountainous island with a north and south lagoon. These shallow lagoons are home to hundreds of small islands.

The Isle of Pines is at the southern end of the southern lagoon and boasts some of the most beautiful beaches and anchorages in New Caledonia.

The country has a rich history, a cosmopolitan population and rich blend of new and old.



2019 PACIFIC CIRCUIT RALLY

(PROVISIONAL) RALLY PROGRAMME

version 1

ALL DATES ARE WEATHER DEPENDANT & SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS THE DETAILS EVOLVE

12TH MAY 2019

Muster at Opuia in the beautiful Bay of Islands.

Bay of Islands Marina or anchorage outside

13th MAY 2019

Pre-departure week activities commence

20TH MAY 2019

Depart Opuia, New Zealand for Nuku'alofa, Tonga

29TH - 31ST MAY 2019

Fleet clearance Big Mama YC, Pangaimotu Island, Nuku'alofa

Sat 1ST JUNE 2019

Welcome Dinner

5TH JUNE 2019

Depart Nuku'alofa for Nomuka Iki island

6TH JUNE 2019

Royal Nomuka Yacht Club Feast p.m

7TH JUNE 2019

Lolofuto Beach Barn (Whale Discoveries), Nomuka

8TH JUNE 2019

Disperse to explore Ha'apai

18TH JUNE 2019

Depart Ha'apai group for Vava'u islands

28TH JUNE 2019

Depart Neiafu, Tonga for Vanua Balavu, Fiji

1ST & 2ND JULY 2019

Clearance into Vanua Balavu

JULY & AUGUST 2019

Explore Lau group or eastern districts

Explore Western districts

Musket Cove activities

13TH AUGUST 2019

Depart Lautoka, Fiji for Anatom, Vanuatu

16TH AUGUST 2019

Arrive Anelghowhat, Anatom

Then explore southern Vanuatu

Port Vila, Efate

Explore northern Vanuatu

16TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Depart Port Vila, Vanuatu for Lifou, Loyalty Islands, New Caledonia

19TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Clearance into Lifou, Loyalty Islands, New Caledonia

20TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Welcome feast and local weaving demonstrations

Explore Loyalty Islands and eastern Le Grand Terre

Isle de Pins

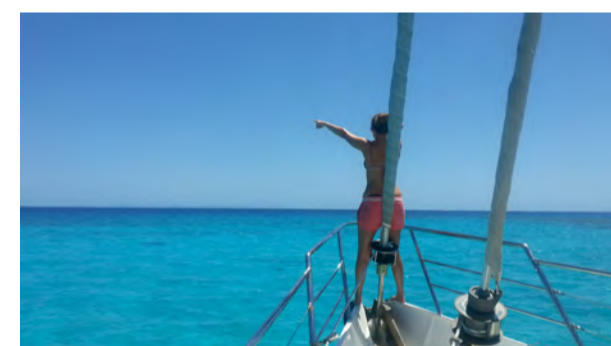
Explore Southern Lagoon and southern Le Grand Terre

Muster Noumea for farewell party

LATE OCTOBER

Depart Noumea for Opuia, New Zealand

Arrival party - Opuia



Come, Share the Dream

What is included in your Rally fees:

Rally Information Packs and Briefing papers.
Pacific Circuit Rally Battle Flag.
ICNZ Burgee, to be flown below the country courtesy flag at all times throughout the rally.
2 x Pacific Circuit Rally Tee shirts.
2 x Island Cruising Caps
Folder for all your paperwork and briefing papers. Clearance Form pack and assistance with form filling for the departure from New Zealand
Clearance Form pack and assistance with form filling for the arrivals and departure in Tonga, Fiji, Vanuatu & New Caledonia
Advanced Notice of departure from New Zealand Organised NZ Customs Clearance
Organisation of duty free alcohol and export quality meats
Transport of Officials when necessary **
Organised Customs & Immigration Clearances
Passage Planning and Weather Briefings in association with PredictWind & MetBob®
Availability of the Island Cruising NZ Directors assistance
Anything else we can think of to make your Rally experience seamless!

A deposit is required on submission of the rally entry (\$150.00) to secure your place but is fully refundable until the 1st of January 2019. Full payment of the Registration Fee is due by 5th of Feb 2019. Leg 1 & Leg 2 due on 3rd April 2019.
Payment can be made by internet banking to Westpac Kerikeri: Island Cruising NZ Limited
Westpac 03-0351-0012206-00 (with name & boat name) Credit Card payments can be accepted via PayPal with a 3% surcharge. We will send the link to PayPal upon your request. Thank you.

Rally Fees:

TOTAL COST for boat & up to 2 people...\$2935

Breakdown of costs as follows:

Registration: for boat and up to 2 people (under 16 free)
(includes all pre-departure week activities).....\$550
Leg 1 NZ to Tonga\$395
(includes Welcome Dinner Big Mama YC for 2
Leg 2 Tonga to Fiji**.....\$675
Leg 3 Fiji to Vanuatu.....\$395
Leg 4 Vanuatu to New Caledonia**.....\$525
Leg 5 New Caledonia to New Zealand.....\$395

Additional Crew fee for NZ to Tonga only p.p:.....\$50
Additional Crew Welcome Dinner, Tonga\$40

Other costs. - Immigration, Customs and Quarantine fees are each skippers own responsibility and are payable locally in addition to any costs paid to ICNZ.

Ongoing membership of ICNZ for the duration of your participation is a condition of all rallies.

Just what is the definition of a Rally? - A fun event where a number of individuals get together to go places, have fun and meet people. On an Island Cruising Rally our motto is, "We Make Cruising More Fun".

On a more serious note though, while Island Cruising arrange and organise the rally the ultimate responsibility lies with the skipper who, in all things relating to the safety and operation of the vessel and crew, bears sole responsibility. The Pacific Circuit Rally has a number of places where the boats muster, or get together. Island Cruising will facilitate events and services at these places and act as Cruise Control collecting information and making sure you get information relating to the events in a timely fashion. It is up to the skipper of each boat to get their vessel and crew from one place to another.

While "In Country" boats are not under any obligation to always cruise with the group and can explore on their own as well. ICNZ will from time to time arrange additional events while in country and will disseminate this information by email and over the regular Ch 08 at 0830, skeds.

Where possible Island Cruising will conduct Chart Marking sessions to give skippers information on the local "lay of the land". Weather forecast information will be passed on based on the information received.