

Where is New Caledonia located?

It is home to a wide range of landscapes. Distant 17,000 km from mainland France, New Caledonia looms on the world map as a tiny speck of land to the east of Australia and north of New Zealand. This little piece of France in the middle of the Pacific is surrounded by the neighbouring islands of Fiji and Vanuatu.

What is New Caledonia's geography?

Here's an overview of the archipelago's geography! At 18,564 km², New Caledonia occupies an intermediate position in the vast South Pacific between the Australian giant and the hundreds of islands and archipelagos that make up Melanesia and Micronesia. It is home to a wide range of landscapes.

Why should you visit New Caledonia?

With its UNESCO World Heritage lagoon, mesmerising landscapes, grandiose mountains and preserved traditions, New Caledonia invites you on a unique journey to the heart of the Pacific. Here's an overview of the archipelago's geography!

How to explore the Caledonian archipelago?

Exploring the Caledonian archipelago is an adventure that can be undertaken by car, bus, plane, boat, or bicycle. Most journeys start at La Tontouta International Airport, a 45-minute drive from the capital, Nouméa.

How many species of animals live in New Caledonia?

Covering an area of 18,564 km², New Caledonia is home to over 3,500 plant species, 4,300 animal species, and 1,000 fish species. A relic of the ancient continent of Gondwana, which separated 250 million years ago, the archipelago shelters numerous unique species.

What plants grow in New Caledonia?

The distinctiveness of New Caledonia's flora includes tropical plants like hibiscus, frangipani, flamboyant, coconut, tree ferns, and niaouli tree, alongside endemic species such as the columnar pine and amborella, a flowering plant over 130 million years old described as a "living fossil."

With over 1,600 km of coral reef, an average of 30 km from its coasts, New Caledonia is undoubtedly one of the unmissable jewels of the Pacific Ocean.

In New Caledonia, the quest to save species is at odds with the mission of protecting the climate. Mining companies extract the nickel from New Caledonia's soil by razing the forests that evolved on it; the engines of the so-called green transition could leave Earth's most verdant corner in tatters.

The One Planet - Polar Summit is being held to address one of the goals set in National Polar Strategy. Adopted in 2022, it sounds the alarm about the fragility of glacial and polar worlds and proposes concrete

responses at the level of the international community.

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Based between the French territory of New Caledonia and Australia, the new ship will divide its time between the Western Pacific and Antarctica, he said.

"An Antarctic project we've been working on for a long time will now be able to get underway," explains Anne Choquet, President of the french polar research and academic society called CNFRAA. The announcement includes funding for the construction of an oceanographic vessel.

She got her first taste of polar adventure when she left her native New Zealand for the Russian Far East and continued on, leading expeditions to both well-known and "secret gem" locations across Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Svalbard, the North Pole, South Georgia, Antarctica and the South Sandwich Islands.

Discover New Caledonia's best sights and activities, plus the best places to stay, eat, and drink in this travel guide full of insider tips.

My last week in New Caledonia was reserved for Isle of Pines, a celebrated island paradise and tourist hotspot, a half-an-hour flight southeast of Nouméa. Based in Ouameo Bay on the northwest of the island, Kunie Scuba Centre was the place to go.

